

STOKELY ON P. 2

Sunday July 23, 1967

Black Power

STOKELY CARMICHAEL &
OBI EGBUNA

Tape Roll #
~~Stokely & Carmichael~~

EGBUNA

---white man in America addressing us. ? the white man in Canada ? when you study the Canadian law. Remember the European ? migration act. When you go to Australia ? the white Australian policy - they won't even let me in. You go to South Africa - today is apartheid in South Africa - they will let me in but they want to ? me. You go to Rhodesia ? And Harold Wilson says ? so the black man has come to realize that the only way to fight this international white power is through international black power. (applause)

You see, when - when I have the opportunity - when I -- before I left this country for America recently, every white man was anxious to tell me - you see, the Negro in America - he doesn't like the African ? - he doesn't like you at all - he has nothing in common with the African. But when I went -- the American Negroes insisted that I come to every meeting they had in my national costume. Because they want to feel they belong to Africa. And when I was in Atlanta, Georgia, ??? Stokely Carmichael's party ? national headquarters -- and when I went there and I say black boys and black girls singing - not about the Queen of England - (African name or word) not about the President of America - but about ??

(applause) To me, this is something fantastic. It was beautiful and I felt beautiful- and I came back here and

NOT
STOKELY -
NIGERIAN

said "The black man is not dead yet. We're very much
alive. The white man is dead." So the man who is going
to expound on this philosophy today is the great man him-
self, Stokely Carmichael. (applause) But before I ask him
to speak to you, I want to ask ? / He was so stupid he
called the West Indies west and the United States east -
and said he was in India, and named an entire tribe of
people Indians. (applause) And what of the Caribbean?
We did not wake up until ? came along and discovered us.
And all of our history begins when a white man comes along
and says, "Pooh! I have discovered you. Come alive."
(applause) So that one of the greatest fights that the
people of the ? are fighting today is a fight to write
history the way it's been written - correctly - and to
destroy the lie that the white man has put out about history.
(applause) The fight of the people of the third ? today
is to recognize that the white man invented little - but
lied about everything. The Chinese first discovered gun-
powder - not the white man. The Chinese were civilized
people . They never developed gunpowder as a means to con-
quering other people. They left it alone. It was the
white man who used it as a force to conquer other peoples
around the world. (applause) A current example - one
which is very relevant to me - do you remember in World

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War II - when Winston Churchill got up and read his poem about "if we must die" - urging all the English people to take up arms against Germany-- "if we must die, oh, let us nobly die"...And everybody went to a fever pitch. Do you know that poem was written by a black man from Jamaica named ^{Claude} MacKay? (applause) And did you know that Claude MacKay wrote that poem for us? But they have co-opted everything we had - used it for themselves -and then given it back to us. They have legitimitized our culture and that is what we must fight. We must legitimitize our own cultures wherever they may be. That is very, very important. The white man's definitions is what we find ourselves trapped by. His definitions of what is good and what is bad. His definitions of what is reasonable and what is unreasonable. His definitons of what is savagery and what is not savagery. And that is perhaps where we have really been trapped, because the white man has been suddenly make us hate ourselves. I was surprised when I looked at television in England just the other day, and saw a movie of Guana[?] - still running in North Africa - giving orders to little pickaninnies. I would think that even in 1967 the dumb white man in England would come to realize thatthat's nonsensical. The days of Tarzan are over. Understand the

Tarzan concept, because it is very important to us. We were made to cheer for a white man to beat up our ancestors. Very, very important. We went to the movies and cheered for a white man - Tarzan - to beat up our people. And what was Tarzan saying? They were saying to us that Tarzan was a white man and, because he's white, therefore superior, can come to our environment and understand it better than we. Whenever I would try to have an argument with anybody over the elephants, we went to Tarzan to try to settle the strife. (applause) You must understand that syndrome because so subtle was it that we did not even recognize it and we did not rebel. Whenever they showed Tarzan, we should have burnt the movie house down to the ground. (applause) But rather than rebel we accepted - we cheered - and we wanted all of us to be Tarzans. All of us wanted to be a Tarzan. Today, brothers and sisters, when Tarzan comes on the movie, you yell for the black people of Africa to come together and beat the hell out of that white man. (applause) And send him back to Europe where he belongs. And analyze - if you will - Tarzan. There we were, identifying with an ignorant white man. He couldn't even speak English. (Tarzan cry) And here we were yelling for Tarzan. Here Tarzan is swinging on vines while Dr.

