At 2:45 a.m. on March 6, 1966, the National Office of the W. E. B. DuBois Club was demolished by an explosion. Police estimate that between 20 and 40 sticks of dynamite were contained in the charge which broke every window on the block, tore a gaping hole in the concrete, and narrowly missed seriously injuring several people.

The act was undoubtedly that of some ultra-rightist, and has the racist overtones of Southern bombings. It is true that the person who planted the charge must have been mad. But to see this explosion as the act of some isolated maniac would be to miss the point.

The bombing was, in fact, the logical result of the atmosphere being generated in our country by the war in Vietnam. The use of dynamite on those with whom you disagree in San Francisco is not inconsistent with the use of napalm in Southeast Asia. What is happening to democracy in our country bears out the need to end the war and fast. As the war continues to escalate and the Johnson Administration attempts to find its consensus by suppressing opposition, the attacks on democracy will continue and intensify.

Even more specifically the bombing of our National Office was, in effect, invited by Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach's recent order for the DuBois Clubs to register as a so-called Communist-front organization. We in the DuBois Clubs do not deny that there are Communists in our organization, and we defend the right of Communists to participate in the political life of our country. We refuse to fall into the trap laid by the Justice Department and begin baiting ourselves.

The Attorney General knows full well that the McCarran Act under which we have been requested to register is unconstitutional. The Supreme Court has thrown out every provision of it that has been attempted to be enforced. But Katzenbach knows that we are not guilty of any crime. What he hopes to do is to isolate the DuBois Clubs, intimidate the youth movement, and turn the anti-war movement into purging itself. While the Attorney General attempts to suppress the organization and silence the anti-war movement, violence and intimidation are running wild in the deep South. He should send his agents to protect the Negro people in Mississippi and Alabama, not bring charges against young activists in the North.

This violence against our National Office is not an isolated incident. In New York, when the DuBois Clubs held a press conference to answer Katzenbach's charges, a mob of local thugs set on them and put four of our members in the hospital.

But this is not the McCarthyite fifties. Our generation has faced bombings and violence as well as legal persecution before and it will not be intimidated by this attack. Stu Aunghen Lynd has publicly joined the DuBois Club; SNCC, Martin Luther King's SCLC, SDS, and the National Committee to End the War in Vietnam have announced that an attack on us is an attack on them.

Our membership has pulled together, and many new people are joining the Clubs. Our generation is determined that we will put an end to poverty, discrimination, and war. It will take far more than an unconstitutional statute and a crackpot's bomb to turn us around.

—W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America
National Office