

► **FREE**

Geronimo Pratt

Issue #59

Sept 5 - Sept. 18, '89

Toronto's Anarchist Bi-Weekly
Ecomedia
BULLETIN

Ecomedia, P.O. Box 915, Stn F, Toronto Ont. M4Y 2N9
All Material Is Anti-Copy right!

ANARCHIST HOTLINE



535-5731

Black Panther Founder Shot

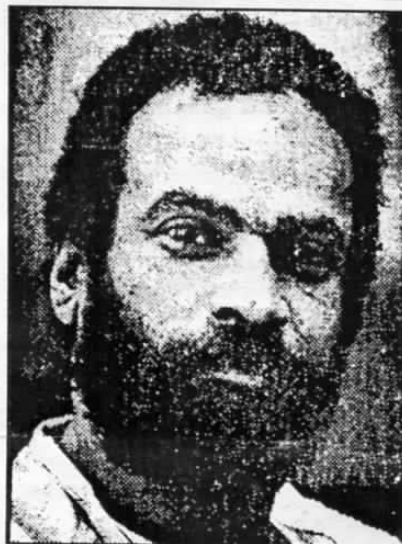
Huey P. Newton, ex-leader and co-founder of the Black Panther Party (BPP) was shot to death on the morning of August 22. Not surprisingly, police have charged a "Black cocaine dealer" with his murder.

On August 28 in Oakland, California, a funeral service for Huey was attended by 1,200 people and according to the New York Times hundreds had to be turned away. Many ex-Panthers were present. Some people feel Huey's death might strengthen the move towards the regeneration of the Black Panthers. Said one speaker at his funeral "Not only Black people but thousands of other disenfranchised people around the world were inspired to stand up...(the BP platform) is as relevant today as it was 23 years ago." said another "The Black Panther headquarters were down the street. Do you think it's closed? It's not closed. Trust me, it will rise again." The climate was described as being similar to that of a political rally; mourners wanted to publicly recognize and reflect on Newton's contributions to the Black liberation movement and Black con-

sciousness in North America.

Huey Newton, along with Bobby Seale, co-founded the Black Panther Party in 1966. The scope of the BPP's work is indicated in their well known 10 point platform.

(cont. pg 3)



AIDS & PROFITEERS

In a recent issue, Ecomedia readers were asked to support a boycott of Bristol-Myers products because they are refusing to release DDI, a drug effective in treating people living with AIDS, on the Canadian market. We have since learned that the same company refuses to develop another effective drug, Peptide-T, because it doesn't expect to make a large profit from it. DDI is available in the USA, but Canadian cabinet minister Perrin Beatty has defended the company's refusal to allow its availability here.

We have been asked to correct our

referral to Aids Action Now! as an advocacy group; it is rather an activist organization, committed to collective political action as well as to advocacy (seeking individual solutions to individual problems.) Also, they ask that people with AIDS be called People Living With Aids (PLWA), rather than AIDS victims.

Bristol Myers products include Bufferin, Windex, Javex, Miss Clairol and Fleecy. For more information about the Bristol-Myers boycott or other Aids Action Now activities, please call 416-591-8489.

Canada Stockpiles Chemical Weapons

SUFFIELD-Although the Canadian government claims not to possess any chemical weapons except those used for riot and crowd control, this claim does not affect its operations at Suffield, Alberta. The government does not consider mustard gas, nerve gas or other chemical warfare agents as weapons unless they are in a delivery system, such as a bomb. The Defense Research Establishment here stores 18 tons of chemical warfare agents, plus 150 tons of toxic "contaminated materials." (Peace Magazine, August 1989.) There is no guarantee that they will not be shipped to the USA, which is known to have used chemical warfare against Cuba and is suspected in the case of several other countries.

CALENDAR

BIKO LIVES! A commemoration. Spetember 12, 1989, 7pm. Bloor Collegiate Institute, Bloor & Dufferin. Featuring Itah Sadu, Achmad Obasemi, Viyuswa Kei, Kwanza. Presented by the Biko Rodney Malcolm Colation. Donation \$3.00. More info 921-7783.

Earth First! Toronto general meeting, Sat. Sept. 16, 2pm, at 519 Church St. Anyone interested in getting involved in EF! Toronto is welcome to come along.

To put your events in the Ecomedia calendar, just phone the Anarchist Hotline (535-1735) and leave a message. It'll also get on the hotline.

