

One year after the announcement of the formation of a group which promised 'Birmingham' style demonstrations in Los Angeles until positive steps were taken towards liberty and justice for all our citizens, there has been no progress in our city. No positive steps have been taken toward desegregation of our schools, police malpractice is rife in the Negro community and private business still irresponsibly waits until the picket signs arrive before attempting to change their discriminatory hiring patterns.

N-VAC asks therefore where are the Birmingham style demonstrations? The growing frustrations in the Negro community have led to more and more violent demonstrations against authority, and yet those who profess to lead the Negro community give no direction to channel these energies into constructive, non-violent channels.

N-VAC feels that as long as so called Negro leaders use the Civil Rights movement for political gain and personal prestige the situation can only deteriorate. There is no real support for local demonstrations. Those who have been carrying the weight of the demonstrations receive no help from established Civil Rights groups or those Negro 'leaders' commonly called "responsible" by the press and the city administration.

These 'leaders' trade on the sacrifices of the few for their own motives.

At a recent press conference called by the UCRC, three executive members of the group attacked a Negro politician without stating they were in the campaign of his opponent. Other 'leaders' call press conferences to say what the Mayor and the Police Chief wish them to say without regard to the true feelings of the Negro community. These people apparently wish to be appointed to prestige appointments.

The N.A.A.C.P. and the U.C.R.C. etc. seem to agree with Mayor Yorty and Governor Brown that demonstrators in the South are to be aided and complimented, those here ignored or castigated. Public claims to the contrary, the N.A.A.C.P. on no occasion ~~has~~ has provided legal aid or bail funds for any of those arrested in Civil Rights demonstrations in the Los Angeles area. Woodrow Coleman has been arrested 14 times, others in N-VAC and CORE have multiple arrests. On a recent request from N-VAC for legal counsel, the U.C.R.C. refused aid, the N.A.A.C.P. did not answer. N-VAC feels the public should be informed that none of the money raised here for these purposes is being spent here. Why??

Governor Brown on Tuesday night during a radio interview said that the C.R.E.A. initiative will pass unless the extremist groups stop their illegal activities which 'anger the whites'. The Governor welcomed those same extremists in Sacramento when they were up there to help pass the administration sponsored fair housing bill. N-VAC feels sure that some 'whites' were and are angered by the abolition of slavery. If we are to move forward in this state we ask the administration to abandon hypocritical attitudes. The Negro community will not accept the position "that if you're a nice guy, they'll let you live next door".

N-VAC knows that to forestall chaos, the truly responsible Non-Violent leadership must take the initiative in the fight against discrimination.