

KNOW YOUR ENEMY

6 San Francisco Chronicle

Wed., Feb. 13, 1974

SYMBIONESE 'DECLARATION'

This is the complete text of the "Declaration of Revolutionary War" that accompanied the ransom letter received yesterday in the Patricia Hearst kidnaping case:

THE SYMBIONESE FEDERATION & THE SYMBIONESE LIBERATION ARMY DECLARATION OF REVOLUTION- ARY WAR & THE SYMBIONESE PROGRAM

AUGUST 21, 1973

The Symbionese Federation and The Symbionese Liberation Army is a united and federated grouping of members of different races and people and socialist political parties of the oppressed people of The Fascist United States of America, who have under black and minority leadership formed and joined The Symbionese Federated Republic and have agreed to struggle together in behalf of all their people and races and political parties interest in the gaining of FREEDOM and SELF DETERMINATION and INDEPENDENCE for all their people and races.

The Symbionese Federation is NOT A GOVERNMENT, but rather it is a united and federated formation of members of different races and political parties who have agreed to struggle in a UNITED FRONT for the independence and self determination of each of their races and people and The Liquidation of the Common Enemy.

And who by this federated formation represent their future and independent pre-governments and nations of their people and races. The Symbionese Federation is NOT A PARTY, but rather it is a Federation, for its members are made up of members of all political parties and organizations and races of all the most oppressed people of this fascist nation, thereby forming unity and the full representation of the interests of all the people.

The Symbionese, Liberation Army is an army of the people, and is made up of members of all the people. The S.L.A. has no political power or political person over it that dictates who will fight and die if needed for the freedom of our people and children, but does not risk their life or fight so for our freedom, but rather the S.L.A. is both political and military in that the army officer, whether female or male is also the political officer and they both are the daughters and sons of the people and they both fight as well as speak for the freedom of our people and children.

The Symbionese Federation and The Symbionese Liberation Army is made up of the aged, youth and women and men of all races and people. The name Symbionese is taken from the word symbiosis and we define its meaning as a body of dissimilar bodies and organisms living in deep and loving harmony and partnership in the best interest of all within the body.

We of the Symbionese Federation and The S.L.A. define ourselves by this name because it states that we are no longer willing to allow the enemy of all our people and children to murder, oppress and exploit us nor define us by color and thereby maintain division among us, but rather have joined together under black and minority leadership on behalf of all our different races and people to build a better and new world for our children and people's future. We are a United Front and Federated Coalition of men, women from the Asian, Black, Brown, Indian, White, Women, Grey and Gay Liberation Movements.

Who have all come to see and understand that only we unite and build our new world and future, will there really be a future for our children and people. We of the People and not the ruling capitalist class, will build a new world and system. Where there is really freedom and a true meaning to justice and equality for all women and men of all races and people, and an end to the murder and oppression, exploitation of all people.

We of the Symbionese Federation and The S.L.A. are the children of all oppressed people, who have decided to redefine ourselves as a Symbionese Race and People. Yet, recognizing the rich cultures of each and enforcing our rights to existence of our many cultures within a united federation of independent and sovereign nations, each of them flourishing and protected by its own laws and codes of self determination.

We are of many colors, but yet of one mind, for all in history's time on this earth have become part of each other in suffering and in mind, and have agreed to the murder, oppression and exploitation of our children and people must end now, for we all have seen the murder, oppression and exploitation of our people for too long under the hand of the same enemy and class of people and under the same system.

Knowing this, the Symbionese Federation and The S.L.A. know that our often murderous alienation from each other aids and is one of the fundamental strengths behind the ruling capitalist class's ability to murder and oppress us all. By not allowing them to define us by color, and also recognizing that by refusing ourselves to also internalize this false division definition, knowing that in mind and body we are facing the same enemy and that we are all comrades of one people, the murdered and oppressed, we are now able to become a united people under the Symbionese Federation and make true the words of our codes of unity that TO DIE A FACE, AND BE BORN A NATION, IS TO BECOME FREE.

