



## HUEY P. NEWTON READY TO COME HOME

By Raymond H. Boone, Editor  
Richmond Afro-American

HAVANNA (NNPA)--Huey P. Newton, the 34-year-old co-founder of the Black Panther Party, exiled in Cuba for more than a year, is awaiting his lawyer's okay to return to America and stand trial on a bizarre string of alleged crimes.

In our hour-long interview, Newton stated that he was "very happy" in Cuba. He appreciated the red-carpet treatment of Fidel Castro's socialist government, but he is ready to return home and face the charges against him -- "though" he said, "I am not guilty."

"I was about to go back and face the charges" -- but then "renegade scab Eldridge Cleaver returned," Newton said. "So my attorneys came in and they advised me to wait until after he (Cleaver) goes before the House of Internal Affairs Committee to see what might come out of that. "I am in a position to wait and see."

While his big winning smile and easy manner give the outward impression of a man at peace with himself, Newton is an intense, restless young man who must deal with an issue head-on once he has made a decision. He is also homesick, yearning to be back with relatives and friends and top operate from the American scene which is more familiar to him.

I got this impression of Newton after meeting him at dinner and later chatting with him over drinks with other newspaper colleagues who were part of an American delegation on a visit to

Cuba a couple of weeks ago.

I met Newton in the lobby of the Havana Riviera, a luxury, Miami Beach-type facility built by American gangsters just before Castro led the Cuban people to independence in 1959, after three decades of American exploitation of the island 90 miles from Miami.

He looked more like a movie star than one with a reputation of a revolutionary theoretician. Possibly influenced by Castro's practice of wearing only military fatigues, I had some how expected him to be wearing something resembling a "Black Panther outfit" -- at least the leather jacket. Instead he looked like a model who just stepped off the cover of Gentlemen's Quarterly wearing an expensive, perfect fitting faded denim outfit.

During the interview, it became obvious that there remains bad blood between Newton and Cleaver, the former minister of information for the Black Panthers who was expelled by the party in 1971 in an ideological spat.

In addition to calling Cleaver a "renegade scab," Newton sharply criticized him for supporting Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's foreign policy related to Third World Countries, and blamed Cleaver for the Panthers' violent philosophy during the turbulent Sixties.

Newton said Cleaver's stand with Kissinger shows Cleaver has gone beyond "shuffling" to return to the U.S. where he faces charges of

attempted murder and assault stemming from a 1968 shoot out between Panthers and Oakland, Calif. police. "He is not shuffling; he is crawling back," Newton said.

Newton, who once represented the epitome of black rage against white racism in America, said that he sought to get the Panthers to abandon the gun philosophy during the Sixties -- but was unsuccessful because of Cleaver's influence over Panther leaders.

"...I tried to get the party to stop the shooting, to stop their talk about the gun thing," Newton said. "They voted me down. We always had a central committee. They were mesmerized by Eldridge Cleaver."

Newton said he was "in solidarity" with the Panthers' current program of fielding political campaigns and community service projects such as free lunch programs and shoe distribution centers.

Once back in the U.S., Newton indicated that he plans to devote much of his time to bring about black liberation through the mobilization of blacks to put "the right" blacks into City Hall and other "authoritative" places.

Newton observed that black Americans and Cubans face the same enemies -- "white racist North American authorities" -- but the difference in the two groups is that "the Cubans found a way to liberate themselves" while blacks "have not."

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## HOSTS OF THE YEAR

Dr. and Mrs. Garnet Ice outdid themselves when they hosted a most elaborate welcome party honoring several prominent new physicians at their lovely Cayuga Parkway home, Tuesday evening.

The honories who have established practice in Las Vegas are: Dr. Angela W. Clarke, family practice; Dr. Thomas A. Beck, III, obstetrics and gynecology; Dr. A. Wesley Rachels, family practice; and Dr. Edwin T. Witt, pediatrics.

Among the guests who attended and enjoyed cocktails and buffet dinner poolside were: Mrs. Edwina Witt, Mr. Luke Webb, father of Dr. Clarke, Stan Webb of Nairobi, Kenya, Dr and Mrs. Charles I. West, Sandra McIlveen, Mrs. Grace McGlothen, Dr. and Mrs. Bert Babero, Miss Pamela Ice, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Bailey, Captain and Mrs. Larry Bolden, Dr. and Mrs. Claude Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kirkland, Judge Addeciar Guy, Dr. and Mrs. William U. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Bywater, Dr. and Mrs. Fred Boulevard, Rev. Marion Bennett, Mrs. Jennie Crawford, Dr. John Crear, Mrs. Lubertha Johnson, Dr. LeVerne Greene, flight surgeon, Mrdical Corp., Nellis AFB, Dr. Lonnie Sisson, Mr. Joseph Spaulding, Mrs. Clara Bailey, Mr. and Mrs. David Hoggard, Senator Joe Neal, Mr. and Mrs. James Tyree, Dr. and Mrs. Alonzo Wright, Mr. Jesse D. Scott, Mrs. Karen Florence, Mr. C.W. Hill, Dr. and Mrs. Chris Rogers, Mr and Mr. William Porter, Mrs. Eleanor Walker, Miss Marlene Robbins, Mr. Bernard Rivers, Dr. Owen Justice, dental surgeon, Nellis AFB, and Bert Babero, Jr.



Dr. and Mrs. Garnet Ice



From left, Dr. A. Wesley Rachels, Dr. Angela W. Clarke, Dr. Thomas A. Beck, III and Dr. Edwin T. Witt.