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# THE NEW



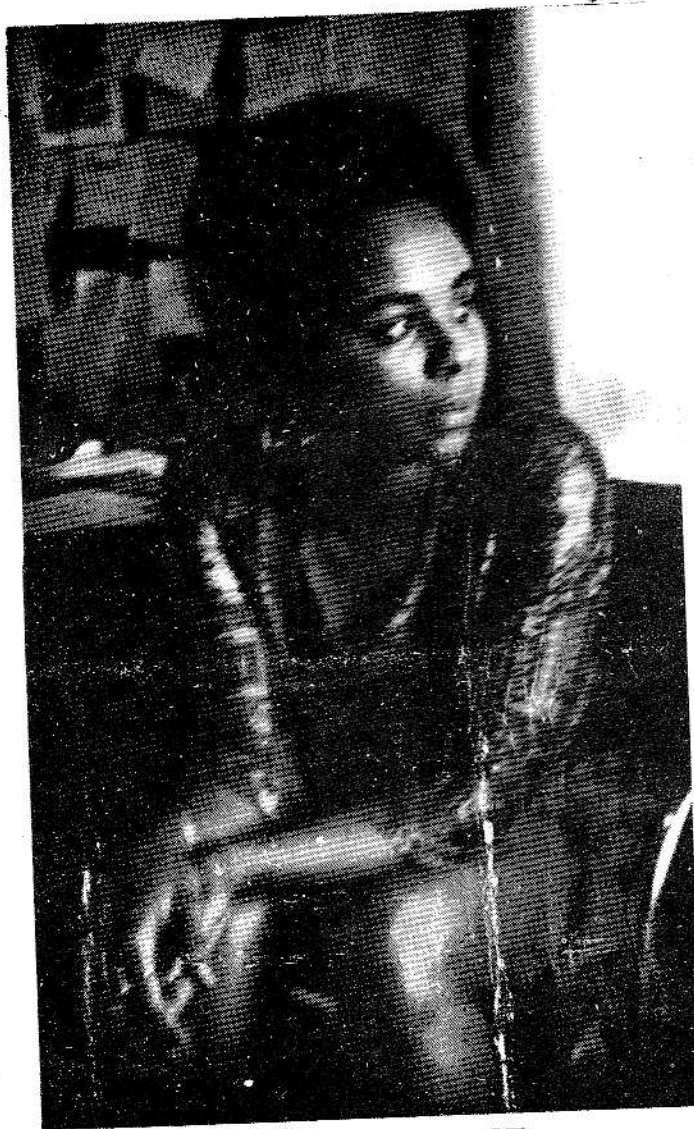
Geronimo in Harlem

# URBAN GUERRILLA

by ELMER GERONIMO PRATT

Dedicated to the memory of Sandra  
Holmes Pratt wife of Elmer Geronimo Pratt,  
assassinated on November 4, 1971. Sandra  
Holmes Pratt was the 'New Urban Guerilla'.

Black Panther Party



**SAUNDRA PRATT**

## INTRODUCTION

The Black Panther Party was the only link in the United States to the New World Liberation Front. "Was" because at one time its credentials were almost entirely based upon action, and it dealt in the highest level of resolving Black people's oppression here in Babylon: Armed Struggle.

From the military actions in Oakland, California of 1966 to the formidable battle the Los Angeles "18" waged against the fascist (SWAT) counter-insurgency forces in December of 1969 and the many chronicle and unchronicled battles that have taken place in between, it became crystal clear that the Black Panther Party was truly the vanguard organization in the United States.

Undoubtedly, the most important guerilla defensive put forth during the aforementioned period was the victory of the Los Angeles "18" over the gestapo forces of that city. The commander of that military victory was Elmer 'Geronimo' Pratt. Not too long ago, Geronimo embarked on a mission to determine the feasibility of establishing guerilla bases throughout Babylon. THE NEW URBAN GUERILLA is the nucleus of Geronimo's reconnaissance. It is not his intentions to expose the solid, subterranean apparatus existing here in the United States - an aligned conglomeration of many armed groups that base their credentials on action and compose THE BLACK LIBERATION ARMY, to which the Black Panther Party belongs.

