

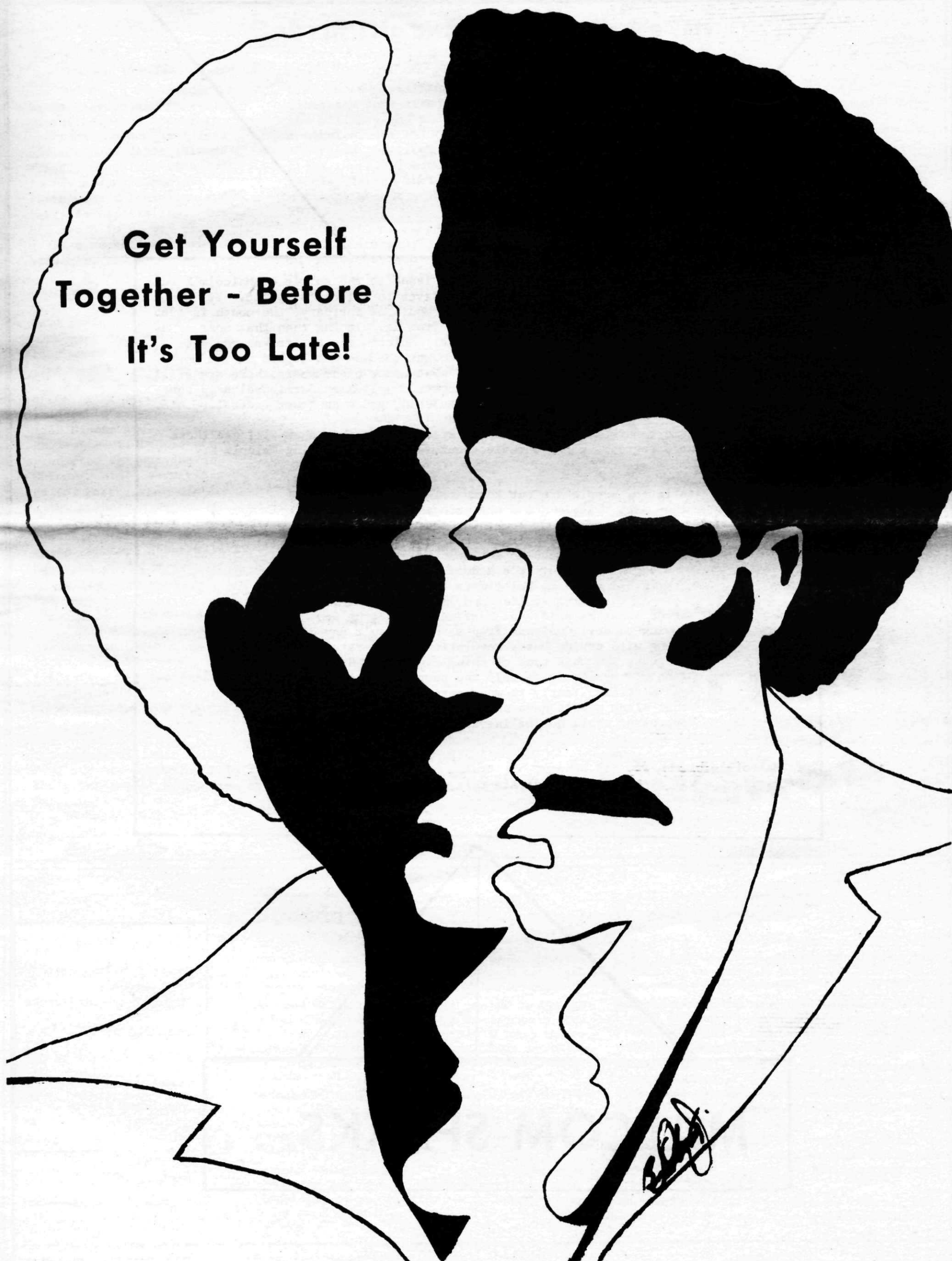
BLACK RAP

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Black Students for Black Action of Lake Forest College

February, 1973

**Get Yourself
Together - Before
It's Too Late!**



DEDICATION TO MALCOLM X

The editorial staff of Black Rap dedicates this issue to the spirit of Malcolm X but more importantly we will attempt to commit our lives to Malcolm's spirit. It is not coincidental that this dedication occurs in the month of February, the month in 1965 that this man of the people was suddenly taken from us. It was then that most of us realized that we had lost a voice of the people. Malcolm was an Afrikan man who just happened to have been born in Amerika. He was the man who looked at the world with a rare vision and interpreted it for us. But after eight years there are still some things about Malcolm X that we don't understand. Stokely Carmichael said that many people read Malcolm, few people studied Malcolm, and even fewer understood him.

A sister made some remark about Fred Hampton after his death and we will use these statement in the paragraph below to reflect our feelings concerning Malcolm X.

A lot of people are out there talking about how well they knew Malcolm X and how much they cared about him. We think about something that was attributed to Fred Hampton. Chairman Fred said that there is nothing that you can do for dead people. Malcolm X was a great man but he's a dead man. The best eulogy that we can give to Malcolm is to prove that when Malcolm was alive we listened to what he said, understood what he said, and carried out what he was trying to do. Chairman Fred said it wasn't anything wrong with crying but a revolutionary understands that he gonna see this type of thing everyday and what we are out here to do is tell the people what's going on and most importantly to make sure that the deaths that Black people have suffered at the hands of the oppressor shall not be in vain.

To Malcolm's blackness, his beauty, his truth, and his relentless spirit of inquiry, clarification and discussion we dedicate this newspaper and ourselves to our people.

MALCOLM SPEAKS. . .

INTERNATIONAL VIEW

As 1973 begins we, the Black Rap International News Staff, commemorate the liberation forces around the world in their/our continued struggle to end imperialistic domination. We reaffirm our solidarity and vow to fight/and to support the just struggle in every theatre on the globe, for we realize the struggle in Mozambique, in Argentina, in Amerika, and in Viet Nam are the same war in different guises.

Power to the Aware 'n Dealin'!

Cabral Dies, Struggle Goes On

By Jonathan Harris

The death of Amilcar Cabral, secretary-general of the African Party for the independence of Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC) certainly is a loss to the struggle against Portuguese colonialism and American imperialism. But his death in no way portends a weakening in the struggle.

"I have no doubt that the movement will strengthen instead of weaken," said Ibrahim Abu-Lughod, associate director of the Program of African Studies. "The movement will succeed."

During a commemoration of Cabral's strength and leadership at Africa House, 1813 Hinman Ave., he and English Prof. Dennis Brutus predicted the success of Guinea's armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism. Their movement has already won control over two-thirds of the west coast country, about half the size of Maine.

His travels awakened him to the widespread horror of Portuguese colonialism.

Armed struggle between the African guerrillas and Portuguese army began in 1963 after the successful politicization of the Guineans. In less than ten years, the Guineans had gained control of two thirds of their country, and had begun to build their own social and economic institutions.

In April 1972 an offi-

cial UN team visiting the liberated zone attested to the military and economic control of the PAIGC and the rapid political progress there. The Guinean people elected their first national assembly in Oct. 1972.

Cabral was assassinated Saturday, Jan. 20, at his exiled home in Conakry, Guinea by "the poisoned hand of imperialism and Portuguese colonialism," according to President Sekou Touré of Senegal.

Arrests in connection with the assassination have been made, he is reported as saying in the Chicago Sun Times. He gave no more details on the arrest.

Cabral was hailed as one of the leading thinkers in development of a theoretical base in Guinea's revolutionary struggle for national liberation. The Guinean revolution was succeeding so well under his leadership that Guinea was expected to become a sovereign nation this year.

"Thus Amilcar Cabral represented the most dangerous threat to Portuguese colonialism and western imperialism today," according to a statement by the Organization of African Students.

In 1956, Cabral founded PAIGC which began an extensive political education program with the people of Guinea.



**AMILCAR
CABRAL**

Uganda Diary

... "Everything that came out of Europe, every blue-eyed thing, is already an American. And as long as you and I have been over here, we aren't Americans yet." ...

September 5: Uganda President Idi Amin accuses Britain of planning to assassinate him, "in collaboration with British Asians and Israelis and some other Western countries. . . ."

September 8: The British government has told the Ugandan High Commissioner in London that the allegation by Amin is "absolute nonsense." Fear for the 7,000 Britons in Uganda mounts; many are advised to go on "holiday" out of the country. Anticipating a British exodus, Kenya closes its borders to all residents of Uganda.

September 11: Amin gives a British Army training team 3½ days to leave the country, accusing them of being part of a British invasion plot. The 17-man team is headed by Lt. Col. Hugh-Rogers, a former commander of Amin in the days of the King's African Rifles.

September 13: In a telegram to U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, Amin claims to understand why Hitler exterminated Jews and expresses support for the Palestinian guerrilla action at Munich. London maintains "a dignified silence."

The Uganda Government announces that all British Asians not out of the country by the departure deadline will be detained in military transit camps.

September 14: The U.S. State Department calls the Amin remarks to Waldheim "deeply shocking and incomprehensible," and announces that a scheduled \$3 million loan to Uganda will be held up.

September 15: Amin and U.S. Ambassador Thomas Melady exchange retractions. Amin says his telegram to Waldheim is being misinterpreted, that he is not against all Jews, just Zionists. Melady assures him the \$3 million loan is not being held up for political reasons.

September 17: Radio Uganda announces that 1,000 Tanzanian troops have invaded Uganda at Mutukula, west of Lake Victoria. Foreign journalists are taken by security troops from their hotels in Kampala.

September 18: Ugandan troops rush to the border and retake two of the three towns occupied by the invaders since the

cont. on p. 4

Uganda Diary, cont.

day before; Mutukula remains to be retaken. A military spokesman in Kampala announces that Ugandan aircraft have bombed the northwest Tanzanian town of Bukoba on Lake Victoria. Tanzania claims nine dead and 20 wounded in the air attack on Bukoba.

Tanzania denies involvement in the invasion, moves 1,000 troops to the northwest border to prevent possible Ugandan "aggression."

Foreigners continue to be rounded up in Kampala; a total of 80 Britons are held, along with nine Americans.

The first plane-load of 193 expelled Ugandan Asians arrives in England.

September 19: Tanzania announces a second Ugandan attack on Bukoba, this time without casualties. President Nyerere cables King Hassan of Morocco, Chairman of the OAU, warning of the grave threats to peace posed by Ugandan air attacks on his country.

September 20: A Libyan advance contingent of 377 men and 22 officers en route to Uganda is forced to land at Khartoum. Sudan charges the Libyans did not have permission to use Sudanese air space; the contingent returns to Libya the next day.