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Akuma was flying around the world in his own jet airline.
(applause) So that our fight today - and one of the most important fights - is the fight for the freedom of the minds of our people. We are fighting for the minds of our people, wherever we are. (applause) We are fighting to get the minds of the people away from the white man - because, once he has their minds, he has them, hook, line and sink.
(applause) And that our war today must be waged on many fronts. The most important front is the front of propaganda. Understand today that the communication system which is the most important front for propaganda is controlled by the white man. The news you get about African-American struggle in the United States comes to you through the B.B.C. The news that we get about you comes to us through N.B.C. The news that everybody gets about China and the Red guards comes to us through A.P., U.P.I, and W.P.I. The news that you get about Africa, about ?, about the Congo, about Nigeria, about ?, comes to you through a white newspaper. And for you to believe the nonsense that these newspapers/^{are}objective is for you to believe the distorted history that the white man has been teaching you for so many centuries. (applause) --- continues his war, his politics with violence. We are fighting political warfare.

Around the world. Some of it has become war - most of it is still in the political stages. If the west continues to oppress people, all of it will become war. That question is not to resolve, ironically, by the people of the third? It is to resolve by the white west. If they're willing to stop oppressing people, there will be no violence. If they do not, we are going to throw them off our backs by any means necessary. (applause) The most violent thing that the white man could have done to us was to drug us to sleep so that we would not even fight back. Notice the similarity between the Jews and the Germans. They talk about what the Germans did to the Jews. And the most awful thing they could do was to de-humanize the Jews to the positions where they did not fight back. They have done the same thing to all of us. They have de-humanized us to the level where we do not even rebel. We accept that which they shove down our throats. (applause) So when they talk about violence, do not get caught up. The most violent thing to do is to sterilize a human being., for a transistor radio. Do you know how disgusting that is? To stop another human being from producing another human being - for a God-damn radio! And the white man doesn't say that that's violence." It's quite all right, as a

matter of fact. After all, the world is being populated and we have to stop it. They're hungry in India, and they're uncivilized, and they're running over each other." If they could control the resources of their country, they could feed their peoples. (applause) They cannot control the resources of their country because the west takes it for itself and allows the rest of its populace to live at a standard of living at the expense of the people of India and the rest of the world. The white working class is having a lot of profit while the Indians are getting transistor radios. (applause) In Vietnam today. ? will tomorrow be ? in South Africa, in India, and in Latin America. (applause) Even if we didn't want Vietnam to be part of us - if we didn't want Indians to be part of us - if we didn't want Chinese to be part of us - if we didn't want blacks to be part of us - if we didn't want people from Pakistan to be part of us - we must make them part of us for our very survival. For our very survival we must make them part of us. (applause) That is what we have to do. We must begin to recognize that ? peoples have a place in the sun.- that that place in the sun has been stolen and robbed from them by the west. It is a job of all of us today -especially the young bloods and the younger

generation around the world to come together and to restore our people in the place where they belong and to put the white man back in his place where he belongs. (applause) The white man has been playing God for centuries, and the reason he has played God for centuries is because we've let him. It's time for us to tell him that play time is over. (applause) It's time for us to let him know that we will no longer tolerate his nonsense. It is time for us to let him know that we are forging together for our struggle for humanity, and every time he touches one of the peoples in the third ?, he's going to go to war with all of us, wherever we are. That's what we have to tell him. That's what we have to tell him. (applause) We have to tell the white man that when his C.I.A. and his M.I.15 - or whatever the hell it is - overthrows the government in Ghana - he's got to fight all of us, wherever we are. (applause) We've got to let him know that. We have got to let the west know that, when they drop a bomb in Vietnam, -if we don't have bombs, we will burn down their factories, wherever they are. That's what we've got -- (applause) We have got to forge such a unity of the third ? and such an organization - so tight - that we will let him know that it's impossible for him to oppress any man, wherever he is - because the rest of us must keep our eyes on him, and we must become real and political. Indeed, in our

