

PRESS RELEASE

*File for News*

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On Saturday evening, April 19, there will take place in Oakland a Conference that could be the historic breakthrough that many radical activists have been working toward: a community-worker alliance. The Conference has been called to explore the possibilities and negotiate for an alliance between the Black Panther Party and the League of Revolutionary Black Workers of Detroit. The League is the organizing tool of the workers in Detroit's varied industries, many of which have been featured prominently in the news lately: DRUM, Dodge Revolutionary Union Movement, which according to their literature is "the real Dodge Rebellion" (It was DRUM which began the RUM last summer with a successful strike at Detroit Dodge plant; ELDRUM, at the General Motors plant at Eldon; CRUM, Chrysler; FRUM at Ford; Hospital RUM, and several others.

Representing the League will be a member of its Central Staff, Mr. John Watson, editor of Wayne State University's paper, THE SOUTH END. The paper has been the target of the city's conservative element which has tried unsuccessfully to get Mr. Watson to dilute his fiery editorials and change the paper's format from its supportive role of the union movement to a "rah-rah" college paper. The slogan of THE SOUTH END is "One class-conscious worker is worth 10 students." But Mr. Watson, because of his uncompromising stand on the rights of Black workers has developed a large following both on and off campus and the fear of reprisal from his supporters has thus far stayed the hand of his enemies, although there have been threats and anti-Watson rallies. In response, the people have held pro-Watson rallies. There has been much publicity about Mr. Watson, his political philosophy and his paper: a personal interview in LOOK magazine and on Detroit TV; articles in the N.Y. TIMES and several national newspapers. The NATIONAL GUARDIAN carried a 5-page spread on the activities in Detroit. Mr. Watson is an extremely knowledgeable young man with answers to many questions being posed today by movement activists.

Representing the Black Panther Party at this historic Conference will be Mr. Bobby Seale, National Chairman, Mr. David Hilliard, Chief of Staff, Masai, Political Theorist of the Black Panther Party, and Mr. Kenny Horston, Director, Panther Caucus at UAW, Fremont, which is sponsoring the event.