September 21: Amin protests the Sudanese action, claiming that some of the military supplies accompanying the troops had been ordered from Libya months before. London's *Financial Times* reports that Nyerere had assured Sudan's President Gaafar al-Numeiri that Tanzania was not involved in the invasion of Uganda; in turn, al-Numeiri promised to do what he could to prevent escalation of the conflict. Uganda military police begin arresting major personages who have been critical of Amin. Chief Justice Benedicto Kiwanuka is led away from the Supreme Court at gunpoint. Kiwanuka, a former premier, is a Roman Catholic who had spoken out against Amin's pro-Islamic policies for Uganda. Early in the day 35 Britons are released along with one American and two Swedish journalists. It becomes known that a Peace Corps volunteer has been killed and another American wounded while travelling unaware through an area where there is fighting.

By nightfall, the Ugandan and Tanzanian armies are face to face on their common border.

September 22: Radio Tanzania claims that Libyan troops and aircraft have arrived in Uganda. Amin confirms the fact the following day.

A single Ugandan plane bombs the Tanzanian town of Mwanza.

September 23: OAU Secretary General Nzo Ekanaki returns from Nairobi after a meeting with President Kenyatta which was generally hoped would produce a means of settling the dispute. His failure to comment on the results of the talks is interpreted as meaning Kenyatta will insist on playing a quiet role.

President Boumedienne of Algeria calls on all African leaders to intervene for peace. President Sadat sends a senior envoy to Nairobi, Dar es Salaam and Kampala for consultations.

Fear grows that a bloody conflict between Uganda's Roman Catholics and Muslims could break out. The government denies that its own men arrested Chief Justice Kiwanuka; he is missing and thought dead. Also missing is Joseph Muburu, an associate of Kiwanuka, former head of the Bank of Uganda and a staunch Catholic.

September 24: The last of the invading forces are said to be fighting their way back across the border into Tanzania. Mediation attempts continue: President Kaunda of Zambia arrives in Dar es Salaam and Somali Foreign Minister Omar Arteh carries a five-point peace plan from Dar to Kampala. He reports that both sides show favorable initial reactions to it.

September 25: A lull in the bellicose pronouncements that have dominated the airwaves in both capitals for a week seems to imply a chance for peace.

Amin announces that a total of 367 invaders have been killed. Among those taken prisoner are Captain Oyile, cousin to deposed Uganda President Milton Obote, and Picho Ali, a former minister in the Obote government. It is by now generally acknowledged that the invasion was an attempted counter-coup by Obote supporters exiled in Tanzania.

September 26: Somali Foreign Minister Arteh announces that the five-point plan is acceptable to both sides, subject to further discussion, and that a cease-fire is already in effect.

September 27: Tri-partite peace talks are scheduled for September 30 in Mogadishu. Arteh will mediate. Tanzanian

Foreign Minister John Malecela leaves U.N. headquarters in New York and goes directly to Mogadishu to head his country's delegation at the talks. Uganda gives no official confirmation of its intention to participate.

A Uganda military spokesman claims that Tanzanian troops are moving toward Uganda on land and across Lake Victoria in a new invasion threat. This follows similar statements of the previous day warning of imminent invasion by Britain, Zambia and India. The future success of the Mogadishu talks are thought to be put in doubt.

A record 1,000 Asians leave Uganda, including 175 for Montreal in the first stage of a Canadian airlift.

September 28: Britain and Uganda clash at the U.N. over Britain's request for an Assembly debate over the plight of Uganda's Asians.

September 29: Sir Alec Douglas-Home indicates that Britain will hold off in its demand for a U.N. debate while President Mobutu of Zaïre goes to Kampala to try and convince Amin to extend the deadline.

Tanzanian Foreign Minister Malecela has now been in Mogadishu 3 days waiting for the arrival of his Ugandan counterpart. There is fear that Uganda's delay is putting the peace settlement in jeopardy.

October 4: Mobutu returns from Kampala and announces that he has won concessions from Amin on the expulsion deadline. Later in the day, Amin says the deadline is firm and renewed pressure is put on the Asians to leave. What actually passed between the two heads of state is not known. Peace talks get under way at People's Hall in Mogadishu after the Tanzanian delegation, now waiting one week, is finally joined by a Ugandan delegation headed by Foreign Minister Wanume Kibedi. OAU Secretary General Nzo Ekanaki also attends.

October 5: After an 11-hour session the day before, it is announced in a joint communiqué that a peace agreement has been signed. Kibedi returns to Kampala calling the settlement "a victory for Africa."

October 9: Uganda celebrates the 10th anniversary of its independence. Somali President Siad Barre attends the ceremonies. Asians are seen marching with Africans in the independence day parade in large numbers for the first time. Barre invites Amin to Mogadishu for the October 21 celebration of the 3rd anniversary of the revolution which brought him to power. Nyerere has also been invited.

October 11: Amin announces that all Ugandan troops have been withdrawn from the border. Nyerere has already said his troops will be withdrawn by the 15th. The first point of the peace agreement calls for withdrawal by the 19th.

October 19: In several days of hectic activity, Amin expels a number of prominent Britons from Uganda, including High Commissioner Richard Slater, and extends his expulsion order to include Asians having Kenyan, Tanzanian and Zambian citizenship. These will have the same deadline as British Asians.

October 21: Amin arrives in Mogadishu after announcing the previous day that he would not attend because his doctors had ordered him to rest. He is said to have applauded when Nyerere took his place on the reviewing stand, passing within 25 feet of him. The two did not meet, as Nyerere left abruptly after the ceremonies. Amin's unexpected arrival is said by some to have been calculated to embarrass Nyerere who does not recognize the Amin government and who has even refused to sit at the same conference table with him.

October 23: Amin is unexpectedly admitted to Mulago Hospital in Kampala for what his doctors term "a complete rest."

October 25: From his hospital bed, Amin extends his expulsion order to cover "any person of Indian, Pakistan or Bangladesh origin or descent," whatever his citizenship. The decree includes the establishment of a committee to oversee the takeover of businesses and properties abandoned by the departing Asians.

The British High Commission issues 228 entry certificates, bringing the total issued to 26,530. Special U.N. envoy Robert Gardiner holds meetings in Kampala with various organizations concerned with the problem of stateless Asians in Uganda. U.S. immigration officials in Kampala have issued 400 entry visas to stateless Asians; the U.S. has said it will accept up to 1,000.

October 30: Amin leaves the hospital and later announces that all British-owned properties in Western Uganda will be subject to compulsory sale to African Uganda nationals. 30 to 50 British families will be affected.

November 6: Amin declares that all Britons in Uganda must sell their businesses to Africans by January.

November 8: The expulsion deadline arrives, a record 2,000 Asians have been evacuated to emergency quarters in Austria, Greece, Spain, Morocco and Malta in the last 24 hours. About 800 who could not get out are sheltered temporarily in two Sikh temples and a Hindu community center and are reportedly not being harassed by the government. Remaining Asians who have Ugandan citizenship have been ordered to move from the cities and settle in the countryside. *Agence France-Presse* describes Kampala as a "ghost town;" approximately 50,000 Asians have been evacuated from the country in three months.

"Being here in America doesn't make you an American. Being born in America doesn't make you an American. Why, if birth made you American, you wouldn't need any legislation, you wouldn't need any amendment to the constitution."

Sierra Leone: imperialist victim

By Fred Lowe

When the leaders of a third world country collaborate with Western imperialism, it quickly loses its wealth as the case of Sierra Leone in West Africa shows.

In the June issue of *Africa Research Bulletin*, it was disclosed that Sierra Leone, which has the world's largest known rutile deposits, gave exclusive rights and the entire concession of 520 square miles to the newly formed Sierra Rutile Co., which is 60 percent owned by Aramco Steel in Ohio and 40 percent owned by Nord Resources from Albuquerque, New Mexico. Rutile is a metal essential in the making of jet engines.

For quite a while, diamonds have represented about 60 percent of Sierra Leone's exports and have been the major source of employment for Sierra Leonians as well. But now the diamond deposits are expected to run out in around 15 years and the country as a whole has received relatively few benefits from its diamond resources.

The National Diamond Mining Co. has a franchise to mine in 285 square miles of eastern Sierra Leone. The government owns 51 percent

of the company and the other 49 percent is owned by Sierra Leone Selection Trust, a British firm in which De Beers, the great South African diamond combine and major apartheid enforcer, has an interest. There are also 30,000 licensed diggers on private concessions.

The Central Selling Organization of London (CSO) controls 80-85 percent of the world diamond market and it bought \$30 million worth of diamonds in 1971 from the government. Three U.S. companies bought an additional \$27 million, paying the same price as the CSO, which is but another example of who sets the prices. This \$57

million represented more than 60 percent of all Sierra Leone's exports in 1971. It is estimated that there are over 40,000 poachers now digging, and that the government loses millions annually as smugglers sell their diamonds in nearby Liberia. But as a Sept. 14 *Los Angeles Times* article pointed out, "wiping out illegal mining would throw thousands of Africans out of work, an economic fact with more political worries for a government than its loss in diamond company revenue."

Sierra Leone's beginnings were similar to Liberia's, as both were established as settlements for freed slaves. The major difference was that the Creole population, which now comprises 50,000 of the 2.6 million Sierra Leonians, never colonized the indigenous population, as did the blacks in Liberia, though they presently have a disproportionate amount of wealth. Sierra Leone became a British colony.

After the restoration of civilian rule in April 1968, the party that had won the 1967 general elections, the All Peoples Congress (APC), led by Siaka Stevens, was called to office by a rank-and-file army revolt. Members of the Mende tribe, which for quite some time had enjoyed a prominent position in the Sierra Leone Peoples Party (SLPP) government of Albert Margai, could not easily reconcile themselves to this shift in power to the northern Temne, Limba, and other minority groups, although this was not the only problem.

But by June 1969 the SLPP had come to accept its new role as a parliamentary opposition, and in December, Prime Minister Stevens proclaimed

the government's intention to take control of 51 percent of the shares of four mining companies, such as Zambia had done a few weeks earlier. Negotiations with Sierra Leone Selection Trust (SLST), which later became part of the National Diamond Mining Co., the prime target of the takeover, opened in March 1970 and continued until September when an agreement was reached.

Once SLST had been brought under control, the government's interest in nationalization waned. Although it had been expected to begin negotiations with the American iron-mining company, Delco, immediately after the conclusion of the SLST agreement, nothing further happened. Iron ore comprises 10 percent of Sierra Leone's exports and is second in importance only to diamonds. Delco has \$30 million invested in Sierra Leone and profited \$500,000 in 1971 alone.

