

The Urban Coalition / ACTION REPORT

Federal Bar Building West / 1819 H Street, N.W. / Washington, D. C. / 20006
National Coordinators: John Feild / Ron M. Linton

January 2, 1968

The Urban Coalition ends 1967 -- and the first four months of its existence -- with a feeling of solid accomplishment and a high degree of optimism for the future. The Washington office has been established and staffed ... Task Forces, manned by many of the country's most talented and concerned people, are already producing effectively ... Local coalitions have been formed, or are being organized, in many critical areas ... press and public support of the concept of the Coalition and its goals are strong. For many people the Coalition has become a symbol of hope; others remain skeptical. Everyone is waiting to see if the powerful forces represented in the Coalition can indeed "turn the country around" and solve the crisis in the cities. We think they can, and will. We can report that in the dead of winter the individuals who came together in a common commitment in the heat of August have lost none of their concern, determination and sense of urgency. The hard work of program building goes on. The country watches -- and waits.

PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

More than 200 participants met in Atlanta on December 13 for a very successful one-day session on private employment. Businessmen from eastern and southern states had been invited to exchange information and practical program ideas. They heard Gerald L. Phillippe, chairman of the board of the General Electric Company and co-chairman of the Task Force deliver a forceful address on the responsibility of private business in providing jobs and training for the so-called "unemployables". Other general session speakers included Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr. of Atlanta, William Flynn, director of the STEP Program for the National Association of Manufacturers, Dr. Lawrence D. Reddick, executive director of the Opportunities Industrialization Center Institute of Philadelphia, and Augustus H. Sterne, president of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce.

A similar regional meeting will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on January 17. The meeting date for the regional meeting in Kansas City, Missouri has been changed from January 24 to February 21.

PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT AND URBAN LEGISLATION

Millions of people tuned in to President Johnson's television interview on all three major networks on December 19 heard the President

National Steering Committee

I. W. ABEL, President, United Steelworkers, Pittsburgh
THE HONORABLE IVAN ALLEN, JR., Mayor of Atlanta
ARNOLD ARONSON, Executive Secretary, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, Washington, D.C.
ROY ASH, President, Litton Industries, Beverly Hills
THE HONORABLE JOSEPH M. BARR, Mayor of Pittsburgh, President, U. S. Conference of Mayors
THE HONORABLE JEROME P. CAVANAGH, Mayor of Detroit
FREDERICK J. CLOSE, Chairman of the Board, Aluminum Company of America, Pittsburgh
THE HONORABLE JOHN F. COLLINS, Mayor of Boston
THE HONORABLE RICHARD J. DALEY, Mayor of Chicago
THE MOST REV. JOHN F. DEARDEN, Archbishop of Detroit
GILBERT W. FITZHUGH, President, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, New York
DR. ARTHUR FLEMMING, President, University of Oregon, President, National Council of Churches, New York
HENRY FORD II, Chairman, Ford Motor Company, Detroit
THE HONORABLE MILTON GRAHAM, Mayor of Phoenix
ANDREW HEISKELL, Chairman of the Board, Time, Inc., Chairman, Urban America Inc., New York
JOSEPH D. KEENAN, Secretary, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Washington, D.C.
THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Atlanta
THE HONORABLE JOHN V. LINDSAY, Mayor of New York
GEORGE MEANY, President, AFL-CIO, Washington, D.C.
J. IRWIN MILLER, Chairman, Cummins Engine Company, Columbus (Indiana)
THE HONORABLE ARTHUR NAFTALIN, Mayor of Minneapolis
GERALD L. PHILLIPPE, Chairman of the Board, General Electric Company, New York
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, New York
WALTER REUTHER, President, United Auto Workers, President, Citizens Crusade Against Poverty, Detroit
DAVID ROCKEFELLER, President, Chase Manhattan Bank, New York
JAMES ROUSE, President, The Rouse Company, President, Urban America Inc., Baltimore
RABBI JACOB P. RUDIN, President, Synagogue Council of America, New York
THEODORE SCHLESINGER, President, Allied Stores Corporation, New York
ASA T. SPAULDING, President, North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company, Durham
DAVID SULLIVAN, President, Service Employees International Union, Washington, D.C.
THE HONORABLE JAMES H. J. TATE, Mayor of Philadelphia, President, National League of Cities
JOHN WHEELER, President, Mechanics and Farmers Bank, Durham, President, Southern Regional Council
ROY WILKINS, Executive Director, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York
WHITNEY YOUNG, JR., Executive Director, National Urban League, New York
JOHN FEILD, U. S. Conference of Mayors, National Coordinator
RON M. LINTON, Urban America Inc., National Coordinator