The Black Panther Party is the only recognized link in the chain of the New World Liberation Front, which includes China, North Vietnam, the PRG, (Provisional Revolutionary Government) of South Vietnam, North Korea, the Tupamaros of Uruguay, Revolutionary movements in Brazil, Argentina, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Mexico, Palestine, the FLQ (Quebec Liberation Front) and many more who have adopted the role of the COSMOPOLITAN GUERILLA, who relate to action-the vanguard.

Because of Geronimo's underground activities, he has been number one in the target sights of the fascist Babylonian pigs and was placed in Sirhan Sirhan's cell for several days for no apparent reason.

The following message from Geronimo will dispell, once and for all, the myth that "niggers are scared of revolution" or the revisionist line put forth by the Peralta Street Gang: "Survival Pending Revolution". (As if we Black people ain't been surviving for the last 400 years or like the revolution will come in the year 2001).

We are asking all progressive people to aid us in getting Elmer "Geronimo" Pratt and all Political Prisoners back on the ground. We will accept your time, money...or guns.

**FREE GERONIMO  
THE NEW AMERICAN URBAN GUERILLA.**

Zayd-Malik Shakur

## THE NEW AMERICAN URBAN GUERRILLA



Geronimo,

The primary reasons for the tardiness of this message are threefold:

1. The incessant (unceasing) brutality, harassment and solitary confinement imposed upon me by the guards of these P.O.W. (prisoners of war) camps in which I've been held captive.

2. The lingering faith that I struggled so hard to maintain, that members of the hierarchy of the Black Panther Party would consider our report of the matter (my purge) and

3. The dilemma produced, on one side, by the anti-democratic diabolical attacks by those so easily inveigled (led-on, tricked, enticed, seduced, deceived, blinded, etc.,) members of the party; and on the other side, the ridiculous wrongful grand jury indictments conducted by the crafty, quisling (betraying one's country, or cause, to the enemy in return for political power from the conquerors), Curtis Gaines, Melvin 'Cotton' Smith and Julio Butler.

Firstly, I literally deny, denounce and spit on the vile allegations of these pigs and their 'tricks' in Oakland. The filthy lies that appeared in the Black Panther Newspaper, coupled with the accusations of my being implicated in some hideous crimes (which the forked-tongued pigs- Cotton and Julio- must have committed and one crime in particular which the pigs have tried to pin on Panthers before) has forged a most cunning design for the double edged sword of the Amerikkkan warmongers.

The double-edged sword shall not succeed in its obvious attempts to cut off the head of this our new level of struggle for liberation. It is because of the apparent success of my underground venture that I was made No. 1 in the sights of the big guns of the American Empire (FBI, CIA, etc.).

Realizing the gravity (seriousness) of the quandry (current state of hesitation, perplexity or uncertainty) and also realizing that there are matters that still weigh heavily in our favor, I feel the necessity to begin from this premise. It is my intention to offer more insight into the development of revolutionary warfare within the very heart of this world monster.

The feasibility of guerilla warfare within the confines of this empire has for too long been doubted by too many so-called revolutionaries. It is my understanding, without doubt, that we can successfully slay this beast right now, operating from our own base right here.

The main reluctance of American Guerilla Action is said by many to rest solely on caution (precautionary measures for the sake of an excuse to do nothing really effective). But there is a point where caution ends and cowardice begins. It is no secret, because of the loose talk or revolutionary rocking chair critics, or because of the cop-outs of kneegrow (negro) informants that I effectuated a most comprehensive reconnaissance of the region (particularly) below the old mason-dixon line and (generally) the most part of Amerikkka. My findings, tests and personal endeavors rule unanimously in favor of establishing guerrilla bases, both urban and rural. This is an integral and necessary part of the overall freedom movement.

