Roy Wilkins former Executive Director of the NAACP was dead after an editorial of his own death.

Deadline for all minorities, and a healthier economy between Black youth, low education, unemployment and minorities, yet both, it seems, do little to aid the cause at the idxtie11 could quite easily become the headlines of the federal government or private sources. Private industry and grandmother; Lucille Archie, 4 great aunts, 8 aunts, 5

EDITORIAL
At All Time High

The unemployment rate increased again in July, setting a new 28-year high,

Deceased

SPECIAL TABLOID SALUTE TO ROY WILKINS INSIDE

Bony barber
Barber Named Outstanding Young Man

SPECIAL TABLOID SALUTE TO ROY WILKINS INSIDE

At age 80

Rudy Barber

Barber Named Outstanding Young Man

The city of Los Angeles is finally ready to commit to the building of a new jail.

The verdict was quickly adopted as the official cause of death, although Thomas Nagurak said he was disturbed by the fact that the act was being approved by council members.

As long as America exists, a better place for all to live. His personality, inspiring, caring, and do “any other investigating we feel necessary.”

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REV. EDNOR RETURNS AND JEFFERSON BECOMES ELDER

Our warm congratulations and love go to the newly wed Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Baldwin who were in working service with us Sunday. Marriage is God's stability. We pray that you new wed will always bask in His love.

Sick and shut in: Mr. Young, Mrs. Stein, Mr. Johnson, Mrs. Edwards and Mr. Miller. We are glad to see Mr. Young at home. He returned home from the hospital Sunday afternoon.

So there are strangers at Temple House...only friends who haven't met us.

Rev. J.V. Ednor, Pastor

GRACE BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Wm Selton
PASTOR

Churches represented: Sis. Ruthie Selton

The Sunday School classes began the worship services with the right attitude. The classes were still 80 percent of the great work of God. We are not rejoicing because the Lord has been so good to us. We rejoice because our Adult Choir has been appearing before us. For the last three Sundays we were very appreciative for their wonderful singing. The Adult Choir has been under the direction of the Adult Choir president who is in their absence.

We welcome Dennis Eugene Beard who joined us in songs on their return from Brea, Calif. We would like to welcome the presence of the Sisters Gilbert in the city of San Bernardino and also the Christian family of Grace Bethel.

Rev. Selton spoke to our Test. 12:50 p.m. We reminded you of our Church Covenant that we repeat each Sunday. We were told that we should not say the Lord’s prayer with any obligation by the aid of the Holy Spirit. According to our Church Covenant which means we must enroll ourselves in the teaching of the Bible, support the preachers and also care for the expenses of the church. We realized that God is the Lord and we must be the choosers of the most essential means of growth in spiritually and the most effective way is God’s Word.

We are always happy to acknowledge the presence of our visitor even they have been with us before, Sis. Katrina Wright and her two sons Daniel Wright and DeMarie Wright from Plain Springs.

Our Adult Choir has been presenting songs of praises for the last couple of weeks, and we are planning to have a new choir this Sunday. Two hours will give me the time necessary to program a variety of music and also incorporate more diversity into the service. The following list includes a group of artists and their music that you will be hearing them in the next few weeks.

1. Voice Of Witness
   God’s Way To The Best Way
2. PATRICK
   Melodious Ensemble
3. Sam Davis Gospel Ensemble
   Keep on Pushing
4. Fourth of May
5. Grieving in the Church
   Rev. Julius Childs
6. Holy One
   Daily and the Supplied
7. Whispering Steps
   Brenton Brandman
8. Pray My Strength in the Lord
   Whispering Hope
9. I’m Happy with Jesus Alone
   To Be Man Christ
10. God’s Woman
    Michelle de Leon

The Robert E. Minor Choir is the leading choir in the Riverside A.M.E. Church, if you haven't been born again you will perish. It is our Christian duty to behave in the same manner. If we are to invite friends, neighbors and acquaintances to attend our services even though they have been with us before, Sis. Eurita Wright and her two sons Daniel Wright and DeMarie Wright from Plain Springs.

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Church of Christ Hosts Thousands at U.C.R.

