TURNING THE TIDE

L.A. ANTI-RACISM NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 NUM. 4

ANTI-RACISTS ON THE RISE NEO-NAZIS ON THE RUNI

The last few months have seen a series of encouraging developments locally and nationally. Neo-nazis have suffered a string of defeats, as protesters have out-numbered and out-organized WAR, nazi skins and other racists in northern and southern CA, ID and WA.

Anti-racists are on the offensive. The turn-out to oppose the Metzgers' "Aryan Altamont" rock concert in Napa, the successful Walk for Racial Equality in Couer d'Alene, which overcame the opposition of city leaders and even other anti-racist groups, and the exposure of the racist Identity movement in Glendale (see story p.3) are signs of this trend. The growth of the pro-choice movement, defending women's right to an abortion from fundamentalists, and of anti-racist activity on college

ON ANTI-RACISM, PATRIOTISM

AND THE AMERICAN FLAG

Several people have written to us (see letters) about the use of the American flag as a symbol by SHARP. SHARP's new logo uses only a stylized version (and the UK chapters of SHARP use a different emblem), but PART still has questions. We support SHARP. It's a positive devlopment among skinheads, along with such other groups as ARA (Anti-Racist Action) which unites skins with other young people on the basis of opposition to racism. We believe their support for racial harmony and justice is the main thing that brings them together.

But at a meeting with SHARP's San Fernando Valley chapter, a member of PART opened a discussion about the different meanings of "patriotism". SHARP uses the term to refer to love for the ideals of

MAY - JUNE 1989

50 CENTS

campuses are other promising indications.

But we can't afford to let up. The open racists who have run for public office since David Duke won in Louisiana -- including Dan Johnson of the Pace Amendment League and several "Third Position" (Metzgerite) Klansmen in Missouri -may have all been defeated. But there's still a mass base for racism in this country. The threat of nazi skins to erupt in random racist violence hasn't abated. The gap between African American and white people in the U.S. is getting wider, as poverty, unemployment, infant mortality, and imprisonment among Black people keeps rising. Antiracists must unite with an affirmative strategy for the future that acknowledges the seriousness of the threat posed by the neo-nazis and the seriousness of the crisis faced bu oppressed people in America.

freedom and justice that America proclaims. But in the last election, George Bush won by wrapping himself in the flag and in racist appeals.

The flag symbolizes the history of U.S. expansionism and conquest, in the contrast between the 13 stripes - representing the original English settler colonies - and the 50 stars, representing control over a continent of Native, Mexican and other people's land through war, slavery and genocide.

We hope SHARP reconsiders using this flag as its symbol. Two-tones are a living contradiction with American apartheid. Skins with a Mexicano heritage have a history which pre-dates the imposition of the U.S. flag. As SHARP itself says, most "Americans" came from somewhere else. We don't need to identify with the slave-owners who established the American government, but with the oppressed people who struggle for justice.

BATTLEZONE L.A.

by Makungu Akinyele of the New Afrikan People's Organization

Here in Los Angeles, as the mythology of the criminal Black youth and the lost cause of saving the Black community is perpetuated, in South Central plans are being made to buy up all of the property in our community which has been blighted by the criminal element.

As more and more horror stories are told of so-called Black-on-Black crime and as Black businesses are forced to shut down and the community becomes a prison shut off from the outside world, the image is created that this is a hopeless area and the cost of property is driven down. In recent months speculators and land grabbers such as the University of Southern California have stepped in to buy up property in order to "revitalize" the area. Of course, this means displacing thousands of Black families which will only serve to add to the crisis in housing which already exists in this city.

The New Afrikan People's Organization has posed a means to resist this situation in the city. We have been working to organize the community on a grassroots level by building a Saving Our Youth Freedom Campaign. The campaign is organizing around six principles of unity:

- 1. To build Black hope, self-respect and unity in the Black community;
- 2. We want allocated funds (state and federal) to be directed to jobs for our youth, not for more police;
- 3. Stop U.S. importation of drugs into the Black community and maintain support for community drug programs;
- 4. Stop terrorist so-called "gang sweeps" and the criminalization of the Black community;
- 5. Black elected officials must be accountable to the Black community first;
- 6. Prevent police murders and attacks on innocent people, and the military occupation in the Black community.