In dealing with the profession of warfare, especially when confronted with prime jingoists (those who expound patriotism and favor an aggressive military policy), it is important that the general laws, which govern our struggle, are understood. The general laws are based on a highly political evaluation which dictates the forms that our struggle must take. Therefore, the high, politico-military directorates of our struggle must possess both political and military skills. Otherwise, a profound and correct evaluation of overall, as well as specific, strategies of both our comrades and our enemies cannot be possible by our directorates.

The Amerikkkan war peddlers, many years ago, ignited a wicked war against our people—a genocidal war—manipulated by the sadistic tycoons of Capitol Hill and fronted off by their puppets; the KKK, White Citizens Council, etc. This was the nascent (beginning to exist or develop) stage of FASCISM in America (note: Fascism is a government system whose leaders, having complete powers, forcibly suppress opposition and criticism and emphasize strong nationalism and racism).

Today fascism is bulging at the seams of not only this land but every country that Amerikkka sets foot on. Examples currently are SEA (Southeast Asia), Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, etc. Our comrades in these liberation struggles are "sho-nuff" dealing with it.

When we, oppressed people, in Amerikkka entered the political arena, we were "hosed" (firehose), attacked by trained killer dogs, shotgunned, tear gassed, unable to finance expert legal help in the courts, beaten-up, vamped upon by hundreds of SS troops (specially trained SWAT Squads similar to Hitler's Storm Troopers), tied, chained and gassed in courtrooms, beaten severely and many times murdered in P.O.W. camps (prisons), infiltrated by the oppressor's house nigger spies, lynched, and handed tokens (e.g., a few dollars, training programs, poverty commissions, etc.) run by the oppressor's own house nigger---who would guarantee to keep the "fool niggers and hippies" quiet and pacified. From these and many other experiences, we have learned and taught the people, the uselessness of Amerikkkan politics in serving the interests and needs of all the people. As long as there remains, in the heads of the fascists, the idea that there is no profit in serving the needs of all the people, there will be no real concessions.

As we, the Black Liberation Army, the military arm of the Black Panther Party, transcended (surpassed, exceeded, etc.) that level of politics and moved to the stage of armed urban confrontation (Huey, Eldridge, and Bobby Hutton-Oakland, 1967 to Los Angeles, 1969 shootout on Central Avenue), I observed the dastardly (cowardly, sneaky) reactions of many so-called leaders of our organization. Right before my departure to begin my underground mission, it became even more obvious. When I began to outline my plans to them, especially the mention of one Dixie Region State, they were sparked with astonishment and stood there agape (mouths wide open) and looking foolish. As I now look back on that day, I see clearly that those idiots, instead of understanding the validity (truth, need) for such moves, only looked at me in the light of a glory seeking adventurer.

The ground work for this, our new level of struggle had been meticulously laid (with extreme care and covering minute details), and understood, I thought, quite some time before my departure. My political evaluations then dictated the necessity for accurate armed actions as a means of freeing political prisoners. My evaluation reports were submitted to the Central Committee (C.C.). Because of their indifferent attitudes toward military endeavors they only acquiesced (quietly agreed).

In further evaluating the trap that the dogmatic members of the Black Panther Party fell into, in contrast to the general laws of our struggle, we first have to work from the age-old axiom ( a self-evident and truthful universally accepted principle or rule) of all warfare, put forth by the father of war, Sun Tzu, " Know your enemies and know yourself and in a hundred battles you will never be defeated."

The understanding of the enemy and his general laws pertaining to contemporary military affairs in America can be easily realized by understanding General Ramon Magsaysay, whose text on counter-guerrilla warfare, Magsaism, as I call it, has become the "war bible" of all American jingoist (for example: Eisenhower on "Irregular Warfare"; Major General Thompson on "Guerrilla"; Thayer on "Counterinsurgency"). During the struggle of the Huk guerrillas in the Phillipines against the fascist regime, when the

revolutionary warriors were nearing the apex of their success, the fascist military government in much desperation, employed an ex-guerrilla named Ramon Magsaysay, Magsaysay, being well versed and trained in the strategy and tactics of guerrilla warfare, lost no time in training the pigs to the art of guerrilla war. He expanded the technique used by the fascists on him and offered the guerrillas "complete force or complete fellowship". To those who surrendered, he gave land and tools. Upon completion of his initial counter-guerrilla campaign, he was almost immediately promoted to the rank of general. The cunning, craftiness and manipulations of Magsaysay marked the beginning of the liquidation of the Huk Guerrillas.

