From National Conference for New Politics Convention Center: 27 E. Monroe Street Chicago, Illinois 60603

Call Don Rose at 236-1880 or 268-1238

CHICAGO, August 10. A group of 16 national and local-community civil rights leaders, including many identified with the black power movement, Thursday urged black activists to ally with "progressive" whites in the political arena by attending the National Conference for New Politics convention here Labor Day Weekend.

"There are whites who are still committed to the struggle for freedom and justice. We feel that political alliances, without compromising one's political or organizational integrity, are necessary and crucial at this point," said a letter signed by CORE chief Floyd McKissick, Georgia legislator Julian Bond, Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party leader Fannie Lou Hamer, Chicago Freedom Movement head Al Raby and 12 others.

The letter was sent to several thousand Negro organization members, including participants at the recent Newark, N. J. Black Power Conference.

"We understand the reluctance of many to involve themselves in the political arena, especially in alliance with whites. But if we are to continue the unity and spirit begun at the Newark Black Power Conference, we must begin to use every forum available to us," it said. The NCNP convention, "New Politics -- '68 and Beyond,"
to be held here Aug. 31-Sept. 4, will call together more than 2,000
representatives of 200 civil rights, peace, and student groups to
plan strategy aimed at a permanent radical alliance for political
action beginning in 1968. Some participants are expected to press
for a third-slate presidential ticket headed by Dr. Martin Luther
King; others will urge concentration of peace and freedom candidates
in local elections only. A host of other perspectives will be put
forth, with the convention acting as a decision-making body.

The black leaders' letter stressed "The black community is in a state of crisis. Our brothers and sisters have had their consciousness of being black raised by the rebellions. Now they look to us for programs and direction to solve the fundamental problems that confront black people...The necessity for cooperation between black militants and white progressives has not passed, nor can it be overemphasized at the New Politics Convention.

"We feel that this convention is an excellent means of having black people's voices heard on a national level. We will neither moderate nor compromise our demands for the sake of political expediency. Nor do we ask you to do so.

"We only ask that you attend this conference as a black activist to insure that black people's voices are heard and demands known.

"The Newark Black Power Conference was a beginning. The Chicago New Politics convention will be another stride toward

solving some of our fundamental problems. Only by forging a national unity can the rising tide of racism and militarism be reversed."

The complete list of signers follows:

Julian Bond, State Representative, Atlanta, Ga.

Floyd McKissick, National Director, CORE, New York City

Mervyn Dymally, State Senator, Watts, Calif.

Dick Gregory, civil rights activist and entertainer

Fannie Lou Hamer, Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

Al Raby, Co-chairman, Chicago Freedom Movement

Rev. C. T. Vivian, Urban Training Center, Chicago

Rev. Archie Hargreaves, Urban Training Center, Chicago

Dr. John Holloman, Past President, National Medical Association, New York

Dr. Alvin Poussaint, Medical Committee for Human Rights, Boston

Roy Innis, Chairman, Harlem CORE

Dr. George A. Wiley, Director, Poverty Rights Action Center, Washington, D.C.

Ivanhoe Donaldson, Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Carlton Goodlette, Chairman, California Negro Leadership, San Francisco

Mark Comfort, Director, Oakland (Calif.) Direct Action Committee

Ruth M. Turner, Dayton, Ohio

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HOST COMMITTEE

William F. Pepper, Executive Director, National Conference for New Politics

Co-Hostesses: Rubye Richards and Flo Kennedy National Liaison: Carlos Russell and Marie Runyon Reception Committee: Marie Tenev, Rev. Robert Kinlock, Agnes Sanchez, Doris Cylkowski, Rev. Kendall Smith

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Jeffrey Cylkowski Marshall Richards

ADDRESS

Artie Richland Gae Sanchez John Sanchez

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CONTRIBUTIONS PER DAY: Patron \$25 -- Guest \$10 (includes supper)

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