

NAACP ASKS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TO STOP "TERROR" IN MEMPHIS

INVESTIGATION OF 'OPEN TERROR' IS URGED BY WHITE

NEW YORK—(SNS)—United States Attorney General Robert Jackson was asked Monday by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to bring the forces of the Justice Department to bear in an investigation of the open terror being meted out to Negroes in Memphis, Tennessee, by politicians and the local police force of Memphis.

The complete text of a telegram signed by Walter White and sent to Jackson today by the association follows:

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People protests vigorously against abrogation of freedom of press by Chief of Police of Memphis, Tennessee, who has called in two Negro editors and threatened them if they did not print the kind of news matter and editorials in which he could give his approval regarding general racial situations in the United States.

"According to widely circulated news stories Negro business men in Memphis are being harassed by police and a score of more prominent Negro citizens have been threatened with being driven out of town. A 'threat of machine' gun warfare is said to have been made by Police Chief Boyle. It is alleged that this entire situation has grown out of the fact that some Memphis Negro citizens in the last election chose to support the candidate not favored by the political boss Ed Crump.

"We believe the situation is grave and call for immediate investigation and vigorous action by the Department of Justice in all its phases, particularly the threat against the freedom of the press."