

*We see the world
through Black eyes*

Portland needs HRC

The City Council is considering the fate of the Metropolitan Human Resource Commission -- should it be retained or should it cease to exist?

It should be clear to anyone that a Human Resource Commission is needed in Portland. In just the past year we have had the shooting of Rickie Johnson, disturbances at Roosevelt High School, continuing police harassment, the crisis in downtown housing. Discrimination against minorities is still strong in Portland.

There are many subjects of concern that could well be addressed by the Commission -- discrimination in education, the lack of low-income housing, police procedures and practices, employment discrimination, to name a few.

Much needs to be done in research and in educating the public on human values.

Any of these problems and many more -- including discrimination against sexual minorities, and including gun control and the shotgun question -- are legitimately the concern of the HRC. These problems were brought to the Commission by citizens. We wonder how many city Commissioners have sought and used the services of the HRC.

If the City Council believes the Commission has been misdirected or that has selected the wrong priorities, it should offer guidelines. We would suspect, however, that the five City Commissioners would have a hard time agreeing on what the priorities and guidelines should be.

Rather than criticize the HRC for the efforts it has made, the City Council should begin by establishing it as a permanent body rather than one that exists only according to the whims of the City Council. Then the HRC could turn its attention to the problem at hand.

**THE BLACK PRESS —
OUR FREEDOM DEPENDS ON IT!**

CR Movement lives

The modern day Civil Rights Movement that began twenty years ago when a Black woman refused to give up her seat in a Montgomery, Alabama bus is still a movement today which appeals to the United States to reject its selfishness, greed, hate and violence.

On December 1st, 1955, Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a city bus to a white man, touching off the boycott that lasted 381 days and brought Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to national leadership.

Much progress has been made since the bloody turmoil of the early years. More than a million and a half Blacks have registered to vote in the South, and more than 1,700 Black elected officials are holding office.

Many of the Black elected officials see their roles as an extension of the Civil Rights Movement and are attempting to inject a sense of ethics and morality into the body politic. They attempt to redirect the priorities and resources of the nation -- not to oppress but to uplift; not to divide, but to bring together; not to enslave, but to set free.

Although progress has been made, the problems are as great today as they were twenty years ago -- with abuses of governmental power, corruption and secrecy in government, violence and crime in the streets, poverty, racism and drug abuse.

In the South today, the seeds of hope and change coexist with discontent and frustration; and in the North violence is increasing.

We often think it is hopeless. How can a small group of concerned people, especially people without power and resources, influence the greatest nation in the world. Little did Rosa Parks know that her act of resistance would be an inspiration to the oppressed around the world.

The oppression we now face is not merely a by product of the racist mentality, it is a conspiracy of the highest echelons of government. Change will require new leadership, the involvement of new generations in the struggle, financial and moral support, and aggressive and imaginative ideals, goals and programs.

Total amnesty essential

by Vernon Jordan

The Presidential Clemency Board, created a year ago to help Vietnam war resisters clear their records, is no longer in existence.

My experience as a member of that Board had a great influence on my thinking about how best to heal the scars left by the war in Vietnam.

When I was appointed to the Board, I agreed with its basic mission -- to sift the records of war resisters, deserters and others and recommend alternate civilian service to earn Presidential clemency.

It didn't take too many weeks of service for me to see that there was a lot more to it. The conventional image of the spoiled rich kid who ran away to Canada to beat the draft just didn't hold true for most cases.

The great majority of cases before the Board involved young people who were denied their rights as conscientious objectors, who deserted for compelling personal reasons unrecognized by their superior officers, or who simply should never have been drafted to begin with.

The typical case involved someone who was poor, not rich; who was victimized by arbitrary and unfair rulings by his officer, or who could not articulate the views that got other, better educated young men, deferments.

Most were individuals who were helplessly caught up in the snares of a giant bureaucracy and, rightly or

wrongly, chose to escape their situation in ways that the law defined as illegal. Now a few cases involved men who had served at the front and only after returning to the United States or Europe, deserted for personal reasons.

And we only have a fraction of the cases still on the books. Many men just didn't believe their resistance to an immoral war was wrong, and refused to apply for clemency. Others resented having to do alternate service, feeling they'd already paid their dues by being forced underground for such a long time.

So while the Board is no longer in existence, amnesty is still a hot issue; the long awaited national reconciliation won't take place until it is dealt with. And hovering in the background of the discussions about clemency is the universal realization that the War was wrong.

It's time to finally end the war by declaring complete, immediate, universal and unconditional amnesty. In my year on the Board I learned that the case-by-case treatment just won't work. Let's wipe the slate clean and end the war still being waged against the draft resisters and offenders.

While most of the public's attention has been focused on 50,000 or so war resisters, total amnesty should include the more than 200,000 Vietnam era veterans who hold less than honorable discharges, which amount to lifetime

penalties keeping them from government and many private sector jobs, and from rights and benefits enjoyed by the veterans.