On August 3 - 5, 1981, the Riverside Levada Ave Church of Christ hosted the 30th Annual National Youth Conference of the Churches of Christ on the spacious tree-lined campus of the University of Riverside, California in Riverside and over 1,000 people were registered in attendance. The theme of the conference was "Get. The Rooted of the Lord for Life," and the goal of the conference was to inspire and encourage our youth to greater faith and love of God, and to provide an opportunity for Christian encouragement and edification.

Many dignitaries were in attendance at this fine event including national directors Alvin Allcorn of nicknamed, Tennessee: Calvin Bever, Los Angeles, California; Daniel Glatsch of Maywood, Illinois; Carl Swanigan, Orum Trone, Sr., and Anna Bishop of Detroit, Michigan; Dean Gates, Sr., of Branches, Florida and Erase Wyrick of Dallas, Texas.

We are proud of the members of the congregation of the Riverside Levada Ave Church of Christ and recognize and lend our support to the conference coordinators, Brother Arnold Eugene Brown and Sister Daisy Brown and express gratitude and appreciation for their devoted efforts in bringing this worthwhile conference to Riverside for the benefit of our young people, said one delegate. "We were delighted to have had the privilege of inviting you to the 30th National Youth Conference of the Churches. The conference shows remarkable growth and success over the past thirty years. It is our duty and prayer to God that the Youth Conference will continue to inspire and encourage our youth to greater heights in the Lord's Work," remarked Daisy Brown.

The theme for this year, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say," was very challenging one. An all-inclusive conference was needed to be realized, therefore our youth are compelled to be on guard. The topics were designed to strength and edify the youth in the Faith and most of all in the love of God which passes all understanding," said Brown.

"THE MARCH FOR CHRIST"

The annual March of the National Youth conference is always considered a highlight of the conference. All states represented, hand-in-hand in alphabetical order, beginning with Arizona and ending with the State of Washington, approximately forty young people, some students, and young leaders and banners and flags with such messages as "Christ dead and by all," "Salvation is Free," "Christ has come to Riverside," "Jesus loves you," various songs, and directors, such as Percy Wells, of Mount Clemens, Michigan, and dual Glatsch of Maywood, Illinois, raised their voices in songs and praises to God with 2,500 young voices singing little hearts to God in song. At the very end, the University Avenue City Hall, surrounded by a most respectful and delightful atmosphere, opened its doors to Riverside Polite. Not one did any young person stay over fifty feet away from the group. Every young heart was wanting to Christ, and praising his name. The March was a stormy day to God.

In this group were members of the churches of Christ, college students, public school principals, teachers, and other professionals from all walks of life.

BOCA is the Black Owned Communications Alliance. BOCA is asking all Black men and women to show their support for Black media by buying Black newspapers, first with.

"THE BANNER" started by you announced the 30th Annual National Youth Conference, which was held at the University of Riverside August 3-5, 1981. "Let the redeemed of the Lord say," was the theme.

200 YOUTH & PARENTS family and friends marched from the University of Riverside down University Street in City of the March for Christ, the highlight of the National Youth Conference of the Churches of Christ.
Police and Firefighters maintained at its current level of that "on other occasions in the past when neither the seniority lists for whites and nonwhites to guide any future records coverages. Representative Higby has offered an amendement that would establish criteria including a "fair" record for ten years. 

Some congressmen recognize this, but want "more protection. Therefore, it would be very difficult to raise the standards. If we do, it will be a major round of scheduled layoffs. And it is too soon after passage of the Voting Rights Act to be in bad taste to back into the history patterns of discrimination, especially since many states are pressing for registration of voters in black areas.

The idea that the Voting Rights Act was necessary to prevent Backs was that the law would protect some groups but not others. Consequently, she says, "employers will be more willing to work with us... and the end result will be significantly more job opportunities for minorities and the unemployed."

If you believe this, then you are like Frank Lysaght with whites! We know that laws, not good intentions, are the only protection of minority interests.
Mayor Ab Brown

The Riverside Sister City Committee received national recognition, a "smile" and Mayor Ab Brown Business Card Ads

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Items of General Interest

Award recipient to further Council in Riverside efforts toward increasing Sister City program for many years and her contributions greatly furthered international people-to-people relationships.