This lack of further nationalization led to the formation of the United Democratic party (UDP), formed by more nationalist-minded educated youth who had left the APC. In October, a state of emergency was declared, the UDP was banned and its leaders imprisoned. In March 1971 there was an unsuccessful coup attempted by the army. Stevens, unable to trust his own soldiers, was forced to sign a defense agreement with Guinea which supplied about 200 soldiers who took up defensive positions in Freetown, the country's capital. Even his relations with Guinea have become strained recently as over 10,000 Guineans who had been digging for diamonds were forced to leave in another futile attempt to control diamond production.

The continuing series of crises faced by the country are directly related to its weak economic position which, in turn, is caused by its neocolonial position.

Sierra Leone annually imports 30,000 tons of rice while facing, in the last two years, a 30 percent drop in its own agricultural exports. Without proper planning and control of the economy these trends will continue. But an end to the exploitation of the small amount of wealth that the country does possess does not seem in sight.



Voices of Revolution

V. I. Lenin

The following selection is from Lenin's work, "The War Program of the Proletarian Revolution," written in September, 1916. Here Lenin sums up the point of view of the working class revolutionaries on the question of war and peace, drawing a clear line between their views and those of the liberal pacifists. It is important to keep in mind today for maintaining an independent revolutionary stand within the broad united front against U.S. aggression



Socialists cannot, without ceasing to be socialists, be opposed to all war.

In the first place, socialists have never been, nor can they ever be, opposed to revolutionary wars. The bourgeoisie of the "great" imperialist powers has become thoroughly reactionary, and we regard the war which this bourgeoisie is now waging as a reactionary, slave-owners' and criminal war. But what about a war against this bourgeoisie? For example, a war waged by people who are oppressed by and dependent upon this bourgeoisie, by colonial peoples, for their liberation? In the theses of the *Internationale* group, we read: "In the era of this unbridled imperialism there can be no more national wars of any kind." This is obviously wrong.

The history of the twentieth century, this century of "unbridled imperialism," is replete with colonial wars. But what we Europeans, the imperialist oppressors of the majority of the peoples of the world, with our habitual, despicable European chauvinism, call "colonial wars" are often national wars, or national rebellions of those oppressed peoples. One of the main features of imperialism is that it accelerates the development of capitalism in the most backward countries, and thereby widens and intensifies the struggle against national oppression. This is a fact. It inevitably follows from this that imperialism must often give rise to national wars. Junius (Rosa Luxemburg) who in her pamphlet defends the above quoted "thesis" says that in the imperialist epoch every national war against one of the imperialist great powers leads to the intervention of another competing imperialist great power and thus, every national war is converted into an imperialist war. But this argument is also wrong. This may happen, but it does not always happen. Many colonial wars in the period between 1900 and 1914 did not follow this road. And it would be simply ridiculous if we declared, for instance, that after the present war, if it ends in the extreme exhaustion of all the belligerents, "there can be no" national, progressive, revolutionary wars "whatever," waged, say, by China in alliance with India, Persia, Siam, etc., against the great powers.

To deny all possibility of national wars under imperialism is wrong in theory, obviously mistaken historically, and in practice is tantamount to European chauvinism: we who belong to nations that oppress hundreds of millions of people in Europe, Africa, Asia, etc., must tell the oppressed peoples that it is

"impossible" for them to wage war against "our" nations!

Secondly, civil wars are also wars. Whoever recognizes the class struggle cannot fail to recognize civil wars, which in every class society are the natural, and under certain conditions, inevitable continuation, development and intensification of the class struggle. All the great revolutions prove this. To repudiate civil war, or to forget about it, would mean sinking into extreme opportunism and renouncing the socialist revolution.

Thirdly, the victory of socialism in one country does not at one stroke eliminate all war in general. On the contrary, it presupposes such wars. The development of capitalism proceeds extremely unevenly in the various countries. It cannot be otherwise under the commodity production system. From this it follows irrefutably that socialism cannot achieve victory simultaneously in all countries. It will achieve victory first in one or several countries, while the others will remain bourgeois or prebourgeois for some time. This must not only create friction, but a direct striving on the part of the bourgeoisie of other countries to crush the victorious proletariat of the socialist state. In such cases a war on our part would be a legitimate and just war. It would be a war for socialism, for the liberation of other nations from the bourgeoisie. Engels was perfectly right when, in his letter to Kautsky, September 12, 1882, he openly admitted that it was possible for already victorious socialism to wage "defensive wars." What he had in mind was defense of the victorious proletariat against the bourgeoisie of other countries.

Only after we have overthrown, finally vanquished, and expropriated the bourgeoisie of the whole world, and not only of one country, will wars become impossible. And from a scientific point of view it would be utterly wrong and utterly unrevolutionary for us to evade or gloss over the most important thing, namely, that the most difficult task, the one demanding the greatest amount of fighting in the transition to socialism, is to crush the resistance of the bourgeoisie. "Social" parsons and opportunists are always ready to dream about the future peaceful socialism; but the very thing that distinguishes them from revolutionary Social-Democrats (Communists) is that they refuse to think about and reflect on the fierce class struggle and class wars that are necessary for the achievement of this beautiful future.

To this must be added the following general considerations.

An oppressed class which does not strive to learn to use arms, to acquire arms, only deserves to be treated like slaves. We cannot forget, unless we become bourgeois pacifists or opportunists, that we are living in a class society, that there is no way out of this society, and there can be none, except by means of the class struggle. In every class society, whether it is based on slavery, serfdom, or, as at present, on wage labor, the oppressing class is armed. Not only the modern standing army, but even the modern militia—even in the most democratic bourgeois republics, Switzerland for example—represent the bourgeoisie armed against the proletariat.

Angolan forces unite against Portugal

By Frank Chase

Special to the Guardian

Dar es Salaam

The People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the National Liberation Front of Angola (FNLA) signed a unity agreement in Kinshasa, Zaire this month. The agreement establishes a Supreme Liberation Council to supervise all aspects of the struggle against Portuguese colonialism in Angola.

The accord was signed by MPLA President Dr. Agostinho Neto and FNLA President Holden Roberto. It provides for a unified Military Command, which will be headed by Dr. Neto. The command will be responsible for recruitment, training, logistics, operations, and intelligence. There will also be a Political Council, directed by Roberto, which will supervise propaganda, diplomatic activity and administration of the liberated areas inside Angola. The Political Council and the Military Command will each be composed of representatives of the two movements in equal numbers.

The Supreme Council will be chaired by Roberto, with Dr. Neto as his deputy. Finally, Roberto's Revolutionary Government of Angola in Exile (GRAE), which lost official recognition from the Organization of African Unity (OAU) several years ago, will be dissolved.

The agreement will be implemented under the supervision of Tanzania, Zambia and the Congo, all supporters of MPLA in the past, and Zaire, which backed FNLA. The two-day meeting which produced this agreement was attended by the foreign ministers of these four countries and held under OAU auspices.

It culminates a series of moves, begun at an OAU Liberation Committee meeting last May in Kampala, Uganda, designed to unite the two fundamentally different organizations. Holden Roberto's FNLA represents two northern Angolan parties based entirely among the Bakongo peoples, who inhabit large areas of northern Angola and Zaire.

Although FNLA has a large military camp at Kinkuzo, 150 miles from Kinshasa in Zaire, it has not been militarily active in Angola for several years. It is a totally bankrupt organization politically. MPLA has long charged that FNLA received substantial funding from U.S. intelligence services and that its sole purpose was to provide a negotiating option for the Portuguese. Roberto has lived in luxury in Zaire for a long time, supported by his friend Mobutu Sese Seko, president of Zaire.

Why MPLA sought unity

The geographical-military situation and its effect internally on the organization explain why MPLA, which is considerably more advanced ideologically than FNLA, as well as having a substantial, active army, could energetically seek unity with Roberto. Zaire recognizes only FNLA and consequently forbids MPLA cadre from using its territory for access into Angola. As a result MPLA is forced to operate mainly out of Zambia and its successes have been almost solely in the southeastern quarter of Angola, mainly in the very sparsely populated districts of Moxico and Cuando Cubango.

There are MPLA liberated areas to the north and west of these districts. However, with the exception of the Cabinda enclave, which borders the Congo, these fronts have to be supplied from distant Zambia, which means many weeks of grueling marches. Consequently, the extension of military activity into key northwestern districts like Lunda and the consolidation there of liberated territory, is extremely difficult.

MPLA has had a very difficult time militarily in recent years. The Portuguese have had some success in containing the struggle to the sparsely populated districts bordering Zambia. Last May the liberated areas of Lunda were the focal point of a barbaric offensive by the Portuguese. The Portuguese used defoliants and herbicides to destroy crops in the liberated areas and cause mass starvation.

MPLA resistance was prolonged and intense but the problems of transporting over vast distances the quantities of food and medicine needed to support the population proved too great. Large numbers of surviving peasants fled Angola into Zaire.

As a result of this merger, however, MPLA is expected to have the use of Zaire's 1200-mile border with Angola. MPLA will then be capable of attacking the economic heartland of Portugal's richest colony. The coffee plantations of the northwest and the diamond mines of Lunda will both be exposed to military and political attack by MPLA.

Coffee is Angola's major export crop. In 1970 coffee accounted for 32 percent of the colony's total exports. Taxes charged by the



Angola guerrilla helps wounded comrade after battle.

Portuguese on these exports are a major source of financing Portugal's colonial war in Angola. A Dutch support group, The Angola Committee, has calculated that more than 13 percent of the income derived from the coffee trade is spent directly for military purposes.

All of the coffee plantations, most of which are in the northwest, are owned by wealthy white settlers. They employ enforced labor in conditions which have no rival on the continent for brutality. This has produced a large class of appallingly exploited rural proletarians. This explosive situation will be open to MPLA with the use of the Zaire border.

Diamonds are Angola's second biggest export commodity. Last year alone the South African firm, Anglo-American, extracted two million carats from their mines in Lunda district. This too would certainly face attack from MPLA.

Internal conflicts

The recent stagnating military situation worsened some of MPLA's internal difficulties, which had been less noticeable in the period of their military expansion. Criticism of the organization's leadership, much of which is from the educated petty bourgeois class, has been growing within the peasant based army. There have been consistent reports over the last year of growing problems with discipline in the MPLA camps in Zambia. And racial problems, aggravated by the number of mestizo cadre in leading position, have also increased.

These developments also encouraged MPLA to find a basis of unity with FNLA. With the increased military activity certain to accompany the new access to key districts in Angola these secondary problems, which assume exaggerated importance in stagnant periods, will tend to disappear.

