



National Wilmington 10 Defense Committee

1330 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. — Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 737-5321

April 12, 1976

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE WILMINGTON 10:

HELP.....

ENDORSEMENTS:

Hon. Harry T. Alexander
Superior Court — D.C.

Hon. Ronald Dellums
Congressman — Calif.

Rev. Walter Fauntroy
Congressman — D.C.

Marion Barry
D.C. City Council

Arrington Dixon
D.C. City Council

Mel King
State Legislator — Massachusetts

Dr. Sterling Carey
National Council of Churches

Rev. Ben Chavis, Director
Commission for Racial Justice
D.C. Field Office

Dr. Lawrence Jones, Dean
School of Religion
Howard University

Lennox Hinds, Director
National Conference
of Black Lawyers

NAACP
Maryland & North Carolina

National Assembly of
Black Churchmen

National Association of
Black Social Workers

Young Workers
Liberation League

Women's Law Center
Maryland

American Civil Liberties
Union, North Carolina

Baptist Ministers Conference
Maryland

Catholic Peace Fellowship

Coalition of
Black Trade Unionists

In case you are not already informed, we wish to notify you that Reverend Ben Chavis has been placed in "administrative segregation" and moved to a hospital/sanitarium where he is currently being exposed to serious contagious diseases and mental illness on a 24 hour basis. Although he is not ill himself (yet), he was taken to McCain Prison Hospital by State authorities after he helped organize fellow inmates into suggesting positive reforms at Caledonia Prison a few weeks ago.

Mr. Ralph Edwards, Dir. of the Dept. of Corrections met with Mr. James Ferguson, defense counsel for the "10", and admitted that Rev. Chavis has not broken any prison rules or regulations, but also stated that he will not move Rev. Chavis from this most unhealthy environment because they feel that this is the only place they can "control" him.

We hope that you will agree with us that Rev. Chavis simply cannot be left in this hospital where both his mental and physical health is at stake. We are asking that you help Rev. Chavis at this time by immediately calling and writing:

David L. Jones, Secretary of Dept. of Correction
840 West Morgan St., Raleigh, No. Carolina
919-829-4926 27603

(copy to:) Lt. Governor, James Hunt, Jr.
State Legislative Building, Raleigh, No.
Carolina 27611 919-829-7350

Both have powers over Mr. Edwards who has rejected moving Rev. Chavis from McCain Prison Hospital. Tell Mr. Jones that you object strongly to Mr. Edwards determination to keep Rev. Chavis in McCain Hospital. Ask him to please act rationally and humanely by doing whatever is necessary to have Rev. Chavis transferred from McCain Prison Hospital where his physical and mental health is in real danger. Tell them you can see no justifiable reason for placing a well person in such an unhealthy environment. These calls and letters are extremely important so please act immediately.

Thank you for your continued support.

P.S. The Defense Committee is in dire need of money to be able to continue printing, mailings, etc. Will you please

"Free Rev. Ben Chavis" send a donation today so we may continue our necessary work...