

AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY!

OVER 25,000 U.S. BLACKS DEMONSTRATE
SUPPORT OF MOTHERLAND LIBERATION STRUGGLES.



We had shown, in our single effort on May 27th, that many thousands of our people are conscious and concerned about the liberation of the Motherland from which we were torn centuries ago; we had demonstrated to each other that our differences do not overwhelm our love for each other, our understanding of the necessity to unite, and to unite around progressive issues; we had demonstrated that a new thrust toward the complete liberation of our people had begun, and that we could and would meet the challenge. We had said and meant ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

May 25th has been, for some time now, recognized by the world's progressive peoples as a day to express solidarity with the struggles of the oppressed Black masses on the Continent of Africa. Here inside the U.S. we have heretofore neglected this expression. It seemed that for Black people, such an expression was veritably impossible, given our own sufferings here inside the U.S. Urgency and the progression in our understanding have corrected all this, for on this last May 27th (a Saturday, set aside for this expression here in the U.S. to allow for greater participation by a greater variety of people) veritably thousands upon thousands of Black people came together in solidarity with the liberation struggles being waged by our African brothers and sisters.

Not spontaneously did such gatherings occur in Washington, D.C.; San Francisco; Toronto, Canada; the Caribbean, though the many thousands came with revolutionary enthusiasm. The tireless efforts of a group of

young Black fighters, men and women devoted to uniting the various struggles against all forms of oppression, the struggles of all Black people against the common foe, brought together these demonstrations of solidarity. Headed by Brother Owusu Sadaukai, these Brothers and Sisters nearly a year ago formed the African Liberation Day Coordinating Committee. Beautiful Brothers and Sisters, like Brothers Cleveland Sellers and Mark Smith and Sister Florence Tate, having already long weathered the struggle in this country, decided to initiate a way in this country of making firm our own struggle with those of our comrades in Africa, through the expression in this country of African Liberation Day.

With hard core footwork, and making endless calls and other preparations, they began to form various local committees across this continent, as well as elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere: from New York, Boston, Washington, D.C. to San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Atlanta, Greens-

boro, Houston, all over this country, this Western Hemisphere, African Liberation Day committees were organized, and Black people were working hard in the interests of Black people.

Black people of varying political and ideological leanings began, in most cases for the first time in a long time, to set aside that which had kept us relatively divided, to work toward this common goal. Posters, signboards, leaflets, the calls went forth everywhere to come to Washington, come to San Francisco, show more than the Man, but our Brothers and Sisters who are so courageously waging struggle, particularly in Southern Africa, that we U.S. Blacks can and will unite in our common interest. No longer would it suffice that we knew of and praised the heroic battles in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Azania, Guinea-

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"We also understand that that unity and solidarity that we've put together... is also in direct solidarity and support of all the African liberation struggles, especially in Southern Africa."

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we have to struggle to survive, so that we can unify and organize for that future liberation. At the same time that we unify and organize here within the confines of pig racist America, we also understand that that unity and solidarity that we've put together, from one crack and cranny of this country to the other, that that unity is also in direct solidarity and support of all the African liberation struggles, especially in Southern Africa. In Southern Africa today, there are a bunch of racists, low-lived, I mean, some scurvy, no-good capitalist dogs in South Africa itself. Eighty per cent of the land is used by one third of the white population, while three-quarters of the Black

population are forced on less than 20% of the land.

In other words, it's no different from what these rotten dogs in this country did to ourselves and the American Indians, who were on plantations, and Indians forced on reservations. The racists tried to take everything that belonged to Black people and humanity, and force the people out, the masses, to force our lives out, try to crush our cultural meaning out. To take our culture and put it together with unity and organization to survive is to try to stop all this... What we have to realize is as we implement survival and implement unity with our Brothers in Africa, as we struggle here to free ourselves, we will, at the same time,

be struggling to free our Brothers in Africa. How, do you say, this happens? You know how it happens, because the same racist capitalist exploiters who are exploiting the Asian people are exploiting us. The same ones that're waging war throughout the world are the same ones that've been exploiting us. So, African Liberation Day becomes something very significant for us. African Liberation Day becomes something significant for us to understand, a movement where masses, thousands and millions of Black people in this country will begin to move with our revolutionary ideas, will begin to move with our survival and try and liberate ourselves, futuristically, with organization.