However, not all of these internal problems are so easily resolvable. Contradictions reflecting the different attitudes and aspirations of the different classes involved in the liberation struggle will have to be resolved not just postponed. Should these problems continue to grow it is not inconceivable that some of the current leaders will be relieved of their posts.

The MPLA leadership is, of course, not unaware of these developments. It is possible that they will use the opening of new combat zones to provide the context, both political and organizational, to begin to deal with these problems.

There is no disputing that access through Zaire will be of tremendous importance to the Angolan people's struggle, as will the uniting, under MPLA leadership, of the armies of the two groups. The ultimate price to be paid—the issue of the political differences between MPLA and FNLA—remains a question mark. The official position of the OAU Liberation Committee, which in the past has recognized both groups, is that although these differences are real, their resolution can wait until after the defeat of the Portuguese, for which unity now is the prerequisite.

A few months ago Dr. Neto expressed his opinion. "There is the question of the unity of our people, now and after independence," he said. "At the moment we are divided, although we are fighting the Portuguese for our independence. And political, ideological differences are less important than the fact that the enemy is in our house. We should, we must, unite to defeat the enemy."

Argentine rebels hit back at repression

By Patrick Taran

Special to the Guardian

Buenos Aires

Argentine revolutionaries continue to carry out reprisals against military officials responsible for the brutal repression sweeping the country.

A top official of the Argentine Navy, Admiral Emilio Berisso, was shot and killed Dec. 28 as he stepped out of his car. Berisso had until recently been the chief of politics and strategy of the Navy. One day earlier, Vincenzo Russo, director of Standard Electric Argentina (an ITT affiliate) was kidnapped in the Buenos Aires residential district of San Isidro.

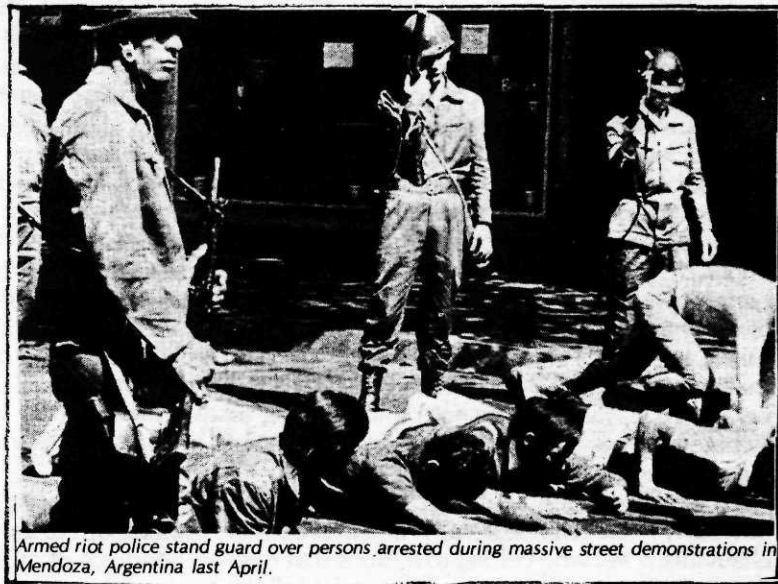
No one in Argentina has forgotten that it was at the Trelew Navy Base that 16 political prisoners were massacred in cold blood in August and that the triggers of the murderous machine guns and pistols were pulled by Navy officers. The Navy participated in the military coup which brought the current fascist regime to power in 1966 and is now involved in the current campaign of bloody repression. A Navy officer, Admiral Isaac Rojas, was the principal figure behind the brutal anti-Peronist repression in 1955 and 1956 which cost the lives of dozens of per-

sons. The planes which bombed the crowded Plaza Mayo causing untold deaths in front of the Presidential Palace shortly before the 1955 coup d'etat carried Navy markings.

Berisso, as Navy political chief and former assessor on the Argentine military delegation to the Interamerican Defense Council, was involved if not directly responsible for the terrible crime committed Aug. 22 against 19 defenseless young prisoners. Although the local press and the repressive forces have publicized little other than details of the occurrence, the action was obviously a sentence of revolutionary justice carried out against the top military official responsible for the mass murder perpetrated at Trelew.

Indications are that the ERP (People's Revolutionary Army, the military arm of the Revolutionary Worker's party) is responsible for the assassination, possibly in cooperation with the Peronist Montoneros. Along with the FAR (Revolutionary Armed Forces), these were the groups to which the young Trelew victims belonged.

This is the second assassination carried out



Armed riot police stand guard over persons arrested during massive street demonstrations in Mendoza, Argentina last April.

Amin's plans for Uganda

General Idi Amin and his colleagues who now rule Uganda must have been aroused politically over the last few years, after much thought and discussion amongst themselves on the direction into which the social and economic life of Uganda was leading. One of their acts of far reaching importance, and that which may have the most historic impact on the country, was ordering 50,000 Asians out of the country.

This bold action against these long-time residents of Uganda who had not become citizens following independence of the country, appears to have arisen from a revolutionary consciousness on the part of Uganda's leadership, which is making a distinct effort to understand the historic intrigues of their colonial past and how it has worked disadvantageously on their society.

Prior to and after Uganda's independence, the society consisted of three main strata—the Europeans, who through finance and political connections monopolized various positions; the Asians, controllers of small and large-scale industry, and commerce and the professions; and the indigenous Africans who for countless generations provided the necessary manual labor.

At its accession to political power more than a year ago, the present leadership in Uganda made it crystal clear that the present situation was not going to continue much longer, and explained that the control and ownership of the country's economic livelihood would be transferred into the hands of the native Ugandans. Thus the government made its intentions known by a number of declarations.

At present the military government's policy and preoccupation is to revive investment confidence and to encourage the establishment of new industries. It is also the government's policy to Ugandize industry. This two-pronged policy

of reviving investment confidence and the Africanization of industry is being pursued through a strategy of partnership involving government participation in vital sectors of the economy, and increasing control by Ugandans of the means of production and distribution.

As a reminder to foreign investors General Amin recently declared, "I wish to make it abundantly clear that my government policy is to see to it that Ugandans participate fully in the industrial and commercial activities of the nation, and to this end all companies of reasonable size will be required to submit a program of Ugandization. And further it is my government's view that all companies of reasonable profitability should convert themselves into public companies so that all Ugandans may be given the opportunity to participate as shareholders."

With the proclamation and seeming execution of such revolutionary actions, General Amin and his colleagues have somewhat correctly interpreted their historic heritage and have at least set in motion the image for their country's future destiny. The leaders of Uganda have come to realize that history is created by the involvement and consciousness of a people who will no longer follow the externally imposed normal channels of development and who institute radical and dynamic challenges to the course of events.

At this point one would hope that the military leadership in Uganda really understands the dialectic implications of its revolutionary actions and will prepare itself for the obvious repercussions from both local and foreign sources. Some of these have already withdrawn substantial amounts of aid from Uganda. Uganda now stands apparently isolated from two imperialist giants as she attempts to move herself along the road towards much-needed indigenization of her eco-

nomic activity.

Whenever imperialist countries detect a sense of political and economic self-consciousness on the part of former colonial countries, it usually follows that they organize economic measures aimed at suffocation of the rebellious country. As far as can be ascertained from the behavior and declaration of the Uganda government, it believes in what may be called a managed economy in which the goods and services produced by the local people, first and foremost must be utilized for the benefit of the society. And as such to implement the program the government began by attacking the Asians whom it considered the worst offenders, since it had been claimed through the years that they exported more than \$30 million a year of invisible capital. They also refused to reinvest a substantial portion of the profits to expand their activities by way of further employment for the African people.

The open criticism, and condemnation by countries with imperialist tendencies of former colonial countries when they attempt to arrest the downward economic and social trends in their country is indeed understandable. So-called advanced and industrialized countries can never adjust themselves amiably to progressive decisions on behalf of former colonial countries, which they would rather see as dependent countries.

General Amin and his cabinet have set in motion a series of unprecedented actions which one hopes will augur well for the country but a number of questions have been left unanswered. The government has allowed the recently nationalized copper industry to revert to Canadian private ownership, and this also affects the oil industry. It has also softened the terms for the participation of local people in the ownership of banks and insurance companies.

Choukou Emeka,
New York, N.Y.

GUINÉ - THE NEW SOCIETY DEVELOPS

Guine is one of the smallest countries in Africa - at 15,400 square miles it is about the size of Switzerland. The argument that this has helped the rapid advance of the liberation struggle may well be true, although it is not equally true that the enemy benefit just as much if not more, from a reduced arena of battle, bombers can saturate the area much more thoroughly.

Moreover, while the planes enjoy the relative freedom of the air, the guerrillas must grapple with a tropical terrain and climate that must be among the toughest in Africa - miles of marshy swamps that reduce mobility and generate a myriad of debilitating diseases, and tropical rains alternating with frequent droughts, bringing hunger and famine.

Mainly because of these conditions, Guine has never been a settler country like Mozambique and Angola. In fact, with small deposits of bauxite its only known mineral resources, it has been little more than a glorified trading post controlled by the giant Portuguese monopoly Cia. Uniao Fabril; the main export, groundnuts, was compulsorily cultivated before the war by about 50,000 African families. Its social services were consequently even worse than the bare minimum found in the two other colonies: about 8 doctors for the whole rural population of less than 800,000, most of the 300 hospital beds in the capital, literacy at barely one per cent, and one government secondary school, mainly for Europeans.

This is what the war is all about, but like the other liberation movements, PAIGC is not waiting for their day of independence to bring about radical changes. 'The greatest success of our struggle is not the fact that we are capable of successfully fighting the Portuguese colonialists but the fact that we are at the same time creating a new social and cultural life in our country'. PAIGC state that after the war development of agriculture and raising food production will be a top priority. Its program specifies, among others, the ending of the monocultivation of groundnuts and the need to fight famine and drought.

In the liberated areas there have already been vast increases in the acreage under rice and a wide variety of vegetable crops have been introduced. Of course, the droughts still occur, but now the movement's effective control of the liberated areas means that food supplies can be transported from one part of the country to another, or if necessary brought in from outside. Seeds can be supplied for new quick-growing crops and for the next season's planting. No one starves any more.

On the other side, however, since the war the Portuguese have been forced to import thousands of tons of rice every year to feed their troops and urban populations, while PAIGC are able to produce a surplus for export.

A network of People's Shops was established in 1964, and by the summer of 1968 there were 15, open-

rating on a barter system. All activities are co-ordinated through one large central shop, with smaller ones in the regions and zones, and mobile 'buying brigades' that travel through the villages.

