

DEATH TO THE KLAN!

NEWSLETTER OF THE JOHN BROWN ANTI-KLAN COMMITTEE

P.O. Box 406, Stuyvesant Station

New York, NY 10009

November, 1979

BULLETIN! ASSATA SHAKUR ESCAPES

We join all anti-imperialists around the world in celebrating the escape of Assata Shakur from Clinton Correctional Facility in New Jersey, on Friday, November 2nd. Assata Shakur was imprisoned as a result of a frame-up by the US government's COINTELPRO (Counter-intelligence Program); she served 6½ years in maximum security and solitary confinement for a crime she did not commit. Her escape exposes the lies of the government, that tried to paint her as a criminal rather than a leader of her people, and that said the Black Liberation Army had been destroyed.

Assata's escape comes near the close of 1979 -- a year that has seen the escape of William Guillermo Morales and the release of the 4 Puerto Rican Nationalist Prisoners of War as a result of the heightening of the war of the Puerto Rican nation for Independence and Socialism.

The jailing of Assata Shakur, Sundiata Acoli, the Republic of New Afrika-ll, and all other Afrikan prisoners of war -- like the assassination of Malcolm X, Fred Hampton and Mark Clark -- was an act of genocide by the US government against the Black nation through attacking the leaders of the nation. Assata's escape, like

the growth of the National Black Human Rights Campaign, signals a new level in the struggle of Black people for national liberation and self-determination.

**SUPPORT AND DEFEND ASSATA SHAKUR
AND ALL BLACK FREEDOM FIGHTERS!
FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND
PRISONERS OF WAR!**



1979: THE BLACK LIBERATION STRUGGLE ADVANCES

The struggle of Black people for independence and self-determination in Amerika is what historically and today is defeating the Klan and all forms of white supremacy.

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FREE THE PONTIAC BROTHERS

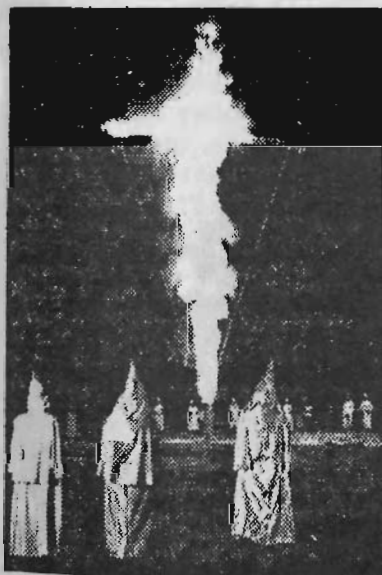


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In July, 1978 over 1100 prisoners at Pontiac Koncentration Kamp in Illinois took part in a major rebellion, demanding human rights and an end to geonocide. The state's response has been a massive assault on the brothers, their families and supporters. 17 Black men face the death penalty and 14 others face charges that would see them in prison for the rest of their lives. However, the leadership of Black revolutionaries inside the prison coupled with the strength and power of the Black Liberation Struggle on the outside has already led to significant victories. One such victoy is the state being forced to move the trials of the 17 men facing the death penalty from southern Illinois to Chicago. As we go to press, there is a demonstration, led by Black revolutionaries in Chicago, demanding freedom for the Pontiac Brothers and an end to the genocidal railroad. The fight to free political prisoners and prisoners of war is central to the fight against white supremacy and for human rights and self-determination for the Black Nation. Building support for the Pontiac Brothers and the Pontiac Rebellion will be a major part of the program of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee in Chicago. The next issue of this newsletter will carry an in-depth article about the Pontiac struggle.

DEATH TO THE KLAN!

This is the first issue of the news letter of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee. We are publishing the newsletter because we think it can be a tool in building a national movement among progressive, anti-white supremacist groups and individuals around the country. As a source of information about the struggle against the Klan and other forces of organized white supremacy, the newsletter will be a means of developing a national view and analysis of organized white supremacy. As a means of communication, it will promote the development of a country-wide network of people who support the struggle of Black and other Third World people for human rights, and oppose the Klan -- a movement of people who recognize that the fight against white supremacy is the key issue facing all of us at this time. The newsletter is part of building the fight to defeat the Klan.