Today, you hear a lot about politics and how politicians promise certain things. The racist politicians in this country have misused Black people's votes for so long, it's a crying shame. Malcolm X told you. I remember Malcolm X ran it down, how when "Lynchin'" Baines Johnson ran against Goldwater, 90% of all the Black people who voted in this country, voted for lying, racist Lynchin' Baines Johnson; and we don't have anything! He promised you a war on poverty; and here it is, Lynchin' Baines Johnson has been gone; Tricky Dick Nixon's been in his 4 years, and we still don't have a thing. What we're talking about is this, too many times, too long, have these racists been misusing Black people's votes, to keep you divided.



"UNITY IN THE COMMUNITY IS NOT SUPERFICIAL ANYMORE."

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Black people of varying political and ideological leanings began, in most cases for the first time in a long time, to set aside that which had kept us relatively divided, to work toward this common goal. Posters, signboards, leaflets, the calls sent forth everywhere to come to Washington, come to San Francisco, show more than the Man, but our Brothers and Sisters who are so courageously waging struggle, particularly in Southern Africa, that we U.S. Blacks can and will unite in our common interest.

Among those who came to demonstrate support for the struggles of our African Brothers and Sisters was CHAIRMAN BOBBY SEALE, OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY: "... As we struggle here to free ourselves, we will, at the same time, be struggling to free our Brothers in Africa."

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Too many times, too many of our Brothers have been telling you to vote for some jive whitey. They even run around here telling you to vote for McGovern - wait a minute - telling you to vote for McGovern, and McGovern has been a Senator in politics for over 20 years in South Dakota - I was stationed in South Dakota 10 or 11 years ago in the pigs' U.S. military service - do you know how many oppressed American Indians have been up there and are still oppressed and McGovern's from there. McGovern's going to try and tell us that he knows something about our problems, and he's still got the Indians oppressed in South Dakota. Well, let's tell McGovern to shove it! Let's tell McGovern to shove it! They don't get any Black votes, Let's tell "Humpty Dumpty" to shove it. He doesn't get any Black votes. Let's

tell them all to shove it, and let's deal. Let's deal with a Black unified vote around Sister Shirley Chisholm, and don't let anybody, any more, sell out our votes. We want all our votes for the Black community.

With all our votes in the Black community, we're going to implement the Survival Program. We've got 20 of them now: a Free Optometry Program, which we're getting ready to implement; a Free Dental Care Program to implement. You've already heard about the Free Food Program; have you heard about the Free Clothing Factory - a factory that makes the kind of clothes you like, not used stuff, brand-new-styled stuff, that everybody's been looking for. We've got brand new shoes and boots; Mama's shoes, Daddy's shoes, baby's shoes, daughter's shoes, brother's shoes, everybody's shoes. Everybody's got a right to have some shoes. Everybody's got a right to have some

clothes. When we say it's free, we're not jiving. It's free, absolutely free. Free Preventative Health Care and Attention has already been implemented, and we're going to spread it throughout the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Area. It's going to make these pigs mad, because we are beginning to get something and institutionalizing it, where we control it.

We walk to implement these programs for survival; and, I say, we talk to implement these programs for survival; and, we're going around and we're educating to implement these programs for survival. You know we have to unify for survival. We have to implement every kind of free program in every Black community we can. What else have we been looking for? What does a Brother do when he rips off a store for \$200, or something, for a thousand? The first thing he does is go out and buy him some

brand new clothes, doesn't he? He tries to get him some decent living, right? So, I'm saying that our full womanhood and manhood, our full Black humanity, has got to stand up and unify around these programs. So while we're walking and talking and boycotting and doing everything for survival, if one of those racist pigs, if these racist police want to come down here and try to stop these big diesel truckloads of food that we're going to have on June 24th, or any other time at the Oakland Auditorium, coming up next month, if they want to try and stop that truck full of food and the truckloads of shoes we're going to be giving away, free, and the truckloads of first aid kits for our homes, if they want to try and stop it, we're going to have to implement one more program. We're going to implement a Free Gun Program, so we can shoot for survival! We're going to implement a Free Gun Program, if they start

attacking our program. We're going to shoot for survival!

