

# Mrs. Mitchell urges Negro dialogue

By MIKE DAVIDOW

Mrs. Charlene Mitchell, Communist candidate for President, last week proposed black Presidential candidates engage in "friendly debate on how best to achieve black liberation" rather than compete with each other.

The suggestion was made by the nation's first black woman Presidential candidate to Elridge Cleaver, Peace and Freedom Party candidate for President and Minister of Information, Black Panther party at a "Free Huey Newton" demonstration at the Alameda County courthouse, Oakland, California.

Mrs. Mitchell stated Cleaver said he would like to think about it.

The proposal would also include Dick Gregory, who is the presidential nominee of the Pennsylvania Peace and Freedom party. Mrs. Mitchell flew to Oakland from New York to take part in the courthouse demonstration.

Should her suggestion be accepted it could open up an unprecedented dialogue on black liberation.

Mrs. Mitchell's proposal illustrated the sympathetic and non-competitive character of the Communist party's Presidential candidacy in respect to a Peace and Freedom Presidential ticket. A national Presidential nominating convention of the P and F party is scheduled to take place

at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in mid-August.

Asked if the Communist party would support such candidates, Mrs. Mitchell stated: "Yes, our party regards such third party developments as very healthy. If there is to be any challenge to the two-party system, which is run by the same interests in this country, there is need for such third party movements.

Mrs. Mitchell emphasized the success of the party's Presidential campaign will be judged not so much by the vote it obtains but how well it will communicate the Communist view on crucial issues.

Since her nomination July 7 at a special Communist Party convention Mrs. Mitchell has been busy meeting national and international requests for press, radio and TV interviews. Among interviews scheduled are: the John Knight newspaper chain which publishes the Detroit Free Press, Miami Herald and Akron Beacon-Journal; a Washington D. C. TV station (next week) and the West German TV.

Her nomination has been widely reported in the black

press including *Mohammad Speaks*, official organ of the Black Muslims and in *Jet* magazine most widely read black publication in the country.

National campaign headquarters have been established at 23 West 26 Street. Gus Hall, Communist party general secretary and Claude Lightfoot, secretary of the party's National Committee for Negro Affairs, are co-chairmen of the campaign committee.

Mrs. Mitchell and her running mate, Michael Zagarell, the party's youthful candidate for Vice-President announced an extensive campaign tour.

Mrs. Mitchell's tour will include: Boston August 11-14; Chicago August 29-September 2; Portland September 4-5; Seattle Sept. 6-10; Los Angeles Sept. 17-22; New Mexico Sept. 24-25; Denver Sept. 27-28; St. Louis Sept. 30-Oct. 1.

Zagarell will tour Connecticut and Baltimore August 1-10; Detroit Aug. 25-26; Michigan Aug. 29-Sept. 2; Minnesota, Sept. 4-8; Wisconsin Sept. 10-13; Indiana Sept. 15-16; Ohio Sept. 17-21; Western Penn. Sept. 23-24; and Eastern Penn. Sept. 26-29.

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