Therefore, we of the Symbionese Federation and the S.L.A. DO NOT under the rights of human beings submit to the murder, oppression and exploitation of our children and people and do under the rights granted to the people under the Declaration of Independence of The United States, do now by the rights of our children and people and by Force of Arms and with every drop of our blood, Declare Revolutionary War against the Fascist Capitalist Class, and all their agents of murder, oppression and exploitation. We support by Force of Arms the just struggles of all oppressed people for self determination and independence within the United States and The World. And hereby offer to all liberation movements, revolutionary workers groups, and peoples organizations our total aid and support for struggle for freedom and justice for all people and races. We call upon all revolutionary black and other oppressed people within the Fascist United States to come together and join The Symbionese Federation and fight in the forces of The Symbionese Liberation Army.

★ ★ ★

THE GOALS OF THE SYMBIONESE LIBERATION ARMY

1. To unite all oppressed people into a fighting force and to destroy the system of the capitalist state and all its value systems. To create in its place a system and sovereign nations that are in the total interest of all its races, and people, based on the true affirmation of life, love, trust, and honesty, freedom and equality that is truly for all.
2. To assure the rights of all people to self determination and the rights to build their own nation and government, with representatives that have shown through their actions to be in the interest of their people. To give the right to all people to select and elect their own representatives and governments by direct vote.
3. To build a people's federated council, who will be a male and female of each People's Council or Sovereign Nation of The Symbionese Federation of Nations, who shall be the representatives of their nations in the forming of trade pacts and unified defense against any external enemy that may attack any of the free nations of the federation and to form other aids to each others' needs.
4. To aid and defend the cultural rights of all the sovereign nations of The Symbionese Federation, and to aid each nation in the building of educational and other institutions to meet and serve this need for its people.
5. To place the control of all the institutions and industries, of each nation into the hands of its people. To aid sovereign nations of the federation to build nations where work contributes concretely to the full interest and needs of its workers and the communal interest of its communities and its people and the mutual interest of all within the federation of nations.

6. To aid and defend the rights of all oppressed people to build nations which do not institute oppression and exploitation, but rather does institute the environment of freedom and defends that freedom on all levels and for all of the people, and by any means necessary.

7. To give back to all people their human and constitutional rights, liberty, equality and justice and the right to bear arms in the defense of these rights.

8. To create a system where our aged are cared for with respect, love, and kindness and aided and encouraged to become assets in their own ways to their nations and to their communal community. That the life that moves around them is not a frightening and murderous one and where life is not a fear, but rather one of love and feeling and of unity.

9. To create a system and laws that will neither force people into nor force them to stay into personal relationships that they do not wish to be in, and to destroy all chains instituted by legal and social laws of the capitalist state which acts as a reinforcing system to maintain his form of imprisonment.

10. To create institutions that will aid, reinforce and educate the growth of our comrade women and aid them in making a new true and better role to live in life and in the defining of themselves as a new and free people.

11. To create new forms of life and relationships that bring true meanings of love to people's relationships, and to form communes on the community level and bring the children of the community into being the responsibility of the community, to place our children in the union of real comradeship and in the care and loving interest of the revolutionary community.

12. To destroy the prison system, which the capitalist state has used to imprison the oppressed and exploited, and thereby destroy the love, unity, and hopes of millions of lives and families. And to create in its place a system of comradeship and that of group unity and education on a communal and revolutionary level within the community, to bring home our daughters and sons, and sisters and brothers, fathers and mothers and welcome them home with love and a new revolutionary comradeship of unity.

13. To take control of all state land and that of the capitalist class and to give back the land to the people. To form laws and codes that safeguard that no person can own the land, or sell the land, but rather the nations' people own the land and use it for their needs and interest to live. No one can own or sell the air, the sky, the water, the trees, the birds, the sun, for all of this world belongs to the people of this earth.

14. To take controls of all buildings and apartment buildings of the capitalist class and fascist government and then to totally destroy the root system of exploitation.

15. To build a federation of nations, who shall formulate programs and unions of actions and interests that will destroy the capitalist value system and its other anti-human institutions and who will be able to do this by meeting all the basic needs of all of the people and their nations. For they will be all able to do this because each nation will have full control of all of its industries and institutions and does not run them for profit, but in the full interest of all the people of its nation.

M—To destroy all forms and institutions of Racism, Sexism, Ageism, Capitalism, Fascism, Individualism, Possessiveness, Competitiveness and all other such institutions that have made and sustained capitalism and the capitalist class system that has oppressed and exploited all of the people of our history.

