THIS IS A TRANSCRIPTION OF A SPEECH MADE BY ROOSEVELT WILLIAMS, A NEGRO HIGH IN THE COUNCILS OF THE N.A.A.C.P, AT A SECRET N.A.A.C.P. MEETING IN MISSISSIPPI

Transcribed and distributed as an educational service by your C.A.C.C. If you really want to know what the real issue is, what the Negro really thinks and what the N.A.A.C.P. really stands for, read this through.

Thank you, Reverend. Although my address tonight is to be primarily of reporting on the situation in Arkansas and I know you are anxious awaiting the great tidings, I must first pay my respects to the people of Mississippi. It has been my privilege to spend quite some time in the Halls of Congress in Washington representing our demands for representation and the fact was ever uppermost in my mind that this great state of Mississippi was the only state in the history of this nation which ever sent two great and distinguished negroes to the United States Senate. Meantime, I have paused in my battle for social progress to disdainfully observe some of the parasites on the democratic process which have been sent to Congress with bitter hatred and animosity in their black hearts for us. Such are the Bilbos, Dennisses, Longs, Eastlands, Ellenders and many others of very despicable sight, and we have offered up to God our favorite . . . (could not hear) . . . for more stalwart men of the caliber and qualifications of those outstanding legislators and fearless defenders of . . . (could not hear) . . . We the leaders of the N.A.A.C.P. promise that glorious day and these valiant men and women will not be denied We in the N.A.A.C.P., both negro and otherwise, are aware that it has required a tremendously great struggle of our people here in Mississippi, a land of oppression both for our people and the impoverished white folks who oppose the high handed dictates of the tyrannical race of people who are under the full power of the State. It is to your everlasting honor that you have not given up in the difficult struggle and . . . (could not hear) . . . military, fraternal and civic organizations and you are now ready to take your proud position in this glorious moment for equality. The N.A.A.C.P. is affording you the experienced leadership which it has and the day of your complete emancipation is at hand. We will recall that after we came into the state, it took but a short time for the white and Methodist women to approve our demands for full equality. And now we demand that it become an actuality. Now I would like to express some of the demands that we are bringing in order that you may know and take pride in what is being done for you. We demand that the War and Navy Departments completely abolish all color distinction in the Army and Navy. We know that the Hitler conflict was waged in the false name of equality. Our people from Mississippi contributed thousands of our most splendid negro citizens every time the the White Citizens Councils . . . (could not hear) . . .

Our people have fearlessly fought and died in the front lines while the white soldiers crouched in the back areas with the safety of their undeserved political commissions. The whole world marvelled at the heroism and fighting quality of the American negro and our good friend Marshall Zuchov of Russia, reported to Stalin that although he could not understand why the American Negro would fight for America, Russia could never whip America as long as they had that splendid fighter and magnificent warrior, the American negro in their Army and Navy. We demand that our own government show us an equal amount of recognition. It is possible, though doubtful, that some of the white soldiers of America and Mississippi could give a creditable performance in battle with intelligent negro leadership. We demand that opportunity. It was no revelation to us and it was shown in World War II and again in Korea that the negro is the white man's superior. The negro, although not given equal opportunity, has excelled already in their chosen lines of endeavor. Where has been the white man who could compete with our own Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Duke Ellington, Nat "King" Cole, Joe Lewis, Dr. Ralph Bunche, Jackie Robinson, etc., and many thousands of others who have transcribed their names on our glorious pages of history. We demand the abolition of all state laws which prohibit marriages of persons of different races. It is simply (indistinct) that many of our discriminating negroes might be (not clear) to marry beneath their stations just because we simply demand the removal of laws that keep the barrier between us and complete equality. As many of you are aware, some of the most outstanding Americans ever produced were the products of white men crossed with generate negro women without benefit of clergy, and the whole world knows that the white man strongly prefers the negro women with its strong rich ancestors and warm, full blooded passions that recline in the spiritless women of his own race.

It might surprise you to learn that our strongest sympathizers in this particular (?) demand, in fact it has been included among our immediate demands in order to secure their assistance in other lines of endeavor, are millions of Southern white women. . . . who have been subjected to the same persecution that we have and have expressed . . . (could not hear) . . . give notice of their intention to start . . . (could not aear) . . .

We, the negro man, have long known that the white woman is violently dissatisfied with the white man and we know of the millions of clandestine meetings sought by the white woman. They, along with us, demand the right to win and love the negro man of their choice and shout to the world, "this is my man and he is a man in every respect." They are likely to be doomed to disappointment when the average negro is of the attitude "why buy a cow when I can get plenty of milk and butter for nothing." But we demand the right for any negro, man or woman, to marry a member of the white race if we can find one fit to marry. I am very proud of the fact that I am a negro with a proud heritage and I do not intend to contaminate that proud heritage for my children by introducing inferior stock into their ancestry. And now allow me to bring you the good news from Arkansas. Our greatest stroke of good fortune came in Arkansas when our good friend Rockefeller settled in Arkansas. He has assured us that even though he is convinced that Governor Faubus is our friend and will be interested in all our demands that he intends to play along with the segregationalists. He has them both under his complete origin and can do exactly what he demands with them, and he will demand of them exactly what we demand. He has promised that we will have representation on the state Democratic committee. Of course you realize that our dynamic leadership will completely control that committee. He has promised a member in the state education department. You can imagine what benefit that will prove to the negro with that appointment. He has promised us that he will appoint a negro to the Alcohol Control Board. He has promised to remove the hated word "colored" from the toilets and water fountains in the capitol building. He has promised that during his second term, the Adjutant General of the Military Department will be an outstanding negro military hero.

He has promised us that negroes will be integrated into all state colleges and consequently has promised an opinion to support them. He has promised to secure more than 100,000 free poll tax receipts. He has promised not to sign any legislation unless it has been approved by our own, the Hon. I. S. McClintock. He has promised to appoint negroes to the State Pardon and Parole Board. He has promised to fill the first vacancy on the University of Arkansas Board with a worthy negro and the Chaplain of the next Arkansas legislature will be an outstanding negro. Now, you hear this, we will absolutely control the next election in Arkansas and in order to show you how completely we control this man Fabalus, we must let you in on some of the secrets which were suggested by Fabulus. It has already been suggested to us that we would find our most hostile opposition to integration in the school districts with heavy negro population and we would find little or no opposition in the school districts where there are few or no negro citizens. He reminded us that there are many school districts in northern Arkansas and western Arkansas where there are no negroes and suggested that we could move one or two negro families into each of these communities and present their children to the white schools and demand admission. And I say presently that the school board will be . . . (could not hear) . . . we succeed in integrating a district, our problems will lessen. We have been given plenty of favorable publicity through our Arkansas press and the whole world has been shown every time that integration will work in the Arkansas school system. I know this sounds like a Utopian dream to you people here in this city, but it is almost an actuality in Arkansas and may be more.