

PROBE... OF BLACK REVOLUTION

Prepared by THE PROBE Magazine's Communications Workshop



A Special Guide For Brothers And Sisters
Truly Interested In Freeing Their People

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THROUGH THE BASEMENTS, CLOSETS AND BOOKCASES OF THE 60'S, THE BP X-PRESS PRESENTS TO YOU PAMPHLETS AND EXCERPTS FROM BOOKS & PERIODICALS OF A REVOLUTIONISTIC ORIENTATION.

WHY THIS INFORMATION? BECAUSE THERE IS A PITIFUL ABSENCE OF THE KINDS OF CONCEPTS, STRATEGIES, TACTICS, SUMMARIES AND EXPERIENCES THAT MOTIVATED THOSE OF US WHO WERE "YOUNG" (i.e., "ready for action") BACK "IN THE DAYS."

OUR YOUNG BROTHERS & SISTERS TODAY, WHO ARE MOVING TOWARDS (I REPEAT: MOVING TOWARDS...) A TRUE INTEREST IN LIBERATION & REVOLUTION, NEED TO KNOW. AND WE WHO BEEN THROUGH IT NEED TO SHARE WITH THEM. WHATEVER IT IS THEY NEED TO KNOW THAT CAN HELP TO MOVE BEYOND OUR ERRORS.

THIS NEED TO KNOW PREPARES THE WAY FOR THE KIND OF CREATIVE THINKING NECESSARY TO BREAK-THROUGH TO NEW GROUND. IT IS THE HOPE OF BP X-PRESS THAT THESE REPRINTS WILL HELP RAISE ONE'S AWARENESS, PROVOKE NEW THINKING, MOTIVATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE KINDS OF PRACTICES OR ACTIONS WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO LIBERATE US FROM THOSE BEHAVIORS, CONCEPTS AND PRACTICES WHICH HAVE PROVEN INEFFECTIVE IN BUILDING ORGANIZATION AND UNITY FOR CHANGE.

LASTLY, BE EVER MINDFUL OF LANGUAGE USED, AND THE LIFE AFTER THE 60'S MOVEMENT OF CERTAIN AUTHORS BP X-PRESS MAY REPRINT, BUT FOCUS PRIMARILY ON THE CONTENT OF THE REPRINT AND WHAT CAN BE LEARNED FROM IT. LANGUAGE & AUTHORS MAY CHANGE UP OR LATER BETRAY THEIR ORIGINAL CAUSE, BUT IF THE CONTENT HAS VALUE, USE IT! WITH THAT THESE REPRINTS ARE OFFERED.

WE MUST LEARN FROM THE
CRADLE TO THE GRAVE!

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!!

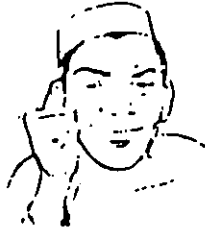
[INTRODUCTION]

Black people in the United States are fast
developing their own way to
bring peace to a world torn by racism

BLACK REVOLUTION

The Will Of The 'New'

African American Community



The Brothers in Harlem have been through a thing, my man. And even though we know we have a long way to go in order to really liberate our people from racist oppression, we know that the main step all Black people must take toward real freedom is to acquire knowledge of self. This is because with self knowledge a man can begin to understand the whole universe, the good and the bad, and deal with it correctly.

But that's only the first step, see? Because once you gain knowledge of self, and learn to dig yourself and your woman, you know, like really dig yourself, man you don't want anybody stepping over you or on you, and this is where the Brothers in Harlem and more and more Brothers throughout the world are at, dig?

So listen. Let's say that both you and me have dug that our people have come from the richest and most beautiful continent on Earth. And also, our people are the most beautiful — you know — with drums and rituals and soul. And on top of that, we know that the Black man is original man in the first place. And then we dig that in spite of the fact that we have never made war on any other people and have never tried to possess anything that wasn't ours, this white man has made us slaves, starved us, beaten us, taken our women, made us live like pigs and tried to destroy our culture. Throughout the history of the West, right down to today, the Black man has been exploited by the white man.

The really weird thing about it all is that throughout all of this all the Black men really wanted was some peace. So we've tried in many ways to end it all. We've tried to "improve ourselves" (dig that), we've prayed, we've picketed, we've rioted, and still this white man has kept on exploiting us and Uncle Tom negroes keep selling us out.

So it's pretty obvious that when you try and try to be yourself (which is human and peace-loving, and even, sometimes, violent), this man keeps causing us to suffer as no animal should be made to suffer. It is obvious now, that something is definitely systemized in such a way as to make it very difficult for Black people to live in peace. And this fact, of course, helps us to more clearly define our enemy and its nature. We have known for some time that there is a system of exploitation that is causing innocent Black men and women and children to live in the most degrading conditions possible and to exist this way with no hope of relief. It is the same system that existed when our ancestors were first brought here as slaves. And now we know for sure, that if any good exists in the world of the future, Black people must destroy the vicious system of greed and exploitation that we have been victims of.