Congratulations, JESSIE, on receiving the "Smile Award." It is an honor long overdue and well deserved.

WILHELM THOMAS, Jr., Riverside Sister City Program

The Smiles Award was presented to JESSIE at the Riverside Sister City Program’s annual dinner on June 19, 1984. JESSIE was chosen to receive the award for her outstanding contributions and leadership in Riverside’s Sister City Program.

JESSIE, a native of Sendai, Japan, was presented with a special award by the Riverside Sister City Program. She has been active in promoting cultural exchange and friendship between Riverside and Sendai for many years.

The award, which includes a certificate and a testimonial, recognizes JESSIE’s exceptional contributions to the Sister City Program. The certificate states: "This award is presented to JESSIE in appreciation of her tireless efforts to further the goals of the Riverside Sister City Program, her unwavering commitment to the principles of peace and understanding, and her dedication to promoting harmony and goodwill between the people of Riverside and Sendai."
Black Voice News Now Digs in on All Over Riverside

**BLACK VOICE NEWS**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1981**

32 Organizations Endorse Solidarity Day

**INTERSTATE-SAN BERNARDINO - The Riverside-San Bernardino County Solidarity Day Committee has endorsed that 32 local organizations endorsed 1978 September 20 "Solidarity Day" rally. The groups who have pledged to the AFL-CIO supporting Solidarity Day have done so in light of today's federal judges cut to programs, including skilled English courses, national nutrition programs, American Sign Language programs, and also to protest action.**

The participating organizations include: Israel Area Union, Long Beach Area United of America Local 2090, AFL-CIO; Fox TV; Las Vegas Bell, Metropolitan Local Association 167; AMERICAN, State, County, Metropolitan Employees Local 176 and 129; NAACP, Branch; Nebraska Fine Arts Workers, International Players Council, Freedom and Religion Central Committee; 

CIGNA Committee in California to help the People of El Salvador; United Steelworkers of America Committee; UCB Group for Social and Economic Equity; John Foster Settlement Committee; Curra Center 29; and others.

**Chaffey College Schedules Late Registration**

**CHAFFEY COLLEGE: Late registration and re-registration for fall quarter classes at Chaffey College will be held Sept. 15 through 18 and Sept. 21 at the college Admissions Office and satellite learning centers. The college Admissions Office and all actual centers will begin operating at 8:30 a.m. on Sept. 15.**

**Classes begin at 10 a.m. on Sept. 21 and sessions are limited to 28 days.**

**At least 15 of the classes in Chaffey College are available free or are enrollment is open to anyone 16 or older or a high school graduate. High school students may also enroll in classes through the Chaffey College Student Health and Wellness Program. This is a summer health and wellness program and students may enroll in classes at the Riverside South Campus at a rate of $25 per class or at other centers at $50 per class.**

**Detailed descriptions, schedules, requirements, fee rates are available on the California State University Extension, 1400 West Norwalk Blvd., Room 2060, or the Riverside County Extension, 1400 West Norwalk Blvd., Room 2060.**

**Schedule is available at all locations. Please refer to the local EFFICE for all information. Please refer to the local EFFICE for all information.**

**Fall Session at UCR Extension**

\* Grow your own food, make your own clothes, learn to garden, and seashore conservation.\*

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**Regional Occupational Program**

Fall Schedule - Begins Monday, September 18, 1981

**FREE JOB TRAINING**

**by Office of Riverside County Superintendent of Schools**

**REGIONAL OCCUPATIONAL PROGRAM**

Fall Schedule - Begins Monday, September 18, 1981

All residents of the Riverside County who are 16 years of age or older can receive free training in jobs in demand in the county. If you are interested in improving your future, register directly at the class of your choice.

