

FACT SHEET ON DAVID HILLIARD
CHIEF OF STAFF
BLACK PANTHER PARTY

Age 30, father of four, born in the South, raised in West Oakland. *Presently incarcerated in Vacaville Medical Facility, Vacaville, California.*

WHY?

David Hilliard was arrested the evening of April 6, 1968, unarmed and at a considerable distance from the "shoot-out" in which Bobby Hutton was killed and several others wounded. Despite diligent efforts on behalf of the Alameda County District Attorney there were no witnesses produced to testify that David was involved in the shooting in any way. His fingerprints were not found on any weapon known to have been used in the "shoot-out."

IN FACT:

There is *no direct evidence* against him. Judge Raymond C. Staats, Jr., dismissed the charge against David Hilliard on the grounds that he had been held without reasonable or probable cause (July 30, 1968).

The State appealed the decision and David was brought to trial on order of the Court of Appeal. On June 1, 1971, his trial began with an *all-white jury*. In a "compromise verdict" he was found guilty on two counts of assault with a deadly weapon, lesser crimes than the ones for which he was tried. Bail was denied.

AS OF NOW

Meanwhile, David Hilliard has remained in prison--five months in Maximum Security (the hole) at Folsom and currently at the Vacaville Medical Facility.

Prior to his imprisonment David already suffered from bleeding ulcers. He was unable to convince the authorities at Folsom of the seriousness of his condition and was not given needed medical care. He collapsed in the visiting room and friends brought immediate legal, moral, and political pressure to bear which saved his life. He was removed from Folsom to Vacaville following hospitalization at Folsom and subsequently received surgery. *He is still ill.*

David Hilliard will have a parole hearing November 1, 1972. The probation officer who originally investigated the entire case recommended that David's sentence should not exceed one year and should be served in the County Jail. David has been in state prisons since July 14, 1971. His usefulness to his community through his unusual ability to help implement "survival programs" may well depend on the outcome of the parole hearings. His very life may depend upon this hearing's decision.

Express your concerns to the Adult Authority, Ferry Building, San Francisco, CA. If you have already acted and know the above facts, please pass this on to someone who doesn't know and urge people to *act now*.

TIME IS SHORT