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THE THIRD WORLD LIBERATION FRONT

The continuing struggle of the oppressed and exploited masses of the world for freedom has assumed in the last decade a new dimension characterized by a worldwide identification. The people in this struggle have come to see themselves as a third world in relation to the western capitalist bloc led by the U.S.A. and the eastern Communist bloc led by the U.S.S.R.

With the collapse of the traditional colonialist structure after the second world war, western imperialism allied itself with a variety of national bourgeois classes and military oligarchies in recently so-called 'independent countries.' At the same time it maintained older forms of colonialism, especially in Africa, thus continuing the exploitation of third world people. In the face of this, liberation movements erupted all over the world. These were savagely put down by rulers allied with the U.S.A. Where this failed, direct military intervention was used. The eastern Communist bloc, on the other hand, in defiance of their professed revolutionary ideology, gave only lukewarm support, if any, to these movements.

In the face of such inordinate odds, people struggling for their liberation have come to realize that only through the solidarity of liberation movements around the world and unity with their brothers of color who are also oppressed and exploited in capitalist countries, especially the U.S.A., can they achieve freedom.

That the U. S.A. has and continues to be involved in this racist and imperialist exploitation should not surprise any discerning student of American history, but recent events at the Applied Electronics Lab have demonstrated dramatically Stanford University's on-going complicity in the military-industrial-university complex. Stanford supports the imperialist stand of the Board of Trustees by allowing research which counters the courageous efforts of our brothers. Stanford's racist nature is revealed by its constant failure to attack the moral legitimacy of 23 white trustees to make momentous decisions affecting the lives of a majority of the world's population: the people of the third world. The sit-in at AEL focuses on an issue which is of direct concern to third world people. Issues relevant to the third world community should be investigated and handled by third world people. We must control our own destinies - this means we must have the decision-making power over issues affecting our lives. Thus, the need for a Third World Liberation Front to represent the needs of third world people on this campus, on the peninsula, and ultimately in the world.

Although the problems of the different racial groups within the third world are not identical, they are similar. The solutions may also be similar rather than identical, but we must raise our consciousness to recognize the brotherhood of people of color. We must recognize that we are a community, an oppressed community, and until all of us are free, none of us is free. Individual advancement does not benefit the community. The only advancement possible is a collective movement of the community. We must recognize our solidarity with people of color all over this world, realizing that whatever we do here will ultimately aid their struggle for freedom.

It is no secret that in terms of housing, jobs, medical and legal benefits, social and political action, third world people have always been relegated to a subordinate position by whites. Even liberals demonstrate their racist nature by refusing to believe that we are quite capable of making our own decisions.

We must come together in a collective body to assert control over our own destinies. We cannot let white people control us. History teaches us that they oppress all people of color, oppressing some more than others, thereby dividing us and conquering. We must not fight each other, but come together to fight our common enemy.

We of the Third World Liberation Front, having fully realized the seriousness of these acts of racism, imperialism, and counter-insurgency on the part of imperialist countries, have so formed to aid oppressed peoples and support them in their struggle against the imperialist forces. This being our position, we shall make an appeal to the oppressed people of the third world to join us in our struggle: we of the third world would like to create a brotherhood among the oppressed people. United we stand to oppose these oppressive forces.