

# NAACP SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FUND

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VOTER EDUCATION, LEGAL AND COMMUNITY  
ACTION, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING,  
YOUTH WORK AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

1790 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10019

245-2100

January 11, 1968

Dear Friend:

No sensible American -- white or black -- condones the rioting, looting and destructiveness which have erupted across the nation in the past few months. Negro Americans, in particular, must deplore a violence whose chief victims, after all, are Negroes themselves.

Nevertheless, the riots must be seen as the latest and most fearful of the long series of challenges which Americans must meet if the black and white races are to achieve genuine interracial democracy in this land. The fundamental challenge continues to be addressed to white Americans.

The summer riots were acts of desperation by a tiny minority, but they are symptomatic of the despair, the hopelessness of most of America's twenty-one million Negroes. The promise of freedom has too long been denied. Young Negroes especially are fast losing faith in the American Dream and in the ultimate sense of justice of White Americans.

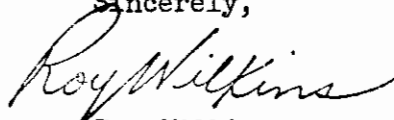
We firmly and forthrightly reject violence, race hate and related tactics. We continue to seek an integrated America where white and black men and women can live, work and learn side-by-side. Any other approach is suicidal for America and for the Negro people.

No mere slogan can solve the complex racial and urban problems of our nation. Nor is there any single approach which, by itself, will bring total freedom to all Americans. The struggle cuts across almost every form of daily activity; it must be waged on every battlefield, including jobs, education, housing, voting and the law. Nor is this struggle confined to the Deep South -- it is nationwide, and permeates the cities, the suburbs and the most remote rural areas.

Only one civil rights organization -- the NAACP -- has the ability and commitment to pursue this struggle on every front. We have demonstrated for fifty-eight years that a good civil rights group can be both responsible and militant.

To expand our work in this national crisis, we must have your maximum financial support. I urge you to make a generous contribution today to our tax-deductible Special Contribution Fund. If you believe in a multi-racial America and full freedom for every one of its citizens, please do not permit this struggle to go by default. The time is now -- tomorrow may be too late.

Sincerely,

  
Roy Wilkins

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THE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION FUND IS THE ONLY TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CHANNEL FOR AIDING THE WORK OF THE NAACP, A NATION-WIDE MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION WITH BRANCHES IN ALL 50 STATES