These buy supplies for the fighters, for boarding schools and hospitals, and export the surplus - forest rubber, kola nuts, bees wax, palm oil and nuts, and some groundnuts. Imports include soap, salt, sandals, writing materials, implements and torches. Here again the system has had repercussions beyond the liberated areas in that prices of produce bought by the Portuguese from the peasants have risen in order to keep pace with the prices paid by PAIGC. From 1968 to 1971, for example, prices paid to rice growers rose by 200 per cent.

Despite improvements in diet, malnutrition is still a problem and exacerbates the suffering caused by indigenous parasitic and infectious diseases, quite apart from the war casualties. But PAIGC is gradually building up a health service that covers the whole country. There are now about six PAIGC doctors in Guine, nine hospitals (some equipped for surgery) and about 120 dispensaries with travelling medical teams. The most serious cases are transferred to their Solidarity Hospital, established in Boke in the Republic of Guinea in 1969. In 1968/69 alone, 80 nurses were trained - 30 inside the country and 50 abroad.

Education has always been a central point in the PAIGC programme: 'The rapid elimination of illiteracy ..(C.9)

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Detroit Outburst

A shootout between four white police officers who called themselves STRESS (Stop The Robberies--Enjoy Safe Streets), and three Blacks took place on December 4, 1972, in the city of Detroit. The STRESS police have been involved in sixteen known deaths of whom all victims were Black.

After the shooting had taken place, there were four STRESS officers wounded and three Blacks that had escaped. The three Blacks were identified as Mark Bethune, 22; and Haywood Brown, 18, who on December 27, were allegedly involved in the killing of one STRESS officer and the wounding of another. They are now the object of what has been characterized as the most intensive man-hunt in the city's recent history. On that same day (Dec. 4), police went to the home of the other escapee, John Boyd, 23, and announced their presence by knocking down the front and back doors. They then entered the home without a search warrant, took items without permission and held guns on the mother and another son and daughter; they arrested all of them without informing them of their rights. Later, the families won a court injunction against any further police harrassments.

Two meetings, held January 9 and 10, called for the abolition of STRESS and the creation of a mechanism to "get the correct news out" about the current reign of police terror. The results of the two meetings were as follows: at the Jan. 9 meeting, a proposal for an independant Black Commission was discussed and passed overwhelmingly; at the meeting of Jan. 10, the families and other speakers expressed concern about the erroneous stories the media and the police were spreading. They said the information that the suspects were underground "hit men" (assassins) or drug addicts was incorrect.

There was also a meeting on Jan. 11 set up by the Detroit Common Council in an attempt to quell the growing anti-police sentiments in the Black Community. The problems still haven't been solved but the Detroit Blacks are holding meetings on Feb. 5, 8, 11, 13, and 17 to discuss STRESS officers. Results from these meetings will be in the next issue.

by: Jerome Nelson

It's A Shame It Took So Long

"Peace" - the word blazes from the cover of the Chicago Sun-Times to the cover of Newsweek Magazine. This word, this phenomena, still rekindles flames in the souls of many.

"Peace"- what does it mean? Does it exist or has it in all honesty been negated in an era that has no knowledge of its essence. It's a shame it took so long...

For the first time in over twelve years there seems to be this half-hearted attempt to establish 'peace' - peace in Vietnam. It's a shame it took so long.... Now the time comes when among those returning from the war will be our Black brothers. Brothers - drafted and enlisted - all alike, who fought and perhaps died in the name of peace. Ironical isn't it? It's a shame it took so long...

And then, this brings to mind our first Black brother, and indeed, the very first person to ever give his life for this country, Crispus Attucks. He died with the hope of establishing peace, in order that he would perchance receive a little 'peace' from his counterparts in this new nation. It's a shame its taking so long...

Yes, our Black brothers will come home - home to racism, home to bigotry, home to unequal opportunity, but home in all its glory. Peace... oh yes indeed...it's a shame its taking so long...

Cheryl Yvette Judice
NATIONAL SENIOR EDITOR

WANTED

Black Faculty



Black servicemen in Viet Nam shoulder more than their load of combat assignments. Proportion of combat casualties who are black is placed at more than 17 per cent.

Black Faculty in the areas of history, politics and psychology are needed at Lake Forest College. If interested, please contact Paul Thomas, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, Illinois 60045, (312), 234-3100

The New Orleans Crisis

It has been about a month since the shootout occurred in New Orleans in which a black ex-navy man by the name of Mark Essex sniped and gunned down over fifteen people.

The authorities there have no public answers to two crucial questions: Was there more than one sniper? If so, how was an escape made past a swarm of 600 heavily armed policemen in and around the hotel?

A reconstruction of the shootout and what led up to it will be explained based on interviews with the police and other informed sources. They indicate the following: there were probably two additional persons- a black man and a black woman involved in the shootout. Before the shooting, police may have already linked Essex to the shooting of one of our fellow brother's twin brother here at Lake Forest College.

In the hours before the shooting, police may have had Essex and his confederates under surveillance.

There is a strong indication that the Howard Johnson's (place where the event took place) was planned in advance, with ammunition having been previously taken into the hotel. The snipers may have rented a room over the weekend.

The rifle that Essex used was purchased back in Emporia, Kansas, a middle-class town of a few bucks. It was a .44 Ruger rifle and the bullets from it were found to be the same kind which killed Alfred Harrell, a police cadet in New Orleans, and wounded a fellow officer a week before.

On the Sunday morning of the seventh of January, Essex, and possibly other confederates seen by both black and white of the Howard Johnson's hotel, began systematically starting fires to attract the police.

Some white occupants of the hotel were killed in the ensuing battle. Downtown New Orleans became a battlefield where many policemen were shot to death and wounded.

Heavy ammunition (armor piercing bullets) were used to flush out the snipers who were then on top of the building.

By the next day some fifteen people lay dead or wounded. That night (Sunday) an army helicopter was used to help flush out the snipers and one was killed. But the next day as a storm patrol was set up to rush the supposedly remaining sniper, no other sniper was found.

Only the bullet-ridden body of Essex and his broken rifle lay on the roof. Police then began systematically firing at the stone fortress, housing the heating and air-conditioning unit at the top of the building, wounding slightly themselves and creating a havoc.

The remaining question still stands. Had there really been other snipers.

Power,
Bro. Rodney Willis
The New York Times
The Waukegan News-Sun
Newsweek

How Could He Have Done It?

It seems somewhat ironic that white Americans, appalled at the sniper shooting which recently occurred atop at a Howard Johnson Motel in New Orleans, are at such a loss in explaining why it happened. They seem to seek sincerely for reasons behind a "good boy going bad."

Both Newsweek and the Chicago Sun Times seemed determined to make it clear that Brother Marx Essex, up until his induction into the armed services, had been a very normal and even likeable person. Testimonies from friends, relatives and even his former pastor in Emporia, Kansas, attested to the high caliber of his character. So how, they ask, could such a person (he even tithed at church) be provoked into such an act?

It would appear that these persons have been unaware of the numerous acts of racism and inhumanity being perpetrated by the armed services. Cries of outrage by citizens, to these practices, are obviously falling on deaf ears, also. The changes brought about in the character

of this Black brother are a direct indictment of the oppressive militaristic institution which not only annihilates thousands of lives in senseless wars, but also conditions the surviving participants to become mindless automatons, ready to destroy human life without so much as batting an eyelash. This is tragic. . . .

Yet, one can not place sole responsibility with the

Guine (cont.)

obligatory and free primary education .. urgent training and perfection of technical cadres'. At present this means elementary education within the country, secondary education at the Amizade Institute in the Republic of Guinea and higher education through scholarships in Europe. Shortage of materials, staff and sometimes family opposition to prolonged

schooling has meant that primary education cannot yet be compulsory.

Between 1968 and 1971 there was a 17 per cent increase in schools and a 36 per cent increase in teachers. The teacher/pupil ration was reduced from 1:54 to 1:34. In all there are probably about 15,000 children in school now, compared with 2,000 before the war. And last year 100 students were sent to Europe for further training.

Training courses and seminars, for students as well as for teachers, are also important - to produce new textbooks, or to study the role of the student in the liberation struggle, 'to oppose .. the mistaken idea which leads to the belief that those who study or take courses will thereby become privileged in our society tomorrow'.

PAIGC have good reasons to be proud of their achievements so far, but they are the first to challenge smug self-satisfaction. 'Our people have to face a colonial war .. they live under difficult conditions .. Yet nobody goes hungry, nobody is exploited, the standard of living gradually improves'.

military. One must also take into consideration the society which condones and even encourages such behavior. The modes of training as well as the actions taken by the armed services are no great secret. Thus, if the powers-that-be in this society, who just happen to be white-anglo-saxon-protestants, allow such actions to take place they must indeed accept a share in the burden of responsibility.

Just consider, for a moment institutions within this society in which racism is not practiced or competition for success-at any and all costs-is not encouraged. This "dog eat dog" philosophy is so thoroughly entrenched in the thinking of this society's citizenry that human life has become, for all practical purposes, secondary to economic profit. Is this not sick?

Thus, it seems that the person who cannot conceive of a person attaining the state of mind, which would enable them to act as Brother Essex did, needs to wake up and take a look around. They are obviously a victim of racism's greatest perpetuator, ignorance.

Dwain Kyles

Sources-

Chicago Sun Times

Newsweek Magazine

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES, Mon.,
Jan. 22, 1973

U.S. close to one-man rule: McGovern

Washington - Sen. George McGovern told a British audience Sunday that the American Presidency is becoming an "elective dictatorship," that "the United States is closer to one-man rule than at any time in our history" and that potentially competing institutions are in a state of "exhaustion."

In a speech delivered at Oxford University and released here in advance, McGovern said that "today, only the Presidency is active and strong, while other centers of power are timid and depleted." He referred to Congress, the political parties, the press and American liberalism.

The Democratic presidential candidates, crushingly defeated by President Nixon last November for reasons he said remain "something of a mystery to me," called for "a determined effort to change, not the person in the White House, but the power of the Presidency."

He recommended that Congress use its constitutional power over appropriations to limit the President's abuse of executive privilege and to "stop executive wars by whim." He said Congress should gear up its own information and budget-making capacities "to exercise positive leadership."

For the present, he said "the power to make or unmake war has been stripped almost completely away from (Congress)...and now the executive has mounted a serious challenge to congressional control of appropriations."

"Perhaps Congress invited this attack by a complacent acquiescence in the Vietnam disaster," he said. "In any case, the battle is on, and Congress is losing."

He cited especially President Nixon's refusal to operate water-quality programs passed by Congress over his veto and by his refusal to spend funds appropriated by Congress.

"This is not the way of a government of laws of even men, but of one man."