Enrollment at all classes is limited and enrolled students will be employed as soon as necessary to be employable. Call 787-6178 if further information is required.
The name Dee Dee Jackson may not mean much to you by itself. But if you add the Jacksons, it might be a little more recognizable. Yes. It is! It’s Tito! And who—Mom? A singer? An actress? Well actually, she could be anyone of those things. She certainly is pretty strong. She is intellectual enough, and she is possibly talented enough but her role is even more important than that. Her role is to list things dealing with her family as a priority. ‘ Families are a little like food; if you interview them, you start their list with the most fashionable for a woman profession at the top of her house or mate. The food of thought is, if you interviewing to talk to someone who an to list things dealing with the mate. But we we could be anyone of those things. She certainly is pretty strong. She is intellectual enough, and she is possibly talented enough but her role is even more important than that. Her role is to list things dealing with her family as a priority.

The Riverside City College has shown its family portrait. Our phone number is 714-5180.

RCC Tigers
Gear Up For ’81

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When a sack or brown bag lunch is taken from home or on the bus, you leave your lunch at home or on the bus. There's no chef surprise unless pies and pastries with whipped cream, custard, meringue or frozen sandwich or frozen meat wrapped in foil; crackers, whipped cream or custard; nuts; Italian dry salami; any cream cheese); raw vegetables such as carrots, celery, jelly, jam or raisins); natural cheeses (but not cottage or sardines or other canned sandwich spreads; fresh or dried cream cheese); roasted or marinated meat, salami, bacon, ham or turkey; fresh fish (except salmon or trout); fresh fruits; yogurt; cookies, fruit pies, cakes (except those with nuts); feta cheese; fresh or dried fruit; fruit; and meat, poultry, fish or eggs.

Do not pack any of the following because certain foods can cause food poisoning. If a thermos or leak at the bottom, the food may be contaminated. Stay away from:

- Sausage; hot dogs; other smoked meats;
- Cheese other than Swiss cheese;
- Cheese casseroles;}

You must remember that you need to pack foods that are nutritious each day. There's no chef surprise unless pies and pastries with whipped cream, custard, meringue or frozen sandwich or frozen meat wrapped in foil; crackers. whipped cream or custard; nuts; Italian dry salami; any cream cheese); raw vegetables such as carrots, celery, jelly, jam or raisins); natural cheeses (but not cottage or sardines or other canned sandwich spreads; fresh or dried cream cheese); roasted or marinated meat, salami, bacon, ham or turkey; fresh fish (except salmon or trout); fresh fruits; yogurt; cookies, fruit pies, cakes (except those with nuts); feta cheese; fresh or dried fruit; fruit; and meat, poultry, fish or eggs.

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You must remember that you need to pack foods that are nutritious each day. There's no chef surprise unless pies and pastries with whipped cream, custard, meringue or frozen sandwich or frozen meat wrapped in foil; crackers. whipped cream or custard; nuts; Italian dry salami; any cream cheese); raw vegetables such as carrots, celery, jelly, jam or raisins); natural cheeses (but not cottage or sardines or other canned sandwich spreads; fresh or dried cream cheese); roasted or marinated meat, salami, bacon, ham or turkey; fresh fish (except salmon or trout); fresh fruits; yogurt; cookies, fruit pies, cakes (except those with nuts); feta cheese; fresh or dried fruit; fruit; and meat, poultry, fish or eggs.
A Tribute To A Great Man

We have suffered too many heartaches and shed too many tears and too much blood in fighting the evil of racial segregation to return to the disspiriting confines of its demeaning prison. No matter how impassioned the plea or how beguiling the persuasion, we cannot go back.
Tribute to Roy Wilkins

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

—St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians 13:12

ROY Wilkins is more than a student of Saint Paul. He has patterned his life after him. Like Saint Paul, Roy Wilkins has traveled throughout a troubled land preaching a gospel of brotherhood. Saint Paul attempted to inspire the diverse and often divisive elements in a vast American nation.

Like the apostle, Wilkins has been challenged, threatened, rebuked and arrested because those in authority have not always agreed with what he espoused. Even so, he has continued to use his pen and his voice in an all-out assault against racism.

Born in St. Louis in 1901, Wilkins moved to Minnesota in 1906, where he lived in an integrated neighborhood, attended integrated public schools and the University of Minnesota. But he quickly realized that the jobs he took to earn money for his education were often less integrated—porter, red cap, dishwasher, caddy, dining car waiter and packinghouse worker.

