EDITORIAL: PURPOSE OF THE PAPER

Everyone can see that police repression and a basic political split has caused the revolutionary movement in one country to falter. The unity that revolutionaries across the country once had with the leadership of the old Black Panther Party has broken apart. People who have become isolated from revolutionaries, Area organizations and community struggles suffer from isolation. Revolutionary newspapers are not developing ideas that can spark revolutionary struggles like the concept of community organization. This was done in 1969.

There is no systematic communication or coordination of struggle throughout the U.S. We do not even have a newspaper that carries revolutionary news analysis and theory to numbers of people across the country.

That isolation is why this paper was started. By itself a national-wide paper will not solve the problems of the revolutionary movement. It is part of the solution. Specifically, it is an organizing tool for local struggles and a coordinating tool for regional and national struggles. It provides revolutionary information and analysis. It is a communication network independent of the leadership. It is a forum to discuss the major problems and tasks of the revolution. All of us won't necessarily agree with everything that's printed, but we all think that the ideas are deserving of serious consideration.

The people who started this newspaper reflect the purpose of the paper. We are mainly IV revolutionaries with some white revolutionaries. All the people on the paper are engaged or in contact with revolutionary practice. Many have been or are members of revolutionary organizations. Most of us are Marxist-Leninists. Most of us believe that building national liberation fronts is primary now. Some believe that a multinational revolutionary party is critical. All of us agree on the following political principles:

1. Third World national liberation are acquiring strength as the leading elements of the developing Socialist Revolution in the United States;
2. That idea is present in potential of national liberation struggles. But due to ideology of racism, they lag the cost of the revolutionary movement and could even become a form of fascism. It is the duty of revolutionaries, especially white revolutionaries, to work for the awakening of the white working class into a positive force for revolution;
3. The revolution is and will be a political, economic, and armed struggle;
4. Inside the national liberation struggles and the general revolutionary movement, the revolution will be led by an alliance of working and poor people and in their interests.

Instead of writing a letter to explain our politics and the purpose of the paper, we decided to put a practical example in people's hands. This first issue is meant to be an invitation to whoever sees the paper to contribute to its development. The success of this paper depends totally on active participation by progressive people who agree with our basic principles. We want to see this paper become a national newspaper as soon as possible, so that it can make a contribution to building national liberation struggles and socialism.

We ask that people and organizations consider exchanging, subscribing and/or distributing paper. We welcome news reports from people's struggles, articles, letters, poems, artwork and cartoons. Please let us know about new services, information bureau newspapers from anywhere in the world that you think we should use. People make the revolution.

The "energy crisis" is born. The military gets all the fuel it needs for its war. Air Force One and Thieu's army while workers and students are closed and workers laid off.

Countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America use political and even military independence. They threaten to withdraw from trade arrangements and demand more for their resources and labor. So capitalist responses neo-colonialism and sub-imperialist countries (Brazil, Israel, Iran and South Africa) which threaten their immediate neighbors with invasion and economic control.

Everywhere that international capitalism was weakened by people's victories, it has attempted a comeback by more violent or more disguised means. And everywhere that people have understood this new form of oppression and have become united for struggle, the people have won greater victories. So the trend of history is towards the fall of international capitalism and the rise of revolution.

"A newspaper is not only a collective propagandist and collective agitator, but also a collective organizer. In this respect it can be compared to the scaffolding erected around a building in construction; it marks the contours of the structure and facilitates communication between the builders, permitting them to distribute the work and to view the common results achieved by their organized labour."

LENIN

WHAT WE BELIEVE: REVOLUTION IN AMERICA

Wherever there is oppression, there is resistance. Countries want independence, nations want liberation, and people want revolution. This has become the irresistible trend of history.

