

## Choose A Side

### "DIVIDE & CONQUER!"

Here at "Skeleton Bay," upon our (Blacks/New Afrikans) receiving the sad and unfortunate news in regard the outright assassination - - MURDER BY PROXY WHITE SUPREMACIST TOOLS - - OF OUR BELOVED AND DIE-HARD "Yogi," a great many naturally were deeply impacted to the degree of being tremendously infuriated and virtually "up-in-arms" on a literal level. As soon as the word of Hugo Pinell's demise circulated, I realized the severity of the matter, particularly and especially in terms of the immediate violent ramifications that this reactionary collaborist "hit" could definitely trigger.

That is, if those of us rational-heads defaulted in our obligations by failure to appropriately intervene so as not to allow "emotions" to dictate and drive the situation. To my mind, the fact that the diverse "PSEUDO-TRIBES" - - I say "pseudo-tribes," because although there certainly are group-divisions/factional trippin' amongst Blacks/New Afrikans - - we're rightfully angered by what transpired, communicated a level of COLLECTIVE AFFINITY, i.e., superficial recognition that, YES; Yogi was/is OUR BROTHA and WE ARE BROTHAZ confronted by the same foes.

*"In the history of English poetry, the window has often been conceived of as a figure for imagination, as a lens through which we see, through which we envision.*

*And part of what's at stake is that to fix a broken window is to FIX ANOTHER WAY OF IMAGINING THE WORLD. To literally fix it, to destroy it, to regulate it, to exclude it, to imprison it. But also at the same time to incorporate it, to capitalize upon it, to exploit it, to accumulate it. This state can't live with us and they can't live without us. It's important to recognize too that the broken window, the alternative unfixed window through which we see the world is not just the way in which WE SEE AND IMAGINE THAT WHICH DOES EXIST. IT'S IMPORTANT TO IMAGINE HOW THINGS MIGHT BE OTHERWISE, BUT IT'S ALSO REALLY IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND AND TO SEE WHO AND WHAT WE ARE RIGHT NOW. 'CAUSE I THINK THEY SEE WHO AND WHAT WE ARE..."*

*- Fred Moten  
(Do Black Lives Matter?)*

Yet, the correct and logical approach, of course, was to allow things to develop in order to be in a better position to assess matters in terms of waiting to receive valid information regarding the incident at New Folsom, since otherwise we'd be doing exactly what those whom MURDERED Hugo Pinell desired - - BE THE REACTIONARIES IN WHICH THEY SURELY ARE. As matters turned out, what many Blacks/New Afrikans assumed had took place as far as "by whose hands" and the motivation behind the assassination of our true warrior-brotha, was not hardly accurate, and thus, the crucial LESSON to be derived from this experience in "psycho-emotional warfare;" is for US to THINK and always ACT on the basis of keepin'..."POLITICS IN COMMAND." If we fail to do so, as is or would be irresponsible, we'll allow the deception of CDCR/State Officials across the board to undermine our collective/prison class

\* the reality is there are but artificial constructs or manufactured dichotomies, since we're actually ONE TRIBE - NEW AFRIKANS -



constructive endeavors while simultaneously being unintelligently out-maneuvered, i.e., to be played like amateurs of the "game."

This experience also made me reflect upon what I place in the category of a most pernicious and quite dangerous contradiction in which Blacks/New Afrikans of sound minds and sincere hearts CANNOT responsibly ignore, although many shall CHOOSE TO GO ON IGNORING SUCH, DUE TO THEIR REFUSAL TO MAKE THE REQUIRED LEAP. QUALITATIVELY SPEAKING, ON THE IDEOLOGICAL LEVEL AND IN TERMS OF DEEP COMMITMENT TOWARDS FOCUSED-AGENDAS.

What I asked myself was, although one can't help but appreciate and be very proud of the depth of concern shown on behalf of Yogi and other brothaz whom were TARGETED for daring to aid him, by the various "pseudo-tribal" affiliations here in Cali and beyond, what is MUCH MORE IMPORTANT, in terms of actual "Identification;" is for US to dig deep on the psychological-emotional levels, so as to assume an identification with regard to the IDEOLOGICAL/POLITICAL PRINCIPLES that our martyred Komrade-in-arms stood on in total resistance of our oppressors.

I mean, as Yogi embodied certain revolutionary/New Afrikan principles in which made him the WARRIOR-MAN that we profess to admire, then, what better way to honor his and others' memories/lives then by acquainting ourselves with and genuinely endeavoring to push these high-principles, thereby KEEPING his and the spirits of others alive? Will and shall...WE CHOOSE TO BE, that "New Man/Woman" in which Yogi and others who've transitioned or remain in the physical realm were/are examples of and called/call on US to evolve into by the necessitated labor of ideological development?

Is it really enough to merely identify with our brothaz/sistaz whom labor/sacrifice for US based on the depth of compassion and identification which they have/had for the globally oppressed and exploited; or are we in fact obliged to strive heart and mind toward the gradual assumption of those positive qualities in which our Hugo Pinells, Assata Shakurs, Mumias, Kevin Rashids, Big Tookies, Fred Hamptons, Mutulu Shakurs, Bunchy Carters and many more whom embodied/embody these dynamic qualities?

If what we truly value of them, are their level of loyalty, discipline, unselfishness, commitment, fortitude, leadership, etc., etc., then, WHY do we in large part fail to take it to that level in which we obviously deeply admire, respect and indeed discern the need for?

At any rate, as we're aware, EMOTIONS...SOON FADE. Yet, MENTALITIES and OUTLOOKS (e.g., ideologies and worldviews = one's or a group's beliefs and how they/one sees life) persist as we observe on the level of those still stubbornly rooted in and motivated by - - "PSEUDO-TRIBAL" affiliations in the form of Cripism, Bloodism or Black/New Afrikan GANGS, whom after having vented their just rage during the '92 L.A. Rebellion, resumed normal programs as far as persisting in the self-hatred, self-murder, disunity and destruction of our people/'hoods.

