

NEWARK RALLY

Riot trial protest ^{REFERENCE} ~~arranged~~

Negroes yesterday were urged to fill the chambers of the Essex County Court-house, Newark today to protest the trials of some 1,400 persons arrested during the city's summer riots.

About 150 persons attended a protest rally on the court-house steps sponsored by the United Afro American Association of Newark. Among the speakers were playwright LeRoi Jones, one of those arrested during the riots, and Charles Kenyatta of the Harlem Mau Maus. Kenyatta was accompanied by helmeted, machete-carrying body guards.

Jones told the virtually all Negro gathering that unless

Negroes come together in the ghetto they will never have power.

"If you have unity, no one will attack you," Jones said. He said the Negro is free to do anything he wants but too often lives in misery and degradation because he wants to follow the white man's concept of blackness.

"Only a slave needs civil rights organizations," he said. "A free man has freedom. Only a slave petitions to negotiate for freedom."

He urged the crowd to "strive to work to throw the shackles off."

"If we know who we are, if we know our history then we don't have to fight against any man. "We only fight against unrighteousness," he said.

Willie Wright, president of the United Afro American Association, said "we better get ourselves together because this man (the white man) is embarked on a genocidal war to wipe us off the face of the map after losing the war in Vietnam."

Wright said "nobody is going to stir up the black community until our folks are ready to defend ourselves."

He criticized the recent

passage of an ordinance by the Newark City Council to buy riot equipment and police dogs.

He said some of the money could have been used to pay sanitation employees overtime for cleaning up the streets that are being cleaned by volunteers in several sections of the city.

Herman Ferguson, Queens high school vice principal charged with conspiracy to kill civil rights leaders Whitney Young and Roy Wilkins, said children should join their parents in the struggle by writing slogans on school black boards such as "learn or burn" and "teach or reach."

Wright said the rally was held to persuade black people to fill the court chambers "and show dislike to the injustice meted out to 1,400 black people."