ASIANS FOR ACTION

the voice of ASIAN COALITION for EQUALITY

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ACE and WHY?

In April of this year, an informal meeting of approximately a dozen concerned Chinese, Filipino and Japanese was held to discuss the possibility of forming a group which would work toward collective action - not just dialogue among our own groups or races, in improving racial inequalities and injustices in our society. Discussions revolved around why and how each of our racial groups were denied equal opportunity and justice in America, compounded by our upbringing which stressed silence and non-involvement in the mainstream and destiny of society.

After several of these gatherings, it was decided by those still interested, that we would form a coalition of Asians who would be action-oriented in gaining full equality and justice for all people, be they Blacks, Indians, Mexican-Americans, Asians, or other minority groups. This was the background for the formation of ACE, or Asian Coalition for Equality!

In early June, a press conference was held, to state the reasons for forming ACE:

1. To call attention to the Seattle community of the fact that orientals also suffer from institutionalized injustices and inequities.
2. To affirm the indivisibility of human rights by joining with our Black, Brown and Red Brothers in their struggle for equality.
3. To call our Asian friends, numbering some 25,000 in Greater Seattle to participate in the social struggle to build a viable and open society. America is our land too, and we can claim it for our children only if we invest in it. Hence, we must participate fully as equals in the building of a great Seattle.
4. Too long have we permitted the American Indian to be exploited, the Mexican migrant to wander the face of this land for minimal returns, and the Black man to carry the struggle for human rights and decency on his back. We wish to acknowledge their sufferings and struggle and affirm our empathy with them. But we want to do more. We want to coalesce with them on specific issues and projects. We want to join in the struggle for justice and equality along side them.

HELP RECRUIT MORE MEMBERS!

ACE SUPPORTS CCA

As supporters of the Central Contractors Association (CCA), ACE members were present at the demonstration at the University of Washington in protest of the lack of participation of Black and minority trainees on public-financed construction projects.

The purpose of our involvement was two-fold; to march in support of the CCA, and to be observers in a non-violent manner.

As a result of observed instances of excessive police force, the following statement was made to press and television on September 24, the morning after the incident:

"The Asian Coalition for Equality, ACE, reaffirms their complete and continued support of the Central Contractors Association in their stand for equal employment opportunities in building trades.

ACE members, present at yesterday's confrontation at the University of Washington, abhor the following observations: (continued on page two)

'Quiet Americans' Confront 'The Man'

On September 30, 13 members of ACE and one member of the Central Contractors Association had a somewhat heated confrontation with Mayor Floyd C. Miller, to complain about police brutality and misconduct during the demonstration at the University of Washington.

Three members of ACE told the mayor that they witnessed incidents of excessive force by police. Dr. Joe Okimoto, spokesman for the group, asked the mayor to implement three actions:

1. To "reiterate and enforce the guidelines for police action, which are consistent with their role as responsible public servants."
2. To insure that all members of the tactical squad wear permanent and visible name tags and that police helmets be numbered to aid in identification.
3. To appoint an agency outside of the Police Department to investigate the charges of the group.

On point #2, the mayor said he had taken action on the matter, and it is now a city policy. The mayor, rather shaken when members pressed for point #3, said the city's Department of Human Rights already had announced an investigation and he wasn't going to appoint another body to do the same thing. The mayor left by saying he would "analyze the group's request" and take action, if it is warranted.

At one point, Assistant Police Chief M. E. Cook said: "How many of you were part of a conspiracy to create damage at the university?" Objections were loud and many, especially from Rev. Lincoln Eng.

POLICE-CONDUCT HEARING

The Department of Human Rights has set October 16, at 1:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, as the date for a public hearing into allegation of police misconduct during demonstrations at th University of Washington on September 23.

The commission heard criticism of both the police and the press at an emergency meeting soon after the incident.

Philip Hayasaka, Department Director, and ACE member, said he observed instances of excessive use of police force during the demonstration. Phil said news reports gave too much emphasis to property destruction and not enough to injuries to demonstrators inflicted by police. Some reports have implied that he was leading the demonstrations "intent on destruction" when he was only present in his capacity as a city official. He indicated also that some press reports had failed to give comprehensive accounts by failing to indicate what the demonstrations were all about.

Johnny Allen, Commission Chairman, said the purpose of the hearing will be "to ascertain facts connected with the indictments" and to help the commission decide whether it should ask the Human Rights Department to take some action. The commission is authorized by ordinance to make recommendations to any city department to promote equality, justice and understanding among all citizens.

Allen requested that any person who has first-hand knowledge of the incident should notify the Human Rights Department at least two days before the hearing.

"Shame on you Cook"

— Rev. L. Eng

CCA cont.

1. ACE denounces the witnessed police brutality by the indiscriminate use of force on marchers and by-standers;
2. ACE denounces the news media's continued bias and distorted coverage of facts to show only the establishments' point of view.

ACE demands that the general public become aware that this present situation with the Central Contractors Association is not confined to our Black brothers alone, but is a concern of our group of Chinese, Filipinos and Japanese, as well as other minorities."

