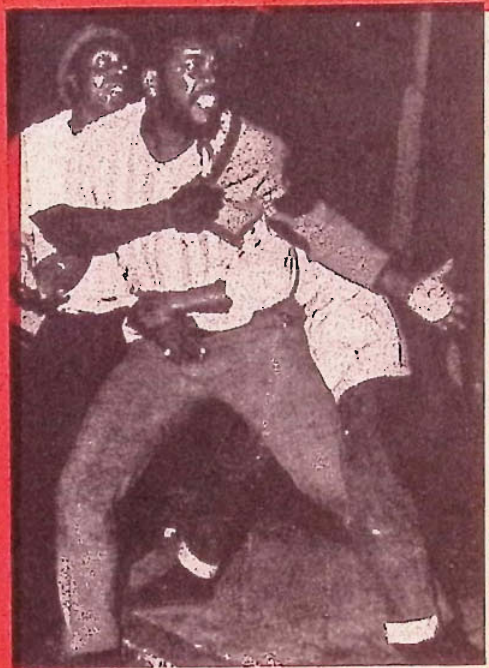


**BLACK**

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**—NOW!**



ABOVE--Bill Epton, Harlem  
BELOW--John Harris, Watts

Progressive  
Labor Party  
organizers  
face jail  
terms for  
joining in  
Black libera-  
tion struggles.



# **BLACK LIBERATION NOW!**

The threats are rising. Recent events and news stories clearly show that the United States Government and its State, county and city administrations in the large northern industrial areas are preparing a reign of terror against the Afro-American people this summer. They are deliberately planning to start a so-called "race war." In fact, they have not waited for the summer—they have already started their attacks in Jackson (Miss.), Houston, Cleveland and other cities.

The major newspapers and magazines in this country—fed by the government—are playing a leading role. Their big plan is to get the white people to act as vigilantes. The U.S. government, which is the main enemy of all the people, also

wants white workers to go into the Black communities and attack our people.

## Big Papers Want Trouble

Just to give an idea of how they are trying to get their campaign going, we will quote from some of their major papers and magazines which have come out in the spring.

U.S. News and World Report (May 1, 1967), in an article "U.S. Race-Riot Outlook for '67," says:

"The summer of 1967 is likely to be another "long, hot summer" of rioting and racial conflict.

"Danger also is believed to be growing that more whites will turn to violence—fight back against rioters or attack Negro demonstrators. This could lead to face-to-face racial conflict.

"In riots of past years, white people have tended to stay away from the scene, leave the trouble to police and National Guard troops. Direct confrontation between white mobs and Black mobs has been largely avoided. This year, in some cities, you hear talk that things will be different."

## Uncle Tom Traitors

In this same issue the Uncle Tom traitors add their two cents to help their masters out:

“RIOTS IN WHITE AREAS? Jackie Robinson, first Negro to play baseball in the major leagues, warns that rioting this year is likely to move out of Negro neighborhoods into white areas of big cities. He put it this way: ‘If we don’t end our problems, I’m very much concerned with what could be a very hot summer—not in Harlem or in Watts, but a hot summer on 42nd Street, in Beverly Hills and in the suburbs.’”

“Why? Mr. Robinson reports this:  
“People have been saying to me, ‘Why should we run around shooting and looting in our areas? If we are going to create the problem, we’ll create it in other areas.’”

WE would like to ask, when last did Jackie Robinson talk to a Black man? This two-bit hustler is nothing but a flunkey for Rockefeller and is a traitor to the Black people.

We also hear, from Floyd McKissick:

“Hardly any community in this country can call itself immune to trouble this coming summer.

“The danger spots are no longer confined to the ghettos in large northern cities, nor to the suburbs around big cities.

“The danger exists in any city where there are sizable numbers of Negroes whose hopes have been denied and who feel they are pawns in this system. The danger is spreading to smaller towns in many parts of the country.”

And from Martin Luther King:

“The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., warned on April 16 that at least 10 cities are ‘powder kegs’ that could ‘explode in racial violence this summer.’ ”

The article goes on and on trying to stir up the white people with all kinds of racist statements by whites, with the active support of these quoted Black “leaders.”

