It is an indisputable fact that the Black Colony confined within the boundaries of these less-than-united-states, in fighting for its own liberation from an imperialist oppression is leading the movement for basic economic and political change which will ultimately free the entire working class. Today, in this historical period, the Black Panther Party has proven, by its phenomenal growth, by the acceptance of its program by a growing segment of the black population, that it is the emerging political leader of the Black Colony, which signifies that it is providing the leadership of the revolutionary forces in this country.

1, a white revolutionary. If I am to be true to my ideals and stated goals, must accept the leadership of the accepted leader of the revolutionary forces, the Black Panther Party.

Why am I so sure that the Panther Party has the correct program for today's struggle against U.S. imperialism? The effectiveness of a political program lies in its value as proven in day-to-day testing in the community, in its acceptance by an ever-increasing number of people it is designed to lead; both of which assure its ultimate victory. We cannot, of course, prove an "ultimate victory", but we can attempt to determine whether we're heading in that direction.

In building a revolution, there are 3 essentials: to organize for the attainment of the immediate needs of the working people and the constant development of a revolutionary consciousness toward that inevitable day when we'll destroy this monstrous capitalist power structure and begin building a socialist/people's world. What tactics (the daily struggle for immediate gains) and theory knowledge that no basic change in the class structure will be achieved under capitalism, that a revolution must be fought.) It is evident from studying the history of organizations and political parties born during the late century, that continuing struggles on different levels is the sine qua non. Every group, in my knowledge, conceived in this country with revolutionary objectives has either fallen into the capitalistic abyss of reformism and been drowned in the infected mire of attempting to make it in this decaying system - externally, the "leaders" make it while the late membership is left to float about looking for another base, or just to forget it! - or the entire group has been left out in the vacuum of revolutionary rhetoric alienation from the people.

The Communist Party of the U.S. is a classic example of revolutionary beginnings. It was the first to recognize the colonial status of black people, calling for self-determination for what it termed The Negro Nation in the black belt of the south. It was only half a theory, failing to encompass the entire Black Colony spread throughout the many states in the swarming urban ghettos of the north, but it did recognize the innate colonial super-exploitation by the white power structure. It knew the need and carried forth a program to organize southern sharecroppers and transform them in their desperate need for land. Many communists were killed in attempting to organize the miners (Joe Hill, the poet who sang, "Don't mourn for me, Organize!"") and workers in other basic industries in the south. Above all, the CPUSA recognized the inherent struggle and many of them fought and died in the Spanish Civil War, anticipating, correctly, the rise of fascism in Europe should Franco succeed in overthrowing the democratically-elected Spanish government. The CP was the foremost fighter for black studies and, most basic of all, understood the need for a black-white labor coalition. However, and sadly because this is the barest outline of a proud, heroic history, somewhere along the road of fighting for these necessary and immediate demands, many U.S. communists got trapped in the capitalistic bag of profit-making and became themselves, the exploiters, redefining reformist activity, activity for its all. Unlike other organizations, it wasn't the leaders, most of whom had been born out of the working class and strengthened through union organization, to meet needs and coalesce into the profession and northern agriculture, who turned tail on their revolutionary objectives. The CP itself recognized the futility of all this in 1948 with its support of the Progressive Party.

There are exceptions, and the Panthers have many today's CPers, many active and/or verbal高手 (mostly black - support their organization) replete with those who scream REVOLUTION with every breath but who have never-lived themselves from the people as to have become virally ineffective. The Yippies are a prime example. They are dedicated, I am sure, to their cause: they appear ready, at a moment's notice, to sacrifice years in prison, perhaps their lives. But we don't need any more headline-making martyrs. Self-sacrifice is often necessary to provide the initial impetus for a movement. It is sometimes true that people will act only in the aftermath of horror, if they are not completely immobilized. Today, we need organizers: doorbell-riding, sidewalk pounding, people-loving organizers.

It is essential that we know our enemy and understand fully the strategy it employs to sabotage our revolutionary efforts. The ruling class pursues a razor-sharp, double-edged policy of counter-insurgency: on one side, there are concessions - to encourage reforming; on the other, repression - to discourage rebellion.

The first weapon is used primarily to the black bourgeoisie, financial crammers to the upper strata of the working class, the skilled workers, and a conscious attempt to buy off militant leaders. In the last several years - in the aftermath of the southern student demonstrations and the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party's state-wide organizing and challenge at the National Democratic Convention in 1964 - a 6th, most callidly clever method has appeared and thrived to such an extent as to have stilled much revolutionary activity. This is the infamous Poverty Program in all its varied forms and hundreds of installed cardboard cutouts. But whatever the inside, whatever it shows its soaring gait, this has but one purpose: to buy the people's souls in a compromise with capitalism; to keep them so busy attending endless meaningless meetings, "skill centers" classes which end they began - no jobs, and the people fighting among themselves for these sometimes lucrative, most often, pleasant positions: so busy, there is too much time for appraisals of the busybodies, to allow revolutionary study or activity. This is the only country in the world with the financial resources to fight for its life by throwing bone to thousands of its citizens. (Think of the schools we could build, the land we could buy, the jobs we could guarantee divided up the $10 million plus flushed down the Oakland drain every year.) This is the forum, deadens abusethe we have to combat, it is imperative that the message gets out.

The Panther Party...