

# Black Panther Leader Injured

## Explosion Also Hurts 3 Other Persons

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The leader of the Black Panther Party in New Jersey and three other persons were injured Sunday in a mysterious explosion outside the store-front headquarters of the organization, police said.

They said they issued a pickup order for two white men in a late model sedan.

A spokesman for the militant civil rights group, Anthony Kaiser, said the incident was a "bombing" in retaliation to an attack with an automatic weapon, allegedly by Black Panthers, on a Jersey City police precinct Friday night. No one was injured in that incident in which some 20 shots struck the police station.

However, Newark Police Lieutenant Joseph Kinney said any possible link with the Jersey City incident was "purely speculation." He added police had not determined whether the Newark explosion was a "bona fide bombing attack."

Fire Director John P. Caufield said the arson squad believed it was an "acid bomb" because of the way wood on the building was eaten away. The explosion caused a small fire and shattered a front window.

Police said plans for making acid bombs were found in the Black Panther headquarters.

"If they're teaching people how to make acid bombs, it's a very despicable thing," said Caufield. "There's a good chance they got caught in their own trap."

Black Panther Captain Carl C. Nichols, 36, suffered a broken arm and burns of the knees. He was listed in fair condition at a hospital, where the other three victims were treated and released.

The incident followed settlement of a Friday "sick call" job action by hundreds of Newark policemen and firemen.

The situation was settled Saturday with the help of an injunction ordering police and firemen back to work.

Acting on a sworn statement from another Black Panther, Willie McIntire, 20, police said they issued the pickup order.

Police said McIntire told them the explosion was caused by two

white men wearing "police type" hats, leather jackets and dark trousers with gold stripes down the side. They said McIntire reported the two men got out of their auto about 4:30 a.m. and made derogatory remarks to Nichols and the others just before the explosion. They said McIntire did not say specifically how the explosion was caused.

Deputy Police Chief Kenneth Melchior said, "about this business of the dark pants with the gold stripes, only motorcycle and mounted patrolmen wear these. Others do not."

He said the case had "too many possibilities" to draw any immediate conclusions, and that the fire department's arson

squad was investigating.

The Black Panther party, which advocates arming Negroes for self-protection, organized chapters in Newark, Jersey City and Paterson last September. The party was formed in Oakland, Calif., where a leader of the Oakland chapter, Huey Newton, recently was convicted of manslaughter in the death of a policeman.

Nichols, deputy chairman for New Jersey, accused Newark police of "gross brutality" in connection with an Election Day protest march by Students for a Democratic Society and 92 Black Panthers.

In that incident, police used night sticks on some persons after fighting erupted as the demonstrators paraded on Newark's main street. No serious injuries were reported.