

UNITE! EDUCATE! AGITATE! LIBERATE!

What are we here for today? We are here to try to bring about a unity of concerned brothers and sisters as to what has been happening/ is happening/ and probably will be happening/ in the not-too-distant future.

Widespread busts, flushing out of Black and Third World militants, dragnets for even sympathizers are foreseeable. Already, a growing number of activists are being whisked away behind steel doors. The role each person plays can help to build a protective shield for one another, or tear away the seams of trust in precarious moments. Petty gossip, unnecessary rumors, finger-pointing must be avoided, but level-headed security-consciousness must be priority at all times.

Reviewing a brief and fast-moving history can help us see the direction the struggle is taking. What has the past 10 years of the Black and Puerto Rican movement revealed? A systematic sabotage of the struggle—one continuous "rubbinb out," discrediting, or co-opting of key organizations and leadership.

From the 1963 March on Washington (for the supposed civil rights of Black people) diluted to a sanctioned demonstration with the U.S. government choosing "their" own Negro spokesmen, to the current hysteria to "get the Black Liberation Army," the white power structure has dealt every conceivable ploy to destroy the paths to Black and Puerto Rican ethnic unity, self-determination, self-reliance, self-defense, and progressive nationalism.

How many Black and Brown men, unheralded and unknown, have been framed and railroaded to dungeons throughout New York. In 1963 and '64, it was George Whitmore (though finally out after 9 years), and Richard Robles (still in). In 1973, it is Daniel Rahman Turner convicted through suppression of evidence. It is also so with the case of Ruchell Magee in California.

Who can forget the Harlem Six, four brothers who did 8 years from 1964 to 1972. Two are still incarcerated. And what about the Harlem Five? Two began doing time this year despite 'reasonable doubt.' And there are men like Martin Sostre, Richard Sharuba Moore, Pancho Cruz, and the Rap Brown Four who have stood tall against vindictive assaults. Will the next victims be Carlos Feliciano, Muhammad Ahmad, Sonny Carsen, Rob Williams and Bob Colliers?

What touched off the '64 Harlem riots? A teen-ager was killed by a policeman—similar to the killing of 10-year olds, Clifford Glover and Rickie Rodden.

The 1965 assassination of Malcolm was also a try for fratricide among two Muslim factions, instigated by enemy forces still unknown.

From 1966 to 1969, how many Black organizations in New York City have been

destroyed? Deacons, RAM, Jamaica Rifle and Pistol Club, SNCC, BADU, BAND, Mau Maus, Black Arts Theater, High School Coalition, Black and Puerto Rican Student Council, and two separate Black Panther Parties; plus lesser known groups. Also crushed, was the fight against the State Building in 1969 when brothers and sisters occupied Reclamation Site #1; also the Harlem YWCA.

In the 1970's, the attacks targeted Nationalists, Muslims and separatists—specifically, the Republic of New Africa and the Puerto Rican Independence Movement. New York's China-Town is now also under surveillance. However, the Number One on the "danger" list is the B.L.A....the "un-snatchable, invisible" Black Liberation Army. Phantom soldiers, myth, dream, or real-life revolutionaries molded by oppression in Babylon?

We must not only defend the idea or the name, but understand the necessity and potentials of a collective, united Black political/military force to protect, challenge, fight, and triumph over those who try to destroy Black or Puerto Rican Nationalist existence. The untold number of warriors behind the wall must be supported! They include, not just local brothers and sisters, but men and women across Babylon who openly rebelled against a genocidal, racist system: Ruchell Magee, San Quentin 6, Holmsburg 2, Maryland Penn 5, RNA 11, Elizabeth 2, Chicago Mau Maus, the 5 Puerto Rican Nationalists—including Lolita Lebron—all held 20 years; and those busted throughout the Caribbeans and at Wounded Knee.

Today's incarcerated vanguard are those who have brought the struggle to a new level; who fearlessly implemented their politics with their deeds, their action, THEIR LIVES! They are: the New York Four, Herman Bell, Clark Sundiata Acoli Squire, Joanne Assata Shakur Chesimard, Ska Sha Brown, Victor Cumberbatch, John Thomas, the so-called BLA 9, their wives, and countless others indicted because they personify Black and Puerto Rican militancy and revolution. They must receive total support of the people! They symbolize the new breed of resisters. From political prisoners they have become Prisoners-of-War for they are fighting a government they are not a part of; a government who is warring against their people.

Also, never to be forgotten are those who made the supreme sacrifice: Zayd Shakur, Anthony Kimu White, Woody Changa Green, Ronald Carter, Harold Russell.....all seeds of Malcolm and the people. Also Julio Roldan of the once-thriving Young Lords.

When the hysteria-creating police-killing trials begin in New Jersey and New York, the support, solidarity, and financial aid of the people for legal defense will be needed! Unite! Educate! Agitate! Liberate!