There are those whom feign as though they don't grasp the fact that, even if one isn't on these prison yards or in the 'hoods/streets involved in "gang-bangin'" on the level of provoking and encouraging Black-on-Black/New Afrikan antagonisms over debts, colors, basketball games, tattoos, cuzz/blood words or other forms of thinking and acting which typically cause conflicts, this doesn't, then, mean that somehow



ONE NO LONGER GANG BANGS. In truth, as long as an individual is prepared to take a side (e.g., provide weapons, support, etc.) against this or that “pseudo-tribe” of Blacks/New Afrikans, ONE IS ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN GANG BANGIN’; even as proven by whom YOU feel/believe is obligated to receive your loyalty, i.e., you remain committed to DIVISIVE THINKING and conduct motivated by and rooted in a GANG/’HOOD MENTALITY or HOMEBOYISM, PERIOD!

*YES, YOU ARE RULED BY A SENSE OF HOMBOYISM OR GANGISM, AND NOT BY A SENSE OF HIGH-PRINCIPLE WHICH REPUDIATE AND OPPOSE THE DIVISIVE GANG MENTALITY.*

When one has genuinely made that “qualitative ideological leap;” the realization is his that, to “CHOOSE A SIDE;” is to actually CONDONE and PROMOTE or PERPETUATE - - Black-on-Black violence/gang-banging. What is it, when an individual whom claims to no longer gang-bangs, yet, he takes the incorrect and inconsistent position that, “RIGHT or WRONG;” he’ll back his homeboy/homies or whom still uses dehumanizing and disrespectful words (e.g., “crab” or “slob”) when referring to this or that individual? I’ve long since boldly and proudly declared that...I AM NOT A GANG BANGER or ENGAGED ANY LONGER IN THE RED VS. BLUE NONSENSE over ‘hoods which we don’t even own or control.

No, I don’t harbor adolescent and misadventurous animosity towards those whom I once FOOLISHLY saw and treated as so-called “enemies” - - WHICH SOME OLDER FOOL PUT IN MY HEAD BY HIS /THEIR IMMATURE THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS WHICH I HEARD AND SAW - - since I’ve evolved way beyond such irrationality and don’t play with deadly illusions. My LOYALTY goes to the struggle for liberation, effective security, unification and prosperous development of the Black/New Afrikan...NATION.

*“...They see who and what we are through the SIGHTS OF THEIR GUNS, THROUGH THEIR SURVEILLANCE MECHANISMS. I sometimes think THEY KNOW ABOUT WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE CAN DO THAN WE DO....I think it’s important to be able to understand just enough about WHAT THEY DO SO THAT IT CAN GIVE US A MORE CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHAT WE DO AND WHO WE ARE. HOW WE NEED TO ACT, HOW WE NEED TO BEHAVE. NOT IN RESPONSE TO THEM, BUT IN THE DEEPEST AND MOST RADICAL EXTENSION OF THE HISTORICAL TENDENCY OF BLACK SOCIAL LIFE TO CONSTANTLY BOTH IMAGINE AND ENACT ANOTHER WAY OF LIVING ON EARTH.”*

*- Ibid.*

What did the brotha emphasize for instructive purposes in terms of the important implications, SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY and POLITICALLY; involved: “I SOMETIMES THINK THEY KNOW ABOUT WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE CAN DO THAN WE DO?” Now, give that observation some serious reflection on the level of OUR HISTORY OF SUSTAINED RESISTANCE IN ONE FORM OR ANOTHER SINCE OUR ARRIVAL TO THIS STOLEN LAND.



As previously emphasized, I've already long since made that requisite qualitative ideological leap - - **BROKE THE CHAIN THAT IS GANGSTERISM/GANG-BANGING** - - as I recognize **NO DIFFERENT "TRIBES"** amongst us, but that in truth, **WE ARE ACTUALLY ONE TRIBE = A NEW AFRIKAN PEOPLE/ETHNICITY**; like it or not! Yes, this is our actual reality across the country and it is only the damn unintelligent and detrimental **DIVISIONS** in folks' heads and hearts that has most in these jails, toms, in the 'hoods, etc., **CAUGHT UP IN A DECEPTIVE WEB WHICH SPIDERMAN HAS SPUN** and **WILLIE LYNCH INSPIRED**, i.e., in **OUR** historical context here in Amerika, "gangs" or "gang banging" Is truly a **FABRICATED PHENOMENON** geared towards **DESTRUCTION** and **DISUNITY**.

Obviously, we did not escape from the plantations prior to, during and nor after the Civil War..."**BANGIN**" this or that "**GANG**." The only "color" and "word" that actually mattered to us, was **BLACK** and **FREEDOM**! And those we identified as being involved in (gang)sterism and banging against our people, were those of **WHITE SKIN** callin' us and treating us like "**NIGGERS**!" Crips, Bloods, Kumis/Bay Area Brothaz, Muslim-Christian Brothaz and non-affiliated Blacks/New Afrikans are my people; and no individual/groups on this planet shall ever force A'JENE to think and act otherwise...

### **My Side is Chosen...What of Yours?**

*\* Pseudo: a combining form meaning FALSE or PRETENDED*

*\* Tribe: a group of people DESCENDED from the SAME ANCESTORS having similar CUSTOMS and TRADITIONS.*

That be YOU, I, US and WE! We all derive from those **ANCESTORS** whom were enslaved on this land in which their "**BLOOD, SWEAT & TEARS**" made possible for US to be alive today! So, as with Yogi, **HONOR** their memories and brave sacrifices.

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