The Panthers And Coed Here Trade Salutes

By LEONARD KATZ

Ann, a 22-year-old CCNY junior majoring in fine arts, spent a morning in Supreme Court Justice Murtagh's court-room.

With Ann yesterday were 14 of her college friends, all of them white and most of them having the same middle-class background.

Ann says she and her friends had no clear-cut idea of what they intended to do in Murtagh's courtroom but she concedes that what happened was inevitable.

"I Had to React."

"As soon as I looked at Murtagh's face my adrenelin went up," she says. "I had to react."

Therefore, Ann defied the court. In her actions she had the company of her friends, a group of Hunter College students and a scattering of high school students.

Justice Murtagh had warned the spectators who filled the court for the session of the Black Panther conspiracy pretrial hearing that he would use his power of summary contempt if any comment or motion of sympathy with the defendants were made.

But when the first Panther defendant, Lumumba Abdul Shakur, was led into the court-room he shouted as usual, "Power to the people" and Ann and the other students raised their clenched right hands in salute and shouted back, "Power to the people!"

A friend of Ann's, Alvin Katz, a 20-year-old CCNY student on a leave of absence, was singled out by Murtagh and given 30 days in jail. When Murtagh pointed to Katz, Ann thought at first she was the one being singled out.

"I was scared," she said. Then I started to giggle—it was so funny."

Ann and her friends decided to visit court after listening to a number of speeches by members of the Black Panther Party at CCNY's Finley Hall Student Center on Tuesday.

Just Decided

"We didn't plan anything," she says. "You look around and see what your friends are doing and we just all decided to come to court."

Do you live at home?

"No, who does? Nixon lived with his parents and look what happened to him."

Ann's parents live in Flushing. Her father is a high school teacher. She has her own apartment on the Upper West Side.

Ann says she is anti-establishment and she hopes that the "coming revolution will be peaceful — but unfortunately it'll probably be violent."

So many white students showed up in court yesterday that a number of Black Panther youngsters couldn't get in. One of them cursed the white students milling about the court corridors after Murtagh recessed for the day at 1 o'clock.

The youngster accused them of making the scene as a put-on. "In 20 years you'll be part of the establishment." he said.