

NAACP VOWS TO MAINTAIN PRESSURE ON MAJOR LEAGUE TEAMS

NEW YORK — Representatives of NAACP branches in more than 20 cities and members of the Association's Sports Advisory Committee met here on Thursday, September 17, 1987, to receive an update on the progress of

the NAACP's efforts to increase the number of blacks in non-playing positions in professional baseball, basketball and football, and to consider future strategies to achieve this goal.

The NAACP formally an-

nounced the beginning of its efforts last April 15th when it disclosed it would call on its local branches to open negotiations with the professional clubs in their own cities with a view toward the development of affirmative

action plans.

At the recent meeting, Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks, Executive Director of the NAACP, reported that in the past five months, 72 blacks have been hired by the clubs. Of this number, 39, or 54%, were

hired by teams in the National Basketball Association, major league baseball hired 24 and the National Football League hired nine.

While negotiations have been instituted with most of the 26 baseball teams, and

preliminary agreements have been drawn up with at least half a dozen of them, no final agreement has been signed, Dr. Hooks said.

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646-4661