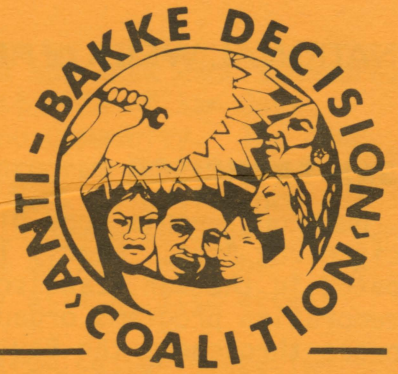


ANTI-BAKKE DECISION COALITION

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Newsletter



ABDC 558 Capp St. San Francisco, CA 94110

NATIONAL WEEK of RESISTANCE

The National Week of Resistance (November 6-12) and its commemoration of the Third World strikes succeeded in recapturing the militant spirit of the 1960's. Over 25 events cosponsored with numerous campus and community organizations reaffirmed ABDC's perspective that gains like special admissions and affirmative action didn't fall from the sky but were won because people united and stood up against national oppression. Based on the themes: COMMEMORATE THE THIRD WORLD STRIKES OF THE 60's; NO IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BAKKE DECISION; and END NATIONAL OPPRESSION, the programs drove home the importance of halting the Bakke Decision and all attempts to rescind the advances that have been made.

The Week of Resistance reflected ABDC's growing ties and involvement in the ongoing struggles of minority communities, working people, women, and youth.

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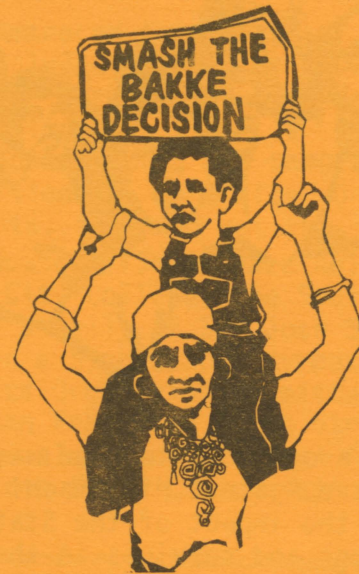
ATLANTA

The ABDC and Black and Third World Cultural Club cosponsored a campus/community program at Atlanta Junior College highlighting the upsurge of struggle in the Black Belt South. Tim Thomas, former chairman of Youth Organization for Black Unity stated, "The oppression that we face flows from the system of national oppression. Community colleges were set up to absorb the revolutionary ferment of Black people, and in particular Black youth. Black colleges must be defended, and we must uphold the right of Black students to go to any college they want." Other speakers included Don Stone, former activist in SNCC, Mabido Kadahi, an AJC instructor, Southern Conference Education Fund, UNITY newspaper, Black and Third World Cultural Club, and the Students United for Action who summed up, "...we should go out and get stronger in our opposition to attacks like Bakke."

CHICAGO

Activities in Chicago were represented by the slogan "the struggle against Black oppression continues in the North and in the South." The November 8 and 9 events were cosponsored by the student government at Chicago State University and Black Student Organization for Communications at the University of Illinois, Circle campus.

Nearly 200 people came to these programs and heard accounts of attacks and resistance of the Atlanta Junior College students, the



courageous stand taken by Benny Lenard, a Black auto worker, against police attacks, and the current struggle at Circle campus against financial aid cutbacks.

All the speakers stressed the importance of becoming more active in our struggle against all forms of oppression. Through the events the work of the supporting organizations has become stronger. For example, the BSOC initiated a petition drive to fight the cutbacks at the November 9 program. Many signatures were gotten.

NATIONAL WEEK of RESISTANCE

SAN FRANCISCO

Numerous events took place in the San Francisco Bay Area. Nearly 1000 people participated in the San Francisco State Strike commemoration programs organized at various campuses throughout the Bay Area. Law students from Hastings, Golden Gate, University of San Francisco, and U.C. Davis joined together in a united Law School Coalition and sponsored coordinated events at their respective campuses to fight for the maintenance of minority admissions programs.