Magsaism is taught extensively in the war colleges of the anti-revolutionary camp. Magsaism, based on the finagling (use of deception or trickery) of guerrilla tactics to work in the interest of counter-revolution, has been widely adopted and employed AGAINST the Black Panther Party.

Recent stupid decisions such as purges of the New York 21, Eldridge Cleaver, myself, etc., and counter-revolutionary practices of the Oakland petty, conspiring Yankee, so-called leaders, are commonly used Magsaism schemes. It comes under the heading of PSYCHOLOGICAL UNDERMINING.

You can now see the devious plot which was affected. It ate away the cohesive moral fiber of a solid unit. But fortunately, it did not affect our new level of struggle, in fact, it aided us tremendously. I shall talk about that here.

The failure of the pseudo (make believe, fake) revolutionaries of the Black Panther Party to recognize the most obvious piggish plot to cut our organization to schisms, only proved to the majority of our organization, the inability of these so-called "standard-bearers" to properly deal with politico-military affairs. We will not play further into the pig's game by falling victim to fetish (blind affection or devotion to an object), actions. We will not get hung up in that, for it will be explicitly clear who's righteous and who's jiving, who's with us-against the enemy and who's against us-with the enemy. In short, who's for real and who ain't....

That's how we turn failure into success for now the shackles of the reclining chair psuedo revolutionaries, are no more. We are now able to move in the correct manner dictated to us by our practical politico-military evaluation of our present situation which is generally:

1. Freeing our comrades held captive by the enemy.
2. Training of our warriors to properly deal with this highly technical monster.
3. The realization of peoples war.

Once you realize the necessity for guerrilla actions in Amerikkka you arrive at the question of what makes up a revolutionary guerrilla warrior. The intrinsic (genuine, true) character of any guerrilla is composed of two integral parts, that he is at once both a

political theoretician and a military commander--a theorist and a pragmatist. He not only must be able to evaluate a situation, he must also be able to move on that evaluation, making it serve the best interest of the struggle. That's mandatory for all guerrillas.

What makes the new American guerrilla so unique is that he is the highest personification of flexibility in both thought and action. The basis of his flexibility is that form of dialectics (unity of opposites) that mediates his intrinsic components, thus creating the necessary dynamics that typifies our new warriors. He establishes the unity of two opposites (theory and practice), identical in nature but different in thought. It's like positive and negative electricity....The flexibility of the new guerrilla is the key to our success in Babylon, and thus ultimately the success of all the people of the world, for the guerrilla of Amerikkka is in the heart of the monster. From this location he can stab the monster in its vital organs.

Let's deal with both parts of the make-up of a guerrilla, one integral part at a time. First his pragmatic half--the word pragmatic comes from the philosophy of pragmatism which means to test all concepts by their practice of practical results. In our situation pragmatism is interwoven with the science of dialectical materialism put forth by Marx. We start from the practical half of the guerrilla because practice is primary and only through revolutionary practice can we derive a correct revolutionary theory. From the correct revolutionary practical activity in our present struggle for liberation (i.e. The L'A. shoot-out, hit and run tactics, sabotage, etc.) we are now able to evaluate the knowledge gained. This enables us to lay the theoretical groundwork so that our future practical endeavors would be guided by proven revolutionary principles (truths). Practice is primary. Our practical experience analyzed correctly produce our revolutionary theory. Only those who participate in practical activity can develop revolutionary theory. People can ideologically debate the necessity of the pragmatic aspect of a guerrilla. They can recognize and accept or deny this necessity, but the essential thing is the development of a revolutionary warrior in this new level of struggle. He must test the feasibility of the guerrilla-type struggle in our very own situation based on our very own proofs and endeavors.