A cross-burning in Alabama

As we are going to press, we have heard news of three incidents that happened over this weekend (Nov. 3-4) that underline the necessity for such a movement to be built: in North Carolina, the Klan shot at an anti-Klan rally, killing 4 and wounding 9. In Dallas, Texas, the cops 'rescued' a Klan rally from anti-Klan demonstrators (led by Black and Chicano organizers), carrying the Klan members off in a bus to complete their rally in a garage; in Somerset, New Jersey, a Black man's home was attacked by a Klan cross-burning -- one day after the escape of Assata Shakur.

The first issue of DEATH TO THE KLAN is being sent to our entire mailing list. Please subscribe by sending \$5.00 to the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, P.O. Box 406, Stuyvesant Station, New York, NY 10009 (the newsletter will be monthly). We urge you to distribute copies of the newsletter, and to send us news and clippings about the KKK and other white supremacist forces.

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GRIL COUCH MURDERED BY KILLER COPS IN AUSTIN, TX

At noon on August 2, 1979, two white policemen in plain clothes went to lunch at a bar-b-que restaurant in the heart of Austin's Black community. While they were eating they verbally harrassed a Black man in the restaurant, suggesting that he had stolen the tape deck he was listening to. When he responded angrily and approached them, they wrestled him out to the street and onto the ground. These two young white police men sat on top of

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The Black liberation struggle today is advancing and consolidating throughout the country. By the time you read this, a significant and historical event will have taken place: on November 5, Black Solidarity Day, thousands of Black people under the leadership of the National Black Human Rights Coalition will march and rally at the United Nations, charging the US government with genocide and raising the slogan "Human Rights is the Right to Self-Determination."

4 The National Black Human Rights Campaign is unifying the mass struggles of Black people for human rights and forging a strategy -- giving life again to the leadership of Malcolm X -- for the liberation of the Black nation. The November 5th mobilization unified the struggles of Black people in communities throughout the country under the banner THE BLACK NATION CHARGES GENOCIDE, and generated international support from anti-imperialist nations around the world for the struggle for freedom in this country.

The impact of the NBHRC has been felt in New York and around the country. Killer cops in NYC have been exposed and fought by thousands of Third World people in demonstrations against the NY Police Department; Mayor Koch and white supremacist forces in NYC were unable to remove Judge Bruce Wright from the bench; the Klan in Tupelo, Mississippi was stopped by the Black community in a strategy of boycotts, rallies, and armed self-defense, led

by the United League. The escape of ASSATA SHAKUR, held as a prisoner of war for 6 years under the most repressive apparatus of the US government and the FBI's counterintelligence program, can only be understood as a result of the growing power of the Black liberation struggle, capable of freeing and re-claiming its leaders in the struggle for full human rights and liberation.

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee has worked to build political and material support for the National Black Human Rights Campaign as a central part of our work to fight white supremacy. Raising material aid for the November 5th mobilization (to which many readers of this newsletter have contributed) has been a major focus of our work for the past months. In the 1980's, as the NBHRC continues to build and consolidate the struggle for self-determination of the Black nation, we will continue to take leadership from the NBHRC and to support and participate in the strategy of the



Campaign. In September of 1980, 9 years after the Attica Rebellion, the NBHRC will hold a national anti-genocide conference, carrying forward the struggle to smash the Klan and all forces of white supremacy, and to free all political prisoners and prisoners of war. It is this struggle that directly confronts the very essence of US imperialism and white supremacy; it is by actively supporting this strategy that white people will play a role in the defeat of white supremacy and imperialism.

