

Ad-Hoc Action Group, Citizens of Detroit
4616 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48208
June 12, 1968

Dear Friend:

We want to keep you informed about the latest movements of the Ad-Hoc Action Group, Citizens of Detroit. Our recent meeting with Mayor Cavanagh was an informative, growing experience for all of us. As to the furtherance of our specific demands; this meeting produced precisely nothing. We learned and we grew - the time was not wasted. We will be better prepared for our next encounter with political men.

The week coming up is of great importance to all the American people. On the 19th of June - thousands of Americans will go to Washington to give their physical and psychological support to the Poor People's Campaign. It is for this reason that during this week - the Ad-Hoc Action Group, Citizens of Detroit will suspend direct action.

We are going through the necessary procedures to develop a dialogue with Commissioner Girardin. Hopefully, this appointment will be for the earliest possible time, the week of the 24th of June.

Secondly, Dr. Sally Cassidy is collecting and checking all Eye-Witness accounts of the May 13th incident at Cobo Hall. This will facilitate ACLU's presentation of an excellent case based on Federal Civil Rights Acts. Please send the name and address and phone number of any witnesses you may know to Dr. Sally Cassidy, 605 Edison, TO 8-9731. We want to do as complete a job as possible.

Thirdly, contacts are being made with the Michigan Civil Rights Commission to determine their position on the Cobo Hall incident. Notably, are they interested, are they pursuing it; and to attempt the formation of a working relationship with this Commission.

Our movement began on the 22nd of May with a picket-line at 1300 Beaubien. We held a Vigil on the 11th floor of the City-County Building from the afternoon of June 3rd until the morning of June 5th. We have had two dialogues with the Mayor. (One briefly in the hallway of the City-County Building and then at Central Methodist Church). We have involved many people from the White Community and have given a witness to the Greater Metropolitan Community. This Witness may not show great and abundant fruit, but we must never lose sight of the reality. We have begun to move - at least to shake - the institution of the Police. Our goal is not to destroy the institution, only to augment its humanity. We must replace oppression with freedom. We are committed to Justice walking hand-in-hand with law and order through the streets of Detroit.

Until there has been change, until our demands are met, we will continue. Martin Luther King talked of a dream. Until that dream becomes reality, it stands the chance of becoming a tired, sad illusion. It is up to each of us...we will continue.

Sincerely,

Ad-Hoc Action Group, Citizens of Detroit