? of bringing western society to its knees, and into its rightful position like any other man. Until we do that we are lost. If there's any message then that we can bring to you today, is that inside the United States the African-American communities have come to a position of revolutionary consciousness - where we recognize that our struggle is not with the struggles of the United States, but with the struggles of the people of the third world. (applause) We have come to tell you that we will not lift a gun to fight in any of their racist wars. We will lift guns to fight against them - (applause) We have come to tell you today that we're on the way for our liberation inside the United States. We are not talking - we have talked for 400 years. It has gotten us nowhere. Nowhere. We are not going to talk any more. And that if we are to be squashed in the United States, our only act to save humanity is to bring the entire country down. (applause) And that we're willing to do that, we've come to explain to you that, no matter what the shades of your color are, if you are non-white, you are in the same boat that the rest of us are. Therefore you had better come on home. You had better come on home. (applause) We have come to tell you that the revolutionary conscious-

ness that is spreading in the third world today will not only be based on skin color, but on ideology. ? the white man - he will be destroyed. _ better come on home - had better come on home. (applause) We have come to tell you that if you see your ? and your culture being thrown with that of England - then we see you as part of England who suppresses and oppresses us . You will be with England when the lines are drawn. You had better come on home. (applause) We have come to tell you that we are waging our liberation struggle in the United States today, and we will wage it with our brothers in Latin America like Fidel Castro - with our brothers around the world. You had better come on home. (applause) We have come, finally, to tell you that individualism is a luxury that the peoples of the third world cannot afford. You had better come on home. (applause) Finally, we have come to tell you that it is not love, it is not morality, nor is it non-violence that runs the world - it is power. (applause) We are fighting to re-distribute the power in the world the way it should be - that people should determine their own lives for themselves (applause) You had better come on home. (applause) We have finally come to tell you that when our lives are not worth much, wherever we go, we are willing - because we

know that, though we be killed, there will be black people around the world who are coming together and will continue to fight - 'cause we are going to win. Thank you.

(Prolonged applause)

Ladies and gentlemen, I am sure we have appreciated what our brother has said - but we have also got a very young black boy -? from England. After listening to him, you can judge for yourself the trend of thinking of young

pg16/57 Obi Egbina:? And today, the black man is beginning to tell the whole of humanity that the white man is dead. The white man as an idea, of that human being who defines what is good and what is wrong: the white man who looks at the Negro as a clay for moulding. They come to Africa and they see me as a barren slate where they're going to engrave their convictions. That white man is dead - he died in Hiroshima, he died in Nagasaki. That white man died in Sharpeville in S. Africa, and today he's dying in Vietnam. He's dying today in Newark New Jersey. where even a bigger meeting of Black Power is taking place this very minute. The white man is dying every day.

pg17 Obi: Now when I was in Atlanta, Georgia, in _____ City at a _____ hostel over there where Stokely Carmichael's party, SNCC, have their headquarters, and when I was there and I saw black boys and black girls singing, not about the Queen of England, not about the President of America, but about Oginga Odinga of Africa. To me this is something fantastic, it was beautiful. And I felt beautiful and came back here and I say: The Black man is not dead yet, we're very much alive. The white man is dead.