Now dig this: There is but one way to end this suffering and that is by BLACK REVOLUTION. OUR REVOLUTION IS A UNITY OF THE BLACK MAN WHEREVER HE MAY BE. All Black people in the world are members of a caste. In Africa, where all Black people here in America came from, Black people suffer as we do. WHEN WE UNITE WE CAN END OUR SUFFERING. DON'T RIOT, JOIN THE REVOLUTION!

HERE IS A PAMPHLET FOUND IN ONE OF MY MANY SEARCHES THROUGH THE USED BOOK STORES IN NEW YORK CITY WHERE YOU OCCASSIONALLY STUMBLE UPON AN OLD GEM. THIS PARTICULAR ONE, "RIOT OR BLACK REVOLUTION," IS UNIQUE FOR ITS SIMPLE MANNER IN DEALING WITH THE CONCEPT OF REVOLUTION.

PRINTED IN THE LATE 60'S, IT CLEARLY LOOKS AT THE FUTILITY OF RIOTING AS A WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM OR REMOVE THE OBSTACLES IN THE WAY TO OUR FREEDOM. IT ALSO CLEARLY PRESENTS A CHALLENGE: THAT TO ACHIEVE OUR FREEDOM WE MUST CHOOSE REVOLUTION; AND THAT IN ORDER TO PLOT AND CARRY OUT A SUCCESSFUL REVOLUTION WE HAVE TO, EACH, PREPARE OURSELVES THOROUGHLY FOR IT.

IT IS TRULY A GUIDE FOR THOSE OF US INTERESTED IN BEING, OR BECOMING THROUGH INTENSE INNER WORK, ROLE MODELS IN FREEDOM-FIGHTING LIFESTYLES, IN THE 90'S.

What follows:

- * What is the difference between a riot and a revolution?
- * How do you become a Black Revolutionary?
- * (What) A revolutionary must be...
- * Who's a negro?
- * Who needs a Revolution?
- * Teach, BRother, Teach!

L E T

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A BLACK REVOLUTIONARY IS GREAT

HOW DO YOU BECOME A BLACK REVOLUTIONARY?

A Black Revolutionary is a Black man or woman who loves his people and therefore dedicates his life to their liberation from their oppression and from their own enslaved minds.

A Black Revolutionary is a Black Brother or Sister who takes his time to study both his people and his enemy so that he can clearly see and understand what must be done in order to gain real freedom for his people.

A Black Revolutionary then studies past revolutions, including the American Revolution, and anything else of a political nature that can help him to understand how a successful Revolution can be carried out. He then must understand why the Black Revolution is different than any other and how the Black man's fight for the right to his own soul must be fought in a different way than any Revolution in past history.

A Black Revolutionary must decide his or her role, that is skill or profession, in the Revolution and master it so that he or she can make a perfect contribution to our righteous act, and thereby assure success and a better world.

The process of becoming a Revolutionary, Brothers and Sisters, is no fun. The first duty of a Revolutionary is to Revolutionize himself.

Those of us who are enlightened, who clearly see that we can win our struggle against oppression if we study hard, discipline ourselves and struggle correctly, have a great burden to bear. We must perfect ourselves and make ourselves the examples for our people to follow. In order to be a Revolutionary, all we have to do is decide this. We need not even know a single other Black Revolutionary — so those of us who have made this decision can now begin.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A RIOT AND A REVOLUTION?

From the Summer of 1964 on, Black youth across the country have gotten together in secret little bands and, on some spontaneous signal, have thrown little bottles filled with stolen gasoline up beside brick walls or their own houses. Then they usually make it around the corner and break into stores belonging to little fagotty crackers from downtown, and steal beer, or empty cash registers or maybe color T.V. sets so they can sit back and watch whitey's self-glorifying programs and get more depressed.

Well, O.K., I guess we had to start somewhere, but isn't it about time we dug that a riot just isn't a Revolution? And we'd better also remember that that slick white man ain't gonna tell you that either . . . But, dig what he is gonna do. He's gonna keep on hollering like you really hurt him and keep on sending troops in 'cause he's got an excuse to gun YOU down. And sure, he keeps on letting his pawn take



the punishment for him, but you never even see the MAN. And to tell you the truth, the pawn doesn't even care because we all know that he gets paid off after the thing is over anyway.

It's about time we realized that a riot is not a Revolution. A riot doesn't

bring change. A Revolution IS change!