## Mis-leaders are enemies

Whom do these people serve with these kinds of statements? They are not helping the Black poor! They are not telling Black people how to resist racial oppression! They are not organizing Black people towards their self-determination! What they are doing is exactly what the Government wants them to do!

They are, in effect, telling the white population and the government: arm yourself because the Black people are going to "break out" this summer! So the government and its agents take it one step further. They say, don't only arm yourself, but attack the Black people when they demonstrate for a better way of living! THAT IS THE ROLE THAT THESE SO-CALLED LEADERS PLAY. THEY ARE AS MUCH OUR ENEMY AS THE GOVERNMENT THAT DIRECTS THEM!

Their other aim is to try to scare the government and "white liberals" into giving them some more handouts, or poverty money or bribes. What many of them are saying is "the Black people are mad and we cannot control them, so if you give us some more money maybe we can buy some of them off."

## Gun Club Threats

A week later The New York Times carried a front-page story about the National Rifle Association (NRA). The May issue of The American Rifleman, the magazine of the NRA, had an editorial saying white people should have guns to protect themselves from "mobs." The New York Daily News' headline said "GUN CLUB WANTS ANTI-RIOT POSSES."

This Rifleman editorial, which was given full coverage in the only two morning papers in New York, tells Congress not to pass a law to control guns because private ownership is a "potential community stabilizer" in the event of urban riots.

It states that the government should give thought "to the fate of citizens who may be trapped or beleaguered by howling mobs that brush aside police."

It says that "the best police on earth alone cannot stem the kind of mob violence that has swept many of America's cities."

The story in the News ends this way:

"Using figures that showed that last July 6 some 700 National Guardsmen were called to help quell dis-

orders in Omaha, Chicago and Cleveland, the editorial asked:

'What if the National Guard were overseas in a major war, as it has been repeatedly in this country? Who then guards the doors of American homes from senseless savagery and pillaging?

'With homefront safeguards spotty and uncertain, the armed citizen represents a potential community stabilizer. His support of law and order, whether as a civilian member of the posse...or as one of the organized militia defined as the "whole body of able-bodied male citizens," could prove essential!'

IS THAT NOT A CLEAR CALL FOR THE WHITE POPULATION TO UNITE WITH THE POLICE AS VIGILANTES AND POSSES TO HUNT DOWN THE BLACK PEOPLE? ISN'T THIS, ALONG WITH THE OTHER STATEMENTS BY THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS FLUNKEYS, AND THE FOUNDATION BEING LAID DOWN BY THE NEWSPAPERS—ISN'T THIS A DECLARATION OF WAR AGAINST THE AFRO-AMERICAN PEOPLE BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT?

Yes, it is.

## We Will Fight Back

We will make known to them, here and now, that we will defend our communities, our women and our children from any and all racist attacks by the police, the National Guard and any whites who are mis-led to think that they can better their conditions by attacking Black people!

\* \* \*

Naturally, the two-bit flunkey Hoover, who in service of his masters commits every crime in the book, tries to put "stuff" in the game by stating that Stokely Carmichael "had connections with the Revolutionary Action Movement, which he (Hoover) said was 'dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary.'" (New York Times, May 17)

FBI Hoover is pretty good at covering up crimes. Murderers and lynchers of Afro-Americans always get away. And he doesn't want us to know who really killed Kennedy.

But when it comes to race war, Hoover has it solved before it happens! He says that "in espousing his philosophy

of Black power, Carmichael has been in frequent contact with Max Stanford, field Chairman of the Revolutionary Action Movement, a highly secret all-Negro, Marxist-Leninist, Chinese-oriented organization which advocates guerrilla warfare to obtain its goals." Later on Hoover says that this "highly secret" organization has about 50 members!

Here we have it all. A "highly secret" organization—but Hoover can tell you how many members it has! What else do we hear this idiot saying? He says that RAM is a "Marxist-Leninist" organization and "Chinese-oriented" that "advocates guerrilla warfare." The fact is that RAM is no more than a paper organization and it does not claim to be "Marxist-Leninist." But the facts do not matter when Hoover is serving the rulers. The main thing is to stir up race-hatred among the people.

Let it be clear exactly what the U.S. Government is up to. They will use everything, and pick up on anyone who runs off at the mouth in the Black community, to further their aim of starting a "race war."