Newton Dies, Media Lies (cont. from page 1)

#1 We want freedom, we want power to determine the destiny of our Black communities; **#2** We want full employment for our people; **#3** We want housing fit for shelter of human beings; **#4** We want all Black men to be exempt from military service; **#5** We want decent education for our Black people in our communities that teaches us the true nature of this decadent, racist society and that teaches Black people and our young Black brothers and sisters their place in the society, for if they don't know their place in society and in the world, they can't relate to anything else; **#6** We want an end to the robbery by the white racist businessmen of Black people in their community; **#7** We want an immediate end to police brutality and murder of Black people; **#8** We want all Black men (sic) held in city, county, state and federal jails to be released because they have not had a fair trial because they've been tried by all-white juries, and that's just like being tried in Nazi Germany, being a Jew; **#9** We want Black people when brought to trial to be tried by members of their peer group, and a peer being one who comes from the same economic, social, religious, historical and racial background; **#10** We want land, we want bread, we want housing, we want clothing, we want education, we want justice and we want peace.

Press coverage of Newton's murder has been predictably atrocious. The Associated Press, the main source for articles about the murder, shamelessly took the opportunity to be vindictive about the Panthers and hysterical about "Black people with guns". There are two particularly inac-

curate items, in fact, dirty lies on the part of the press, which need to be refuted here.

The Toronto Star (through the AP article) maintains that the COINTELPRO (FBI counterintelligence program - domestic) "also helped to shatter the Panthers", but that "Panther rhetoric, and the fear it caused, also smothered the organization." They also allege that funds were mismanaged and that the lack of an independent economic base, not COINTELPRO, was the main cause of the BPPs folding in the late 70s.

The extent to which the COINTELPRO was wielded against the BPP has been proven conclusively in reports released under the Freedom of Information Act. COINTELPRO was aimed at the destruction of the BPP and other "Black extremist hate groups". Infiltration, surveillance, deliberate malicious misinformation (both public and internally through the use of informers and provocateurs: also known as "snitch-jacketing"), provocation, misdirection of funds, false imprisonment, kangaroo courts, fire-bombings and out and out assassination have been some of the methods used by the FBI against the BPP. One could confidently say that the COINTELPRO was in fact at the root of the seemingly unrelated problems within the Party.

One wonders if the information wasn't fed to the AP directly through the FBI. "In 1969 Black Panthers Mark Clark and Fred Hampton were killed in a pre-dawn police raid at their Chicago headquarters. Police had ostensibly been searching for weapons." These "facts" were proven false in a courtroom years ago. The police were not searching for weapons at the BP

CHARITY STINKS

We Want to Control Our Own Lives

In his Globe and Mail column (24-8-89 pA8), Valpy reports that public and private sectors, i.e. the taxpayers and the corporations, have turned over \$9 million to something called the Canadian Centre for Philanthropy, which is launching a five-year public awareness project called Imagine to encour-

age folks to give more money to charity. It seems they're upset by a recent survey in which only one person in 13 was shown to be considering giving some disposable income to charity, and by statistics showing Canadians to be among the least likely to do so. In our consumer society, charity is seen as an attitude to be consumed, and expenditure of public funds as the best means of encouraging its consumption.

The chairman of Imagine, who is also chairman of the Ontario Stadium Corporation which runs Skydome, one-ups President Bush in predicting that the nineties will be not only more compassionate, but also more loving and "perhaps even more spiritual." Surely it's bad enough that the taxpayers are forced to finance toys for

the wealthy such as Skydome, without also having to pay its leaders to issue this sort of tommyrot to the public. Like the money spent on Skydome and earmarked for other yuppie playgrounds in the nineties, which has sparked formation of the Bread Not Circuses coalition in Toronto, the money spent on a Philanthropy Centre would be better spent on philanthropy itself, such as providing homes for the homeless.

Better yet, it might not be spent at all. Basically, the whole concept of charity stinks. Philanthropy is even worse, since it usually takes the form of some industrialist using some of the money he has sucked from the workers and the environment to build a monument to himself. Even if some of the money earmarked for charity escapes the administrative costs of the 57,000 registered organizations in Canada that distribute it and actually reaches the poor, it takes the form of a begrudged dole which the recipient takes as a substitute for the power to control his or her own life, and encourages compliance with a social system that denies people that control.

The people must take control of their own means of production, building a self-managed society block by block and workers' co-op by workers' co-op. This can only be done within a Small is Beautiful social ethic. How to make it happen is the sort of question anarchists should be discussing among themselves.

