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P E T I T I O N

TO: Lyndon Baines Johnson, President of the United States

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED AMERICAN CITIZENS, urge you to take immediate executive actions to support the Negro Americans of the South as they seek rights already guaranteed them by our constitution and laws.

We need not remind you of the shameful murders, beatings, and unlawful arrests of Negroes who attempt to exercise their rights and their white sympathizers.

WE HEREBY PETITION YOU to take the following steps:

1. Issue to the FBI explicit instructions to make on-the-spot arrests for federal crimes relating to civil rights. We ask immediate enforcement of sections 241 and 242, Title 18, USC.
2. Exercise your powers to create a special force of federal agents who would protect civil rights workers in Southern states and those Negro citizens who are seeking their constitutional rights. These powers are contained in sections 332 and 333, Title 10, U.S. Codes.
3. Urge that the Civil Rights Commission hold open hearings immediately in Mississippi to determine the extent of violations there.
4. Appoint as federal judges in the South only those who pledge to uphold the standard that all are equal before the law.

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