

E. Cleaver Invited by Al Fatah

American Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver has been invited to be the guest of Al Fatah leader Yasser Arafat starting in two weeks, Fatah spokesmen said yesterday.

They stressed that the invitation was a personal one.

Various spokesmen for the main Palestine command organization differed on the reasons for the visit implied between Fatah and the Panthers.

Richard C. Hottelet of CBS quoted Abu Hassan, a Fatah spokesman in Algiers, as saying that Fatah was considering training Panthers in combat against Israel and in sabotage and a campaign of assassination and destruction in the United States.

But an unidentified Fatah spokesman in Amman, Jordan, the guerrilla group's headquarters, said this to CBS radio correspondent Michael C. Sullivan.

The Amman spokesman said that Fatah only had contacts with the United States through propaganda campaigns to explain "the true nature of the war" to the American people.

Hottelet quoted Hassan as saying that he spoke with Arafat in Beirut last year and that the Panthers and the Fatah high command was now acting on his favorable report.

Hassan said the next step was the Cleaver visit.

Cleaver is living in exile in Algiers. The black power author and Panther information minister left the United States in late 1969 to escape a California warrant for parole violation.

Cleaver... "heartily support" for the Palestinians and attacked "American Zionists" saying that jailed Panther leaders had been convicted by Zionist judges.

Sabotage Campaign

Hottelet quoted the Algiers spokesman as saying that after their training, "When the time comes, the Panthers will carry out quick and deep strikes in the United States, assassinations of men responsible for the policy of discrimination, from high levels to low, and sabotage to factories and capitalist installations."

But in a dispatch from Algiers, the Associated Press quoted the same spokesman Hottelet interviewed as saying, "I firmly deny that we are training Black Panthers in terrorism or sabotage. We are for the people's war against imperialism, but disapprove of terrorist methods."

Hassan told AP that Panthers were receiving combat training in Palestine, but did not say what his purpose was. He said Fatah did not refuse foreign volunteers, but considered that its battle could only be fought by Palestinians.

The Fatah spokesman in Amman said Cleaver was expected to stay as long as a few weeks. The man Hottelet interviewed said Cleaver would spend two or three weeks training Fatah positions.