

# "SEIZE THE TIME"

What is there to talk about? It's been three years now since Huey Newton founded the Black Panther Party and many things have happened.

In the past three years many of the things that have happened here in Babylon (America) have been the routine fluctuations of a decadent, racist, capitalist society. These routine happenings have been punctuated by some events that are not so routine but yet are the natural products of a capitalist society.

On the other hand, Huey Newton has been shot and jailed and Black and White communities have responded with indignation, rage, shock, rallies, funds, and demonstrations. Meanwhile, in the mother country, mini-skirts got shorter, and hair got longer. In the colony the quality of road-devils went down and the price of wood went up.

Little Bobby Hutton, the first to join, became the first to die, the Black Community was indignant, the liberal White Community was shocked. The community again responds with demonstrations and funds. During this time the pigs have stepped up their attacks against the Party, and the Party has grown. In the mother country the "hippies" have broadened to "yuppies," and the "liberals" have become "radicals". The Black Colony is filled with "hippies" (Black hippies) in Afro-garb, Swahili names, and cultural fixations.

Eldridge Cleaver was wounded when Lt. Bobby was murdered, then jailed and beaten. In the mother country people were devoting their lives to "rock music" and "light-shows". "Underground" papers were springing up everywhere with politics and patriotism on the front page and wind aid for the hard-up as a filler. People were "doing their thing" and "being themselves". The Black Colony was seething with talk of guerrilla warfare, and saturated with poverty programs. In the Black Colonies the "advances" made by the psychodellie Whites have produced many new "chase highs."

Eldridge Cleaver chooses self-exile rather than a return to prison and sure death. A few are incarcerated and many are still "doing their thing". The repression on the Party increases again and slanders in the colony sting of "wind aid" while White boys in Babylon build bigger and better amplifiers for guitars.

Charles Bursey and Warren Wells become political prisoners as a result of the April 6th shoot-out. Ruchey Carter and John Huggins have already been buried. Mother country radicals engage in heated ideological debates, they champion the cause of the Vietnamese Freedom Fighters, and assume more politics into their "Underground" papers. In the Colonies "Black militants" scream for Afro-American Studies and hope for the promised Black Capitalism.

A wave of raids, shoot-outs, and frame-ups has swept the nation with Panthers as the main target. While James Rector, a bystander, is killed in the struggle at Peoples Park. Two more Panthers are killed by "outgers" just trying to be "Black". Rock-light shows become bigger and better, and a new trip pops up in the mo-



DAVID HILLIARD, CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE B. P. P. WITH FAMILY AND KATHLEEN CLEAVER, COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY OF THE B. P. P.

ther country as people delve into the occult for solutions to problems. Meanwhile in the colony young... would be pimps, drive Volkswagens as they dream of Eldorado, and the quality drops on the Bonnies.

The Black Panther Party weathers the storm, purges its ranks, and grows nationally and internationally. The Black Panther Party calls for a United Front Against Fascism, and the fascist repression intensifies. Chicago, two raids, a couple of shoot-outs many frame-ups; New York frame-ups (14 in jail, many others underground -- two million dollars in ransom).

Chairman Bobby Seale is kidnapped by F.B.I. pigs in the final attempt to finish the Black Panther Party. The use of a Black pig agent in the frame-up catches

many people by surprise, but Mod Squad is still a popular show in the colony. The Berkeley Tribe reveals a Berkeley plot to finish off the rest of the Central Committee and Central Staff. The pig media blocks it from public view, while the "Underground" newspapers that comment on it treat it as the story of a near-serious auto accident.

This has been a quick rundown on the three years that the Black Panther Party has existed/survived. Most of the details, and much of the repression has necessarily been omitted. This brings us to the present.

With Bobby in jail facing a multitude of phony charges in New Haven and Chicago, the man most wanted by the powers that run this country is Chief of Staff, David Hilliard. In the near fu-

ture the pigs will attempt to jail and/or kill David Hilliard. The Chief of Staff will be tried for a second time on charges stemming from the April 6th shoot-out. (His first trial on these charges of attempted murder resulted in a dismissal, but the D.A. appealed the dismissal).

As yet another leader of the people stands between the people and the wrath of the fascist power structure. How much more apathy shall we witness from the "militants", radicals, and "revolutionaries". How much psychodellie escapism, idealistic-tripping, greedy political scheming, and opportunism shall we witness.

Perhaps there are groups waiting eagerly to wear the mantle of the "New Vanguard". Maybe there are those that feel their ideo-

logical - rhetorical well - being threatened and see the fascist pigs as savours. The cases of David Hilliard and Bobby Seale will tell. It's hard to see who's for real just by coming to funerals. The Party has had over twenty funerals with thousands of mourners but that entails no commitment, not like a gun or a petition.

So what's there to talk about?

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ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Ray "Mass" Hewitt  
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