By this means and the mutual aid and unity of each nation within The Symbionese Federation, will each nation be able to provide to each person and couple and family free of cost the five basic needs of life, which are food, health care, housing, education and clothing, and in this way allowing people to be able to find and form new values and new systems of relationships and interests based on a new meaning to life and love

**IF THE QUEST FOR FREEDOM IS DEATH
THEN BY THE DEATH OF THE ENEMY WILL
BLACK AND OTHER OPPRESSED PEOPLE
FIND AND REGAIN THEIR FREEDOM**

**TO THOSE WHO WOULD BEAR THE HOPES
AND FUTURE OF OUR PEOPLE, LET THE
VOICE OF THEIR GUNS EXPRESS THE WORDS
OF FREEDOM.**

★ ★ ★

UMOJA—LA UNIDAD—UNITY — To strive for and maintain unity in our household, our nation and in The Symbionese Federation.

KUJICHAGULIA—LA LIBRE DETERMINACION—SELF-DETERMINATION — To define ourselves, name ourselves, speak for ourselves and govern ourselves.

UJIMA—TRABAJO COLECTIVO Y RESPONSABILIDAD—COLLECTIVE WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY — To build and maintain our nation and the federation together by making our brothers' and sisters' and the Federation's problems our problems and solving them together.

UJAMAA — PRODUCTION COOPERATIVA — COOPERATIVE PRODUCTION — To build and maintain our own economy from our skills, and labor and resources and to insure ourselves and other nations that we all profit equally from our labor.

NIA—PROPOSITO—PURPOSE — To make as our collective vocation the development and liberation of our nation, and all oppressed people, in order to restore our people and all oppressed people to their traditional greatness and humanity.

KUUMBA—CREATIVO—CREATIVITY — To do all we can, as best we can, in order to free our nation and defend the federation and constantly make it and the earth that we all share more beautiful and beneficial.

IMANI—Fe—FAITH — To believe in our unity, our leaders, our teachers, our people, and in the righteousness and victory of our struggle and the struggle of all oppressed and exploited people.

★ ★ ★

THE UNITED SYMBIONESE WAR COUNCIL TERMS OF MILITARY/POLITICAL ALLIANCE

Our commitment to the revolutionary struggle for self-determination for all oppressed people and races and the international proletarian revolution is total and fully uncompromisable. Therefore, any relationship the Symbionese War Council has with any group or organization is based on their active military-political commitment to the goal of gaining freedom for all oppressed people and races.

1. — Our alliance with any group or organization is based upon their firm decision to fight as well as talk in behalf of the people's interest, and once this commitment is clear then we can come together in order to:

- 1) collectively develop a common strategy
- 2) work together to develop tactical co-ordination
- 3) Assist each other in developing the abilities and talents of all the members of the Symbionese War Council and to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of the leadership in order to constantly better all aspects of the ability and actions of the War Council, and its individual leadership from other organizations.

2. — Command positions of The War Council are subject to the approval of all members of the council, based upon the military/political thinking and ability of the presented officer to work with others in the interest of freedom for all people and races.

3. — Command positions in The War Council are not appointed by one who knows, ones sex, ones color or by the group or organization one belongs to, but only by ones Courage, Determination, Intelligence, Aggressive Initiative and Capability as a leader and ones Military/Political thinking.

4. — All members of The War Council are expected and fully are responsible for the military/political leadership of The S.L.A., they must fight and speak for the people and this must be understood clearly by all members.

5. — No member of The War Council can elect or select himself or herself to a position such as the head of a government or people's council: the War Council is totally an **ALLIANCE OF WAR AGAINST THE COMMON ENEMY**. The people themselves shall have and hold the **ONLY RIGHT** to select and elect their governments and government heads of state.

6. — It is **NOT** the policy of The War Council to rip off leadership or membership from other organizations, but rather it is the policy of The War Council to aid and support the development and education of leadership to fulfill truly its responsibility to the people, and to allow the collective intelligence, leadership and resourcefulness of the leadership from different organizations and groups to flourish together and grow together; thereby forming an area where the collective interests and needs as well as weaknesses and strengths of each can benefit each in **THE COMMON STRUGGLE TO LIQUIDATE THE COMMON ENEMY**.

7. — A successful military force is a necessity for actualizing political goals and must therefore be held as a priority; therefore, the true assistance in the supplying of military equipment, materials, finances, personal is of the utmost importance, once these forces have fully committed themselves to open and total warfare against the common enemy and members of The War Council must understand this clearly.