The other half of the guerrilla; the theorist has for long been the point of departure for many pseudo-revolutionaries. I could easily go into a long dialogue on the jungle of opinion that make up that funky quagmire of esoteric bullshit impeding revolutionary theories, but later for that, later for all those vacillating, equivocating cowards that just might have most accurate perspective of our political situation but they'll never know because of the lack of testing ability to prove it. "Knowledge begins with practice, theoretical knowledge is acquired through practice and return to practice". Theory becomes purposeless if it is not connected with revolutionary practice, just as practice gropes in the dark if it's path is not illuminated by revolutionary theory. Practice-knowledge-practice again and again-knowledge; this form repeats itself in endless cycles, and with each cycle the content of practice and knowledge rises to an even higher level. Such is the dialectical process of the unity of knowing and doing, of theory and practice, of mind and body, of thoughts and action.





The additive to the new guerrilla is his ability to not only evaluate himself, but also to evaluate the next man- his comrade and his enemy according to revolutionary and social and psychological guidelines. The various stages of cognition identified by Mao, the theory of psychoanalysis put forth by Sigmund Freud in "The Art of Introspection". etc, are the main weapons of the new guerrilla. These theories along with the guerrilla instinctive ability to know where "dudes are coming from" give the new guerrillas a instinctive advantage over the enemy. The advantage of basic psychoanalysis resulting in the ability of Psychotherapy, and to us that's really significant. Mainly because of the many reprobates, psychopaths, ding-a-lings (or whatever you want to call them) that the pigs use as that form of psychological warfare agents. The new guerrilla armed with an analytical mind can deal with that. And summing this up we can look at the validity of this from the many righteous sayings of our Brother Bunchy: "Man we have to be psychiatrists to deal with these fools" or "I'd be a fool not to know where I didn't stand". So that the flexibility manifested in the critical half of the new Guerrilla is to the dynamics produced by the dialectical process of his being at once, a social reformer and a psycho-therapist, and at the same time the flexibility manifested in his pragmatic half of his being, at the same time both a military commander (leader) and a member of a guerrilla band (follower). So that the general make-up of the new American guerrilla is that he is the highest personification of flexibility in all spheres of both thought and action.

One thing that the new guerrilla must always do is to study the enemy from all aspects, especially psychologically. From knowing the enemy and from understanding the culture of his capitalistic environment, I find that they are motivated, by and large, by sexism and many times they covertly (sometimes overtly) break down to various situations when persuaded by sexual influence. From the invaluable information drawn from Papa's book (Soul On Ice), an accurate understanding significant to the general sexual behavior patterns of the enemy's camp is explicitly manifested in the chapter "The Primeval Mitosis". The image of omnipotent administrator--effeminate and delicate because of his abdication and repudiation of his body... so that his woman is required to possess and project..ultrafemininity..But in his quest for conformation of his masculinity... his attention is attracted...to sexually exploit the potent bodies of the classes beneath him.

The enemy is highly vulnerable to the tactics of revolutionary women; thus the woman's role in our struggle is a major weapon that's not only capable of weakening the enemy's strength but also strengthening the alienated minds of the supermasculine menial that's so rampant in the slavequarters. The righteous role of the new guerrilla but her's is also composed of that image of femininity based on the strong self reliant attributes of the Amazon. And from that base, she can really flex.

In knowing ourselves in relation to this matter, we have to maintain at the forefront of our minds that our struggle is one that is based on righteousness and truthfulness. I thought it necessary to say that because within the confines of our revolutionary struggle, that subject has become palpable that the best of our comrades (primarily males) have been known to prevaricate when confronted with it. In observing the intricacies of our camp, one of the most detrimental acts realizes itself in the form of what I call "personal opportunism". and is primarily perpetuated by those "supermasculine menials" acting in the manner of his subconscious (sometimes conscious) idol- the omnipotent administrator.