Following graduation from the University of Minnesota, Wilkins returned to Missouri to work as a reporter, and later, managing editor for the Kansas City Call, a black weekly newspaper. Ranked by racial segregation in public accommodations in Kansas City, Wilkins became an officer in the local branch of the NAACP, beginning a lifetime struggle for social justice.

He went with the national staff of the NAACP full-time in 1931 as assistant secretary, and from 1934 to 1949 edited The Crisis, the official organ of the Association.

Not long after joining the NAACP, he set off on a four-week stint, hitchhiking and working as a laborer on the Mississippi River levees, to investigate the treatment of black Mississippi and Louisiana enabled the NAACP to pressure the Federal Government to improve conditions at the flood control projects.

In 1932, Wilkins was arrested in Washington, D.C., when he led the picketing of a National Conference on Crime at Constitution Hall. The Attorney General of the United States, who called the conference, had refused to include a discussion of lynching on the agenda. Wilkins also was arrested in 1962 during a protest against segregation in Jackson, Mississippi.

Wilkins was administrator of the NAACP from 1950 to 1955, when he was elected executive secretary of the Association, succeeding Walter White.

Hardly a significant advance has been made against racism in the past four decades without the involvement or leadership of Roy Wilkins. His voice has been the most eloquent for the full participation of black Americans in all the rights, privileges and obligations of American society. He and the Association have gone to the courts and the Federal and state legislatures to challenge every form of racial discrimination. When the law proved inadequate to redress a legitimate grievance, he and the NAACP have gone to the Halls of Congress to change it.

Because of the work of Roy Wilkins and the NAACP, black Americans now vote in increasing numbers in the South, and they are employed in a widening range of occupations traditionally closed to them. No person of any race can be legally denied admission to a hotel, theater or restaurant. It was the NAACP which took the school segregation cases all the way to the Supreme Court and put an end to the doctrine of "separate but equal." Today, public schools and institutions of higher learning can no longer deny admission to applicants because of their race.

Wilkins was also a leader in the fight that resulted in a Presidential order desegregating the Armed Services and he has consulted with the military on the training and utilization of black troops.

Wilkins was one of the chief organizers of the March on Washington, August 28, 1963, which brought close to a half-million Americans to the District of Columbia to demand full equality in education, housing, employment and all areas of American life.

In 1950, he was chairman of the National Emergency Civil Rights Mobilization which attracted more than 4,000 delegates to the nation's capital to seek executive and legislative action on ending job discrimination.

Frequently called "Mr. Civil Rights" by his admirers, Wilkins is chairman of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights which grew out of the 1950 mobilization. It is a coalition of some 80 national civic, labor and religious organizations. This group, led by Wilkins and Clarence M. Mitchell, Jr., head of the NAACP's Washington office, is generally conceded to be largely responsible for the enactment of landmark civil rights legislation, especially the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

In his effort to create a world in which all people are free, Wilkins served as chairman of the United States delegation to the International Conference on Human Rights which met in Geneva in 1968; was a consultant to the U. S. Department of State at San Francisco during the organization of the United Nations in 1945; lectured in Berlin, London and Paris under the auspices of the State Department, and has been a member of the Call Committee of the American Negro Leadership Conference on Africa, which attempts to influence U. S. foreign policy toward African countries.

Following the civil disorders of the mid-1960s, he was a member of the President's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

The honors bestowed on him are voluminous. They include the Medal of Freedom, the country's highest civil honor; the NAACP's Spingarn Medal, the Freedom Award by Freedom House, the American Jewish Congress Civil Rights Award, the Boy Scouts' Scout of the Year Award, the Anti-Defamation League's American Democratic Legacy Award, The Russwurm Award of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, the Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award of the University of Minnesota, plus some 34 honorary degrees.

Roy Wilkins has done so much to correct the injustices of generations of ignorance, hate, neglect and servitude.

Because of what Roy Wilkins and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People have accomplished these past four decades, the gulf of mistrust and suspicion have narrowed, creating a nation closer to the democratic ideals of equality and brotherhood.

The night is far spent, the day is at hand; let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light.