Finally, there should be a moratorium of at least twenty years on the use of the word "Imagine" as the title of any new business or publishing venture. It's been grossly overworked since the days of John Lennon, and it's up to enterprises to show imagination in the way they operate rather than in their title.

headquarters. They went to Hampton's apartment to assassinate he and Clark. Hampton was mysteriously heavily drugged the night of the raid, and didn't even awake from his stupor when the police came crashing in. The police were even found to possess floor plans which had the two men's sleeping quarters mapped out with the words 'Hampton sleeps here' - provided by an informer.

The dubious press/police connection of the drug problem to Newton's murder is ironic indeed. The War on Drugs is what whites use to justify massive control of and harassment against North American Black communities. In this case, the irony is that drug dealers were often dealt with very harshly by the Black Liberation movements of the 60s and 70s. Sometimes dealers would be forcibly evicted, etc. from Black communities. This was done because it was understood that

herion was pushed into the Black communities as yet another counter-insurgency technique.

Repeated directives from Edgar J Hoover in May and June of 1969 demanded that COINTELPRO personnel be instructed to "*destroy what the BPP stands for*" and "*eradicate its 'serve the people programs'*" especially the successful inner-city Free Breakfast for Children program, the Liberation School, the Community Political Education Classes, and the free People's (medical) Clinic. Armed community self-defense was one of the more dramatic, but *only one* of the Black Panthers many activities. The FBI and the press would prefer we forget this. We will never forget the productive work of activists like Huey P. Newton. The spirit in which he fought lives on in the continuation of the Black liberation movement today.

Excerpted below is the Treaty Alliance of North American Aboriginal Nations, the solidarity agreement of these indigenous peoples. Fashioned after the text of the NATO Agreement as a foil for white reactionaries, as well as a statement of political "seriousness", the treaty has been signed by a growing number of Native Nations within Canada since July, 1989.

The Treaty is considered by many to have come at a crucial juncture in the Native struggle. At this point, several Native Nations have in their various ways declared sovereignty - one of the most public and dramatic being the October 1988 Lubicon secession. Many are pursuing outstanding land claims and are forced to physically defend their territories from corporate and police invasion. Still others must fight off the corporate stealth attack on the health and well-being of their people of environmental devastation for white profit.

The Treaty Alliance serves to provide the tactical support these various groups will need in the ever escalating war against them. It provides a planning mechanism: a "council" is created, which in turn creates a "defense committee", whose job it will be to plan and recommend specific measures to give force and effect to the general mutual support. This constitutes advance planning rather than working out important details of support when a crisis is already here; planning rather than just reacting. The Defense Committee will undoubtedly consider areas such as communications, logistics, technical advice and assistance, media relations and financial requirements.

A REGULAR FEATURE ON ANARCHY IN ACTION

Mutual Aid



Native people prove again and again that FBI, CIA, RCMP and CSIS campaigns of disruption and disinformation will not stop them. Armed seizures against them have not stopped them. Imprisonment and assassination of their people have not deterred them. At a time when unity among Native people and their supporters is particularly threatening to the state, a commitment to stand together, a renewal in collective determination not to give in to the phenomenal pressure mounted by a powerful and amoral corporate state, is not only justified but necessary.

"WHEREAS the sovereign territories of North American Aboriginal Nations have been invaded, occupied, exploited and despoiled by foreign powers from outside North America;

AND WHEREAS this invasion and occupation of the sovereign territories of North American Aboriginal Nations has been accomplished through deceit, force of arms and/or the threat of force of arms;

AND WHEREAS the consequences of this invasion and occupation of the

sovereign territories of North American Aboriginal Nations include the extinction through deliberate genocide of many such North American Aboriginal Nations, the ever escalating exploitation of the natural resources upon which remaining North American Aboriginal Nations depend on for their survival, and environmental effects so severe as to literally threaten the survival of all people everywhere on earth;

NOW THEREFORE, The Parties to this Treaty hereby reaffirm their desire to live in peace with all peoples and governments; declare their determination to protect and preserve their peoples, lands, resources, heritage and culture; and agree to join their efforts at self-help and self defense through mutual aid and assistance as follows:

Article 1. The Parties will consult whenever, in the opinion of any of them, the territorial integrity, political independence, security or other fundamental rights of any of the parties is threatened.

Article 2. The Parties agree that a threat against one of them shall be considered a threat against them all; and consequently agree, if such a threat occurs, each of them, in exercise of the internationally recognized right of individual or collective self-defense, will assist the Party or Parties so threatened by taking forthwith, individually and/or in concert with the other Party or Parties, such action as it deems necessary to restore and maintain the security of the involved Party or Parties."

Note: With all its hooting and hollering about "armed injuns", the mainstream press has not deigned to print the actual contents of the agreement, preferring hysteria to substance. But then, perhaps its legitimate nature scared them off.