We've got a right to live; we've got a right to eat; we've got a right to organize and unify in our communities. Now that needs to be our base of politics. We're not going to have superficial politics anymore. We're going to have some programs, just like we did in Berkeley over there, the last day of the Black Community Survival Conference. Four thousand Black people came out there, and we talked about the racists, those racists on the Berkeley City Council who've been jiving and wouldn't give up that money up there. We told Black people not to vote for any of them up there anymore until they start releasing the money we want, NOW! Wait a minute. They heard us telling those people to unify that vote, Black people, don't give that vote to them anymore. Five days later, they voted \$18,560. to the People's

Free Medical Research Health Clinic... That's just the beginning of the type of revolutionary struggle that's going to go on and how we are going to wage it for our liberation in the future. That's just the beginning, Brothers and Sisters. We've got to pull it together.

Now I'm asking all of you to be at the Oakland Auditorium, around 12 noon or one o'clock, June the 24th. We're going to have 10,000 full bags of groceries; 10,000 sickle cell anemia tests, that we all need - we've got to solve the problem of that disease. Buy the latest Party newspaper, so you'll know what Sickle Cell Anemia Foundations are phoney; and that the Black Panther Party has already tested over a 100,000, free, in the last 6 months; all these cats running around here, "Donate to Sickle Cell Anemia; come down here to this benefit for Sickle Cell Anemia."

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"We've got to have some liberating unity and solidarity with our Black Brothers and Sisters all over Africa."

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Sickle Cell Anemia this, and Sickle Cell Anemia that, and not one of them has tested anybody for Sickle Cell Anemia. That's what we have to learn, to stop letting people rip off our funds, to stop letting racists rip off our votes and disunifying us. Stop letting them compromise us. Let's unify so we can make them compromise the way we want them to compromise.

Unity in the community is not just superficial anymore. We've been hollering unity too long. It's time to build a constructive framework to have that unity. It's no different from some of the young gangs on the streets that we organized into the Free Food Program. Now watch this. I'm going to show you what unity is, in a framework. While the young Brother on the street is called a hood by the elderly mother who goes to church, we put them both together. We sat all the mamas down in 50 chairs, and every other chair, because the cases of gro-

ceries and canned goods we had didn't have any labels on them... The young Brother had to pick up the box, come up there and empty it for the old Sister to write corn and peas and carrots and all that stuff on there. Then he put it back. Now, what've you got? Where the elderly and the young might seem divided, when they are working together for something that's good for all of them, they unify and work together.

We're not going to have anymore superficial unity. We're not going to talk about we got to get together. We say we're building a framework where we are together. We keep our minds together. All these beautiful Brothers and Sisters here, on African Liberation Day, those who organized this, I'm going to have to tell you, they are some beautiful Sisters and Brothers. They're out of sight - I think we ought to give them a big round of applause for organizing, for organizing for the first time in the history

of America, a movement where Black people come out in unity against the exploitation of all our Brothers and Sisters in Southern Africa, where at the same time, when we come together, we can also protest and organize for liberation in the future for our Black Brothers and Sisters right here.

Now, beyond that, I want to say one thing, that you probably all know about. The Black Panther Party, the responsible members, voted unanimously (as you might know already) that Sister Elaine Brown of the Black Panther Party and myself are going to run for political office in the City of Oakland, where I, myself, will be running for Mayor. But I'm not running for Mayor for that jive, because you know how we are, in the Party. If we take over that city council, every racist policeman is going to be fired tomorrow. You know how it will be, if we get up there. If we get up there, all those funds that they haven't

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ELAINE BROWN, MINISTER OF INFORMATION OF THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY: "I don't have any words that I can tell you, because we've told each other something. The thing to do is to go beyond today, and to deal with tomorrow and tomorrow, to liberate this territory!"

