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Congress of Racial Equality

Roy Innis
National Chairman

(212) 698-4000
Fax: (212) 699-3566

May 01, 1992

Honorable Louis Sullivan
Secretary of Health and
Human Services
Department of Health and
Human Services
200 Independent Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Sullivan:

On behalf of the Staff of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and its many supporters, please consider this letter a formal protest of the fact that CORE's National Chairman, Roy Innis, was not invited to today's meeting with President Bush and Black Leaders regarding the Rodney King case verdict in Los Angeles.

As a leader of the third oldest and largest civil rights organization, and as a leader who has supported President Bush and his entire administration, we consider Mr. Innis' not being invited to the meeting an affront to the organization and to all decent people (Black and White) who look to CORE for leadership.

This is a very critical period for our country. Part of the problem in Los Angeles and other parts of the country is that a large segment of the minority community feels excluded from the political process. Your exclusion of Mr. Innis from today's meeting prevents him from effectively addressing this crisis, serves to validate their frustrations, and legitimizes the actions of the hoodlums capitalizing on this misfortune. CORE maintains an active office and chapter in the affected area of Los Angeles whose members have valiantly attempted to quell the violence in their communities. They particularly feel slighted and demoralized and find it difficult to continue their noble efforts.

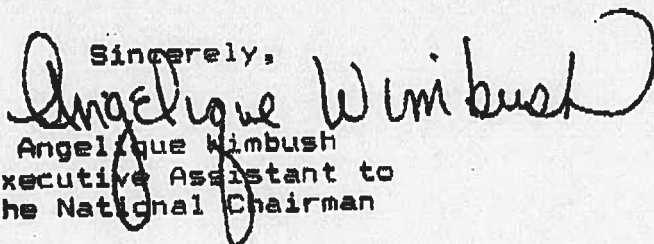
30 Cooper Square, New York, New York 10003

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Sullivan

I have enclosed a copy of Mr. Innis' press statement regarding the verdict. Yesterday, Mr. Innis spoke with Chief of Staff, Skinner, whereupon he expressed his willingness to offer his advice to the President on the Los Angeles situation. He made it clear that he was ready to assist the administration in any way that he could to bring about an acceptable end to the crisis.

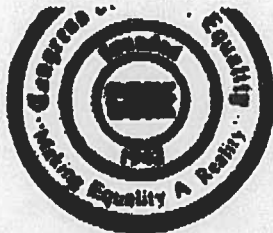
I anxiously await your response. I can be reached at (212) 598-4000.

Sincerely,


Angelique Wimbush
Executive Assistant to
the National Chairman

Encl:

CC: Samuel K. Skinner
Chief of Staff
White House



Congress of Racial Equality

Martin Luther King National Holiday Celebration

30 Cooper Square • New York, New York 10003 • (212) 598-4000

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TELEPHONE NUMBER: (212) 598-4000

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