

JULY 69

THE MOVEMENT



THE AMERICAN WAY OF JUSTICE???

that George Sams was not found in the office. Nevertheless they charged 8 Panthers who were there with harboring a federal fugitive. They stole a strongbox that had \$3000 in cash to be used for a free medical clinic, stole petitions with 15,000 signatures demanding the release of Fred Hampton, stole lists of financial contributors and lawyers, and 13 firearms, several typewriters, thousands of newspapers, leaflets, and pamphlets. Charges of possession of unregistered firearms were later dropped when the gestapo raiders were forced to admit that they had no search warrant.

Bobby Rush said that the Chicago bust and raid was only one of a coordinated series of raids on the Panthers. Similar busts with similar pretexts took place in Detroit, New York, Connecticut, Indianapolis, Des Moines, and Denver in a space of two days.

In New Haven, Connecticut Brother Alex Rackley who was a Panther member in good standing, was found murdered. Subsequently 8 Panthers, including Erica Huggins (the wife of murdered John Huggins) were charged with kidnapping their brother Panther and also with conspiracy to commit murder and kidnapping. The racist news media said there was a "direct link" between the murder in New Haven and the arrests of the Panther 21 in New York. There is. The same pigs that murdered Brother Alex conspired to frame the Panther 21 and are currently conspiring and attempting to annihilate the Black Panther Party throughout the United States.

Twenty of the Panther 21 remain in jail in New York. The ransom is over 2 million dollars. (See MOVEMENT, March 1969). The 21 are being held in cells spread out across the five boroughs of New York to make it impossible for them to see their lawyers together to make a collective defense. The trumped up charges of conspiracy to blow up department stores and botanical gardens are patently ridiculous. Yet so far the pigs have gotten away with effectively removing 21 Panthers from political activity, and with whipping up as much hysteria in the city as possible. The trial has begun and has so far dealt with defense pre-trial motions including motions to suppress wiretapped "evidence", a motion to dismiss the entire case because of prejudicial publicity, motions on the condition of the jailed Panthers, and a motion that the Grand Jury which imagined the indictment is not composed of the peers of the accused. A demonstration and rally by about 350 Panthers and supporters took place at the courthouse on the first day of proceedings.

In Sacramento pigs moved on the Oak Park ghetto allegedly to quiet groups of black youths who had gathered in a park in the area as they had on many previous weekends. More than 150 pigs came to the area, harassed people in the community and people responded with rocks. Then...police said they thought someone fired at them from the Black Panther Party office. They used tear gas on the groups of people in the street... and massive doses of tear gas on the Panther office. They found no one inside and confiscated money, records,

and some firearms from the office. There was shooting throughout the night and about 8 pigs were wounded, though none seriously. Some people were injured and about 40 people were busted.

OREGON-The Deputy Minister of Information of the Oregon chapter was busted for draft evasion. Bail was set at 10,000 dollars.

SAN DIEGO-A Panther Lieutenant, John Savage, was murdered by Tambuzi, a member of the US organization which works for the pigs.

LOS ANGELES--Within one month 42 Panthers were arrested 56 times. The total bail for these busts was over \$100,000.

KANSAS CITY-Deputy Minister of Labor, Tommy Robinson, was framed on charges of extortion and two counts of robbery.

INDIANA-Deputy Chairman of the Indiana Chapter, Fred Crawford, is in jail on another frame-up, supposedly for assault and battery.

DENVER-Panthers, Landon Robert Williams and Rory Hythe were busted for "unlawful flight to avoid persecution". They were supposedly fleeing from Connecticut and were said by the FBI to be connected with the murder of Alex Rackley, but no charges were pending against them in Connecticut.

And so it has gone. And one wakes up and rubs his eyes and more than likely looks in the paper and finds another new frameup, another injustice, another attack on the Panthers. Throughout the country...in the many cities and towns where the Black Panthers have established offices and support...there local and Federal pigs are moving. Deal with some of the recent charges in your mind...the murders and the long prison terms. For a long time now people have been talking about repression, and as many of our ideas have taken root, so has repression increased. Now the bars and guns and jangling keys are on our doorsteps.

The Black Panther Party has called a Conference for a United Front Against Fascism for July (see Registration form on facing page). At the time of this writing much of the meaning of this conference remains to be worked out. Some people have raised questions about the conference: What would a United Front be? Are we facing fascism? What are the concrete methods of the enemy? How best to combat repression?

No one could argue with the hard facts of massive planned attacks on the black movement and the Black Panther Party and the repression against the white movement--all the way to shotguns in Berkeley. The conference may initiate some answers, or it may not, but it will certainly spur debate and put these questions out in the open.

One thing remains clear. The government has spearheaded its current attack on the entire movement with a brutal attack on the Black Panther Party. We who seek to defend and expand this movement must understand this and work as hard as we know how with whatever organizational and educational tools we can develop to help protect and aid the Black Panther Party.

