

May 21, 1962

STATEMENT BY DIANE NASH BEVEL

For the second time, I am appearing in this court to surrender and serve the two year sentence imposed on me. I am not trying to be a martyr. Naturally, I prefer not to be in jail. I would like for this court to set me free so that I may continue the work which brought these charges against me--training people in Mississippi to use the technique of nonviolence to bring an end to segregation.

But, if this court persists in upholding the dishonest sentence against me, I shall go to jail. I want no postponement, delays, or favors because the charges are false and should never have been brought in the first place. I have made my position clear: I no longer wish to cooperate with the evil and corrupt court system of Mississippi.