

COINTELPRO 1980: BLUEPRINT FOR FASCISM

A FORUM

Fri., Nov. 7
7:30 p.m.
PS 41

\$2.00 donation

childcare

W. 11th St.

between 6th and 7th Avenues

Speakers:

DAVID TRUONG—Vietnamese resident in the U.S.; a major defendant in post-Vietnam War political trial

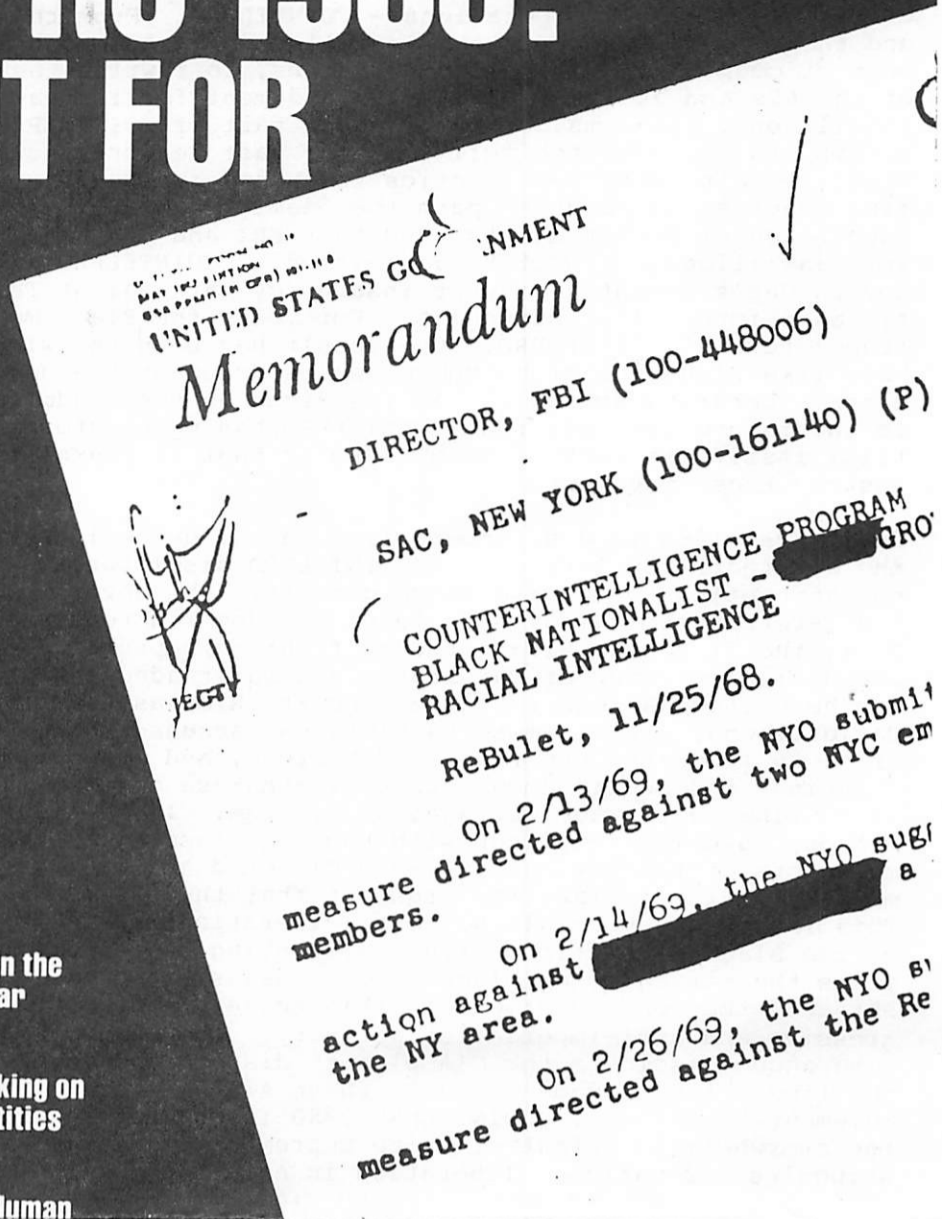
LOUIS WOLF—from Covert Action, speaking on the "Naming Names" bill (Intelligence Identities Protection Act—HR 5615/S 2216)

MUNTU MATSIMELA—National Black Human Rights Coalition, on the Carter-Brzezinski Africa Memo

JUDITH CLARK—plaintiff in Clark v USA

AHMED OBAFEMI—National Taskforce for COINTELPRO Litigation and Research

PEOPLE'S TRIAL of war criminals Nixon, et al



- Who's really on trial in the Washington trial of ex-FBI officials Felt and Miller?
- How is the US still waging its war against Vietnam?
- How does the US wage war against the Black liberation struggle?

SMASH COINTELPRO!