Today the United States is moving dangerously in that direction. The Congress seems incapable of stopping what it opposes or securing what it seeks."

McGovern said that "the exhaustion of the Congress is matched by the exhaustion of the political parties." The Republican Party has been "reduced to utter vassalage by the White House" and the Democratic Party "is in peril of becoming a party of incumbency out of power...with no principles, no programs, living from day to day, caring only for the perquisites of office, doing nothing and worse, not caring that nothing is done."

McGovern said that "perhaps the most discouraging development in recent years" was the "exhaustion of the press," which he said subjected him to "close, critical reporting" during the campaign but "never really laid a glove" on Mr. Nixon.

In an assertion that his staff conceded was "apparently a mistake," McGovern said that "not a single reporter could gather the courage" to ask Mr. Nixon about the Watergate bugging case at what McGovern said was the President's "only" press conference of the campaign.

Transcripts of the presidential press conferences show that questions were asked about the Watergate trial at Mr. Nixon's press conferences of June 22, Aug. 29 and Oct. 5.

McGovern said that an "exhaustion of the American spirit" touches "even some liberal intellectuals" who can be heard "saying that government cannot make any real difference for good in the lives of people - that whatever, it touches will turn to failure."

Without identifying any by name, he said that "these so-called liberals now tell us that we should

not try to save our cities, cure the causes of crime or eradicate poverty...Their motto appears to be 'nothing ventured, nothing lost.'"

He said that "to my mind, this mood was central to the outcome of the 1972 election." He said that credibility was a problem for him, but not because people did not believe what he said.

"I think they did believe that I would do what I said, and they were afraid. Many Americans looked back at the debris of the last decade, and they feared again that they were about to face a hard effort once again, and harvest nothing from it."

He said that "I firmly believed throughout 1971 that the major hurdle toward winning the Presidency was winning the Democratic nomination."

"I believed that any reasonable Democrat could defeat President Nixon. I now think that no one could have defeated him in 1972. And I am not certain that the Democratic Congress will hold him in check for the next four years."

"I am convinced that the United States is closer to one-man rule than at any time in our history - and this, paradoxically, by a President who is not popular."

EDUCATE

to
LIBERATE



- Argentine cont.

In recent months, ~~Infante~~ General Juan Carlos Sanchez, commandant of the 3rd Army Division, was executed in downtown Rosario city by a squad of Montoneros. This officer was notorious for his extremely brutal repression of "subversion" which included personally supervised tortures of political prisoners.

An interesting comment on the absolute lack of popularity and support held by the dictatorship was made at the burial of Admiral Berisso. Witnesses reported that traffic was stopped around the Chacarita Cemetery in Buenos Aires during the ceremony and that the passengers of transit busses and automobiles were obliged by police to get out and enter the cemetery. Since virtually no one except military officers, soldiers and police had come to the burial, it was obviously necessary to have a crowd of "mourners" appear before the press and television at gunpoint if necessary.

Vincenzo Russo was kidnapped on his way to work when his car was intercepted head-on by a pick-up truck. Three other cars and a truck immediately pulled up behind and alongside the executive's limousine, cutting off escape. Several young men hustled Russo out of his car into the back of a covered pick-up truck. While startled neighbors looked on and cars backed up the avenue, the rapid operation concluded when the four vehicles departed in different directions while the pick-up was left blocking traffic.

The guerrillas, thought to be from the ERP, have since negotiated Russo's release with Standard Electric for a ransom reported to be from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

According to company personnel, Russo was responsible for harsher work hours and conditions recently introduced at the company's plant.

Black Studies Have Got To Get Blacker

EDUCATION

A Former Student Raps

During travels and lectures across the country, I discovered that what we may call "Negro studies," largely recounting our historical travails and ferreting out black contributions to a diabolic civilization, are what pass generally as black studies.

Black studies in the United States have too often been corrupted and co-opted by uninformed, often antagonistic white administrators. And many black students and faculty have unconsciously acted to cripple the programs.

Black studies were never meant merely to be a way of learning about the black past. They were to be a new approach to scholarship, to prepare black students to function in the hard times ahead, while clearing the way for the ultimate humanization of a decadent American society.

A black studies curriculum must include race and class analysis and the study of the oppressor as well as the oppressed. There must be study of other people's marches to freedom—why they succeeded or failed, their goals, strategy and tactics. And no program should be without some study of publishing and communications, as well as technical skills like mathematics and engineering taught from a black perspective. No program today offers all these elements.

A key component of black studies is an ideology of positive blackness and self-reliance. Most courses are merely infused with black content. Lacking an ideology of positive blackness, the confused student sees the path to black education solely as the opposite of what currently exists, which he mistakenly thinks is totally "white."

One black counselor I know denounced the idea of attending classes regularly as part of the "white game." She even sought, unsuccessfully, to bring about the firing of a black professor who demanded regular class attendance.

Black students have often come up to me, worried that by staying on campus they were avoiding the black liberation struggle. I tell them that the community needs people with skills and knowledge and that it is counterrevolutionary to flunk out. You cannot win a revolution with ignorance.

Black studies were never meant to be a substitute for study and hard learning, but too many black students have interpreted them that way.

What we must have in the fight for black education is a two-pronged attack—to change the nature of existing education and to build black academies and supplementary black schools for children, like the Jews, the Catholics and the Asians.

Nobody gets upset about the idea of Catholic sociology, let alone the infusion of the Catholic ideology into a sociology course. Why get upset about black sociology?

Understand we are not talking so much about the field of sociology as the teaching of sociology from a black perspective. Mathematics may be pure, but the teaching of math is not. Black studies are a teaching approach, to overcome the generations of black exclusion from the educational process and to relate education to the problems of functioning in a racist society. A proper program would help remove the fear of education many black students possess, and could make "hard" courses more palatable.

There are two basic approaches for making a course black. In the historical approach, the contributions of blacks and other nonwhites are interwoven with the rest of the course content. In a black science course, Africans invented iron; the first person to experiment on the human heart was a black American; a black American invented the third rail, and so on. This gives the black student a greater sense of involvement and identity.

The other instrument for making a course black is the test of relevance. Instead of discussing stocks and bonds at the elementary level, it might be preferable to ask, "If you fall behind

in your rent payments three months, and borrow enough to pay a month's rent, how many rent payments do you owe?" The question has a double answer, but the point is clear.

—Even engineering can be taught from a black perspective at the introductory level. Professor George A. Hastings, dean of engineering at Purdue University, says the first few years of an engineering graduate's employment really constitute an internship. Our approach would be to intertwine some internship simultaneously with course work.

In addition, there is a movement to change the nature of engineering education, which has been "too exclusively technical." The goal is to help the student acquire an understanding of "social, economic and esthetic values," which surely could not be omitted from a less technical black studies course.

In addition, field work should be incorporated with even the most abstract course. For instance, in a black history course, the black student would talk to elderly black people in the community as well as read books. Students could be required as well to hold panel discussions for younger blacks in elementary schools, church basements or whatever. Classes might organize black history clubs so that, bit by bit, the community is transformed and made relevant to education, at the same time as education is made relevant to it. Education belongs to the people and the idea is to give it back to them. White students could duplicate this in the white community, where black history clubs could help to "deracize" the white community.

At San Francisco State College in 1968, black studies even had a Black Information Center in the black community. There was a full-fledged tutorial program and all courses included a community component of field work and apprenticeships.

Eventually, though, the direction of the program was placed in the hands of administration-picked individuals, and the community component died. The result was that such courses as black math and black science were replaced by such courses as black religion and black dance. Rather than grant black autonomy, college president S. I. Hayakawa lumped the program under a "School of Ethnic Studies" with a fellow Japanese as dean.

There was a pattern in this. Black studies arose during the stage of revolutionary rhetoric, when we wrote the most militant-sounding proposals we could. Hostile administrators, thus alerted, pressured blacks in charge into hiring the closest thing they could find to "Uncle Toms," who could teach nothing but "Tornism" along with course skills.

A preoccupation with traditional credentials, rather than insight into blackness and ability to relate to black students, has had a moderating effect. Often, the only difference between the chosen black professor and a white professor is skin color. Administrators screen the difference.

On top of that, the tendency has been to place black professors arbitrarily into black studies. This is due to a combination of scarcity and racism, but it leaves the program filled with persons longing to teach elsewhere.

Experience has taught us that white administrators will not allow black studies out of the arts and culture mold, let alone interlace a black ideology with black course content. Whatever roads we take, I cannot emphasize too much that black studies is not the study of blackness alone. It has to move beyond the realm of culture (art, poetry, religion). These courses, like black history, psychology and music, have their place. But there must also be black economics, black math, black science and black technology. Once a student has waded through these fields in an enticing, black-oriented manner in a black studies introduction and accumulated

the social therapy of black cultural courses, he will be able to swim out into the mainstream of learning at a higher level.

The tragedy is that administrations have not moved to recognize black studies as a legitimate field even for black students, leaving many to fear that the courses will not count much for college requirements.

This may be true as things now stand, but there is no reason why a black studies major cannot teach the three R's in elementary school as well as a graduate who majored in high school biology can.

But the point I really want to make is that if we continue down the track onto which black studies have been shunted, black students will suffer and the humanistic goals of black studies will continue to erode. Society will lose a future generation of professionals, armed with new values, prepared to deal with problems such as racism and the general decadence now corroding it.

I can see a warning signal telling us to hold on and turn in a new direction. Black studies have gone pretty far afield. But, so long as we can see the warning signal flashing, we have not gone too far to get back on the proper track. □

Dr. Hare, a sociologist who has held faculty posts at Howard University and in the black studies program at San Francisco State College, is now the publisher of The Black Scholar.



College has offered me only one truly great opportunity and, ironically, this opportunity has come because of this institution's inability to tie me completely to academic pursuits. Despite the fact that I went to classes, studied for and took numerous exams, spent many hours walking to and from meals, I, like the majority of my fellow classmates, had plenty of time on my hands. At first, I just sat around bored, constantly complaining that there was nothing to do. Needless to say, I wasted a great deal of time, but soon I say that my time, all disgracefully wasted, was worth nothing to me or to anyone else.

Fortunately, as a Black woman at Lake Forest College, there was one for real option open to me and this in the form of the Black Students For Black Action, better known as BSBA. This organization offered each of the Black students here a full-time job, a chance to always be involved in the positive use of every day of the rest of our lives. Collectively, we decided that time should now signal life for the Black community instead of the traditional tale of weary misery and welcome death. It became our duty to build for the growth, development, and strength of our communities. Our newspaper, our tutorial projects, our Black faculty, our every move offered its all to the betterment of a people whose freedom has been too long denied. Then, for me, all time wasted, at any time, represented no time at all!!! It is with this deep commitment to community that I intend to continue my life. Opposed to its destruction, I shall help build a Black community capable of defense and prosperity.