In the communities: The Chinese Progressive Association held a community fair highlighting the 10-year struggle of the International Hotel and current efforts to prevent the physical demolition of the Hotel, as well as, to build support for the rent strike of the tenants at the Ping Yuen housing projects. In



Japantown, a community dinner was hosted by the Committee Against Nihonmachi Evictions to discuss the impact of the State strike on organizations and services in the community.

Nearly 200 people attended ABDC's main program held in the Latino Mission district.

This program opened with a rousing rendition of the Anti-Bakke Song by Moving Our Feet. It was followed by a member of the Women's Committee at General Motors who spoke on the need to expand affirmative action on the job. The 4 Deep composed and sang a song protesting the shutdown of the Geneva Towers child-care center. A nurse related her experiences fighting against the cutbacks at San Francisco General Hospital and for wage increases. Also included were a speaker from the I-Hotel struggle, a slideshow on the Third World strike and the Bakke Decision.

NEW YORK

Campus programs in New York linked the anti-Bakke struggle to issues of bilingual education and ethnic studies. They were held at City College and Hunter College where Vicente Alba, Reverend Daughtry from the Black United Front and Richie Perez spoke.

ABDC participated in a festival of peoples' culture put on by the Anti-Imperialist Cultural Union. The Anti-Imperialist Patriotic Union (UPA) cosponsored a program focused on housing struggles in the Dominican community.

BOSTON



On November 11, the New England ABDC sponsored a mini-conference addressing issues facing minority communities. It provided a chance for lively exchange and learning. The ABDC, Casa del Sol, Chinatown Peoples Progressive Association, Concerned Black Parents, Fightback, Harvard Medical School Third World Caucus, and Third World Jobs Clearinghouse talked about dispersal of Third World communities, struggles for equality in Boston's public schools, and affirmative action on the job. The conference recognized both the need to build grassroots organizations, as well as the strength that comes from unity among all nationalities. As one participant said, "We are not as organized as we ought to be. But if we all join hands in whatever we're going to do, if we support each other all together then we are organized because we've become clout."

The conference participants resolved to continue to build on the very positive ties that developed during the conference. They agreed to put out a pilot newsletter to share the things that came out of the conference.



LOS ANGELES

Workshops on organizing high school MEChAs was the focus of the November 4 Chicano Youth Conference hosted by the East L.A. Committee for Democratic Rights. On November 5, the Carlos Montes Defense Committee hosted a tar-deada with a teatro and music.

The Chinatown People's Organizing Committee and Little Tokyo Peoples' Rights Organization cosponsored a dinner and program on Proposition 13's cutbacks on social services in the Asian communities. On November 12, the Wabash-Fickett Tenants Association held a fundraiser. ABDC gave a statement in support of their struggle.

SACRAMENTO

The ABDC cosponsored a potluck and program with the Racial Coalition of the Welfare Department in Sacramento's Black community. The program which included a slide show on the history of the Civil Rights Movement and Third World student struggles, was attended by about 70 people.

The MEChA Central, NAACP, Committee for the Rights of Undocumented Workers, Sacramento Area Black Caucus, Family Affair, and River Oaks Residents Committee spoke in support of the Racial Coalition's fight against layoffs and demotions of minority workers.

The program was successful in beginning to mobilize the community to come out to the Racial Coalition's November 20 hearing with the County Board of Supervisors.

SAN JOSE

On November 12 the San Jose ABDC sponsored a program in the east side of San Jose, a predominately Chicano community. The ABDC speaker opened the program explaining the significance of the Week of Resistance and its guiding slogans. She also added her own personal experiences of how today her life is being affected by attacks like Jarvis-Gann and Bakke.

A representative from La Confederacion de la Raza Unida related how their organization formed in 1969 to fight discrimination against Chicanos. Today they are continuing that struggle by fighting for more Chicano staff at a local hospital. "We can only win by relying on the people and dedicating ourselves to continue the struggle," she said.

