

NEGRO SITDOWN LEADERS DENOUNCE STATEMENT

ATLANTA, June 12 (UPI) — Leaders of the sitdown movement denounced as "irresponsible" and "unfounded" statements by former President Harry S. Truman that the Southwide protest against lunch-counter segregation was Communist inspired. "Social change by nature cre-

ates tension and irresponsible charges of Communist influences increase rather than diminish these tensions and incorrectly credit the Communists with movements toward social justice," said Marion Barry Jr. of Memphis, Tenn., chairman of the Student Non-violence Coordinating Committee.

Barry released a statement, in which the committee, comprising representatives from 13 states and the District of Columbia, expressed regret over the "continuing and unfounded allegation of Communist direction of the sitdown movement" by Truman.

"The sitdown movement is an attempt to secure for all Americans the rights guaranteed to them in the Constitution and who realize in the United States the goal of a free democratic and responsible society," said the committee statement.