Note: The above article was written by Cynthia Goodwin, former Editor-in-Chief of Black Rap, as a part of the class of '72's graduation exercise. We of the staff thought it particularly apropos as a message and a continuing reminder of our obligation to Black People as Black people.

All Power to the Aware and Dealin'

**We Must Teach
Our Own.**

Sifa Ote Ina Taifa Wousi
(All Praises Due To The Black Nation)
Sifa Ote Ina Mtu Weisi
(All Praises Due To The Black Man)
Sifa Ote Ina Shule Ya Watoto
(All Praises Due To The Shule Ya Watoto)

SHULE YA WATOTO

SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN



Brother Hannibal welcoming the community to the Shule Ya Watoto with the Council of Elders in the background.



Young warrior receiving certificate as a symbol of advancement.

The program opened with the mwalimu (teachers) entering first with the brothers leading the way for the sisters. Then came the mwanafunzi (students) in another direction lead by the young warriors, with one brother in front carrying the flag of Afrikan Liberation. When everyone was in place, visitors and friends of the Shule were asked to stand while an Afrikan pledge was said. Brother Hannibal welcomed everyone to the Shule and told us that the Rites of Passage is a celebration of the passing from one level of man or womanhood to the next level in an Afrikan tradition.

After the welcoming ceremony the mwanafunzi sang songs of praise and the young queens danced to the drums of Afrika. Later, as a symbolic gesture, the warriors and queens were given certificates and liberation bracelets while the mwanafunzi pledged to work even harder for the liberation of Afrikan people.

It was beautiful to see mwalimu and mwanafunzi dresses in Afrikan garbs and speaking an Afrikan language. I was so inspired by the celebration that to the Shule I say Asante Sana (thank you very much) for showing me something that make it a wonder to be alive. The distinctive atmosphere, feelings, smells, sounds and the sights of the Shule all reflected the beauty of Blackness - the beauty of Afrikan people permeate the room and surrounded all of us as if it was a warm embracing arm.



Dancers of Afrika as they dance to ...



... Drums of Afrika.

Beautiful Afrikan people creating beautiful things
 Creating the unimaginable
 See them undo the done and ...
 Make a new thought
 A new attitude that leads to
 A new creation and a new way of life.

Community Editor

New Appointment

Jon R. Carew, novelist, poet and playwright, has been appointed chairman of the Afro-American studies department of Northwestern University.

He will replace Lerone Bennett Jr. senior editor of Ebony Magazine, the first chairman of the program, who resigned last summer because of ill health and disputes within the university.

Chicago Sun Times

THINGS

Lu Palmer



Lu's Bookshelf Presents a Community Awareness Project sponsored by Lu Palmer - Journalist and Commentator heard on Lu's Notebook on WGRT radio at 8:10 a.m. and at 3:55 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Participants in the Black Awareness Series are to read a book each month and attend the announced meeting where this book will be analyzed with the audience...

Books may be purchased at the following Black bookstores:

Ellis bookstores:
6447 South Cottage Grove
4234 West Madison Street
Forum bookstore:
7101 South Stewart Street
A & J bookstore
8010 South Ashland Avenue
A & S Stationary and supplies:
751 East 80th Street

Carew

Jan Carew, newly appointed chairman of the African-American Studies Department recently said, "I will not resign and if students want someone to resign then they should."

These remarks came during a telephone conversation with FMO facilitator, Kwesi Kambon following an FMO strategy committee meeting designed to inform Carew of Black student sentiment. Students had asked Carew to reconsider his appointment.

The events which led up to the FMO position condemning Carew's appointment began last quarter as the university administration considered FMO proposals for the African-American Studies Department and searched for a new chairman to replace Lerone Bennett.

At the beginning of this quarter the administration announced the appointment of Jan Carew. FMO objected to this appointment because it felt Black students had no input in the decision.

The university administration ignored FMO's request for reconsideration of the appointment saying the issue was settled.

Attacks

Students

Additionally, a position paper was recently released to the Daily Northwestern from the African-American Studies Department outlining Carew's position.

When asked about the paper, members of the department said they had not been consulted as to the paper's content or its release.

Professor Mari Evans said, "I can't comment, I saw the notice in the paper (Daily) and I understand the position paper exists, but it was not the result of the department's meeting to exchange ideas and directions. I don't know what it contains."

During this conflict a community meeting was called to up-date Black students on the events. FMO reaffirmed its commitment to the department and took the stand that no major appointments of Black faculty or administration dealing with Black students should be appointed without Black student input.

FMO leaders have said, "The African-American Studies Department conflict is not over."

By Brian Van Dyke and Vernon Thompson, reproduced from Pamoja People newspaper - Black students of Northwestern University.

OF

INTEREST

Right now the meetings are held at the Washington Field House - 55th and King Drive, Chicago, Illinois.

Here is a list of books that have already been discussed:

Jan. The Choice by Samuel Yette

Feb. The Slave Narratives

I Never Had It Made by

Al Duckett life of Jackie Robinson.

Autobiography of Malcolm X by Malcolm X.

Books to be discussed in the future months are:

Mar. Black Politics by Hanes Walton

April. The Making of a Revolutionary by James Forman

May A Dying Colonialism by Frantz Fanon

June An American Dilemma by Gunnar Myrdal

I highly suggest that you try to attend these workshops each month as a group or individually. They are both interesting and mind opening. So see you there!

Be PROMPT 4:00 p.m.
Community Editor



Bias Isn't Dead**Some County Landlords Still Discriminating**

By HASAN HAKEEM

News-Sun Staff Writer

AFTER MONTHS of searching for an apartment, an interracial couple finally found a suitable building on Waukegan's South Side. When the couple was interviewed by the building's white landlord they were told "the apartment has been rented."

The next day a white couple rented the same vacant apartment and the landlord told them of his "experience" with the interracial couple, who attempted to move into his building.

The white couple located the interracial couple and told them what had happened and why they were rejected. The interracial couple then contacted a lawyer and took the landlord to court for discriminating against them and violating their civil rights.

A settlement was made outside of court and the interracial couple was awarded \$300 in damages and given an option to rent the apartment. They refused to take the apartment.

The landlord's refusal to rent to the interracial couple was an overt act of discrimination in violation of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. And according to Warren Skora, director of the Lake County Legal Aid Service, is in violation of an earlier law, the 1866 Civil Rights Act.

In 1866 the U.S. Congress enacted a law stating: "All citizens of the United States shall have the same right in every state and territory, as enjoyed by white citizens thereof to inherit, purchase, lease and sell and convey real personal property." (1866 Civil Rights Act, 42 USC — sec. 1982)

"It is interesting to note," said Skora, "that the old act has provided most of the major impetus in the accomplishment of open housing. It took more than a hundred years before that act was recognized by the Supreme Court as prohibiting racial discrimination in the sale or rental of private or public housing."

The 1968 Supreme Court decision in the Jones vs Mayer case utilized the old congressional act stating that "It is unlawful to refuse to sell or rent, after the making of a bonafied offer or to refuse to negotiate for the sale or rental of or otherwise make unavailable or deny a dwelling to any person because of race, color, religion or national origin."

The legal aid service has been working in conjunction with the leadership council for Metropolitan Open Communities, based in Chicago. The council was formed in 1966 in the aftermath of demonstrations in Chicago for open housing. It seeks to create a single non-discriminatory housing market throughout the Chicago metropolitan area.

The council, with the help of legal aid services, has been willing to file suit against biased landlords in the county. They have handled at least three cases in the county since 1970.

"I'm convinced that there is discrimination in Lake County," said Skora. "But people don't want to pursue cases of discrimination."

Skora said he believes more middle class minority people are dis-

criminated against than below the poverty line renters. "Landlords usually have a good excuse in not renting to people who are on public aid or below the poverty level, because of credit situations."

"But the persons who have legitimate complaints just won't pursue their complaints, because of the time involved or they don't feel it's worthwhile."

Skora pointed out that many people still don't realize what their rights are in the area of housing. "There can't be any qualification in the rental or sale of housing." Navy minority personnel constitute one group that has experienced racial discrimination in the county on a large scale and has taken legal steps to combat it. One Navy case currently pending was filed against the Carriage House in Gurnee.

"All military personnel upon reporting to the naval base are notified by the housing referral office that they are not to rent from these landlords," added Brooks.

"Because of the restrictive policy," said Brooks, "the housing situation is improving as we gain landlords."

Brooks also added that the commandant is interested in placing minority groups in areas where blacks have never lived before. "The commander has stated that no Navy men will live where all navy men cannot live."

Brooks said the main problem in housing discrimination is found in those areas where eastern-European immigrants settled on Waukegan's South Side and throughout North Chicago.

"We have the most trouble with the eastern-European landlords," said Brooks. "It's a strange thing. They suffered when they first arrived in this country and now they discriminate the most."

"We really can't figure it out," Brooks remarked, adding, "The ones who have been discriminated against in the past are the worst discriminators."

Brooks said his office does not go out looking for "juicy" discrimination cases to stir up trouble. "The purpose of our office is to find housing for navy families. If we went out looking for discrimination in the county, we could make a book on restrictive sanctions against landlords."

"Our policy is to follow up on every family that is processed through our office and that is how we learn about landlords who discriminate," said Brooks.

Brooks, like Skora at the legal aid office, said one big problem is that people don't report discrimination complaints. "Many of the complaints that come to our office are initiated by whites who learn they can't sublet their apartments or homes to blacks."

Brooks pointed out the case involving Colonial Park Apartments in Waukegan as a good example. The case was initiated by a white who wanted to sublet his apartment to a black, but was told by the management that he could not rent to blacks. According to Brooks, the blame was placed on a secretary.

"Since that case was settled in June of 71," said Brooks, "there are approximately a dozen black families

living in the 320-unit complex. Prior to the case, the complex was fifty per cent military and no blacks."

Brooks said the Navy is not in the housing business, but when a community fails to provide housing for sailors the Navy is forced to build units on the base.

"We always try and counsel the landlords to the fact that they don't have to lower their standards in renting to minorities. I think that is what they fear most," said Brooks.

History demonstrates that discrimination cannot be ended by laws alone. One possible solution suggested in Lake County would establish a program modeled after the Navy's housing referral service.

Human relations committees such as those established in area municipalities have proved their inability to resolve discrimination problems. Since the inception of the Waukegan and Zion human relations commissions not one case of discrimination has been found. Yet because of instances of discrimination in these cities the military has had to place some landlords on a "restrictive sanctions list."