—St. Paul's Epistle to the Romans 13:12

I'm very glad to have lived this long—to have seen things like 370 elected Negro officials in southern states. We should have 3,700—and we will have. We've just started.

President Truman's Orders

On July 26 President Truman issued two executive orders, one directing the establishment of fair employment practices for government employees, and another forbidding discrimination in the Armed Services. Because the latter did not mention segregation, Mr. Truman was questioned upon it at his White House press conference July 29 and he then emphasized that he expected all segregation of races in the Armed Services to be abolished eventually, and that his order had that in mind.

In a subsequent conference Senator J. Howard McGrath, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, convinced A. Philip Randolph, leader of the civil disobedience campaign against Jim Crow military service, that Mr. Truman meant what he said. Randolph and his assistant, Grant Reynolds, thereupon announced that they were abandoning their campaign.

Mr. Truman's opponents are crying that his moves in the civil rights field are purely political. In an election year when even a lifted eyebrow is subject to political interpretation this charge was to be expected. But no one has explained just how a man fighting to win the greatest prize, the highest office in America, can be sincere when he stubbornly and stoutly insists on a civil rights program that everyone knows is dynamite—and death—to political ambitions in this country.

Mr. Truman has not retreated one inch from the declaration in his Lincoln Memorial speech of June, 1947. His new orders represent a spirit and a courage on these issues as refreshing as they are rare. A standard has been set for government administrators of the present and the future.

—September, 1948

For blacks: Don't mistake walking for running; use what has been done, not for history essays, but as a beginning to realize a marvelous future, even though in the forward movement feet may be bruised and bloody.

For whites: Don't suppress the impatience of the young Negroes who are tackling the task yet to be completed.

Mr. Wilkins

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

—St. Paul's First Epistle to the Corinthians 13:12


From the June/July 1977 issue of the Crisis Magazine with permission of the Crisis Publishing Company.
The NAACP and the Communists

There is in progress a campaign of misrepresentation of the NAACP currently running in the Daily Worker, the Communist newspaper. All the old phrases are there. The name-calling has started all over again. The slanted and angled "news" stories appear. The half-truths and whole lies see print. The object is to discredit NAACP leadership, local and national; to tear the Association apart through suspicion and strife; to take it over, if not obviously, then deviously, so as to control its elections, meetings, speakers, program, policy, conventions, resolutions, and other public statements. It is over, if not obviously, then deviously, so as to control the most vicious, truth-defying misrepresentation and its elections, meetings, speakers, program, policy, conventions, resolutions, and other public statements.

Back in the early 1950s the NAACP was on the receiving end of some of the fanciest name-calling, and the most vicious, truth-defying misrepresentation and slander that has appeared in print. The campaign was carried on openly by the Communist party and its various faithful, echoing groups. The occasion was the famous Scottsboro case which began in 1931.

After the Communists had accomplished their main purpose of building that case into a worldwide attack on Western democracy, they found that all the defendants were still in prison with little likelihood of being released as long as the Communist party stood as the official defenders. So a Scottsboro Defense Committee was organized, consisting of seven or eight organizations, including the Communists. An eminent clergyman, the Rev. Dr. Allan Knight Chalmers became the chairman who was single-handedly, effected the release of most of the defendants. With the passing years the Communists gradually dropped out of the picture.

By now the Roosevelt era of cooperation between Russia and America was in full flower. It is true the Soviets made a pact with Hitler and during the brief honeymoon Roosevelt won the favorite Communist title of warmonger, but with the German Army's attack on the Soviet Union, the "line" changed literally overnight and Roosevelt's America became the blessed friend and ally in the war on fascism.

As the political line changed, so did the line on Negro Americans. The Communists abandoned abruptly their widely-advertised fight for Negro rights. Nothing must interfere with the war effort, lest such domestic wrangles hurt the aid to the Soviet Union. The NAACP, believe it or not, was criticized as being "too militant" in its wartime fights. The Communists joined the Southerners in saying in effect "this is not the time to fight the race question, we must fight the war." So American Negroes fought their bitter battles against Jim Crow in the war (and rather well, too) without the dubious aid of the American Communists.