Bad discharges carry penalties absurdly inappropriate to the real or imagined offenses, often minor, that have sometimes been imposed for racially inspired reasons. They continue to dodge the lives of men who did serve and who risked their lives only to be busted out of the service for a host of reasons that would earn no penalty at all in a civilian setting.

The system is rigged against these men from the start. The discharge process is shot through with abuses of servicemen's rights and many bad discharges are given unfairly. These abuses are compounded when veterans try to appeal their bad discharges and again, when they try to apply for Veterans Administration benefits where the VA has authority to assess their discharge.

In both the clemency cases and the less than honorable discharge cases, individuals have been caught up in a heartless system that penalizes them unfairly. The vast majority of both groups have paid dearly for either not complying with the nation's error of going into Vietnam or for running afoul of irrational military regulations and procedures.

We should have a policy of total amnesty for both groups, and a reformed system of granting and rating discharges.

Human Relations Commission

(Continued from p. 1 col. 4)

instructed the staff to begin long range approaches to the serious inter-group problem in North Portland.

Ms. Schwab said she would prefer that the HRC staff be retained and that the Commission be abolished. She said she would be willing to fund the Commission for another six months to see if it could reorient itself.

James Brooks, Executive Director of the Urban League of Portland, said the Commission is needed and that the attitude of the Council points out that need. He said that the NAACP, the Urban League, and the Albina Ministerial Alliance had requested a meeting with Commissioner McCready, but did not

even receive the courtesy of a reply. Brooks asked that the HRC have permanent funding.

Lloyd Rosenfeldt, representing the National Conference of Christians and Jews; Richard Braunstein, a former chairman of HRC; Philip Mayer, ACLU; Nate Proby, United Minority Workers; Sue Juba, League of Women Voters; James Loving, Chairman, Model Cities Board; Al Green, Hildress Benson; and Naomi Riding, also spoke to the need for a human relations agency in Portland. Braunstein said that although there are many professional human relations personnel in Portland, the HRC is the only commission dealing with inter-group problems. Ms. Juba suggested that many

of the problems faced by minorities -- housing, education, employment -- are areas of concern to all citizens and on whether the realm of the HRC. Mayer suggested that if the Council were satisfied with the staff of commission members, they could be replaced.

Commissioners Connie McCready and Schwab charged that the Commission and staff had spent the last six months lobbying for support rather than proving that they could function properly. Commissioner Jordan, who is the liaison to the Commissioners, said lobbying was legitimate since the most crucial thing at the time was the survival of the Commission.

The matter was continued to December 17th.

What is the SLA all about?

(Continued from p. 1 col. 3)

The question was put to this writer: what's it all for? why all the exposes -- do you sometimes get the feeling that you really don't want to know about the FBI and the CIA "dirty tricks"? A primary reason for the necessity of full exposure of governmental involvement in terror and assassination is simply the necessity of preventing future terror and assassination. Critics of the Warren Commission and FBI investigations are universal in saying that such agencies have covered up rather than uncovered details surrounding assassination and terror.

For a preliminary look at the SLA we have relied on four sources: the Citizen's Research and Investigation Committee (CRIC); *Investigating the FBI* (Bantam, '74); the *Realist* (Mae Brussel issues) and International Press Service (IPS) which published "A Brief on CIA Terrorism in the U.S.A." The primary agreement among the investigative groups is that the drug oriented climate is the essential recruiting ground for the SLA and other 'government created' terrorist operations. Also essential is a controlled environment, in which behavior modifications, drugs -- clinical brainwashing -- can take place. Prisons and a multitude of mental institutions provide these. In the case of the SLA, it was created at Vacaville Prison (California) -- that much was revealed by the *New York Times* (May 28th, 1974). A third ingredient for government created terrorist stew is the agent-ridden 'left' swamp, provided by the Venceremos, Revolutionary Union and other Maoist groupings. The most essential ingredient is the government agents.

At Vacaville Donald DeFreeze ("Cinque") was "programmed" with a Black Nationalist identity, through the Black Cultural Association (BCA) at the prison. The Maximum Psychiatric Diagnostic Unit at Vacaville was created and funded

by the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA); the head of the BCA was CIA agent Colston Westbrook, trained in psychological warfare techniques. Westbrook's CIA involvement dates at least to 1962 where Westbrook was an advisor for the South Korean CIA. Westbrook also worked in the CIA assassination organization Phoenix Program in Vietnam, which was run by the current CIA head William Colby. Several other CIA or FBI agents were responsible for the creation of the SLA -- we haven't the space to detail them all, but the cited sources are worth the skeptic's time. Joseph Remiro, Robyn Steiner, Chris Thompson, Thero Wheeler, William Harris, Wes Davis, Dr. Fredrick Hacker -- all of these individuals responsible at the lower governmental level for the creation of the SLA have extensive CIA or FBI-informer backgrounds, yet none have been brought to trial or before a Grand Jury.

