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Creator	
Published/Created Date	1970-04-14
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Image ID: 32285392

Kunstler Denounces Trial As Governmental Effort To Emasculate Panthers

1500 Attend
Woolsey Rally;
Genet Speaks

By STUART ROSOW

William Kunstler, chief attorney for the Chicago 7, said yesterday afternoon that the ultimate objective of the upcoming trial here of 14 Black Panthers is "to destroy, inhibit or emasculate a political movement."

Artie Seale, wife of Black Panther party Chairman Bobby Seale; Big Man, editor of the Panther newspaper; and Douglas Miranda, an area captain for the Panthers, also addressed the overwhelmingly white crowd at the fund-raising rally, sponsored by the Panthers and the Committee to Defend the Panthers.

Jean Genet, noted French playwright and author of "The Blacks," was also scheduled to speak, but he was delayed in San Francisco and instead issued a statement before an audience of 400 last night in Harkness Hall.

"Spectre of Murder"
After referring to five cases labeled "political" by Supreme Court Justice William Douglas, including the Sacco-Vanzetti case, Kunstler, who was greeted by a standing ovation, said the trial in New Haven was "the ideal political case" because of the "spectre of murder" surrounding it.

Protest against the court is justified, according to the attorney. "If the prosecution is in the name of the people, the people have to make sure what is done is right."

Kunstler said the case is going to be difficult for "it cannot be divorced from other considerations."

Kunstler attacked the use of informers in the trial, saying the informer was "the most diabolical type of witness" and "there was absolutely no way of refuting" his testimony.

Singling out the New Haven Register as the prime culprit, Kunstler charged that because of the newspaper's and other media's coverage of the trial, it was impossible to find a jurymen who "hadn't been poisoned at least a bit by recognition through news coverage."

"Panthers' Progressive" Kunstler departed from his discussion of the trial to praise

Disputed ent Group U Debate

environmental programs for the PU, expressed similar views. Both were quick to point out that the first panel was to be a scientific exploration of the subject of pollution, while the second is to concentrate on more political matters.

Moore said that time considerations had limited the invitation to the Environmental Offensive to a single person, and that a letter inviting Hank Parker was still in the mail. Moore said he offered to let the Environmental Offensive moderate the panel, which would be composed of a great number of the latter organization's favorite targets.

"Maybe they are just afraid to confront Yale, New Haven, and United Illuminating out in the open," Moore said.

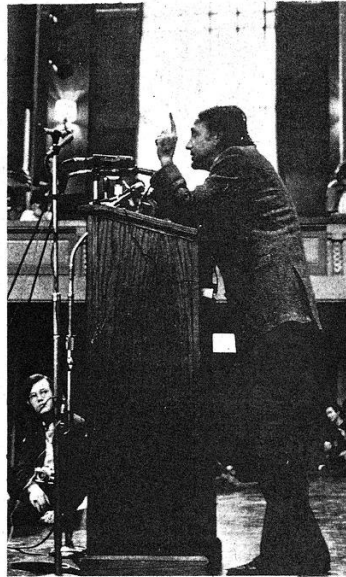
He did say he approved of what the Environmental Offensive has done and had hoped they would participate.

Poor Format

In addition to his announced objections, Moulder said he felt trapped by what he considers a poor format, refuses to accept the division of the issue into scientific and political aspects, feels outnumbered by hostile forces, and considers the topic far too narrow.

Finally, Moulder said his organization is all booked up on April 22 and couldn't have come even when the invitation was first extended, only a week ago.

"Compared with our other activities," he said, "we consider debate to be a pretty low priority."



John Doyle
William Kunstler, chief attorney for the Chicago 7, condemned the upcoming trial of the New Haven Panthers as "political in nature" before more than 1500 people in Woolsey Hall yesterday afternoon.

the Black Panthers as a "progressive movement" and said "the slaves are at last revolting. Nat Turner has at last come home."

The last statement provoked the most enthusiastic reaction from the audience of anything said during the afternoon.

"There is a national conspiracy against the Black Panthers," Kunstler charged. Citing the refusal of the mayor of a major city to let police raid the Panther headquarters on the ground that such a raid would be only destructive in nature, the lawyer said he was convinced there was organized repression of the black militants and that "it extends up and down the length and breadth of the land."

Panther Speakers

In contrast to Kunstler, the Panther speakers advocated militant and revolutionary positions. Big Man warned that before the Panthers would let themselves be "crucified," they would "unleash something this country cannot stand—a race war."

He said the Panthers would

"turn crazy niggers loose in the street, niggers who are tired and sick, and tired of being sick and tired."

Artie Seale, claiming that no one would be executed, said if any one was sentenced to die in the electric chair, the Panthers would "turn off the electricity."

Mrs. Seale also admonished that while the Panthers want a class war, the black community would "move on its own in a race war against fascism."

Miranda, who introduced the program, said "Yale is one of the biggest pig organizations" and charged that it "had something to do with the conspiracy." (Bobby Seale was in New Haven to give a speech at Yale University during the time of the slaying of Rackley.)

Genet, speaking before an overflow crowd, said the "complicity of whites has started a real massacre of the Black Panther Party."

The French playwright defended the use of violence by the Panthers, claiming they had nothing else to which to resort.



John Doyle
Artie Seale (right), wife of National Chairman of the Black Panther Party Bobby Seale, joined Kunstler (left) yesterday afternoon in denouncing the trial of her husband and 13 other Panthers on charges of murder stemming from the death of party member Alex Rackley.