This supermasculine menial moves to an oppressive position of superiority in orde to maintain the woman's attention and at the same time he incarcerates her in his private pool of personal limitations. And when she attempts any initiative to exercise her pragmatic half, he blocks on her using that old familiar excuse: "Girl you ain't ready... you don't know how cold them pigs is... just get that shit outta ya mind and relate to dealing with the typing or them fund raisers." This among many detriments involved here prevents not only the development of that pragmatic ability necessary for the making of a complete guerrilla woman (enticing her to chose "that crown of Femininity based on the image of weakness,

helplessness..ultrafemininity'') but also it leads invariably to a gross collection of potential revolutionary women that are hung up in a foul dilemma of whether to continue to act in the manner exemplifying ultrafemininity or to move on exercising fully to her role in the revolution to which she's theoretically familiar.

That gross collection of women that I refer to are composed mainly of those whose main revolutionary mate has been killed by the enemy, captured by the enemy or just absconded. The woman "left behind" having little or no practical understanding as to her complete role, falls right in stride with the counteramazon collective and consequently into the hands of more personal opportunists. The ratio of women to men increases rapidly and the lecherous personal opportunists, instead of realizing the revolutionary potential there, selfishly advocates seraglious (the creation of a harem), justifying it through their semantic misinterpretation of communalism; taking it all out of perspective and placing it at the top of the priority list of political objectives. And that's just as contradictory to the dictates of the present political evaluations of our struggle as the deviations of cultural nationalism for surely it obscures the minds of potential revolutionary warriors, the main objective at this time which is the realization of the new guerrilla, liberation of P.O.W.'s and the establishing of guerrilla base areas.... People's War...

This is also a major tactic of the enemy and is effectuated for the most part by the women provocateur agents that infiltrate the most potent areas in the ranks of the Amazon and playing on the weakness of various male leaders, they use ultrafeminine methods to seduce him causing competition (emphatically based on ultra-femininity) to occur in the Amazon Camp. As Papa said "Competition is the law of the jungle--coordination is the law of civilization".

I strongly urge the many potential guerrilla women to move at once, rapidly achieving that necessary integral part of the new warrior, that will allow you to stand-up as a true complete revolutionary, and join the ranks of the new guerrilla.

The many true Amazons I've met and observed in their dialectical development can best be described as the beauty of dynamics. For the purpose of security there need not be any names mentioned, but the standard can be explicitly typified by our most astute and diligent comrade Erika Huggins in view of her completely dialectical relationship with our shining stars, John and Bunchy and all her comrades. This is typified also in her immediate progressive responses reflecting the leadership traits of her main revolutionary mate and comrades both in theory and practice; also the concentration of the enemy on destroying her; also her acceptance of that crown of femininity based on the self-reliant strong Amazon while only familiarizing herself with the character of the ultrafeminine freak for the purpose of guerrilla tactics. I could emphasize all day on the many attributes that our Queen has made to the realization of the new guerrilla woman, for she is undoubtedly a living example of the role of the woman in warfare in Amerikkka.

Sister Angela Davis is no doubt a potential revolutionary guerrilla and from my personal knowledge of her, I understand clearly the many contributions she has made to our struggle in the political arena. But to understand what I'm saying here, we have to accept the realness of the situation and not compromise the politico-military standard exemplified so beautifully in comrade Ericka Huggins, Comrade Bernadine Dohrn, Comrade Ilyia Khaled and many guerrilla Amazons of their calibre in our struggle for freedom.

The primary reason for my expounding on the Woman's role is because I truly believe that their efforts in this direction will be the decisive factor in the success of many of our campaigns and surely the spark that starts a prairie fire in the hearts, souls and minds of those brothers that cling so selfishly and blindly to the venomous ideology of this moribund fascist society--that blazing fire that will burn to ashes, those seemingly incorrigible ties that bind them to that old backwards victorian culture; thus releasing whole, completely,

resolutely and once and for all, our vast reservoir of potential revolutionary warriors here in Babylon. That lies in you hands, Sister Love, Please don't fail humanity.

I think it's most clear to everyone that the European Hegemony spearheaded by the wicked Amerikkkan Empire is the main perpetrator of the most atrocious, predacious world crimes and, for sure, Enemy No.1 of all righteous peace-loving peoples. There has been much rhetoric and plenty pretty words expressed in behalf of the war-torn victims of the Fascist Hegemony; some advocate Pan-Africanism, others Pan Vietnamism or Pan-Pan...Obviously to "Pan" their way cowardly out of Amerikkka.