The purpose behind this campaign by the Government is to prepare the white population and the Uncle Tom

traitors for the fascist terror that they intend to unleash against the Afro-American peoples. The Government and its agents want the support of the white population as they increase their murder, beatings, terror and illegal jailings of protesting Black people who want to better their conditions.

The government and its flunkys have admitted that they have failed in their attempt to buy off and bribe the Black people, even though they have been suc-

“... Community leaders, including many Negroes, say they believe a crackdown is overdue... As City Councilman Jack A. Banko put it at a ‘get tough’ meeting of city leaders, if the police have to break a few skulls, what will be the reaction of the people in this (black ghetto) area? Riots?... Or will they rise to the occasion and support the police? Let’s find out... Mayor Ralph S. Locher, a Democrat, ordered the police ‘to fill every jail in Cleveland, if necessary’... Police Chief Wagner proposed that ‘City fireman be armed with shotguns’... McCormick, former FBI agent, Cleveland’s director of Safety, said that he expected charges of police brutality in the campaign, and declared ‘I don’t care’

cessful in buying off some of the so-called "negro leaders." They have admitted this failure by saying that in spite of their anti-poverty money the Black people still live in poverty, and are mad about it, and may "riot" this summer. What they do not understand is that when our people decide that they are going to be free—and yes, we have decided that we are going to be free—and are willing to fight for their national liberation, no amount of money can buy us off!

... Councilman Garofoli, whose ward includes the Italian section, declared that his white constituents 'are ready to take action themselves' ... Ten Negroes on the City Council pleaded with Mayor Locher to summon the National Guard now... B.E. Gardner, a Negro, former official of the YMCA who heads the Community Relations board, said he was advising Negro groups to 'forget this police brutality business, and if the cops have to use force, look up at the stars, look away' ... Cleveland police already are using floodlight-equipped helicopters for nighttime surveillance over ghetto areas ... And late last week Robert Kennedy joined in predicting new racial turmoil this summer ..."

## Stooges Don't Speak For Us

The U.S. ruling class\* finds it very easy to pull the strings of its puppets like Wilkins, Bunche, Senator Brooke and a whole lot of "preachers," city councilmen, civil rights "leaders" and other traitors to support their terror and fascist oppression of the Afro-American people. And they always have M.L. King waiting on the sidelines to come in the game when they need him! THESE STOOGES DON'T SPEAK FOR US, THEY HAVE NEVER SPOKEN FOR US AND THEY DO NOT SPEAK FOR US NOW!

The Afro-American people are not only fighting for their class demands—decent housing, jobs, education, decent working hours and wages for those of us who are working, and a stop to police attacks on us—but we are also raising demands as a national group. Our de-

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\* We use the term "ruling class" here to describe the group of bankers, bosses and landlords who own the large industrial plants, factories and farms, and buildings. They actually determine who will be president, governor, mayor, police chief, judge, etc. This class of rich people that run this country are the exact opposite of us and are our enemy and as long as they run the country we will never be free!

mand is essentially the right to determine our own national future—THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION!

## U.S. Imperialism Must Attack

It now becomes clear why U.S. imperialism\*\* must launch this attack against our people especially at this time.

The U.S. government has expanded its wars of aggression against the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America, and especially in Vietnam—and they are fool enough to want to attack China! In order for them to carry out this policy they must whip their own people in line like Nazi Germany did under Hitler. They must invent an internal enemy in this country that the white majority can turn against in order to forget their own troubles. And Hoover made this point very clear in what we quoted above.

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\*\* Imperialism is a system (U.S. capitalist system) that—in order to survive—must make colonies of other countries and take away their raw material and their land, control their economy, enslave their people and make tremendous profits off of the peoples' misery. U.S. imperialism must also exploit the people within their own country in order to hang on and make themselves even richer!

The U.S. imperialist government must watch its back. They are afraid that as they are committing aggression in Asia, Africa and Latin America a revolt will break out right here in their own backyard. To guard themselves, they have to intensify right here the violence they are practicing in southeast Asia.

