

At a time when SDS was telling people of the birth of socialism in Cuba and the liberation of the Cuban people against overwhelming odds and attempting to cut through all the anti-communist lies about Cuba and other socialist countries, PL saw that the main enemy was "Cuban revisionism" and fought those struggles, viciously attacking Fidel and Che.

The question SDS was faced with at the Chicago convention was, how can you talk to people about fighting white supremacy when a part of your organization is objectively racist? How can you support the black liberation struggle when a section of your organization is objectively trying to destroy the leadership of that movement? How can you win the masses of people in this country to support the right of self-determination of oppressed nations when a part of your organization doesn't uphold that right? As Panther Minister of Defense Bobby Rush said on the convention floor, "We will judge SDS by the company it keeps."

In the past, SDS has upheld the principles of waging attack on white supremacy by kicking out the racist "SDS Labor Committee" for their support of the racist teachers' strike in New York. This was not a matter of political suppression or the "right of free speech" as PL would like to make us believe. What it does mean is that SDS is upping the ante. As the risks run higher, all of us are being forced to make a choice. We cannot defeat white supremacy, anti-communism, anti-working-class chauvinism or male supremacy with liberalism, allowing these tendencies to exist alongside of revolutionary struggle like a parasite on the people, draining our life blood and energy, holding back every struggle that is fought on the campuses or in the community. PL's attacks on the people struggle for community control of the institutions in the black and brown communities for open admissions to the universities makes SDS's previously adopted principles a lie and a farce.

By its unprincipled actions, PL has excluded itself from the struggle and has chosen to ally itself with the class which runs this country.

The split will create many problems. Anti-communists may interpret this split wrongly. We must be clear that we will never tolerate anti-communism in our movement. It will not be easy to stay on our feet. We must have support. We are asking chapters to respond in a revolutionary way. We have faith in our movement to withstand attack from the outside as well as from the inside.

Our next task is to build major actions in the fall against the war in Vietnam and in support of the black liberation struggle. We are calling for people to come to Chicago in September, at the time of the conspiracy trial of the Chicago 8 and force the power structure to bring the war home. We are going to spend the summer and fall months going to the people where they work and live and win them to this program. We welcome anyone who will join us. But we will not be turned around.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

Mark Rudd
Mark Rudd, National Secretary
Jeff Jones
Jeff Jones, Inter-organizational Secretary
Bill Ayers
Bill Ayers, Educational Secretary

Michael Klonsky
Mike Klonsky, NIC member
Bernardine Dohrn
Bernardine Dohrn, NIC member