In Waukegan the human relations committee hasn't met for "several months." And at least three members of the committee have never been to a meeting. A spokesman for the committee said they haven't received any complaints.

A black couple who had just arrived in the county didn't know where to go, so they went to the Gurnee apartment complex. They were told by the management that nothing was available, but they saw rental signs erected on the apartment complex still advertising vacant apartments.

The couple was referred to the Leadership Council and a suit was filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago. Since then the apartment owners have offered an apartment to the couple, but they had already found another. The management said a secretary made a mistake in refusing to rent an apartment to the couple.

Waddell Brooks, director of the Great Lakes Naval Base Housing Referral Staff, has been working closely with municipal officials and the leadership council in trying to solve discrimination complaints.

The housing referral service carries a current list of more than 600 landlords in the Great Lakes area representing over 7,500 housing units. Before any landlord can benefit from a listing in the housing referral office, he will have to give written assurance of non-discrimination in the rental of his housing units.

The housing referral service also carries a running "restricted sanctions list," which by contrast contains the names and addresses of 15 landlords who either refuse to rent to minority servicemen, or have refused to give written assurance of non-discrimination.

"These landlords will remain on the sanctions list until the base commander is satisfied that they no longer use discriminatory practices in the rental of their housing units," said Brooks.

Disciplinary action is also taken against any servicemen who rent from

(continued p.24)



Justice And Willie Baltimore

From a Night at the High Chapparal to Joliet State Prison

The High Chapparal, a teenage dance hall on Waukegan's South Side was jumping one spring evening two years ago.

Willie Baltimore, a restless 22-year-old part time everything, joined the crush at the High Chapparal. So did Gean Saul-Merrellus and a friend from Highwood who were flashing a roll of money and letting it be known that they were looking for girls.

After the High Chapparal closed at 2 a.m., the two men from Highwood were still looking for some action. They climbed into their car and repeated their desire to pay \$25 for two girls to a small group standing in front of the dance hall.

Baltimore was in that group. James Coleman, his brother John and Melvin Hughes were there also.

The next thing that happened isn't too clear. Some of the young men went to the driver's side of the car, while others stood on the curb. After an exchange of words, a scuffle broke out and the driver of the car, Saul-Merrellus, was gunned down in the street. The 27-year-old man was shot two times and died of a bullet wound in the head.

For Willie Baltimore it would be his last night at the Chapparal. A man was murdered and Baltimore was accused.

The charge climaxed a problem-filled life for Baltimore. He never learned much in school, dropping out early in high school. His education came on the streets of the South Side.

Baltimore's arrest record began as a juvenile stealing cars in 1962, stretching to

the time he was caught carrying a concealed weapon in 1966. His offenses included purse snatching, a grocery store robbery, holding up a taxi cab driver and theft.

Police say Baltimore was a guy who was always around whenever anybody needed help on a burglary or robbery. "He wasn't too smart", said one former policeman.

Yet Baltimore surrendered to police several hours after the murder. He told them he didn't do it. He told a jury of six men and six women in the courtroom of Lake County Circuit Judge Lloyd A. Van Duesen that he didn't do it.

But after eight days of testimony, the jury deliberated 15 hours before delivering a verdict of guilty. The sentence: 30-60 years.

Baltimore's trial was a strange trial. Most people won't volunteer to testify against their friend's but Baltimore's conviction was largely based on evidence provided by two close companions.

The friends, who were standing on the driver's side of the car, claimed that Baltimore killed Saul-Merrellus and then took his money.

Baltimore maintained he was innocent and said James Coleman was carrying a small revolver that night. Coleman took the stand and told the jury that he saw flashes coming from Baltimore's hand as Saul-Merrellus fell to the ground.

The trial was so strange, in fact, that the Illinois Second Appellate Court tossed out the conviction and ordered a new trial on several grounds including failure of the prosecution to give the defense attorney Wayne Flannagan all the evidence.

The clothing that Baltimore was wearing that night played an important part in the court's decision for a reversal. Baltimore's friend Coleman testified that he (Baltimore) was wearing a black leather coat, blue sweater, and blue pants. But later in the trial Coleman said Baltimore had on a brown overcoat and a big black hat.

Proper police procedures were not followed in the identification of Baltimore, said a former policeman then involved in the investigation. Pedro M. Montalvo, the dead man's companion told police that the man who did the shooting was wearing a black leather coat.

Montalvo viewed Baltimore the first time through a one-way window in the Waukegan police detective bureau. Baltimore was the only person in the room which is highly unusual when making identification for a serious crime.

After hesitating somewhat, Montalvo identified Baltimore but only after he had taken off his coat and hat. Montalvo later testified that Baltimore was wearing different clothing after the shooting.

The prosecution maintained that Baltimore ran home and burned the clothes he was wearing after the murder was committed.

Baltimore denied this and told the court that he had never owned a black leather jacket. He pointed out that several other people were wearing black jackets that night, including Coleman.

And Baltimore's aunt Mildred May told the News-Sun that he never owned a black leather jacket. "If he had one I would have known about it," said Mrs. May. "I believe somebody just had something against Willie. It seemed like there was so much lying at the trial."

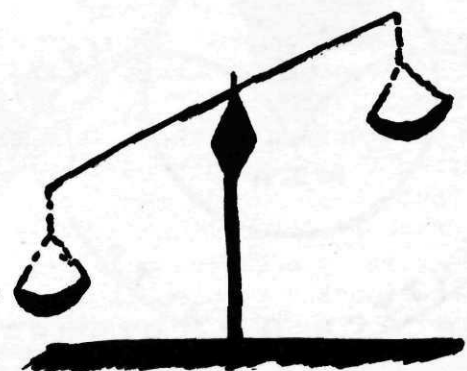
Mrs. May said Willie writes to her claiming his innocence. "he told me he didn't do it," said Mrs. May.

"Whenever Willie did something wrong I could feel it and I could tell when he wasn't telling the truth. But this time I never did feel he had killed a man."

"Everytime he writes he tells me that he is being punished for a crime he didn't commit," said Mrs. May.

John May, Baltimore's uncle, believes his nephew was railroaded in court. "They never picked up anybody else that night," remarked May. "Willie didn't have nobody on his side."

by: Hasan Hakeem
The News -Sun



CULTURAL SCENE

Share With The Staff

The Cultural Staff of Black Rap is here to give you a somewhat sneak preview of the true living entities in the daily functions of the Sisters and Brothers on L.F.C.'s campus and the world. The areas which this staff will look into from time to time will be: 1) Movie reviews, 2) Book reviews, 3) Song reviews, 4) Poetry, 5) Fashion and practically anything else which the staff members might enjoy sharing with the world.

For sure, the areas explored will deal with issues which are quite close to these Sisters' and Brothers' hearts. In the Movie reviews we will have contributions from any Brother or Sister who has seen a movie and would like to relate his or her perception of its contents. With the fantastic boom of Black Films these days, there are bound to be Movie reviews! The Brother working on Song reviews will be Paul Brown. He is presently pursuing a heavy music career here at L.F.C. Sometimes he comes out of some really strong bags, but, we all understand why. Poetry will be contributed by the community as a whole. We all at one point or another have an unwritten piece of poetry inside us. (Some madman once said everybody has a book in them-- well, I ain't going that far!)

Then for Fashions arts and crafts, we will see the work of Sister Dorothy Batsell. I am sure she will give us variety in her choice of subject matter. (I even saw her in the library doing some research the other day!) Last but not least, we will see Edward Shealy (me: a music nut!) contributing and dipping his nose in everything from this to that.

As a special kick to the items and articles in Black Rap, we may have a Brother who gives Book reviews locally contribute reviews.

So, you can see that the Cultural Staff will be doing a thang!

Edward B. Shealy

Self - Decoration

The culture section of various newsletters include only music arts, reviews of books, plays, and such. But as an exiled people our culture was hidden from us. And our attentions of culture patterns are no longer limited to the "arts". What about our ancestral drums and dances, ceremonies, weaving, scarification, wrapping and body painting. This column will be dedicated to informing the Mass of their culture - Teach us Motherland-teach us . . .

Self-decoration is an art; an art that is dying out in Africa. The art is the transformation to include certain ideals or qualities into the person. It is used in the moka (bride-wealth), courting parties, visits and in everyday wear. The intensities and the manner are different in each case. The men decorate more often and in greater degree than the woman. Men start with hair wigs, bones, leaves, feathers, paints, knitted hair-nets and marsupial furs. Women, who participate less in the ceremonies, usually limit their decoration to pig-grease, knitted head-nets, and leaves along with painting. All the accessory items such as drums and spears are for men only.

An example of self decoration is the courting party -

The parties are held regularly at night-time, in women's houses. Unmarried girls and youths from about fifteen onwards, and also young married men, take part as protagonists. At least one older married woman acts as chaperone, greeting the men as they arrive.

The girls at first stay in a back compartment of the house, while the men sing romantic songs in a loud, nasal voice, to attract them out. At length the girls emerge and kneel at one end of the room, while 2 men sit corss-legged on either side of each one.

Courting is supposed to continue till daylight, when the girls have a right to chase their partners out, threatening them with mud and stinging nettles. If a man turns head with a favorite girl several times, he should give her beads, feathers, furs, knives, or money as a compliment; and such gifts can be a preliminary to bridewealth payments.



For a big party, men and youths gather forest leaves and grass and for smaller parties they simply pick greenery near to their houses. They can wear a variety of feathers: red bird, bird, eagle, black cassowary, cockatoo, hawk's wings. They can partly charcoal or paint their faces, rub grease on their bodies, insert shells in the nose, and bind marsupial fur round the forehead. All kinds of leaves and grass fringe the beard and wig. Shreds of coloured paper are used for top-knots. These accessories are worn for the swishing noise they make as the wearer sways his head. But the feathers should not be too fine. They add that it is not worthwhile to decorate too well for an event that occurs at night-time when people cannot see properly.

For turning-head, girls may wear a pearl shell crescent between their breast, cowrie necklaces and beads, all of which they cover with trade-cloth cloaks knotted in front. They oil their hair, charcoal their foreheads or paint them with a red band, put multi-colored spots or triangles of paint on their cheeks. Girls are supposed to mix love-magic with their pigments and men to do the same with their grease. Such magic is meant to attract the opposite sex by the perfume, and nowadays trade-stores scent and talcum powder are used by both sexes for the same purpose. Girls tend not to wear so many leaves and grasses as men, though they often tuck flowers in the hair as a fringe for the forehead.

This is just a sample of the uses of self-decoration and the detailed art used.

(All information is obtained from Self-Decoration in the Mount Hagen by Andrew and Marilyn Stralhern 1971.

