

Diggers, the Free Clinic and other such organizations. Diggers, the Free Clinic and other such organizations are valuable. The management of the books, of the administration, is also invaluable so that they can continue to help people. That's why they're there.

Community have ascribed them to Ron K. member of the Black Congress. says Mrs. Wright, "until I received the same day the students were killed UCLA students Bunchy Carter and City Ministers of the Black Panther Party.



CUT THE GUAR
OF OUR FACILITI
OF THEM BOMB
STRIKES THE GO
AN MAYBE THE
US USE MACHIN
AN TANKS ON
FUCKIN' ANT
COWARD

SNICKER



STIR UP THE GOOD AMERICANS
AN' MAYBE THEY'LL LET
US USE MACHINE GUNS
AN' TANKS ON THEM
FUCKIN' ANTI-WAR
COWARDS!

SNICKER

MAYBE WE'LL
BOMB SOME
OURSELVES!

from among themselves. This is where power belongs, to the people. Organizations forget what they were organized for after a while, and they get into these ego bags. The people have to be apprised of what's going on; there has to be some new leadership in Los Angeles, and it has to come from the people."

During the nationwide wave of riots following the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Black Congress held a series of emergency meetings with the Los Angeles police. Ron Karenga of US is credited with playing a key role in these meetings; he coined the phrase "operational unity." At the same time he was holding his own secret meetings with police chief Thomas Reddin. Several weeks later he was called to Sacramento for a confidential meeting with Gov. Reagan. The quick action by the Black Congress is credited by many with having prevented a riot in Los Angeles. We asked Mrs. Wright if this were not an impressive achievement.

She laughed.

"That's the biggest lie you ever heard. They were in meetings all the time, how could they do anything about trouble?" She said many other cities had stayed quiet without any such meetings. "Just nobody wanted to do anything, that's all."

[The L.A. Times reported at the time that the principal way the Black Congress avoided trouble was to point out what the police were doing that made the people nervous. As a result, Chief Reddin ordered shotguns removed from the windows of patrol cars, had extra police removed from the cars, ordered a sniper squad off the roof of the 77th Street police station, and a truckload of police machine guns taken out of the ghetto.]

The police hardware wasn't out of sight permanently. At the Watts summer festival in August police fired into a crowd, killing three and wounding forty. An anti-personnel helicopter was used in this action, and the next night this reporter saw a shotgun squad posted on the sidewalk in front of the 103rd Street police substation.

The following weekend Stokely Carmichael gave a lecture on guerrilla warfare at a Black Panther rally at Will Rogers Park on 103rd Street. When the Black Congress heard Stokely was coming, said Mrs. Wright, they announced that "nobody can come into the black community without clearing it through them. Whoever heard of Stokely Carmichael being an outsider in a black community? It's just a case of another oppressor trying to control black people instead of going against their enemies. A black oppressor is no better than a white oppressor."

Hakim Jamal of the Malcolm X Foundation, now a member of the Black Alternative, spoke at that Panther Rally. Mrs. Wright also spoke, and Sherront Banks, now Deputy Chairman of the Panthers, ceremonially drafted her as Honorary Minister of Education of the Panther Party.

After the murders at UCLA the Panthers announced at a press conference that they had given the names of the four suspected US assassins to the police. They also accused US of working as an agent of the police. The Panthers have been criticized for this by some blacks, and we asked Mrs. Wright her