

Malika, my Sister,

In response to our conversation on the formation of an all woman underground organization that would work in conjunction with but not subordinate to existing male dominated U.G. organizations let me say that I have given this a lot of thought and believe this to be (in actual practice) the most progressive move on part of the African Liberation movement. I offer you my full support, literally, towards the realization of this task.

If you recall I had suggested a practical means to begin such an undertaking. I wish to reiterate my suggestion on paper so that certain words will not lose their meaning as time goes by and also as a reference if the need comes up.

I.

A practical means for building an underground organization is to build upon and from the actual needs of the people. In that way you will be able to recruit from the ranks of women actually involved in fulfilling those needs as

Opposed to sisters only professing their support.

There exists a multitude of grass root organizations who's spokespersons AND co-ordinating energy is basically female. What does not exist is (1) the thread that brings this energy together to form the garment AND (2) there is no female physical presence designed to "physically" support those already existing organizations or bring about a political consequence in defense of them.

The element of which I speak differs sharply from any female organization that presently exists in the U.S.A. There is no female military presence or even an auxiliary unit that would serve on a real military level.

The basic question appears after the desire to "do" --- the question of "How":

The thread that brings together those existing female (and male) elements is intelligence: The gathering, co-ordinating AND disseminating information that directly serves an active military.

By establishing an underground intelligence apparatus you will have developed at once a nucleus for which the apparatus

is responsible and raw material on which to formulate new ideas.

Let me say that an intelligence apparatus is the single most important element of ANY military. Without it a military is blind.

How do you begin.

- 1.) Establish your objective - your principles - and your technique.
 - A.) Combine the above information on an information sheet. This sheet for all practical purposes spells out who you are, what you want AND how you intend to get it.
- 2.) Make a list of sisters that you trust, make a "packet" of information for each of them. When you approach a sister it is to recruit them into your intelligence organization. The packet tells them everything they need to know about: what types of information are "pertinent" and "sources of information"; down to how they may recruit those sisters that they trust.
- 3.) Once you have established information gatherers you have also established a pool from which you can recruit sisters into a women's militia or U.G. cells.

4.) Recruitment is always based upon activity.

A.) A sister actively gathering information is more apt to make a better soldier than one who hap-hazardly collects information because action is based upon consciousness. The conscious sister is the one you want and by developing your own means of recruitment based upon action that is pertinent yet still at a distance from your soldiers is to your advantage in terms of security.

5.) You can easily develop fingers that reach deep within institutions, work places AND organizations. Women are everywhere AND can get information from men quite easily plus because women have been relegated into jobs that co-ordinate information such as secretarial, nursing and Tellers the advantage already exists.

6.) Pick your people carefully on the second level. The second level are those informants in sensitive spots that supply information that may spur direct action such as expropriation or political consequence.

7.) The most difficult work is of course co-ordination of materials. On this point I suggest a small cadre be developed only by the most trusted comrades. For co-ordinated information must be channeled to the "right" places and to the "right people." Plus co-ordinated information paints pictures that gatherers don't see.

8.) You have to work out the filing & storing of information.

Bare in mind these are just suggestions on how to develop the nucleus of a women's militia that is secure and self sufficient. Knowing that from raw information grows all real revolutionary development: you can then direct your development upon reality as opposed to empty theory.

Also a women's militia can be co-ordinated and developed alongside existing integrated but male controlled cadres. Both could serve the same basic organizational structure like the left arm and the right arm serves the common body.

How does the Afro-American Intelligence Organization (A.A.I.O.) sound to you?