SUPPORT THE NATIONAL BLACK HUMAN
RIGHTS CAMPAIGN!
FIGHT WHITE SUPREMACY!
DEATH TO THE KLAN!

EDITORIAL

SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE BLACK NATION: THE DEATH OF THE KLAN

The Ku Klux Klan is a vicious, brutal white supremacist force which should be wiped off the face of the earth. Many people in this country, including white people, share this opinion. But, why does the Klan exist, whom does it represent, and how will it be smashed? The Black liberation struggle has made its position clear-- the Klan is part of the imperialist arsenal in the war between the Black nation and US imperialism. It exists to terrorize and oppress Black and other Third World people. It is the armed force of the white oppressor nation. It is being met by the growing strength of the Black movement and will ultimately be defeated by the liberation of the Black nation and the dismantling of white supremacy.

The Klan started during Reconstruction as a way to mobilize the white population to disarm the Black nation, which had fought victoriously in the Civil War, and to drive Black people back toward slavery. In the 1920's, the Klan rose in the North, to terrorize the Black communities springing up as the result of the forced removal of Black people from the land in the South. It was a key part of the US government's move to smash the revolutionary nationalist movement led by the Honorable Marcus Garvey. The Klan has never left the scene since then. Today, with US imperialism on the decline worldwide, the Klan exists to fight against the greatest threat to the continued survival of the US empire -- the liberation of the Black nation.

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This is a life and death struggle.

--Four people gunned down at an anti-Klan rally in Greensboro, N.C., while cops look the other way. NOT an isolated incident -- the Klan is always about terror and murder; the war strategy of a terroristic and murderous system. On the same day, the Klan marched in Dallas, Texas: when they were confronted by a protest march of more than 2,000 people, predominantly Black and Chicano/Mexicano, the cops



whisked the Klan members away in a bus to finish their rally in a public garage. It is also not just a coincidence that the day after Assata Shakur escaped from prison in New Jersey, crosses were burned at the home of a Black community leader and at a community center in another Jersey town where the Black community had supported Assata when she was on trial for her life.

Klan terror, as dangerous as it is, is only one front in the genocidal war being waged by US imperialism. The massive and daily violations of the human rights of Black people have been fully documented and are being fought against by the National Black Human Rights Campaign. Human rights -- including the right to live in a house, in a community in peace, to not
6 be brutalized by killer cops, to get a decent education, to work -- and, most fundamental of all, the right of a people to self-determination. Self-determination is not an abstraction-- it's about land, independence, power. Human rights is the right to self-determination.

Self-determination for the Black nation. The only possible resolution to Klan terror. You cannot be against the Klan if you are not for self-determination for the Black nation. This is the dividing line; taking a stand against the Klan means supporting the Black liberation struggle. The liberation of the Black nation will mean the death of the Klan.



(Continued from page 3)

the 41-year-old Gril Couch, choking him in a stranglehold for over ten minutes. About 30 or more community people saw Gril Couch as he went limp, his head dangling, and blood trickling out of his mouth. Still the cops were strangling him and continued to hold him in a brutal necklock until uniformed police arrived on the scene. The uniformed police handcuffed his dead body and left him lying in the street, his head dangling off the curb into the gutter. Hearing of the incident, Austin police chief, Frank Dyson, commended the police, saying he was sure they had acted professionally



in the line of duty (they were arresting him for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest), and that Gril Couch "...had probably asked for it and got what he deserved."

Outraged, the Austin Black Citizens' Task Force issued a press statement linking this murder to the continual police repression in the Black community and to numerous incidents of police brutality and intensive harrassment of Black people. They condemned the murderers and the police chief for condoning and encouraging such actions. Joining with the Austin Brown Berets (a revolutionary Chicano organization) in The Austin Minority Coalition, they called for Dyson's resignation as well as the resignation of his most influential public supporter, City Manager Dan Davidson. Their major demand was for a Citizen's Review Board of East Austin (Black and Chicano) residents that would have recall and review and investigative powers over the police. Demonstrations and a daily picket line at the police station have publicly confronted the Austin community with the reality of police murder.