What we've got to understand is that the only way that a riot is like a regular war is that white people make money off of both of them. (Did you ever dig the lumber man who boards up all the stores for protection?) So,

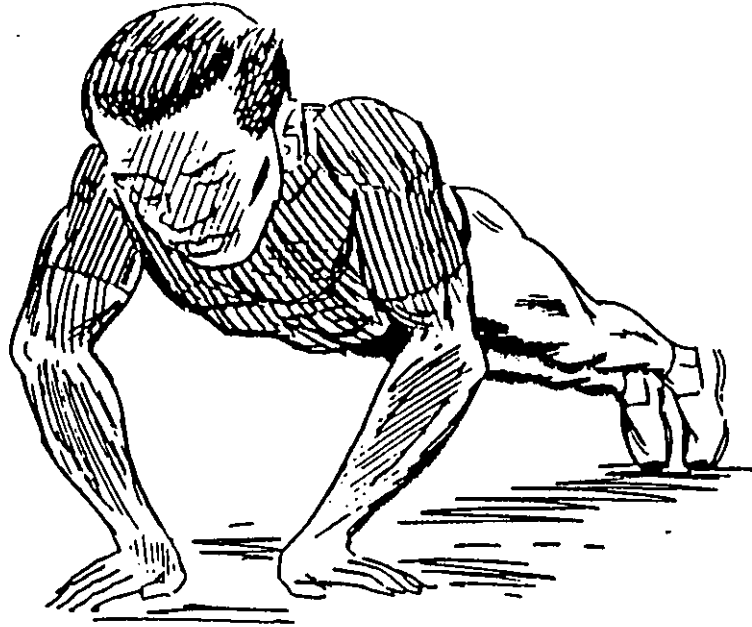
damn baby, we really don't want to start feeding him, too; so let's cool it a minute and try to dig what we're doing.

First of all, if you are going to pull off a REVOLUTION (and we can do it) you have got to be correct. That is, we have to be together in our thinking. We have got to know who and what our enemy is, who and what we are, what we are trying to get off of us, what we are trying to build, and how we can best assume roles that will enable us to make our best contribution to our people's cause. That's right, my man. Revolution is a profession. It is planned right down to the "T." A riot is spontaneous, uncontrolled by anyone (except the white man who can set one off when he wants to), and on top of that, a riot has no objective! So if you can dig where our struggle has got to go — and are ready to do what we have to do to go there — read on ►

A Black Revolutionary Must Be:

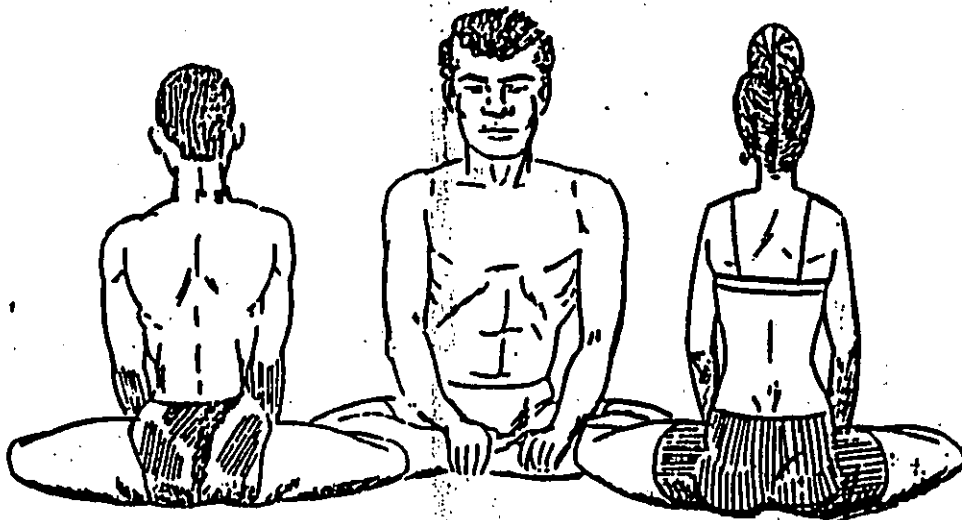


1 **Mentally in tune:** We must study the politics of the system that enslaves us so that we can better understand how to free ourselves. We must study about ourselves and our past so that we can better understand who we are. We must perfect our skills so that we can offer a better contribution to our peoples' struggle for freedom and peace.



2 **Physically in tune:** Our minds can function at their best, only if we are physically healthy. When our bodies are tired or out of shape, so are our minds. Black Revolution requires long hours of hard work; teaching, studying, building, planning, etc. Our struggle might be long and tedious. The physical strength to persevere and accept difficult tasks will be necessary for all of us.

3 **Spiritually in tune:** An important difference between the Black Revolution and any other revolution is that the Black Revolution is based on an understanding that the Black people's destiny is to place things back in tune with nature. Even though people in Harlem have many different spiritual beliefs most of us do have some basis for understanding the universe. This sort of spiritual base helps Revolutionaries to understand what they must do and why.





**WHO
WILL SAVE
AMERICA?**