8. — Leadership of any group or organization who is truly committed and in agreement with the goals of The S.L.A. and the terms of military-political alliance may be presented to The War Council; however, the presented officer's membership is not confirmed until it is verified that prior to presentation for membership a combat action has been taken part in by that group or organization within the last 12 months.

9.—Once The War Council collectively agrees to an action or plan of strategy then that action shall be understood as an action of The S.L.A., and not of any single group or organization. Just as the fingers cannot call themselves a fist, and the fist cannot call itself the fingers. From time to time the membership on The War Council may disagree upon a particular action or strategy. When in disagreement, that particular membership need not participate in The S.L.A. action, but membership on The War Council is maintained only as long as all commitments made to the collective Symbionese War Council are continued to be fully adhered to. It is the disagreeing group or organization's responsibility to, on its own, prove out their ideas in order to change or modify its own or the collective War Council's direction.

10.—It is the policy of The War Council not to involve itself in the internal political affairs of disagreements that may result within different organizations or groups. However, The War Council recognizes and accepts membership to the Council of any military-political unit, cell or organization that qualifies and shall recognize them as true representatives of that particular organization or group. It is the collective policy of The War Council that the failure of the elected leadership to take her or his revolutionary responsibility as far as the War Council is concerned shall be totally the responsibility of the elected leader and not that of The War Council.

11.—Organizations or groups that wish to serve in combat units must select two persons, one female and one male (if possible), who have full responsibility and authority to act and represent their group or organization and who will hold a command position in the unified command of The United Symbionese War Council.

12.—All members of The Symbionese War Council must clearly understand that our commitment is total and our goal is the total freedom of the people and children and the destroying totally of the common enemy. Therefore, it is held that any restraining of supplies or other war materials, etc. for political reasons or reactionary reasons or political chess games with the enemy, by any officer or other persons in the War Council that by its actions endangers the lives of the women and men of The Symbionese Liberation Army shall be held as a full and total violation of this alliance pact and compromising with the enemy and the freedom and life of the people and children and therefore is punishable by death.

**TO THOSE WHO WOULD BEAR THE HOPES
AND FUTURE OF THE PEOPLE, LET THE
VOICE OF THEIR GUNS EXPRESS THE WORDS
OF FREEDOM.**

Gen. Field Marshall
CIN
S.L.A.

TACTICAL SUPPORT UNITS

Each cell of The S.L.A. TACTICAL SUPPORT UNITS is composed of elements of other organizations and groups and individuals. Under the strategy of The S.L.A. it is totally impossible to follow the egotistic aspirations of many leaders of political organizations, since they continue to organize new organizations everytime one falls apart. When they fail to understand that the people always organize to fight the enemy; and when leaders fail to start the fight, then the people fall from that organization.

To continue in this manner is totally reactionary, egotistic, opportunist and anti-revolutionary, since to do so only allows for the continued grouping and regrouping, the same revolutionary people for the fight that never ends and with the only purpose of organizing.

This is totally anti-revolutionary for within the purpose of revolution there is only TWO DEEP PURPOSES: TO DESTROY THE ENEMY AND FREE THE PEOPLE. This in itself means the need for an army of the people that fights the enemy.

In order to organize, one must organize in support of something, one does not organize in support of having or purpose to organize around, and since in revolution it is : purpose to organize around, and since in revolution it is the purpose to organize to fight the enemy and to support those that fight on the front lines, it is then clear that the people organize to fight and destroy the enemy. They do not organize to fight the enemy and then when it is time to fight, claim that to fight the enemy will end the organization for this would show them to be loyal to notions and the organization and not true revolutionaries that love the people and children.

Since you as members of the people have organized to fight the enemy, for the reason that you are and do love the people, then it is clear to you where your true responsibility is, and that is to join and support those who are on the front lines fighting the enemy for us all, regardless of color, group or organization they belong to, for the people are just this, they are not an organization or color or group, they are the oppressed, exploited and the murdered. They are those we love and for whom we, if needed are willing to die for, they are our children.

