

0 - 72 - III

October 23, 1964

Mr Rpy Wilkins,
NAACP,
20 West 40,
New York City.

Dear Mr Wilkins:

I am doing the last revision on the section on your in my book Who Speaks for the Negro, for which you so kindly gave me the interview. I need one or two last pieces of information, which I hope you will give me.

- (1) What is the present membership of the NAACP?
- (2) Is this an all-time high?
- (3) What is the income and budget ? IF this is available for public information.
- (4) I understand that a high percentage of the NAACP budget comes from Negro sources. Is this true?

There is one other question I'd like to ask your word on. In LIFE Magazine of October 16 there is an article on "The Backlash," by Theodore H. White. The sentence I am concerned with is: "The White House has acted discreetly but irresistibly both on civil rights leaders and their sources of financing among northern whites." It has been my understanding that the "sources of financing" among whites are so diverse that there is no possibility of combining to influence policy. I hope this is true. In any case, I'd like to have any comment you can make on this sentence -- either for quote or background information.

I'll be grateful for whatever you can do for me here. And I'll promise not to bother you again. Except by sending you the book.

Very sincerely yours,

Robert Penn Warren