## **They Fear Black Rebels**

The strongest opposition to the U.S. imperialist government in the United States is the Blackpeople because we are on the bottom of the ladder and have less to lose in rebelling. They know this and they know that they will never have a "safe" home base as long as the Black people are willing to rebel against them. Not only are the Black people in a rebellious state but we are more and more beginning to line up with the Vietnamese people and other oppressed peoples in the world who are fighting the common enemy—U.S. imperialism.

There are other important reasons why the U.S. imperialist government has chosen this time for an all-out attack on the Black communities around the country.

## Other Reasons Are:

1) The Black people have refused to lay down and die. After almost 350 years of slavery and oppression the Black people are still struggling and fighting for their national liberation.

2) We have not attacked, and will not attack unarmed men, women and children who come into our community peacefully. They have not been able to provoke our people to leave our community and attack white people, so this year they are trying even harder to stir up an incident.

Since July 18, 1964 there have been over 50 rebellions in ghettos across America. In not one case have these rebellions been directed towards the murder of whites in surrounding communities. Absolutely no attacks have been made on white communities bordering the ghettos which have risen in rebellion.

The Black people have not mounted a military offensive against white workers. The uprisings have been defensive in character and have taken place only within the boundaries of the ghettos. Black people have defended their families

and homes against racist attacks mounted inside the ghettos by imperialism with its flunkey cops and soldiers. They have mis-named these rebellions "race riots."

3) All over the country there are militant struggles being directed against the government, or some of its agencies, by white workers and students. We welcome the struggle of the white workers against this system because when they strike and fight militantly they aid us by making the government fight on two fronts.

4) The white students have been more and more rejecting the lies that they are being told and are fighting back and lining up with the people.

5) For the first time in 300 years Black college students in all-Black colleges have begun to rebel against these schools that teach them to be slaves and servants of U.S. imperialism.

6) More and more people, both Black and white, are seeing the war against the Vietnamese people for exactly what it is--an imperialist war of aggression against a colored people who only want to be free from U.S. imperialism. And they are becoming more outspoken against it.

## We Are The Key

Since the most rebellious section of the working class and the people of this country today are the Afro-American people, the U.S. government must try to split the working class into two groups, Black and white. If they are successful in getting Black and white workers to fight one another they will then try to break the will of the Blacks to fight back. If they can break the fighting will of the Black people they will use this as an example to the white workers who are fighting back, and to the students and the anti-war movement. If they can break the back of our movement then they will be in a better position to attack the other movements and whip them into line. If they are able to accomplish this they will be in a better position to commit aggression against our brothers and sisters in Asia, Africa and Latin America. WE MUST SEE TO IT THAT THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN!

We must also be very careful and watch for some of the following acts by the government, its newspapers, radio, television, magazines, etc., and their agents, both Black and white. All of

these acts are to create the conditions to start a so-called "race war" and turn the people's struggle away from the main enemy—the U.S. rulers.

### **The Government Will:**

1) Have some of its Black lackeys lead demonstrations into white communities, exposing them to the reaction of the racist white communities (at the same time calling upon Black followers to be non-violent—not to protect themselves). Actually, the vast majority of the Black people do not want to live in white communities.

2) Encourage and give wide publicity to whatever some of the so-called "leaders" say—the wilder the statement, the more publicity! The purpose is for the government to point to them and say to the white population, "see how wild they are, you have to arm yourselves against them." In most cases none of these so-called "leaders" lead any real organizations—they only "lead" themselves!

3) Try to put the Black people in a bad light by blowing up everything that occurs in the Black community or events that involve Black people. In a country

where 88% of the population is white, if you go by the newspapers 100% of all crimes are committed by Black people. Again this is used to help create conditions to suppress the Afro-American people.

4) Send agents into the Black community who will try to incite our people into committing acts that will only benefit the ruling class. These agents will try to make us do things that we have not planned to do. They will try to walk us into traps. They will try to create incidents. Be on the lookout for them! We must let them and their bosses know that we will fight on our own ground and not be led out of our community!

These are just some of the methods that the ruling class will use to try to start their so-called "race war." They have many more methods that we must watch out for. We must be on our toes and very careful not to be sucked into anything that is not to our choosing and that we have not planned and that we do not want to happen. We must choose our own leaders, choose our own issues to fight around and choose our own time and place. And we are going to choose who we are going to fight for and who we are going to die for—the U.S. government and

its flunkeys will not make this decision for us!