Therefore what is needed now is for you as lovers of the people to select in what area you are able and willing to fight in or give support to, either in the combat units or support units of The S.L.A., the choice is yours alone: to be and show yourself as lovers of the people and our children and true to your word revolutionaries or as egotistic opportunists and lovers of the group and organization and enemies of the people.

verted by the conditionings which they have been subjected, they have been conditioned to be afraid of revolutionary violence. I no longer have these fears because as a comrade of mine named Osceola has taught me, "The only way to destroy fear is to destroy the makers of fear, the murderer and the oppressor." A revolutionary is not a criminal nor is she or he an adventurer, and revolutionary violence is nothing but the most profound means of achieving internal as well as external balance.

I would like to correct and clarify the information given to you by the regime-controlled media and police-state reports associating the Symbionese Liberation Army with the August 7th. First of all, statements about August 7th literature and original communiques being found in the Concord house are completely untrue. The Symbionese Liberation Army is NOT the August 7th; in fact, the August 7th is a counter revolutionary Oakland City and California State police plot to discredit revolutionaries and confuse the people. Freedom fighters act only in the interest of the people, they do not unnecessarily shoot down a helicopter whose crashing would endanger lives of people in their communities, nor do they credit themselves with events or accidents that occur in which they had no part, nor do they issue threats which they are unprepared to carry out, nor do they expose the nature and whereabouts of their forces, as for example in the recent statement issued by August 7th saying that armed guerrilla units existed inside the prisons. The events and communiques associated with the August 7th served only enemy purposes: that is, a state wide lock-down went into effect in the prisons and the people began to think of revolutionary action as that which would endanger their lives and homes. As a member of the SLA I can tell you that the SLA takes full credit and responsibility for its actions, we acknowledge everything that we do, and if I had participated as a decoy in a taxi cab incident I would say so. However, I would like to tell you not to rely solely on my analysis that the August 7th and the Oakland and California State Political Police are one in the same, but instead, just take a look for yourselves. Ask yourselves of the extent to which the police state will go to discredit revolutionaries by labelling all street violence as revolutionary activity and by issuing nothing but threatening communiques and then saying that such threats were coming from revolutionaries. It isn't just coincidence that the week the August 7th issued an idle threat against the life of prison official Procunier, was the same week that the California legislature re-instated the death penalty.

The house in Concord, Calif. was a Symbionese Liberation Army information/intelligence headquarters, nothing more. The house was set on fire by me only to melt away any fingerprints that may have been overlooked. It never was intended that the fire would totally destroy the premises, because there was nothing left there that was of any real consequence to us, nor was there any material left behind that could stagnate the functioning ability of the SLA to carry on the struggle. The reports that mass armaments were found in that house is a lie. It is an attempt to frame my 2 comrade brothers and it is an assertion to cover up the fact that there were no weapons found there. All that remained were 3 broken BB guns, a couple of malfunctioning gas masks, a few research books, and several liberation posters on the walls. Also, let me tell you that no one living or coming to that house was a part of the SLA combat forces. This can be easily verified; first of all, everyone in SLA combat forces is offensively armed with cyanide bullets in all weapons that they carry; and up until today this had NOT been the case for SLA information/intelligence units or any support units, at that time all units but combat were only defensively armed with hand guns and carried no cyanide bullets. Secondly, we can easily verify that the ballistics on the .380 now in the hands of pig agents do not match those of the weapon used in the attack on the Oakland Board of Education. Information/intelligence units or any support units were never allowed to possess or have any contact with combat line weapons. Beginning January 11th however, a directive was issued by The SLA and The Court of the People stating that as of that date, all units of The Symbionese Liberation Army are to be heavily, and offensively armed with cyanide bullets in all their weapons. I would like to convey the word, to my 2 captured comrades: you have not been forgotten, and you will be defended because there has been no set back and all combat forces are intact.

There really are no words available to me to express what I feel about the capture of my two compañeros. They are in a concentration camp now because none of us were offensively armed, and because I was not aware that they were under attack. But my beautiful brothers, as we have said many times, we learn from our mistakes, and we learn from our active participation in struggle, not from political rhetoric, so we won't cry, but simply fight on; and right on with that. A comrade of mine, Bo, says something that I'd like to leave you with:

"There are two things to remember about revolution, we are going to get our asses kicked, and we are going to win."

**"DEATH TO THE FASCIST INSULT
THAT PREYS UPON THE LIFE OF
THE PEOPLE."**

Fahr, ch