About the Book
In Oakland, California, in 1966, community college students Bobby Seale and Huey Newton armed themselves, began patrolling the police, and promised to prevent police brutality. Unlike the Civil Rights Movement that called for full citizenship rights for blacks within the U.S., the Black Panther Party rejected the legitimacy of the U.S. government and positioned itself as part of a global struggle against American imperialism. In the face of intense repression, the Party flourished, becoming the center of a revolutionary movement.

Black Against Empire is the first comprehensive overview and analysis of the history and politics of the Black Panther Party. Informed by 12 years of meticulous archival research, as well as familiarity with most of the former Party leadership and many rank-and-file members, this book is the definitive history of one of the greatest challenges ever posed to American state power.

About the Authors:
Waldo E. Martin is Professor of History at UC Berkeley. His research interests include modern American history and culture, with particular emphasis on African American intellectual and cultural history. Dr. Martin’s publications include Civil Rights in the United States: An Encyclopedia, co-edited with Patricia A. Sullivan, Macmillan (2000), No Coward Soldiers: Black Cultural Politics in Postwar America, Harvard University Press (2005), and Freedom on My Mind: A History of African Americans with Documents, coauthored with Deborah Gray White and Mia Bay, Bedford/St. Martin’s (2012).

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