

Dear Friends:

We ask you to lend your name with us to a non-newspaper "newspaper advertisement" supporting "Free Huey Newton."

With another summer coming, with police collecting heavy artillery, and with the white establishment systematically attacking black grassroots leadership and organization, the need for your public commitment in support of blacks working to achieve power for their community and against white racist repression should be obvious.

Being unwilling to patronize the *Oakland Tribune*, we propose a one-shot major attempt to persuade Oakland's citizens by mass distribution of a one-page "Oakland Tribunal." It will be distributed door-to-door by volunteer Oakland youths.

The general position will be:

- that the Black Panther Party arose in response to police harassment of the black community and that those same police have systematically sought to destroy the Black Panther Party;
- that, whatever the specific facts of the incident out of which arose Huey Newton's arrest (and we may never know those facts), the "crime" that Huey Newton is charged with cannot be considered outside the context of the more general crime that has been and is now being committed by Oakland against the black community;
- that the legal system is inherently incapable of considering Oakland's crime, but that is a necessary pre-condition to considering Huey Newton's alleged "crime"; and
- that Huey Newton should therefore be set free.

Within the general position, we will use as much persuasive evidence, illustration, and argumentation as space will allow. Names of the endorsers will be listed on the publication with the disclaimer "This pamphlet was paid for by the following persons. Each does not necessarily agree with all the statements contained herein, but each does state his public commitment to the 'Free Huey Newton' position."

A small committee working with the Black Panthers (Dale Groneweyer, Teacher, Bay Area Committee to Defend Political Freedom; Jeanette Hermes, Attorney, John Brown Society; Bobby Seale, Black Panther Party) will be responsible for final decisions on the text and circulation of the statements, and the project will be administered by the Bay Area Committee to Defend Political Freedom. Fifty percent of all funds raised will be used directly by the Huey Newton Legal Defense Fund; the remaining 50% will be used on this project to build community support for the case.

Huey Newton's trial begins June 10; *return your contributions and signature cards no later than June 1*. We ask for a minimum of \$5 per person. Please contribute even if you do not want your name used publicly.

American Fed of Teachers, Local No. 1570
Phillip Shapiro, M.D., Psychiatrist
Prof. Richard Strohm
Fredrica Teer Kushner
Vincent Hallinan, Attorney
Yetta Land, Attorney
Robert Treuhart, Attorney
Lawrence Gurley
Robert and Ann Scheer
Howard Harawitz
Rev. Robert W. Cromey