

Huey Newton trial June 10

# OAKLAND TO FACE MASSIVE PROTEST



## PEACE & FREEDOM NEWS

SPECIAL ISSUE

MAY 6, 1968 BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

## Panthers sue city; charge harassment

Attorney Charles Garry filed a federal civil suit on May 2 in San Francisco against the City of Oakland to stop systematic attempts to harass, intimidate and destroy the Black Panther Party.

The suit was filed in the names of Huey Newton, Bobby Seale, Eldridge Cleaver and fourteen other members of the Black Panther Party, against Mayor John Reading, Police Chief Charles Gain, Police Officer Herbert Heanes, and District Attorney J. Frank Coakley. The intent of the suit is to place a federal injunction against the defendants to stop harassment directed against members of the Black Panther Party.

The brief lists the numerous incidents of harassment and illegal entry and search of various members of the Party, the murder of Bobby Hutton and the arrests of seven other Panthers on April 6, and the illegal jailing of four

the impossibility of conducting a fair trial for Newton because of the method of selection of grand juries in California. A representative cross-section of the black community (wage earners and the poor) is never empaneled on trial juries, because of restrictive tests.

Notarized statements from several of the Panthers arrested on the night of April 6 accompany the federal suit, and clearly show the threats, harassment and intimidation used by members of the Oakland Police Department against the Panthers.

One of many examples which will be presented to the court is the use of "alley court" attempts by Oakland police to extract phony confessions from Black Panthers arrested in harassment incidents. The threat of force — even death — is commonly employed by the police against Panthers whom they arrest. (It is

The Black Panther Party is planning a massive ten-day mobilization called the International Days of Black Revolutionary Protest centered around the beginning of Huey P. Newton's trial June 10. Preliminary plans include bringing out such noted black militant leaders and spokesmen as Stokely Carmichael, James Forman, and H. Rap Brown. Well-known white actors, including Marlon Brando, will also take part in the activities. In addition, many United Nations Ambassadors from the third world will be invited to take part in a call for United Nations observers to be stationed in the ghettos this summer to observe police brutality and harassment of black people. Events will include workshops,

seminars, teach-ins, and rallies.

The ten days of protest will culminate in a marathon mobilization for massive marches converging on the Alameda County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. June 10 to demand that Huey Newton receive a public trial by a jury of his peers, and that he and all other black political prisoners be set free.

The mobilization will focus national and international attention on the black liberation movement in this country and specifically on the intensifying struggle in Oakland between black people and an oppressive foe, the Oakland police force.

Plans for specific events are being made now, and will be made public late this month.

## Report Cites Panthers, PFM

(SEE PAGE FOUR FOR EXCERPTS FROM REPORT)

The Berkeley city government, in a confidential report to the U.S. government, has appealed for federal "Model City" funds for the predominantly black neighborhoods of South Berkeley.

Incomplete copies of the report were obtained for P&F News early this month. The report cites the growing strength in this area of the Black Panther Party and the Peace and Freedom Movement, as a principal factor in asking priority consideration for Berkeley's Model City application.

The report proposed that most of South Berkeley, with a large black population, be declared a "Model Neighborhood" so that federal money can be poured in to counteract the growth of

such movements as the Black Panthers and PFM. Yet the report conceded that "the Peace and Freedom Party and the Black Panthers are striking demonstrations that the three-fold litany of 'jobs, housing and education,' customarily offered as potential salvation for the ghetto, will not be enough in South Berkeley."

But all the report proposes is more money to pay for more of the same "three-fold litany" under a new name: Model Neighborhood.

The irrelevance of most of the proposed programs is indicated by the almost interminable analysis which precedes the fund appeal.

Example: On poverty and the conditions it breeds, the report begins by stating:

"In all discussions with Model Neighborhood (i.e., the South Berkeley ghetto, dig?) residents, it became evident that an overriding problem was that of income . . ."

So, the city of Berkeley has finally

### SPECIAL ISSUE

This special issue of Peace and Freedom