The murder of Gril Couch tells every Black and Chicano person that he or she could be next. It is part of a strategy of genocide enacted against their communities by every level of white society. In this case, both State and Federal Grand Juries have exonerated the murderers, calling it an "accidental death." Every level of State and local government has worked to cover up and justify the murder of Gril Couch. Testimonials for the police chief

have been sponsored by the City Council and by a large coalition of Austin businessmen. The Police Association has both publicly and privately defended the two murderers, applying pressure on the City Council and local media against a Citizen's Review Board. The active complicity and conspiracy of these agencies, and the fact that these two white cops got away with the cold-blooded, brutal murder of a Black man exposes the systematic white supremacy of police law-and-order in Austin. Every supporter of the police directly contributes to the growth and strengthening of organized white supremacy in this country.

The Austin Minority Coalition has mobilized many people to confront the Austin Police Department and City Council about the murder of Gril Couch and the very-day police repression experienced by Black and Chicano people. Outraged both by the murder and by its cover-up, a group of white people in Austin have organized to support the demands and actions of the Black Citizen's Task Force and the Brown Berets. We are dedicated to organizing white people to actively oppose white supremacy and fight to defeat it, taking leadership from Black and Chicano people in the struggle.

Austin Organizing Committee for a John Brown Anti-Klan Committee

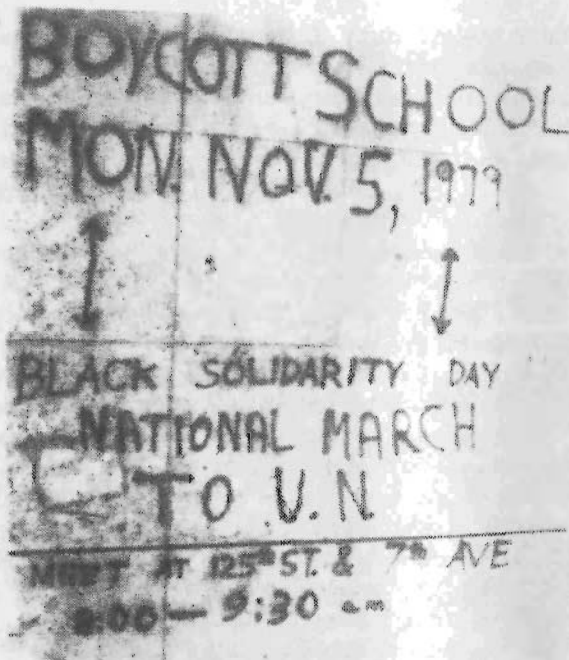
**STOP
KILLER COPS!**

FIGHT WHITE SUPREMACY AT CITY COLLEGE

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee has formed a chapter at City College, one of the 4 year colleges of the City University of New York (CUNY) system. There are more Black students at City than at any other college in the country except Howard University. For over 10 years City has been a battleground in the conflict between Third World people fighting for education and the forces of white supremacy fighting to deny education to Black and other Third World people. The character of City College has been transformed by Black and Puerto Rican students fighting for education as a basic human right and tool for the liberation of their nations.

In 1969, a high point of anti-imperialist struggle by Third World people around the world and in the united states, Black and Puerto Rican students led a 4-month takeover of the college demanding and winning: open admissions, Black and Puerto Rican studies and the admission of Third World students in percentages that reflected the Third World majority in city high schools. This was a tremendous victory.

In response to the upsurge of the Black liberation struggle, imperialism unleashed a vicious campaign called cointelpro, of murder, imprisonment, infiltration and disruption to try to destroy the Black liberation movement. The impact of this was felt at City College. Operating through the CUNY administration, police agencies and white sup-



remacist organizations like the Jewish Defense League, a self-conscious strategy to make City "lily white" again was implemented through widespread attacks on Third World students and their organizations. Third World student leaders were expelled and organizations infiltrated by police agents. In 1975 open admissions was ended; in 1976 tuition was imposed, and now we can see the concrete effects -- in 1974 there were 20,000 undergraduate students, in 1979 there are 9,000. Most of the students who have been forced out are Third World.