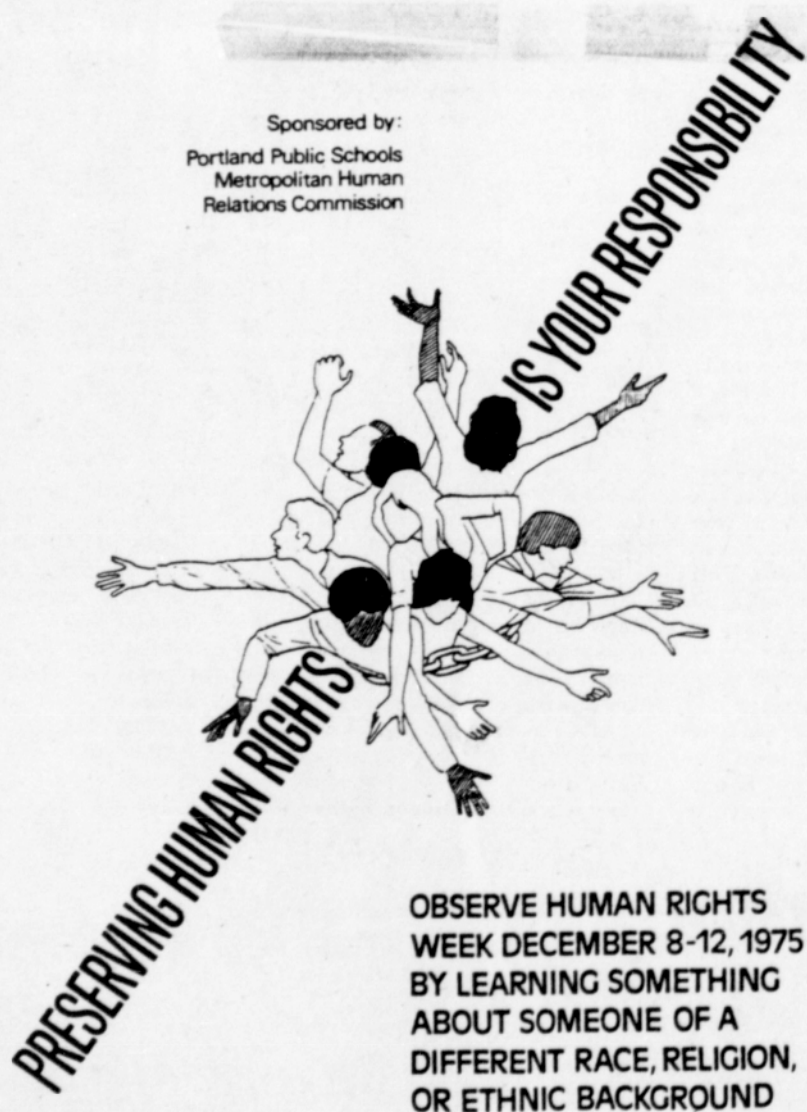
According to all accounts, Donald DeFreeze was a police agent (like Louis Tackwood and Ron Karenga) who became 'unreliable' to the Los Angeles Police Department -- and was sent to Vacaville to be 'recreated' through the use of clinical brainwash procedures -- it was a replication of such use of drugs and 'therapy' used by the SLA on Patty Hearst.

The agency responsible for apprehending and investigating the SLA was the FBI, under agent Charles Bates. Bates was the man in charge of the FBI's Watergate investigation, and also the agent responsible in Chicago for the FBI inquiry of the slaying of the Black Panthers Mark Clark and Fred Hampton. The FBI had so infiltrated the Black Panthers that Hampton's bodyguard was FBI agent William O'Neill!

Why was the SLA created? The investigative groups cited concur in their view that terrorism is created

primarily to define the limits of political activity; to frighten workers from getting 'mixed up' in political organizing. The SLA is only the extreme form of the government counter-gang. The second -- and related -- reason for SLA (and the Black Liberation Army -- created at the methadone maintenance center called Lincoln Detox in New York City) is the justification it provides for 'gestapo-like' SWAT organizations, and the political climate necessary for the passage of legislation such as Senate Bill I which resurrects the McCarran and Smith Acts.

Why was the SLA destroyed? Donald Freed, an investigative writer and head of the cited CRIC, released to the press in Los Angeles one day before the SLA 'cremation' a 400 page press release detailing the extensive CIA etc. involvement in the SLA. It is universally agreed among investigative groups devoting serious attention to the SLA that the government agencies right up to the National Security Council would have been exposed if the SLA were not eliminated. Angela Atwood and Emily Harris, SLA members -- Atwood was killed in Los Angeles May 17th, 1974 -- had been narcotics agents, trained in the 'CIA think tank' -- the College of Foreign Affairs, Bloomington, Indiana. Other SLA members (excepting DeFreeze) killed were dupes with conservative or drug culture backgrounds, and no police pedigree, though all were tied to the BCA at Vacaville. Agent Emily Harris was apprehended along with Patty Hearst in San Francisco. Last week at a press conference, Miss Hearst's chief defense lawyer F. Lee Bailey said he expects to spend "up to \$100,000 to defend" his client, saying "she will not spend one day in jail after her trial." Groups such as the Citizens Commission on Human Rights fear that she may spend the rest of her life a vegetable.



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