An instructor at San Jose State exposed how Proposition 13 is being used to cutback Chicano services at the San Jose colleges. And a representative from the Community Monitors added a broader view of how the government conspires to attack the people with measures like Jarvis-Gann.

A slideshow presentation illuminated the history of struggle in San Jose during the 60's.

El Nuevo Amanecer sang songs of the struggle which included an original composition describing the murder of Barlow Benavidez by an Oakland policeman.

Everyone joined hands and sang De Colores, a song traditionally sung after United Farmworkers events, to round out the program.

On the campuses: Somos Raza held a rally at San Jose City College; the South Bay Centrale called a rally at San Jose State. El Frente hosted a high school symposium. The Asian Students Organizing Committee-Stanford showed the San Francisco State Strike film. Film showings also took place at San Jose State and Santa Clara College sponsored by the MEChAs.

SANTA BARBARA--VENTURA

With the Ventura College MEChA, the ABDC invited Carlos Montes to speak at their event. Montes is being persecuted today because of the role he played as one of the original organizers of the Brown Berets and the 1968 East L.A. high school "blowouts".

The Week of Resistance was "armband week" at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Upcoming are workshops on the effects of Bakke on minority admissions.

SUPPORT UNITED LEAGUE and TUPELO STRUGGLE

TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI is a symbol of resistance in the Black Belt South. It is living testimony that if people dare to struggle, they will win.

In Tupelo on September 13, 1977, a white storeowner murdered a Black man for no reason. Unlike the majority of times, he did not get away with it. The Black community had had enough! They marched for the first time in Tupelo; they picketed; they held mass meetings; and they packed the courthouse. The result: for the first time in this city's history, a white man was convicted for killing a Black man.

The people vowed to build on this victory and continue the struggle for justice. They demanded the firings of 2 policemen who beat a Black man into confessing. They added affirmative action in hiring and promotions to their demands.

The United League, a broad-based organization, has been instrumental in these struggles. In March, it initiated an economic



boycott of white businesses in Tupelo to back up the demands: Return the land to Black people; end police brutality; affirmative action; and quality education. In October, after 7 months of mass pressure from both Blacks and whites, the city was forced to negotiate.

The struggle goes on. The United League has called for a national march on Tupelo on NOVEMBER 25 to raise the demands: Drop all charges against people arrested and harassed due to the boycott; and affirmative action in employment.

ABDC calls on all people to support the Tupelo struggle and the United League.

ABDC is also initiating a tour of the United League on the West Coast in January, 1979 to publicize and generate support for their struggle.



Weber's Riding On Bakke's Coattails

In Louisiana, Brian Weber, a white employee at Kaiser Aluminum filed a suit against the on-the-job training program charging "reverse discrimination", a totally absurd charge, particularly in the South. Kaiser and the United Steelworkers Union "voluntarily" (without a court order) set up this affirmative action plan only after workers demanded an end to Kaiser's discriminatory employment and promotion practices. In 1975 only 15% of the workers were Black despite a 46% Black population in the county. And 15% was only reached through an affirmative action program won in 1969 by the workers.

As for skilled jobs, prior to 1974 only 5 of 300 were held by Blacks. Kaiser had insisted that applicants for skilled positions have previous experience. But how could Blacks accumulate experience when craft

unions have a long history of excluding minorities? Furthermore, the South's Jim Crow laws were specifically aimed at denying craft jobs to the highly-skilled former slaves. So today, Blacks make up about 3/4 of the workforce in the most dangerous and heavy assignments like the furnaces, coke ovens, and smelting in the steel industry.

Despite these facts, Weber won. Why? Because the judges accepted without challenge, Kaiser's claim that it hadn't discriminated regardless of the statistical evidence and the reality staring them in the face. The judges ruled that because Kaiser hadn't admitted past discrimination all the Black workers were in their "rightful place" as porters and laborers! By this illogic, Kaiser's on-the-job training program was "reverse discrimination".

FIGHT THE WEBER DECISION.