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been giving to people, you know what we're going to do. We're not going to do anything but put up some programs, right over night, and start implementing some freedom right away, because it's been 400 years too long. Black Unity in the Community! All Power to the People!

Simultaneously, in Washington, D.C., Congressman Walter Fauntroy, of Washington, D.C.; George Wiley of the National Welfare Rights Organization; LeRoi Jones (Imamu Baraka) of the Black Community Development Organization of Newark; Black poet Don L. Lee; Brother Cleveland Sellers (who read a message from Stokeley Carmichael); Brother Owusu Sadaukai, and many other Black people gave special messages in solidarity with the struggles of our Brothers and Sisters in Africa.

Among those present in Washington, D.C. was Elaine Brown, Minister of Information of the Black Panther

Party. She expressed the Black Panther Party's message of solidarity in these words:

All Power to the People! All Power to the People! All Power to the People!
All Power to the Motherland!

I think that's beautiful. I think that this is the most beautiful sight I've ever seen in my life. I think that what we have accomplished today is something that we can really be proud of, because it was not too long ago that we had a whole lot of differences among us right here in this audience and right here on this stage that would have never brought us together. But, we were brought together, by the thing that really links us together, and that is our heritage, our Motherland, the struggle that is there, which is our struggle, the struggle of our African Brothers and Sisters.

It was not long ago that members of our Party, myself included, had the very beautiful privilege of visiting the People's Republic of China - and we

know that that one quarter of the world is safely holding on to its territory. When we were in the People's Republic of China, we had the good fortune to meet with the President of FRELIMO, the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique, with President Samora Machel. And, I want to tell you, in a few words, that they're really taking care of business in Mozambique! And I guess I don't have to tell you that they're taking care of business in Guinea-Bissau. As a matter of fact, our people are really struggling to liberate our Motherland; and we know that the Vietnamese people are struggling to liberate their territory.

In the face of this, there's a very significant thing that has taken place in the last few hours in the history of the world: THEY have made a pact. Do you know who THEY are? I'm talking about Kosygin and Brezhnev

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"We're talking about liberating the United States of America."

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and Podgorny and Nixon. Yesterday they were enemies, and today they made a pact. So the enemy is uniting... And so are we, Brother, that's right. This is what is beautiful, that we are uniting, here, today; that we've put aside the many petty and small differences, because the hour is too late and the time is too desperate for us to be talking about the small differences. The people of the Black and the Third World MUST unite against the common enemy, because the common enemy is definitely uniting against us.

I don't have any words that I can tell you, because we've told each other something. The thing to do is to go beyond today, and to deal with tomorrow and tomorrow, to liberate this territory! We're talking about liberating the United States of America. If we want to go to the Motherland, they're liberating their territory right now and we will be able to go there. And, when our Brothers and Sisters

want to come here, we can say, "We have a place prepared for you." We've got to talk about liberating this territory, because, you see, when Kosygin and Brezhnev and Podgorny and Nixon get together, they're not talking about uniting for peace. They're talking about the use of weapons of war and the agreements that they can make on war against the rest of us. They have, at this time, weapons to destroy this entire world. They are so up-tight and pressed against the wall - the Vietnamese have them pressed against the wall, the Chinese have them pressed against the wall, the Cubans have them pressed against the wall and our Brothers and Sisters in Africa have them pressed against the wall - that they will destroy rather than lose.

Therefore, if we don't, in this country, take our task as it is now and begin to unite here in this country, then there will be very little for any of us to enjoy in the liberation of all the other peoples.

I have no message other than to say that this is a very beautiful thing; that it shows that we do love each other, and that the basis for our struggle is love. When we can get rid of the bomb and when we can get rid of the gun, then we can all sit down and relax completely. But, we have a slogan in the Black Panther Party: we say that we are the advocates of the abolition of war... but, we know that in order to get rid of the gun, it is necessary to take up the gun. And, we do this in love. We do not do this in hate, but we do it in love. And I think that this is the real beginning of that love.

There are some people who say "Amandla", and there are some people who say "Habari gani", and there are some who say "Asalaam Alaikum". But, for those of you who know none of those phrases, I leave you, now, with All Power to the People! All Power to the People!