pg23 Stokely Carmichael: [The white man says, when we were reading in College, we read the history of western civilisation. We never even questioned it, we thought they were really civilised. We never questioned. What is should read is "the history of western barbarianism". Because they have been barbaric, they have been barbaric. But because we accepted that they were civilised, we accepted the opposite of that, that everybody else was un-civilised. And since we came from every place else, we were uncivilised. We developed in our minds hatred of ourselves, hatred of our cultures, hatred of our people, and we tried to imitate white western society because we wanted to be civilised. What whitewestern society was able to do was to define for the whole world not only what is civilised and that

but to define the very birth of people wherever they are. Whenever you read a book of history, nothing begins until the white man discovers it. And what the white man was saying to us was that all people who are not white are non-existent until we come into contact with them. That's ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ precisely what he was saying. And that any time a white youth repeated that statement he was being inculcated with his own racism which he was incapable of understanding. Isn't it racist for a white man to say that Marco Polo founded China? When the Chinese were flourishing with a civilisation, the white men were in caves. In caves. Isn't it absurd for them to say that Columbus discovered America? When Columbus got there he found people there. In addition to that, Columbus was an ignorant white man. He was so stupid he called the West Indies west and the U.S. east, and said he was in India. and named an entire tribe of people Indians. And what of the Caribbean? We did not wake up until Sir Walter Raleigh came along and discovered us. And all of our history begins when a white man comes along and says: "Phoo! I have discovered you, come alive".

So that one of the greatest fights the people of the Third World are fighting today is a fight to write history ~~xxxx~~ the way it's been written, the correct way, and to destroy the lies that the white man has told about history.]

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Now before we move on, I just want to give a little parody - a little tale that I learned about savages from a friend of mine, an African brother. He said that in World War II there was a white major in the RAF who had been to Oxford and Cambridge; a very scholarly man - and he was fighting in the war. His plane was shot down in Africa. When his plane was shot down, an African tribe who were around where the plane was coming down, had never seen a white parachute. They thought it was a white bird. Now when this thing came

down they all ran with their spears to see what it was. When they got close to it they saw that it was a man, just like them except that he was colourless. The Africans assumed that he was colourless because he'd been unconscious and the blood must have run out of his face. So they picked him up and took him to their tent and they took care of him. After about a week or so the major began to move around but his colour would not come back. After a month they reached the point where they could communicate with each other. So on the day when they were going to find questions, the African president invited all of his dignitaries with their dress, to come and to talk with the colourless man. "Who are you?" asked the Africans. "Well, I'm Colonel Churchill", he said. And "Well, what are you doing?" they said. He said, "Well I come from England and we're all involved in a war"/ "You're a warrior", "Yes." Oh, well the Africans jumped up and down, that's very good, because they were also a warrior tribe - who were called cannibals by the white man. But they were warriors, so they understood that. "Well how is it going?" "Is your team winning or losing?" the Africans asked. "Oh, we're winning" said the Colonel, "We're winnig". And he had all these medals. And they asked him "What are all these badges?" And he said, "These are medals for me, myself. I alone have killed 30 of the enemy". "You have killed 30 of the enemy by yourself/single-handedly?" exclaimed the Africans. "Yes, yes" he said. They threw their spears in the air, and threw their shields in the air, they jumped up and down: "What a feast you must have had, my man what a feast you must have had!" But the English major, since he was civilised, jumped back and snorted out of his nostrils: "My good man, I am from England. We are civilised where I come from. I am an Oxford graduate, a graduate of Cambridge, I represent the epitome of civilisation. We do not eat people where I come from". The Africans looked very puzzled and said: "Why the hell do you kill them?"

pg27

[So that what has happened is that the white man has been able to define savagery. Savages are those who kill and eat, but those who kill and leave alone are not savage, they're civilised.]

pg28

..... Because what the white west then says is that they have the God-given right to give peoples around their world their freedom. That is not true, Every man, woman and child is born free. They are enslaved by oppressors. The only job of the oppressor is not to give freedom, but to stop oppressing - stop oppressing, and you must understand that concept because you run around talking about "We are going to get our independence", instead of "We are going to stop oppression" / [And what the white man has worked is a trick on the entire Third World, talking about how he is giving everybody their independence, instead of everybody stopping the oppression of the white man. We must define for ourselves, and as we move we must be crystal clear in our definitions. We cannot make any mistakes today, we are playing with the lives of all our peoples. We will not let the white man define. He is an oppressor, we must stop his oppression. He cannot give anybody their freedom, he must stop oppressing them.]

