

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
MISSISSIPPI STATE CONFERENCE OF BRANCHES

1072 West Lynch Street
Jackson 3, Mississippi

April 3, 1961

MEMORANDUM:

TO: Mississippi NAACP Branches, Youth Councils and College Chapters

FROM: Mississippi Field Secretary and Regional Youth Secretary

RE: Expanded Racial Defense Policy

Dear Mr. Citizen:

On March 16, 1961, Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary NAACP, handed down the famous Expanded Racial Defense Policy. This policy grew out of the mass arrest of 388 College students in Orangeburg, South Carolina after a group of about 2,000 Negroes marched into town to announce their dissatisfaction of racial discrimination. They were met by police officers and deputized citizens with tear gas and water from Fireman's hoses which were six (6) inches in diameter.

On Wednesday, March 29, 1961, in the city of Jackson in front of the Municipal Court Building, stood about 125 Negroes along with some whites awaiting the outcome of nine of our NAACP Youth Members of Tougaloo's College Chapter, who were on trial for disturbing the peace in Jackson's Municipal Library. An episode took place which shall never be forgotten by many of us. The Negroes (approximately 125) were chased in an uncivilized manner by the police force (it is one that cannot be condoned by Negroes). Many Negroes were beaten, one known to have been bitten by one of the police dogs and another to have suffered injuries from blows made by the police as well as a white bystander. In view of such police brutality in the city of Jackson all Negroes are urged to implement the Expanded Racial Defense Policy which states: "To withhold retail patronage from all units of chain and variety stores in all sections of the country which maintain a policy of refusing to serve Negro customers at lunch counters, which refuse to hire Negroes as employees, which insist on having two drinking fountains, which refuse to accord courtesy titles to all Negroes and many others forms of segregation.

Negro Citizens in Jackson and in the State of Mississippi are called upon to fight vigorously to obtain human dignity and First Class Citizenship, by refraining from purchasing any items from any stores on with discriminatory policies. Also, from stores where you are not respected as a human being.

Don't buy segregation!! Remember you are only welcome when you are buying!! Your dollar is the only possession respected by the store manager. Complete withdrawal from town will bring First Class Citizenship for all !!!

This is your Country. Help make America's A Democratic government.

We're depending on you.