But it is obvious to a fool that the most effective and major decisive strategic base is here in theEnemy's camp. Our part here is to rip it to pieces; exploding our bomb of oppression-repression right in this Monster's heart, not only annihilating its existence but also making sure that it has no remaining fertile seeds that could develop into more war babies to supply and support that vast hegemony of immorality. So we identify and sympathize wholeheartedly with all peace loving peoples of the Earth who are determined to off the ferociously sadistic yoke of that vulgarian hegemony. And we see ourselves as your dialectical comrades of the Earth in arms against that same old motherfucker. Ther criteria for enlistment into the ranks of the Cosmopolitan Guerrillas shall be based on our actions in aiding you and ourselves to cause the enemy to finally bite the dust--The Dust of Death--

ELMER "GERONIMO" PRATT

# ELMER DRA77

## “GERONIMO”

On January 17, 1969 Bunchy Carter (Deputy Minister of Defense — Southern California Chapter of Black Panther Party) was murdered at UCLA. At this time Geronimo was placed in the difficult position of taking over where Bunchy left off. Geronimo's leadership ability, self-discipline and love for the people was quickly recognized by members of the chapter. Our ability to recognize and deal with the crises arising out of the struggle in Babylon was increased greatly by Geronimo's example and his constant emphasis on each party member accepting the responsibility of revolutionary leadership.

Because of the Southern California Chapter's advances during this time, Geronimo's reputation grew in all the chapters, and he became a member of the Central Committee (CC) and took on many of the

functions of Minister of Defense while Huey P. Newton was in the hands of the fascist pigs. These same pigs also recognized Geronimo's value to the revolutionary movement in Babylon and therefore conspired to permanently remove him from the service of the people.

On Monday, August 17, 1970, Geronimo failed to show up in court for a case and his bail was revoked. At the time he had four charges against him; a bomb case, false imprisonment, assault on a pig, and the Los Angeles 18 shootout. Geronimo went underground to avoid the clutches of the pigs because it was "time to concentrate on living to fight another day." (See August 29, 1970 issue of BP). Contrary to the recent article in the party paper purging Geronimo he was fully supported by the party at the time of his move to go underground as evidenced

by the article "Reflections of Geronimo. . . . The Essence of a Panther." in the August 29, 1970 issue of the Black Panther.

While Geronimo was underground, many changes were occurring in the Party. Huey P. Newton's thoughts became "invincible" and he adopted the title and position "Supreme Commander. . ." Hero worship, idolatry, and absolute acceptance of and reliance on the unquestioned authority of Huey P. Newton were demanded of each Party member.

Geronimo was captured by the pigs in Dallas on December 8, 1970 along with Will Stafford, Wilfred Crutch Holiday, George Lloyd and Melvin Smith. The chieftains of the party did not even feel it necessary to speak to Geronimo to find out what really happened and accepted the words ("evidence") of two people who turned out to be pigs —

Cotton and Gaines (Huey's boys). Melvin Smith, also known as "Cotton," was the only member of the group of four people captured in Dallas who was not purged from the Black Panther Party. He and Curtis Gaines have been determined to be, beyond all doubt, pigs themselves. In fact, "Cotton" has lived in a luxury to which he was formerly unaccustomed, namely in the domicile of one Raymond Callahan, head of the Criminal Conspiracy Section of the Los Angeles Police Department, and is routinely escorted by his newly found friend into whatever courtroom he is summoned to "recount" Geronimo's deeds against the establishment. Curtis Gaines from the Black Panther Party chapter in Dallas, where the arrest was made, has even been recognized by the Black Panther Party itself — earlier version — as a pig agent (see recent issue of the Black Panther paper). These two forces acting in unison persuaded the chieftains of the Black Panther Party to expel Geronimo, a dedicated leader and member of the party's central committee, with no hearing. Eldridge

Cleaver stated that he was not even aware of the reasons why Geronimo was purged and that it now appears apparent that his capture was a "set-up."