* SEE PAGE 6 JAN 75 - FILED CIA (A)

A day hasn't passed in the last few months without a pig attack on the Black Panther Party. The party has had to struggle for survival since its earliest days, had to defend itself, but the last few months have seen a shift to an all out and many fronted attempt by the U.S. government and its various agencies to totally destroy the Black Panther Party. An attempt to kill and imprison leaders, the raiding of offices across the country on any pretext and usually with no excuse at all. Possible Smith Act prosecutions, Grand Jury investigations. Congressional "investigations". Trumped up bullshit charges involving murder, kidnapping, sabotage, robbery. Pig infiltration. One can engage in academic debates about what Fascism is or is not, about resistance to repression...but people better realize that absolute and fascist methods are being used in an attempt to eliminate one of the most effective voices, teachers, and doers that has ever developed in the entrails of the monster. Better realize it, and educate people to the shit that's coming down, and learn to resist it.

Bobby Seale, the Chairman of the Black Panther Party faces a possible five year sentence...he along with seven white leaders is charged in Chicago with conspiracy to cross state lines to incite a riot at the Democratic Convention last August. Fred Hampton, Deputy Chairman of the

Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party, sentenced to from two to five years for the alleged robbery of \$71 worth of Good Humor ice cream. Two years ago some brothers on the block were out playing basketball...they wanted some ice cream, but didn't have the bread. They ripped off some ice cream and beat up the vendor. Fred Hampton arrived on the scene about the same time as the pigs. Fred was charged with robbery...and was tried and convicted by the same judge who let off a Mafia member for murdering fifteen year old.

Fred Hampton was one of the most important leaders of the Panthers in Illinois. Bobby Rush, Deputy Minister of Defense of the Chicago chapter said, about Fred, "He's a very articulate spokesman and he can move people just by rapping to them." The pigs have refused to release Fred on bail pending an appeal and have secretly moved him to a new jail to make it harder for his lawyer to see him.

After jailing Fred Hampton the pigs moved to destroy the Chicago Panther office and leadership. They surrounded the office...armed with machine guns, and called for everyone inside to come out. They forced their way in under the pretext that they were looking for George Sams, a Panther wanted by authorities in Connecticut. The FBI admitted

PEOPLE'S TRIAL FOR FRED HAMPTON

Deputy Chairman of the Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party, Fred Hampton was tried by a jury of his peers in Maywood during a people's trial at the Village Hall, May 24 and 25. The Saturday and Sunday sessions were complete with judge, jury, attorneys, witnesses and, of course, Fred Hampton himself. At least 150 spectators were on hand at each of the sessions that lasted about 2 hours each.

Following the selection of 12 jury members opening statements were made by the "state" and by Fred Hampton acting as his own defense attorney.

The first person called by the prosecution was John Robert Jones, played by William Deringer, Jr. As in the establishment trial of Fred Hampton, the prosecutor attempted to establish the alleged fact that a robbery had occurred on July 10, 1968, in Maywood. Mr. Jones at the time was

driving a Good Humor ice cream truck and the alleged robbery resulted in the loss of 710 cold and tasty ice cream bars with a wholesale value of \$71.

Jones testified that Fred Hampton held him down by the neck with one hand while other blacks proceeded to take the ice cream. Jones' testimony was to the effect that he finally forced Hampton off by putting his foot on Hampton's chest and pushing.

Charles Duffy, playing the part of Patrolman Duff ("pig duff") of the Maywood Police Department, testified and contradicted what the "victim" had stated happened. Pig Duff stated they went past approximately 40 teenagers on the playground near where the truck was parked and observed all persons in the area were eating ice cream, and picked out Fred Hampton as the leader and assailant of Jones.

Fred Hampton acting as his own

attorney, proceeded to point out differences in the testimony when he cross examined pig Duff. Hampton wanted to know why if in fact there had been a foot print on his shirt the police didn't confiscate the shirt and preserve the foot print.

Hampton also wanted to know why, with all those people eating ice cream on the playground, only he was arrested.

Defense witnesses called by the accused were Mrs. Florence Black, Secretary to the summer program of "Operation Headstart" at the school where the incident occurred; Murphy Wade, in charge of recreation inside the school building; and Gene Moore, an acquaintance of Fred Hampton's who rode with him just prior to the time of the alleged theft. Moore was still in Fred's Volkswagen at the time the police dragged Fred off to jail. All witnesses testified they did not see Fred commit the alleged crime. (All the wit-

nesses above testified in the establishment trial as well.)

One discrepancy in the testimony of Jones and pig Duff was established by Mrs. Black and relates to the ages of the children on the playground who were between 8 and 13 not 15 to 19 as they had testified.

Fred summed up his case stating the aims of ending political repression and the freeing of all people from the capitalist tyranny. The case was then turned over to the jury, which deliberated and found Chairman Fred not guilty.

The proceedings were proclaimed a victory for the people by Fred, and by Maywood's newly elected 5th district village trustee, Tom Streiter. Streiter then asked for donations to the Political Prisoners Fund and over \$230 was collected. Donations continue to be accepted for this fund by Bob Walker, 1518 St. Charles Road, Maywood; Tom Streiter, 1600 S. 14th Ave., Maywood; or at the Panther Headquarters, 2350 W. Madison, Chicago.

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