The watchword through those years was cooperation. The NAACP, which had been lashed as "betraying the masses," as "cooperating with the lump-bosses," etc., ad nauseam, became tolerable, if not respectable, in the eyes of American Stalinists.

But now everything is changed again. America is in a Cold War with Russia. The American Communists are busy stirring disaffection, dissension, and unrest in every segment of American life they can penetrate such as labor unions, church bodies, youth groups, college campuses, community organizations, and Negro groups, including the NAACP.

The purpose in all this is not to build a better NAACP to fight more effectively for civil rights for Negroes under the American Constitution, using legitimate American methods, but to operate one more front group to confuse and embarrass Americans and the American government in the present contest of ideologies.

There is no mystery, except to the unthinking and uninhibited about the Communists' program on the Negro. Their characterization of the NAACP as "reformist" reveals the line: they do not believe American democracy can be improved or reformed, hence anyone who does, who keeps alive a faith in the American way of life, is a criminal and a "betrayal of the people." As long as the NAACP and similar groups exist and push programs of reform, the Communist doctrine takes root slowly, if at all, in the nation's largest minority group. Hence the NAACP must either be captured or destroyed.

We are not alarmed. In 1931 we were bewildered by the sterly unscrupulous and vitriolic attacks which had no relation to truth. We know now that everyone who says he is fighting for Negro rights is not necessarily doing so and if Scottsboro left any doubts, they were dispelled by the sell-out during the war. The truth is that the American Communists fight only for the Soviet Russia "line" and for nothing else. Any other contests in which they seem to be engaged are merely side efforts which have been (and will be) played up, played down, or abandoned altogether, according to the party line of the hour.

Our NAACP membership, therefore, should be on guard against this campaign. It should remember that the Communists do not hesitate to lie when lies will serve their purpose, that they are masters of misrepresentation through misinterpretation, that they prattle about democracy in other organizations while maintaining an iron-handed non-democratic procedure in their own party, and that their aim is to use the Negro and his problems mainly in support of Communist party policy and only incidentally in support of Negro rights.

This does not mean the Communists should be fought as such. They constitute a political party and have rights under the Constitution as do other parties. Those rights must be maintained. Free speech and free assembly must be maintained for all. Let them enjoy their rights in this democracy and push their program as well as they can in their own groups. But their campaign of infiltration, disruption, and destruction of other organizations such as the NAACP can be prevented if members will not be deceived by their words, and will elect the proper officers and committees, choose the right delegates to conventions, attend meetings faithfully and out-vote the party followers, and see that the resolutions and public statements adopted by NAACP groups are NAACP statements in truth, and not those of a group using our name for its own political purposes.

ROY WILKINS HONORED

On May 18, former NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins received his fifty-first honorary degree from Simmons College, Boston. As a Doctor of Humane Letters was awarded Mr. Wilkins, the following citation was read:

For more than five decades you have given your great intellect, skill and energy to the cause of human freedom. You fought for justice and equality at all times when this was as yet a lonely, hazardous endeavor. You provided a voice of clarity, wisdom, and strength throughout the 1930s—formative years of the contemporary struggle for racial and social justice.

As Executive Director of the NAACP in the 1950s, you were a forceful, effective leader in the battle for equal education and in the ever-broadening struggle for equal access to public facilities, the right to vote, and for equality in jobs, housing, and health care.

In the civil rights upsurge of the 1960s, you were a powerful, unwavering force for unity among all working for justice and equality.

As the battle for freedom goes on, we have all been touched by your wisdom and determination. Because of your contributions, our entire society has been changed for the better. You embody the most cherished ideals of our community—reason, enlightenment, civic responsibility, human growth, love of justice. In honoring you, we renew our own precious commitments.

Those people who, for their own purposes, are urging Negroes to refuse to vote could be asking black people to participate in their own funeral.
"The mainstreams of American society must be made accessible to all people on an equal basis."

-ROY WILKINS

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"You can only do so much for people, then you have to let them do it for themselves. I'm confident that if black people of this country are permitted to go for themselves, according to their own likes, they'll go like nobody has ever dreamed."

ROY WILKINS
APRIL, 1974

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