

AD-HOC ACTION GROUP---CITIZENS OF DETROIT
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Violence can manifest itself in many ways. There is the silent and sometimes unseen violence of a teacher explaining to a pupil that the pupil cannot learn because of the color of the pupil's skin, or his nationality. There is the violence of war which eliminates scores of people at the drop of a bomb from a plane in the sky. And there is the violence which manifests itself at the end of a billy club such as witnessed by the entire world Wednesday night in Chicago, Illinois. The billy clubs that were being swung by the Chicago Police Department and the National Guard, demonstrated that America can no longer tolerate free expression on its streets, demonstrated that dissent is no longer a freedom won by the American Revolution but a freedom that must be fought for again, even at the cost of human lives. The violence in Chicago demonstrated to the world that the American political processes are no longer responsive to the needs of an America torn by violence abroad and violence at home.

The violence that manifested itself in Chicago, at the National Democratic Convention, was the same type of violence that manifested itself in Detroit at Cobo Hall on May 13th. There, a movement of people was viciously attacked by armed police as they attempted to voice their dissatisfaction with a status quo which exploits them daily, causing them to live in miserable poverty in the "land of plenty." It is the same violence which manifests itself in Delano, California as farmworkers attempt to bring social justice to rural America. It is the violence which sickens and corrupts a society heading towards facism and concentration camps. It is a violence which must be stopped, and stopped NOW!!!

The Ad-Hoc Action Group---Citizens of Detroit, protests what has happened in Chicago, Illinois. We feel that police brutality is an issue that must be confronted before our whole society falls under the swing of a billy club. We demand that the police commissioner of the City of Detroit issue a strong statement condemning the Gestapo tactics used in Chicago, Illinois, and that he take immediate and effective measures to insure that it will not manifest itself again in Detroit, Michigan.