At this time, the leader, Huey P. Newton, has purged Geronimo, Will Stafford, Wilfred "Crutch" Holiday and George Lloyd while they all were political prisoners in the hands of the fascist pigs of Babylon. This has left them in a position of helplessness regarding support, publicity, and money for their defense. The purge contained mainly lies and half truths. In the purge, Huey P. Newton stated that Geronimo demanded money. This is a half-truth. The leadership of the Panthers had refused to help him in his underground efforts while he and those with him were threatened with survival. This despite the fact that in the August 29, 1970 issue which was printed after his departure, the Black Panther paper stated that "Geronimo is first and foremost a Panther, a revolutionary and a true Black liberation fighter for the freedom of his people" and that "he is gone to intensify the struggle and help to bring it

to a higher level." The refusal to support Geronimo made it more difficult for him to elude the pigs and ultimately led to his capture. The article also stated that Geronimo sent money to his relatives at Christmas time; this was impossible because he was in jail long before and long after Christmas both in 1969 and 1970. There were many other inconsistencies in the article. But to state that the worst thing that G had done was to threaten the life of the Supreme Commander and Minister of Defense of the Black Panther Party, Huey P. Newton, is not only a lie but shows the depth of idolatry and hero worship the party has fallen into after Huey P. Newton's release from jail. In fact, no such threat was ever made, although the Supreme Commander had issued orders to have Geronimo "offed."

Through this action, the Black Panther Party has left these men captive by the fascist pigs in a state of no support. Immediately after the purge of Geronimo from the Black Panther Party, he was extradited from Texas to California, where he was indicted for another trumped-up crime, murder. That charge was

premised on the testimony of an ex-deputy sheriff, pig informant by the name of Julio Baxter, who sought to "take over" the local chapter of the Black Panther Party upon the death of Bunchy Carter and John Huggins. His resentment of Geronimo's progression to this position; his apparent fear of his own imprisonment for crimes he was charged with; and finally, his desire for revenge for his earlier expulsion from the party, left him "ripe" for the pigs. In return for immunity, he has agreed to help them try to convict Geronimo of a two year old unsolved murder.

The pigs had wanted to get Geronimo for a long time. Now that the Black Panther Party has said that he is a counter-revolutionary and that "Any Party member or community worker who attempts to aid them in any form or manner shall be considered part of their conspiracy to undermine and destroy the Black Panther Party," they have allowed the pigs to vamp on Geronimo. On Friday night, February 18, 1971, fourteen pigs beat Geronimo in the Los

Angeles County Jail and threw him back in isolation with no medical attention. Moreover, despite repeated requests by Geronimo that he be permitted to communicate with Huey P. Newton, David Hilliard and the leadership of the Black Panther Party, since his arrest, this opportunity has been denied him. Not one member has been sent to hear his side of the story.

Geronimo has always believed that in order for a revolutionary party to survive and expand no one individual should place himself in a position of such absolute unquestioned leadership. To do so would be to stunt the constant development of new leadership from the ranks of the party. We feel this is why he was purged, from the party at a time when he was a political prisoner in the hands of the fascist pigs of Babylon. He could not accept the contradictions in the actions of the party leadership and its demand for absolute unquestioning adherence to its authority.

Geronimo, a political prisoner and former Deputy Minister of Defense of the Southern California Chapter of the Black Panther Party, constantly drilled into the

minds of the Black Panthers at the Los Angeles office the possible adherent results of a cardinal mistake of revolutionaries... "that an army of people accept a leader and become entirely dependent on that one person." The entire time he worked in the Black Panther Party in Los Angeles... he attempted to establish a collective leadership so that each person in the party would have the ability and experience to make decisions based on revolutionary training and principles. Because of Geronimo's ideological and practical position on revolutionary leadership he was purged by Huey P. Newton. Geronimo believes in leadership by example — democratic leadership — as opposed to Huey's apparent belief in the Generalissimo approach. (Huey P. Newton, regrettably, was not the same person when he came out of prison as he was when he went in.)

