

Letter From Prison - H. Rap Brown

Being a man is the continuing battle of one's life and one loses a bit of manhood with every state compromise to the authority of any power in which one does not believe. No slave should die a natural death. There is a point where caution ends and cowardice begins. For every day I am imprisoned I will refuse both food and water. My hunger is for the liberation of my people. My thirst is for the ending of oppression. I am a political prisoner, jailed for my beliefs — that Black People must be free. The Government has taken a position true to its fascist nature: Those who we cannot convert, we must silence. This government has become the enemy of mankind.

Death can no longer alter our path to Freedom. For our people, Death has been the only known exit from slavery and oppression. We must open others.

Our will to live must no longer supercede our will to fight, for our fighting will determine if our race shall live. To desire Freedom is not enough.

We must move from resistance to aggression, from revolt to revolution.

For every Orangeburg there must be 10 Detroit's. For every Max Stanford and Huey Newton, there must be 10 dead racist cops. And for every Black Death there must be a Dien Bien Phu.

Brothers and Sisters, and all oppressed people, you must prepare yourself both mentally and physically, for the major confrontation is yet to come. You must fight. It is the people who in the final analysis make and determine history, not leaders or systems. The laws to govern you must be made by you.

May the deaths of '68 signal the beginning of the end of this country. I do what I must: out of the love for my people. My will is to fight; resistance is not enough. Aggression is the order of the day.

NOTE TO AMERICA

America: if it takes my Death to organize my people to revolt against you, and to organize your jails to revolt against you, and to organize your children, your God, your poor, your country, and to organize Mankind to rejoice in your destruction and ruin; there here is my life! But my soul belongs to MY PEOPLE.

Lasime Tushinde Mbilashaka. (We shall conquer without a doubt.)

H. RAP BROWN

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SNCC AND BLACK PANTHERS MERGE

(Continued from page 8)

are getting ready to commit genocide against us. As the country becomes more technologically advanced, the need for black people disappears, and so will we."

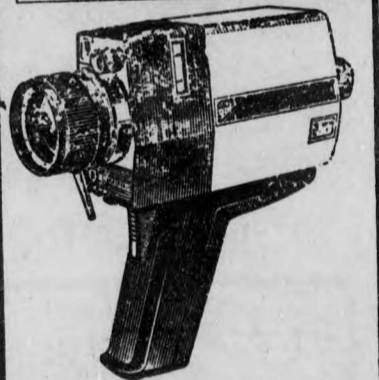
He said the U.S. works on the three Ms: Missionaries, Money and Marines. The missionaries have been sent out and the poverty money has been pulled out by the Vietnamese, he warned, "so now prepare for the marines."

"We must consciously consider an ideology that deals with racism," he added. Alliances for such an ideology include other colonized peoples — the Mexicans, Puerto Ricans and Indians in the U.S., the 900 million colored people in the world. Whites, even poor whites in this country, are excluded because they are exploited rather than colonized. By the same reasoning, communism and socialism are rejected as ideologies suitable to black people because they speak to class oppression from the top down, to exploitation and not to racism.

"The vote," says Carmichael, "is an organizing tool to bring our people together — nothing else." More basic is the determination to protect the black community and to organize it politically, economically and militarily for a war of liberation, which will inflict "maximum damage on them and minor damage on us."

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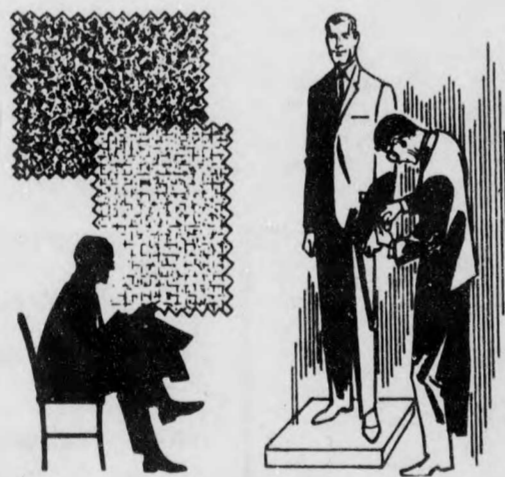
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