pg30

[Because what else the white man had done is that through that he has imposed the criterion for beauty around the world today. Beauty is that which is white, is what the white man says. It is a white woman with stringy hair, with eyes, thin nose and skinny lips. That is beauty and all of the women of this world are trying their best to imitate that nonsense, disrupting their own natural beauty.]

pg32

[The most violent thing the white man could have done to us was to drug us to sleep so we would not even fight back. Notice the similarity between the Jews and the Germans. They talk about what the Germans did to the Jews. and the most awful thing they

could go was to dehumanise the Jews to the position where they did not fight back. They have done the same thing to all of us. They have dehumanised us to the level where we do not even rebel. We accept that which they shove down our throats.]

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They are always talking about the white working class in the west, which I have not yet seen, and the reason you have not seen it, and will not see it, is because [the white working class is part of the system that oppresses the Third World. The white working class enjoys the profits of their capitalist brother, shares in that profit, and keeps their mouth shut. And that is why you have no revolutionary consciousness among the so-called white working class. When they begin to suffer the way we suffer, then you will have a revolutionary consciousness. But they do not suffer because we are doing all the suffering. Very, very important. Very very important. Look at all your Labour Parties in England and the U.S. They have stocks and ownership among all the capitalistic structures around the world. You don't expect the Labour Union in the U.S. to come out against the war in Vietnam. If it weren't for the war in Vietnam they'd be starving. They must support the war in Vietnam. We must come out against it because it's against our brothers in Vietnam and because that structure is also oppressing us.]

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[The white man has been playing God for centuries. And the reason he's played God for centuries is because we have let him. It's time for us to tell him that play time is over. It's time for us to let him know that we will no longer tolerate his nonsense. It is time for us to let him know that we are forging together for our struggles for humanity, and every time he touches one of the peoples in the Third World he is going to go to war with all of us, wherever we are. That's what we have to tell him. That's what we have to tell him. We have to tell the white man, when his CIA and his MI 5 or whatever the hell it is overthrows a government in Ghana, then he's got to fight all of

pg38 of us, wherever we are. We have got to let him know that. We have got to let the west know that when they drip a bomb in Vietnam, if we don't have bombs, we will burn down their factories wherever they are. That's what we've got to let them know.

We have got to forge such a unity of the Third World, such an organisation, so tight, that we will let him know that it is impossible for him to oppress any man wherever he is, because the rest of us must keep our eyes on him, and we must become real and political, indeed, in our essence of bringing western society to its knees, and its rightful position - like any other man. Until we do that we are lost.

If there's any message that we can bring to you today - is that inside the U.S. the African American communities have done to a position of revolutionary consciousness, where we recognise that our struggle is not with the struggle of the U.S. but with the struggles of the people of the Third World. We have come to tell you that we will not lift a gun to fight in any of their racist wars, we will lift guns to fight against them, because we are inside their bowels. We have come to tell you today that we're on the way for our liberation inside the U.S. We are not talking, we have talked for 400 years, it has gotten us nowhere. Nowhere. We are no going to talk anymore. And that if we are to be squashed in the U.S. our only act to save humanity, is to bring the entire country down. And that we're willing to do that.

Discussion

pg55 Carmichael: I see the Hippies at best for us as a natural force - at best. I do not see the Hippies as doing the sort of thing that you say. I wish they would. The difference is that the Hippies do not have the same type of brutal overt oppression that we do. They have a psychological oppression or what have you, which may be just as brutal, but the fact is they have not begun to fight their oppressors, they have in fact dropped out of sight and unfortunately the peoples of the

of the Third World cannot drop out of that oppression because it's a day to day constant thing. So I think if the Hippies became political and began to fight western society then there would be - but I think the reason why white society has not begun to attack the Hippies is because they're doing just what they want them to do. They've been able to neutralize those which could be forming a real resistance, movement inside their own society.