These are the things that the campaign is working for. The campaign has also targeted five goals which it wants to achieve:

- 1. To unite all of the organizations, community groups, churches, and individuals possible to work for an end to the crisis;
- 2. To work in the South Central and South west areas of the Black community;
- 3. To take groups of community people to City Hall and local politicians' offices to press our demands;
- 4. To help community people develop grass roots solutions to the crisis, such as "stop and watch" anti-police abuse programs, and anti-crack community patrols;
- 5. We will organize marches and rallies throughout the Black community to highlight the community's determination to end the crisis in a just and uplifting way.

Excerptes from:

Breakthrough

PO Box 14422, San Francisco, CA 94114

The most seriously affected segment of the community in the crisis at this time is the youth. And it is from the youth that our most concrete hope is deriving. Members of NAPO's youth movement, the New Afrikan Panthers, are working within high school Black Student Unions (BSUs) and along with other youth organizations in a rising tide of Black consciousness unlike any seen for many years.

Beginning with the demands of university students for divestment in the late 70s and early 80s, a student and youth movement has begun to snowball and has moved even to the high school and junior high school level, not only in Los Angeles, but across the country.

This rising consciousness among the youth has been spurred on culturally by hip hop and rap, by groups like Public Enemy and Stetsasonic, and the increased alienation felt by New Afrikan youth from America. The result has been an increasing number of youth organizations with strong Black consciousness which are beginning to be viable alternatives to the gangbanging and drugs, and which clearly define the colonial relationship our people have to the police.

NAPO is confident that, though our people are in a serious crisis which appears to have no end, we will find our answer in the youth of the community. We will find relief through organizing of the New Afrikan Panther youth, along with other groups, such as the National African Youth Student Association, the City-wide African Student Association and the local BSUs in the high schools. These are the organizations which can pose an alternative to the brothers and sisters in the community and lend ideological direction to our young people through Black Consciousness which is opposed to the drugs, gangbanging and the police terrorism, and is willing to move the youth to resistance.

Makungu Akinyele is a writer and family counselor in the Black community of L.A. He is a founding member of the New Afrikan People's Organization (NAPO). NAPO grows out of the historic struggle of Black people for human rights and self-determination and has become a leading part of the New Afrikan Independence Movement, committed to establishing a sovereign socialist Republic of New Afrika in the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. They uphold the right of New Afrikans to self-defense against racist terror. NAPO supports New Afrikan Freedom Fighters and campaigns to win the freedom of political prisoners and Prisoners of War. They have deep roots in struggles for Black community control of education and for the full participation of New Afrikan women in the liberation struggle. For more information, write to NAPO at P.O. Box 2348, New York, NY 10027; P.O. Box 5698, Los Angeles, CA 90056; P.O. Box 04252, Detroit, MI 48204; or P.O. Box 11464, Atlanta, GA 30310.

Glendale:

NEO-NAZI "PREACHERS" GATHERING CUT SHORT BY PART DEMONSTRATION

A gathering of the Christian Identity movement called for April 28-30 in Glendale by Escondido based ANTI-RACIST TEACH-IN "pastor" Robert Record shut down a day early, after PART exposed the racist nature of the meeting and called for a demonstration.

Christian Identity is a racist theology that claims "Aryans" are the true Israelites and god promised America to the white man in the Bible. It refers to Jews as the spawn of satan and considers Black people "pre-Adam," sub-human. Christian Identity "ministers" include Richard Butler, head of the Aryan Nations, and Thom Robb, the "chaplain" of the KKK.

After PART issued a leaflet and press release exposing Identity's links to the Klan and neo-nazis, Record tried to deny he and his cohorts were preaching racism. But at least two of the scheduled speakers -- Dan Gayman of Missouri and Karl Schott of Spokane Washington, were identified as notorious racist organizers (by Klanwatch and the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment respectively).

Although Record and his group shut down and left town a day early on the recommendation of the Glendale police, demonstrators gathered as scheduled on Sunday, April 30 at 1:00, outside the Masonic temple where Identity had gathered. Two dozen members of SHARP (Skinheads Against Racial Prejudice) joined others from PART, ACT-UP L.A., the International Music Workers Union and a number of e concerned Glendale residents in a spirited picket line. About 80 Glendale cops looked on from across the street, taping and photographing the participants.

