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BIRMINGHAM BRANCH OF N. A. A. C. P.

729 Masonic Temple Bldg.

Birmingham, Alabama

April 23, 1948

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Dear Community Leader:

Your branch--the Birmingham Branch of the NAACP-- invites you to an emergency Birmingham Conference of Community Leaders to work out an effective plan for dealing with the alarming and increasing violence and terrorism against Negro citizens in Birmingham.

The meeting is called for 7 p. m. Tuesday, April 27, 1948, in the agency room of the Cooperative Life Insurance Company, located on the Fifth Floor of the Masonic Temple Building.

1. Three Negro citizens have been killed by Birmingham policemen within 21 days.
2. Negro citizens wearing NAACP membership buttons have had policemen to snatch them off, stomp them, insult the NAACP button-wearers and slander the name of the NAACP.
3. Negro business men are being beaten and intimidated in the heart of the Negro trading section.

This police terrorism seems to be a new pattern of racial suppression currently being launched in the South. Police officers in Birmingham seem to be playing the role of the "Black Raiders" of Georgia. Ways to combat and curb police brutality in Birmingham is the most pressing task before the decent people of this City at this moment.

Lay aside whatever you are doing to attend this meeting. Bring some ideas of your own relative to what you think can be done to correct this situation.

Time of the meeting is 7 p. m. Tuesday, April 27, in the agency room of the Cooperative Insurance Company, Masonic Temple Bldg.

Yours for united action,

W. S. Stephens
D. S. Stephens, President

E. O. Jackson
E. O. Jackson, Secretary

J. J. Green
J. J. Green, Chmn. Exec. Bd.

EOJ/grl