

P.O. Box 471 Cooper Station
New York, N.Y. 10003

March 12, 1975

TO ALL ORGANIZERS AND BOSTON WORK DIRECTORS

Dear Comrades,

There has recently been an important new development in the building of the May 17 march on Boston. The National Board of Directors of the NAACP has endorsed the action and has decided to make it an official national project of the NAACP.

The Boston NAACP intends to proceed to initiate a broad inclusive steering committee in Boston to take primary responsibility for organizing the action. The NAACP will send letters to all 1800 NAACP branches informing them of the official nature of the demonstration and encouraging the formation of local steering committees based on the Boston model. These letters should arrive between now and April 1. The NAACP National Office will also take principal responsibility for contacting and involving national organizations in the action.

Leaders of the Boston NAACP have indicated their hope that NSCAR will take the primary responsibility for organizing students throughout the country and that NSCAR will work closely with NAACP branches on the demonstration.

These steps represent the most important breakthrough in broadening the base of the May 17 action to date. It can also lead to the active involvement of other important national civil rights forces, unions, religious and women's organizations, etc.

The endorsement by the national NAACP will have a big impetus on campus organizing and the involvement of new student forces. This endorsement makes it even more important that we urge NSCAR to redouble its efforts to contact the broadest possible range of student and youth groups, especially Black, Chicano, Puerto Rican, and Asian youth groups, student governments, religious youth groups, women's organizations, and political groups.

Local NSCAR chapters should also be encouraged to step up their efforts to contact and initiate discussions with local NAACP branches. These developments reinforce

the importance of our encouraging NSCAR chapters to attempt to collaborate as closely as possible with local NAACP branches in as many aspects of building the May 17 action as possible. Local steering committees of the Boston type would be an important step forward in this direction and we can suggest to NSCAR chapters that they discuss the possibility with the local NAACP.

It should be noted that some NAACP branches which may have been initially hesitant to discuss May 17 should now be more open to doing so once they are aware of the decision by the national NAACP.

Many NAACP branches also have Youth Councils affiliated to them. We should suggest that NSCAR chapters initiate discussions with these groups on how best to build May 17 and attempt to involve them in common activity.

In light of the above, the YSA National Office, as well as the YSA leadership in Boston, should be promptly informed of all new local developments as they occur.

Comradely,

Geoff Mirelowitz (f)
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YSA National Office