The demonstration drew front page coverage in local papers and TV news that emphasized the racism of Identity. The Masonic Temple, which hadn't realized the true nature of Record's gathering tried to return his money and close the gathering,

and isn't expected to allow a repeat of the event (which went off last year without public protest).

Long Beach:

COMMUNITY COALITION HOLDS

TOGETHER EMPOWERED AGAINST CRIMES OF HATRED (TEACH), a coalition in the Long Beach-Harbor area, held an organizing teach-in on April 24 at the Grant African Methodist Episcopal Church. The groups involved are troubled by a series of incidents that indicate a growth of hate crimes in the area -including nazi skinhead break-ins and grafitti at local junior high schools, gay-bashings and attacks on gay-owned businesses, racist and anti-semitic violence at teen dance clubs in Long Beach, and the arrest of a man in combat fatigues for threatening to shoot up an elementary school.

A speaker from PART recalled a history of racism and KKK activity in Long Beach going back to the 1920's, when it was a center of Klan organizing in California, and several waves of racist terror in the early and mid 80's, including cross-burnings, vandalizing and bombing of Jewish businesses, homes and temples, and the neo-nazi activity of an editor of the student newspaper at L.A. Harbor College. "Such violence ebbs and flows. When we oppose it, the racist cowards retreat. When we grow complacent, they advance and seek to intimidate. But racism won't be eradicated until we unite and engage in an affirmative struggle for justice and end to oppression."

TEACH includes representatives of New Jewish Agenda, the Rainbow Coalition, ACT-UP L.A., Students for Peace and Justice at Cal State Long Beach and other concerned residents. It is building a grass-roots coalition for communication among groups victimized by the neo-nazis, and outreach and education to young people and neighborhood groups to prevent the growth of the hate groups. It can be reached through PART.



Enclosed is \$3. Wish I could send more. I think it's great what you're doing, exposing the nazi scum Please send info and I will help for what they are. But I really can't trust an organization (SHARP) that uses the American flag as their symbol. That flag has killed thousands of Native Americans, enslaved African Americans, supported terrorist governments like South Africa and Israel, and is responsible for drug running and murder in Central America. Other than that, your newsletter is great. Keep up the good work.

L.A.M., Hawthorne

PART:

Thanks for sending us your newsletter. We'd like to exchange for our'zine. We are a part of the "Syndicate" that you mentinoed in your last newsletter. If you could list us in your next issue, it would help. We should start offering ways of contacting other groups to form a Purdy's rifle could be the Shan network.

Fight racism!

Kris & Corky A.R.A. Colorblind P.O. Box 11211 Chicago IL 60611

Hello from St. Louis! I just started a (SHARP) chapter here and the boys who helped me start it said they had worked along side of you in California, which is pretty cool, 'coz though we are different by. name, we are the same by heart. spread your word here.

Take care and stay strong, your little sister skin, Tia P.O. Box 1332, St. Peters MO 63376

Thanks for TIT. We'd like to subscribe. Our anti-racist activities here are "education and direct action" as ARA puts it. We often confront punks and metalheads who display swastikas and SS runes ... We also try to draw connections between racism, imperialism and nationalism. These issues are often covered in M.A.S., the local 'zine and RABL-Rouser, an anarchist paper. We think it's important to expose the racist nature of the "system", especially in the police and courts.

The "SSA" on the stock of State Army, a Thai secessionist group tied to the drug lords, who are a pet cause of right wing "Soldier of Fortune" types.

> Keep up the good work, Felix, Anarchist Youth Federation

NO BREAD, NO TIDE

If you're getting Turning the Tide and not paying for it, now's the time to cough up some bread. If there's a red dot next to your name on the mailing label, this is the last free issue you will receive. Please send \$3 in cash, coin, stamps or a U.S. postal money order made out to "BOXHOLDER, P.O. Box 10488". Institutional subs \$5.00.

P.A.R.T. P.O. BOX 10488 Burbank CA 91510

address correction requested