- Chinese Communist Party

The people of the world have enjoyed great successes since UNCTIR in their struggle for model and economic revolution. The People's Republic of China has been established for over 25 years. Korea, Vietnam, Cuba and China-Guinea-Bissau have waged successful wars of national liberation. Most countries in Africa have won political independence. Progressive socialist governments have been elected in Chile and other countries. But the successes of the people have hurled the Rockefeller, Rothschilds, Ford, Rockefeller and DuPonts upon the world. Their system of world-wide capitalism weakness everywhere a leftist government nationalizes mines and nullifies debts. It weakens everywhere it spends billions for wars there. Even the Nixon era NATO onto unwilling Third World nations. It weakens everywhere the National Guard must put down black rebellions and break up truckers' blockades in America. Capitalism feels itself weakening. So it tries to increase the flow of its bloodlust, money. It tries to take more profit from the toil of the world's people. The Arab peoples have grown rebellious against Euro-American interference in the Middle East. The Arabs decided to withhold the oil that Euro-American companies took and controlled, and used by city police departments and federal agencies to put down resistance against fascism, racism and exploitation.

In this country, the resistance has barely begun, and already we have seen assassination, torture and imprisonment used by city police departments and federal agencies to put down resistance against fascism, racism and exploitation.

VIETNAM WILL WIN
That spring National Guard units and paratroopers were used to crush the Black Urban Rebellion. Only Vietnam hardened paratroopers were able to contain the uprising. That year the Oakland police murdered BPP's L'il Bobby Hutton and arrested Huey P. Newton.

In the next five years, the BPP split and catalyzed a split in the entire movement. The police repression made clear that revolution was a life and death struggle between the rulers and the ruled, not a game. The chiefs had to be made to either make revolution or to play with reform, faced with this choice, the Young Lords Party, the Chicano Revolutionary Party, the Revolutionary Union, Venezuela, the Brown Berets, Red Guards, etc. either split or disbanded. Other organizations went heavily infiltrated or repressed like the SWIM and Republic of New Afrika. The success of police repression has proved that capitalism and imperialism are still stronger than the revolutionary movement.

Meanwhile, the revolutionary movement proved that it had three serious weaknesses. The young movement thought it could stand the world on its head in a few short years. They were not prepared for a long struggle that required building the unity of all revolutionary people, many people became discouraged and tired. Others made careless mistakes that put themselves in the hands of the police. The "revolutionary highhats" became isolated from the life of working families.

The other two problems are closely related. Many organizations have split over differences on the role of national liberation struggles and the role of armed struggle in America. On the one side is the insistence that the struggles of TV people are a smaller or secondary part of the general working class struggle, these people condemn revolutionary nationalism and the concept of urban guerilla warfare, they downplay the importance of the Black Urban Rebellions and say that the masses can not grasp even the concept of armed struggle until years in the future. These people are the Oakland BPP, the Revolutionary Union, the old Communist Party, Trotskyites and groups dominated by them like the BLA, the Puerto Rican Revolutionary Workers Organization, formerly part of the Young Lords, now under RUV wing.

On the other side is the insistence that recent history proves that the struggles of Third World people for national liberation from imperialism are the leading element of the revolutionary struggle. These people quote Mao Tse-tung, "In wars of national liberation, patriotism(ed, note: nationalism) is applied internationalism." They stand opposite to the first side on every major question from defending captured minority members to the role of oppressed people's culture and how to deal with the revolutionary Communists Union. Although this paper has no organizational alliances, we agree with this side of the split.

We are revolutionary nationalists. We are for building socialism and completely smashing the corporate fascist state. Imperialism (monopoly capitalism) and racism are the twin pillars of the capitalist's empire. The monsters of capitalism must be destroyed before they destroy our people. We hope this paper can contribute to the future development of theory, strategy and organization of the Revolution and benefit the lives of oppressed people everywhere.

Cesar Chavez inspired the people of Vietnam to battle 50 years ago with these words, "Revolutionary Fighters, this hour has struck. The fighting spirit of the people is displayed before you! Let us rise up quickly! Unite with each other, unify your action to overthrow the imperialists, Victory to the World Revolution!"

Face the People