The Central Contractors Association is trying to get increased employment of minorities on public projects and compliance of contractors and unions with a federal executive order and laws prohibiting discrimination because of race. The CCA wants one minority trainee for every four white journeymen on public-financed construction projects. The building trade unions feel everyone should go through the established apprenticeship programs.....run by the unions!

ASIAN STUDENTS INCLUDED IN UofW SEP PROGRAM

It was recently announced that approximately thirty ACE-referred Asian students have been accepted into the University of Washington, Special Education Program (SEP) for the Fall Quarter.

Up to this time, the SEP program has ignored the Asian community in Seattle, specifically the Filipino students and those needy Oriental students who are unable to obtain higher education after high school on their own.

Dr. Charles Evans, Director of the SEP program, was totally unaware and sympathetic to initial requests from an ACE delegation, which included Anthony Ogilvie, Woody Wong, and Larry Matsuda. Dr. Evans did not feel we qualified according to "statistics" he had available. The program was an exclusive program for minorities and disadvantaged individuals who fell in the following racial categories: Blacks, Chicanos, Indians and poor Whites. Dr. Evans felt that our request should be tabled until next year--meaning the summer of 1970.

As a result of this initial rebuff, an ACE meeting was held at which time it was decided to "demand" that SEP consider Asian students. These demands were to be supported by statistical evidence to show our needs are genuine.

The demands presented to Dr. Evans are as follows:

1. The University of Washington commits their SEP program to the formation of a recruiting committee specifically for Filipinos and also those needy Orientals, in particular, but not limited to those of the Model City Area.

2. The University of Washington make a public commitment, by way of the news media to:
   a. Recruit Filipinos and needy Asian Americans.
   b. To Change the U of W's special education program 1969 Planning and Prospect for the Coming Year handout to not only mention Blacks, Indians, Mexican, and Poor Whites, but also to include "Filipinos and Needy Asians" as well.
   c. To name Oriental recruiters for this summer.
   d. To make public that the addition of Asians will not deprive students of other minority groups admission to the SEP program.

3. The University of Washington hire a Filipino or Oriental counselor as the need warrants; the need being defined by the SEP Admissions Committee in conjunction with the Asian Coalition for Equality.

4. The SEP Admissions Committee membership be opened to students of Filipino and/or Oriental descent.

The delegation that was present at the second meeting included approximately thirty ACE members and supporters, a delegation from the U of W Black Student Union, radio, T.V., and newsmen. It should be noted that the only demand not presently fulfilled by Dr. Evans is the job of Asian Counselor. It has been reported that this job is upcoming shortly.

If any of you know of possible candidates for the SEP program, either contact ACE Recruiters Norma Berona or Ruthann Kurose, or any ACE member for more information.

Petition Campaign

Asian Group Assails Hoover 'Racial Slur'

The Asian Coalition for Equality has begun a petition campaign and called a public meeting to protest a "recent racial slur" by J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and to demand repeal of a part of the Internal Security Act of 1950.

Representative Brock Adams, 7th District congressman, will speak at the meeting at 8 p. m. October 23 at [redacted]. Deadline for the petitions has been set for October 20.

In a letter to Seattle-area organizations asking their support, ACE leaders called attention to Hoover's testimony before a House subcommittee on April 17 when he said there were 300,000 Chinese in the United States some of whom might be susceptible to recruitment by Communist China.

ACE spokesmen said: "This recent racial slur makes us wonder how tenuous the relationship of Chinese Americans is in this country and how safe they are from being victims of the same fate as the Japanese Americans during World War II.

"Irresponsible statements such as these are the very thing which brought about a climate of suspicion, hostility and panic in 1942 when 109,650 Japanese Americans were stripped of their rights and forced into concentration camps."

ACE spokesmen coupled Hoover's remarks to Title II of the Internal Security Act of 1950 which gives the President power to declare an emergency and place people in concentration camps without trial "if there is reasonable ground to believe that such a person will engage in, or probably will conspire with others to engage in, acts of espionage or of sabotage."

ACE is an organization of people from the Japanese, Chinese and Filipino communities in Seattle. The Rev. Mineo Katagiri, metropolitan ecumenical minister, is the chairman of the board.

Calling the detention law "a racist law" aimed at persons identified by skin color or national origin, ACE spokesmen said:

"It is an outrage that loyal American citizens, simply because they are not white, are considered potentially disloyal Americans . . ."

Reprinted From Seattle Times

Slur 10,000 potential spies -

'A Camping We Won't Go!'

—L. Fleming

U. S. CONCENTRATION CAMPS ARE READY!

RALLY with ACE

October 23, 1969

8:00 p.m.
Filipino Comm. Center
5740 Empire Way So.

Many thanks to Allen Nakano, Industrial Arts Instructor at Sharples Junior High and ACE member, for the design of the ACE symbol. When asked of Mr. Nakano, "Why the Chinese dragon?", he replied, "Well, that's the fiercest thing I could think of."

The symbol will also appear on ACE support buttons which will be on sale beginning the evening of the rally for 50¢ each.

HELP SUPPORT ACE

WEAR A BUTTON

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