In almost every Black ghetto—in every city, town and county where Black people live—the U.S. ruling class has forced us to live under the same conditions: poverty and semi-slavery. We are forced to live like this because the U.S. ruling class and its imperialist government are making huge profits off of the misery of our people.

They make these tremendous profits by forcing us to live in slums that the slumlords do not spend any money to keep up, while at the same time they charge us high rents.

They make these profits by forcing us to work at menial jobs as porters, maids, cleaning women, low-pay factory workers, tenant farmers, share-croppers and slave migrant farm workers. We work the hardest for the lowest money! And when times get tough we are the first to be kicked off our jobs!

They make this money and profit off us by not giving us a decent education, so early in school we are forced-out (mismamed "drop-out") either to a low-pay menial job or into the army to fight to help the U.S. imperialist government enslave and rob other people.

AND THE REASON WHY THEY HAVE A POLICE AND A NATIONAL GUARD IS TO TRY TO PREVENT US FROM BREAKING AWAY FROM THESE SLAVE CONDITIONS.

Our oppression is both as part of a class (working class), and as a national group (Afro-American). Our demands are similar no matter in what part of the country we live, what city or what ghetto. Our oppressors are the U.S. ruling class and their government, its agencies and its Uncle Tom traitors. When we call the Uncle Toms traitors, we mean just that, because any man that betrays his people for the enemy is a traitor—and history shows that people who are betrayed always find ways to pay them off!

When we are attacked by the ruling class and its government we must never stop raising our just demands, because we will not be on the road to our national liberation until these demands are met.

When we make our demands we must not fall into the trap of demanding, or asking for, more Black cops. Any cop, no matter what his color or nationality, is the sworn enemy of the people because he is hired, and he knows it, to protect the rich people and keep the poor people down.

## **WE DEMAND:**

1) No more drafting of our Black youth. Our fight is here not in Vietnam! U.S. GET OUT OF VIETNAM NOW!

2) Organized resistance to Police brutality.

3) Our right to assemble peacefully, speak freely and demonstrate peacefully without harassment, brutality, murder and general terror from the police department.

4) Our right to defend ourselves by any means necessary.

5) Community control over the schools, guaranteeing that African and Afro-American history be taught and taught right.

6) Tear down the slums and replace them with low-rent spacious housing. No more increases—rents should be rolled back to ten percent of a family's income.

7) Defeat drug addiction by taking the profit out of drugs. Drugs are made available in the Black com-

munity to keep the Black people in a condition where they are not able to fight back, and to make huge profits for the drug manufacturers, the corrupt cops and judges and politicians.

8) Full employment, not handouts from the welfare dept., the phoney anti-poverty programs and all of these other government agencies that are attempting to buy us off. **WE WANT JOBS NOW!** Start a vast public works program to create jobs. We want jobs here—not as killers in Vietnam!

These demands are only a half-way measure towards our national liberation. And in order for us to achieve them we will have to fight every step along the way. We all know that this system of U.S. imperialism cannot solve the problems facing the Black people of this country, or the working class in general. We know that in order for the Black people to be free that there must be created a new system.

We must replace this system with one that will truly represent us as a national group and as members of the working class. This must be a system where there

will be no private profits—no basis for the exploitation of man by man. A system where we as Black people and as workers will determine our own future and our development. A system that is run by us. A system where the rich will no longer hold the poor in slavery. A system where all men will be able to grow and develop into full human beings and where we will reach our fullest potential. And finally, a system where racism will be smashed and destroyed. **THIS SYSTEM WE CALL SOCIALISM!**

## **ORGANIZE!**

The U.S. ruling class is not going to give this to us. The only way we are going to get it is to take it. The only way we can take it is through organization—strong, militant organization that will show the enemy that we will not succumb. We know if we give way it will encourage them to continue enslaving us.

The key to everything we do must be organization—apartment by apartment, house by house, block by block, neighborhood by neighborhood, and finally nation-wide. We must defend our communities from attack—no matter from where it comes.

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We suggest that these little booklets be studied, and carried with you to help our brothers and sisters understand the kind of enemy we have and how he operates.

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