Today, the struggle for human rights and against genocide continues at City. Last Spring there was a massive struggle at City when hundreds of Third World students and

community members fought the administration's attempt to expel Mike Edwards, a Black student who exposed and led the fight against the racism of a teacher who said that Africa had no civilization. Through this struggle the administration was forced to back down, and Mike Edwards has returned to CCNY this year -- a victory in the fight for human rights.

This term, Black students and faculty at City are organizing for the National Black Human Rights Campaign, and mobilizing to expose and defeat the administration's attempts to institute 'operation snowflake' -- a program to bring large numbers of white students to CCNY and turn the school into 'the Harvard of the proletariat,' a 'whites only' public school. Part of this program involves a new public high school on the CCNY campus. The administration refuses to guarantee that this high school will be accessible to the Third World community in the midst of which CCNY is located.

The John Brown Anti-Klan Committee chapter at CCNY, like all chapters of the Committee, has a fundamental principle of following Third World leadership in the fight to defeat white supremacy. At CCNY, this will mean that a major focus of our program will be to investigate 'operation snowflake,' and to support and participate in the strategy of Third World forces to defeat this genocidal program.

We are building a chapter at City College because it is a key front of struggle by Black and other Third World people for human rights, in sharp confrontation with white supremacist forces. In the 60's significant numbers of progressive white students were moved to support the struggle of the Vietnamese people and of Black and other Third World people inside the u.s. for freedom. Today, when the Black Liberation movement is re-emerging at a higher level and when the forces of white supremacy are consolidating in reaction, it is key to build a movement among white students that actively fights white supremacy in the schools and in the society as a whole.

City College Chapter, John Brown
Anti-Klan Committee, c/o Room 152,
Finley Student Center, 133 Street &
Convent Avenue, New York, NY 10031

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WAR IN AMERICA: THE STRUGGLE TO FREE THE LAND

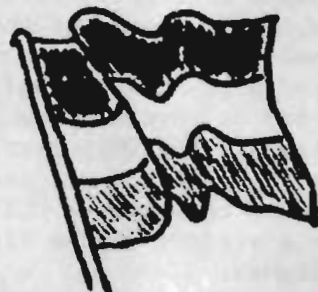
On November 9, a major forum, WAR IN AMERICA: THE STRUGGLE TO FREE THE LAND is being held in New York City, sponsored by May 19th Communist Organization. This forum addresses the central issue in the struggle against imperialism: the struggle of the Black nation to free the subjugated national territory, comprising the 5 states of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Louisiana. The struggle to free the land -- the Republic of New Afrika -- has been at the heart of the 400-year fight of Black people for self-determination and against genocide. Speakers at the forum are Sister Dara Abubakari,

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President of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika; Ahmed Obafemi, of the National RNA-11 Defense Committee; Afeni Shakur, of the National Task Force for Co-intelpro Litigation and Research, and speakers from May 19th Communist Organization and the Women's Committee Against Genocide.

The forum contributes to the advance of the struggle to free the land by generating political and material support, particularly among progressive white people, for the Black nation's war of national liberation, and for the freedom of Afrikan prisoners of war like Assata Shakur and the Republic of New Afrika-11, who are leaders in that war and who have been captured in the course of the struggle. The forum raises the key issue for all progressive white people: to be an anti-imperialist is to unconditionally support the struggle of the Black nation for self-determination -- for the freeing of the land.



1971: Republic of New Afrika (RNA) Capitol consecrated, Hinds County, Miss.

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___ I would like to distribute the newsletter. Please contact me with further details.