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ENDORSED BY: John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, May 19th Communist Organization, National Black Human Rights Coalition, National Taskforce for COINTELPRO Litigation and Research, New Afrikan Women's Organization, New York City National Lawyers' Guild, Patrice Lumumba Coalition, David Dellinger, Arthur Kinoy, Helen Sobell, Morton Sobell

On September 15, 1980 in Washington, D.C., the trial of former top FBI officials Mark Felt and Edward Miller began after 2½ years of delays and secret negotiations. They are charged with authorizing break-ins into people's homes as part of the FBI's illegal counter-intelligence operations-- COINTELPRO. From the beginning, both the prosecution and the defense have operated in collusion -- to exonerate the defendants and the government of counter-intelligence operations, to rewrite the history of the political movements of the 60s and 70s, and to make an argument for increased current and future counter intelligence programs. This trial is part of COINTELPRO 1980 -- the government's ongoing attempt to cover up the full scope of past terroristic activities, and to consolidate and escalate those very same tactics today and in the future. It is going on at the same time Congress is about to pass the "naming names" law making it a crime to expose the identities of secret agents, and that FBI and CIA charters are being proposed codifying into law illegal COINTELPRO activities. COINTELPRO is a war term -- it represents the government's domestic counter-insurgency war against Third World liberation struggles and all anti-imperialist struggles. For years the Black movement has fought to expose the true nature of COINTELPRO. One result has been the winning of FBI files by Prisoners of War, like Richard Dhoruba Moore, which document the government's all-out war against the Black Liberation struggle. As insidious as these admissions are, they have only served to underscore the fact that COINTELPRO has never stopped and continues to this day. This trial itself, is part of COINTELPRO in that it seeks to further cover up the strategy to destroy these movements.

COINTELPRO 1980 is u.s. imperialism on the defensive. Following the defeat in Vietnam, the Watergate revelations and COINTELPRO disclosures of the early 70s, the government is now attempting to reverse those defeats. The government is waging a major international "anti-terrorist" campaign to label freedom fighters and revolutionaries as criminals. Thus, the 11 Puerto Rican freedom fighters, captured earlier this year in Evanston, Illinois, are denied Prisoner of War status and railroaded through the courts as terrorists, even as the United Nations recognizes Puerto Rico as a nation colonized by the united states. David Truong, a Vietnamese patriot, was accused in 1977 of being a spy for the government of newly liberated and reunified Vietnam, and was put on trial for sending newspaper clippings and public documents to Vietnamese officials. In the attack on him, the u.s. is continuing to wage war against Vietnam. In the current trial of Felt and Miller history is being rewritten with baseless assertions that the anti-war and progressive movements of the 60s and 70s were directed and funded by foreign countries. The government is trying to make the argument that there is no basis for dissent inside the u.s. This is an attack on all National Liberations struggles within the u.s. and particularly on the Black Liberations struggle, denying both its reality and its legitimacy. For 400 years the struggles of Black people against genocide and against white supremacy have surfaced the contradictions in this society and have pushed forward all levels of progressive and anti-imperialist activity. The recently exposed 1978 Carter-Brzezinski memorandum discloses the CIA plan to disrupt and destroy the unity being built between the liberation movements in Southern Africa and the Black revolutionary nationalist movement in the u.s. COINTELPRO 1980 is about heightening those attacks. In the face of the overwhelming defeat of white supremacist rule in Zimbabwe and the strengthening armed struggles for national liberation in Azania and Namibia, as well as the growing People's War for the Independence of Puerto Rico, imperialism is shoring up its lines of defense.

This period is about the rise of national liberation on the one hand and the building of fascism through the consolidation of white supremacist forces in defense of empire on the other. The trial in Washington affects everyone involved in struggles for human rights today. This trial is being conducted in this period to heighten the ongoing cover-up by constructing a legal and political justification for actions that will further veil COINTELPRO. The only way to defeat COINTELPRO is to fight against it. It is being fought against today. The struggle to free Prisoners of War is in the forefront of the fight to defeat COINTELPRO. Assata Shakur's escape from prison last November 2nd and the escape of William Guillermo Morales in May 1979 and their continued freedom are tremendous defeats for COINTELPRO. Richard Dhoruba Moore's struggle for freedom and his winning the release of major FBI files documenting the FBI war against the Black Panther Party and the campaign to win Geronimo Pratt's freedom and expose the FBI's plot to assassinate or imprison him are victories in the fight against COINTELPRO.

Clark, et al. v. U.S.A., the 100 million dollar civil law suit brought by white anti-imperialists targeted by COINTELPRO is one key arena in which any of the truth can be brought to light. The eight plaintiffs were named as the targets of the illegal activities that Felt and Miller are currently being tried for and also of the activities of the New York FBI's Squad 47. They have been attacked for being activists in the anti-Vietnam war movement and the women's movement, for fighting in support of Black people's fight for human rights and self-determination, and in support of the struggle for Puerto Rican independence. Clark v. USA was brought because it is clear that what the government has admitted to in their indictments is but the tip of the iceberg of the criminal activities conducted against the plaintiffs and others.

This forum is an opportunity to fight for an analysis of the state's strategy in the current period and to struggle for a strategy to defeat it. As the government builds for fascism they intensify COINTELPRO and heighten white supremacist terror, through the building of organizations like the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan is the para-military arm of the government in its war against national liberation movements. For white people this means recognizing that the only way to fight these threats and attacks is to take an active stand against imperialism and white supremacy and in solidarity with the struggles of oppressed people for human rights and self-determination.

We are at an historic turning point. This trial of Felt and Miller could quite likely be the last such trial -- according to the government's strategy, COINTELPRO activities will soon no longer be illegal. We cannot allow the government to succeed in their attempt to turn the tables in the face of defeat and justify their actions by rewriting history and denying people's just struggles. That is why we are fighting the FBI's cover-up in this trial and to win Clark v. USA.

SMASH COINTELPRO! FREE ALL AFRIKAN PRISONERS OF WAR!

FREE ALL PUERTO RICAN PRISONERS OF WAR! WIN CLARK V. USA!