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## LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN AFRICA AND AFRICAN AMERICA

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Composed of FBI surveillance files on the activities of the African Liberation Support Committee and All African People's Revolutionary Party; this collection provides two unique views on African American support for liberation struggles in Africa, the issue of Pan-Africanism, and the role of African independence movements as political leverage for domestic Black struggles.

**Date Range:** 1970-1985

**Content:** 11,513 images

**Source Library:** Federal Bureau of Investigation HQ Library

### **Detailed Description:**

Militant Black nationalism and pan-Africanism influenced and paralleled African America's interest in Africa. Africa's entrance into the international arena and American Cold War politics, helped fuel the Civil Rights and the Black Power movements of the 1960s and 1970s.

The melding of Black nationalism and pan-Africanism led to the first of the African Liberation Days celebrations and political organizing. This political organizing led directly to the 1972 National Black Political Convention in Gary, Indiana. The convention was perhaps the most important political, cultural, and intellectual gathering of the Black Power era. The success of the second African Liberation Day led to the establishment of a permanent political organizing committee - the African Liberation Support Committee (ALSC). The ALSC served as both a pro-Africa lobby and a national educational and community organizing group.

In 1968, Kwame Nkrumah published a book entitled *Handbook of Revolutionary Warfare* in which he called for the formation of the All-African People's Revolutionary Party to coordinate and direct actions in support of the Liberation movement in sub-Saharan Africa. The All-African People's Revolutionary Party was a socialist group whose goal was the promotion of Pan-Africanism in the form of total liberation and unification of Africa under scientific socialism.

The Black Liberation Movement supported and extended the influence of the A-APRP within the African American community. Organizations like the Black Panthers and the Black Liberation Army had very similar goals as the A-APRP.

Working on college campuses and in local communities, The Black Liberation Movement and the A-APRP educated and recruited their cadre from amongst the revolutionary African American and Black Power organizations.

The FBI labeled both of the ALSC and A-APRP as subversive in the early 1970s and began an extensive surveillance campaign. The U.S. State Department provided additional surveillance assistance in re to Americans traveling to and from Africa. This collection includes primarily FBI surveillance and informant reports and correspondence from a variety of FBI offices including, New York City, Baltimore, New Haven, Los Angeles, Detroit, Miami, Atlanta, Newark, Kansas City, and Cleveland. In addition, there are excerpts from intercepted correspondence; Justice Department memoranda, correspondence, and analyses; newsclippings and articles; copies of handbills, pamphlets, and newsletters; Extremist Intelligence Section reports; speech excerpts. There are also a few documents that have been made available from the U.S. State Department.