Send 25¢ for a copy of the speech of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee for the October 5, 1979 forum: TAKE A STAND AGAINST THE KLAN AND POLICE BRUTALITY! SUPPORT THE NATIONAL BLACK HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN!



PRINCIPLES OF UNITY

I. FIGHT WHITE SUPREMACY IN ALL ITS FORMS! SMASH THE KLAN! SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THE BLACK NATION FOR SELF-DETERMINATION! SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE TO FREE THE LAND!

The central task of white people in general, and the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee in particular, is to fight to defeat white supremacy in all its forms. There is no neutral or 'third' position for white people: we either actively fight against white supremacy, or support it. We must organize other white people to actively fight white supremacy, smash the Klan, and to politically and materially support the struggles of Third World peoples for liberation.

The Klan and organized white supremacy are a major way the US has always oppressed Third World people within its borders. White supremacy has been a part of every counter-insurgency terror plan that the US has developed. The struggle to free the land of the Black nation has been a fierce, life-and-death struggle of Black people for 400 years. The Black nation will win its freedom. The freeing of the land will shake the very foundations of US society; the freeing of the land will defeat white supremacy.

Since its inception in 1868, the Klan has always been the armed militia of white supremacy. Imari Obadele, the former president of the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika, has said "Our biggest threat comes from the white civilian armies, the Ku Klux Klan and those other semi-official forces who for one hundred years have done the dirty work of military oppression in the South." Today the Klan is re-emerging with the same practice. The Klan, in Tupelo, Mississippi, elsewhere in the South, in northern cities, in prisons and the armed forces, is in open, armed conflict with the Black Liberation Struggle. The Klan has become the border patrol of the Mexican/US border; it is the major armed force against Mexicano/Chicano peoples.

We are committed to building a mass movement among white people to smash the Klan and to support materially and politically the struggles of Third World peoples for national liberation and human rights.

II. FOLLOW BLACK AND OTHER THIRD WORLD LEADERSHIP!

We are committed to following Black and other Third World leadership. The struggle against the Klan is a life-and-death struggle, based on the antagonistic relationship between oppressed nations and US imperialism. Our tasks as white people are defined by and grow out of the strategy and tasks set by the oppressed nations. This leadership is not abstract; it is represented by the militant struggle in Tupelo, Mississippi, by the struggle of Black and Latin prisoners, by the struggle for human rights in New York City. The coming together of these forces of Black Liberation within the US and the liberation forces in southern Africa constitutes the leading strategy to defeat the Klan and white world supremacy. The dominant history and practice of white people in this country has been to reject this leadership. John Brown was a white man who responded to the leadership of the Black Liberation Struggle and actively fought white supremacy. This is why we take the name John Brown Anti-Klan Committee, for it is only under Black and other Third World leadership that we can do our work correctly.

III. SUPPORT THE STRUGGLE OF THIRD WORLD PEOPLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS! OPPOSE WHITE SUPREMACIST ATTACKS IN NEW YORK CITY!

The struggle for human rights by oppressed peoples and nations is a struggle against genocide, against mass terror being perpetrated on Black and other Third World communities. Police murder and white vigilante attacks in New York City are part of the US government's attempt to destroy the ability of Third World people to fight. In this city and country-wide at this time there is a mass struggle for human rights by Third World peoples and a strategy to bring this struggle into the international arena.

We are committed to fighting attacks on Black and other Third World communities and to supporting the struggle to free prisoners of war, captured freedom fighters and leaders of the oppressed nations. We are committed to fighting not only the Klan but also police terror, white vigilante attacks by the Jewish Defense League and other Zionist forces, white gangs, and all forms of organized white supremacy.

JOHN BROWN ANTI-KLAN COMMITTEE

Box 406 Peter Stuyvesant Station, NY, NY 10009

All proceeds from the sale of these T-shirts go to materially aid the Black liberation struggle in the fight to defeat organized white supremacy.



T-Shirts \$3.50
plus 60¢ postage.
Buttons 25¢ each,
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more accepted.