

A WORD OR 2

Mba Mbulu, Editor

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“Black Nationalism is the only real solution for Black People in the United States.”

Two Big Black Tragedies

The Republic of New Afrika and the Washitaw Nations

I write about the ideology of the Republic of New Afrika and the Washitaw Nation often, and several pages of my web site refer to them. That is because I think, together, they can address many of the immediate and long term needs of Black People in the United States of America. When the founders of the RNA declared Black People’s independence from white power America in 1968, and created a Provisional Government whose primary purpose was to prepare Us to “free the land,” We were being exposed to a viable long range solution to Our problems. And when the Washitaw began petitioning the United Nations for recognition of Black People as indigenous American people, and established a process whereby We could do the paperwork, declare Our Washitaw citizenship and avail Ourselves of the rights of indigenous people, it provided Us with some intermediate steps We could take toward self government and independence. When these two structures function as they were intended to function, they help Black People in the United States of America see a way to something better. That is why white power America decided to attack and destabilize the RNA and Washitaw nations.

Partly as a result of these attacks, the RNA lost grasp of its ideological essence and the Washitaw lost its ability to provide its citizens with their citizenship papers. Two of the most important things “progressive” Blacks can be doing today include seizing control of the RNA and returning its focus to preparing Black People to “free the land,” and taking control of the Washitaw Nation so that Black individuals can get the paper work done to declare their Washitaw citizenship and learn how to carry out some of the functions independent people carry out.

Black People in the United States are battle tested when it comes to being reactive (e.g., absorbing white America’s abuse and coming back for more), but We are not battle tested when it comes to being proactive (fighting to establish Our own system, one that is independent of white power). That helps explain why We have such a low economic and po-

litical IQ. Once We learn how to fight, We will expend less time, energy and resources on struggles that can not free Us from white America’s control, and more time, energy and resources on struggles that can take Us to self government and independence.

Think about all of the time We spend supporting political prisoners and others who have been snared by white America’s legal system. Think about all of the time We spend protesting against how the victims of Katrina are treated. Think about all of the time We spend protesting against unequal housing, poor education, a racist health and medical system, etc. The list goes on and on and on, but the fact of the matter is that protesting in that manner can not help Us free Ourselves of white America’s claws. In spite of how noble efforts like that might be, the bottom line is that they constitute a waste of valuable time, energy and resources. We should be spending that time, energy and resources on projects that can help Us free Ourselves.

We should start working with the RNA, protest about how it has lost its focus, lead the effort to return it to its original area of concentration, and seize control of the Provisional Government if that proves to be necessary. Do the same with the Washitaw. Learn what the citizenship process involves and take on the responsibility of getting the process up and running again. The ideology of the RNA and Washitaw are the property of all Black People. When some Black individual fail to function as they should, other Black individuals have the right to take control of the machinery and make it serve the purpose it was intended to serve.

There are two big tragedies handicapping the Black community in the United States. One is the tendency of caring and progressive Blacks to waste time, resources and energy “hustling backwards” (protesting in a way that will keep Us under the control of white power). The other is the tendency of caring and progressive Blacks to not embrace and work for the realization of those ideas that can take Us to self government and independence.

