

Statement by RAP BROWN for the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners' Benefit, February 18, 1972 at the Apollo Theater

Every Black birth in amerika is political. The lives of Black people are political because Black people carry on a constant war against "the man!"

The government is the lawbreaker. The people must become the law enforcer. We cannot allow the government to be an outlaw particularly when the crime is against the people. The threat of jail and death will not turn me nor others like me from the path we have taken.

More powerful than my fear of what could happen to me in prison is my hatred for what happens to my people in those outside prisons called the Balck "gettoes" of this country. There is nothing any court can do to me that will change that hatred in me. It can only be changed by the removal of the racism and inhumanity which exist in this country.

I am a political prisoner, jailed for my beliefs (that Black people must be free ). The government has taken a position true to its fascist mature, those they cannot convert, they must silence. This government has become the enemy of mankind.

This can no longer alter our path to freedom. For our people, death has been the only known exit from slavery and oppression. We must open others.

Our will to live must no longer supercede our will to fight, for our fighting will determine if our race shall live. To desire freedom is not enough. We must fight. We must move from resistance to aggression, from revolt to revolution.

Brothers and sisters, as well as all oppressed people, you must prepare yourselves both mentally and physically for the major confrontation is yet to come. You must fight. It is the people who in the final analysis make and determine history, not leaders or systems. The laws to govern you must be made by you.

I do what I must do out of love for my people. My will is to fight. Resistance is not enough. Aggression is the order of the day.

When the courts are no longer an instrument of or for the people, the people must then become lawmakers and law enforcers.

There is no justice in this country for Black people. Justice is a joke and it stinks.

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Fill the courts March 6, 10:00 a.m., 100 Centre St., Part 30, 11th floor  
for RAP, ARTHUR YOUNG, SAM PETTY, and LEVI VALENTINE !!!

# AN APPEAL TO THE BLACK COMMUNITY 1/17/72

First of all I think it is very timely and appropriate to write this article pertaining to our situation as prisoners of war. A few days ago several inmates and myself made an attempt to gain or regain our freedom. I think it should be made very clear in the minds of black people in particular and poor people in general, that we can no longer sit around idly and wait for some miracle to happen to bring about a change of our present day situation. I for one have not accepted the fallacy or the idea that the only way black people can obtain their freedom is through the kindness or benevolence of the Amerikkkan govt. In fact I feel it is an insane thought on the part of any black person to believe this.

The only kindness that has ever been shown our people has been ropes, bombs, bullets and the like. From all indications it's going to get worse. All one has to do is look around himself and see the daily mass production of dope addicts, slum housing, poor schools, underemployment, and the daily frustrations of our people. It should be clearly understood by now what Amerikkka has in store for niggers, because as far as they are concerned that's all you are is another "nigger". Your position, status or none of that shit means a damn thing when they get the order to move on you. So what I am writing in essence is an appeal to the Black communities all across Babylon (Amerikkka) to start moving now, yesterday if not sooner.

If we continue to set back talking about our conditions and not move to change it radically, then we can all look forward to what the Jews found in Germany, or what happened to the American Indians here. All one has to do is look, and you can see fascism on the horizon. We had a preview of this already, the murder of Comrade Fred Hampton, George and Jonathan Jackson, Bunchy Carter, Robert Webb, Harold Russell, the Attica massacre just to name a few for openers.

What more does it take to open one's eyes to what they (Amerikkkan Gov't) are preparing for Black people. Look at all the brothers and sisters in prison throughout the country, their lives aren't worth a thin dime behind those walls. I think there is no need of us continuing to fool ourselves of their intentions, because it isn't a matter now of will they do it, but when will they do it. This is what we as black people are faced with now.

I feel it is the duty and job of every revolutionary in this country to move now to free their comrades in the hands of the enemy, and make revolution. We must use every tactic available to us. It isn't enough just to read the Minimanual, or Che On Guerilla Warfare, and put it away in the library as another novel. The theory must be put into practice, practice, practice.

As for myself I have already decided the way I will go, like all of my fallen and imprisoned comrades "fighting til the death or until victory is ours". I will never submit to these cowardly growling dogs, no matter what they attempt to do to me. But all of us must make our own decision and soon, for the hour is getting late. Time is running out, it has run out. "Niggers you are living on borrowed time". My only regret is that I am not out there now with a gun in my hand, but I still intend to struggle behind these decadent walls until my last breath. Because I have seen the enemy's (Amerikkka) inner weakness, and it's just a matter of time before they will come crumbling to their "knees". The time to strike is now! For the hour is near. Are you listening to me niggers?...

"Through arduous struggle and sacrifice we will most certainly obtain our Freedom".

Comrade in Arms  
Nicky Laborde P.O.W. of U.S. Fascism



## National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners

Meets at 7:30 on Monday Nights  
at the Mt Morris Park Amphitheatre

At 122 st.



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