SNCC Workers Cut On $3,000 Bail
After Charges Of Dope Possession

Clarksdale, Mississippi -- Two workers for the Atlanta-based Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee were released from jail in this Mississippi town Monday on $3,000 cash bail following charges of "illegal possession of barbiturates." The two workers, both Negroes, were arrested when Clarksdale police searched a caravan of food and medicine they were transporting to dispossessed Negro families in Mississippi's Delta.

The chairman of the protest group, Charles McDew, declaring that the caravan contained "nothing more potent than aspirin," wired President Kennedy asking that he "take immediate steps to halt harassment of potential Negro voters in Mississippi and threats and intimidations made against those who try to aid them."

The two arrested, Ivanhoe Donaldson and Benjamin J. Taylor, both Negroes, were arrested on December 28, by Clarksdale police while they slept in the truck they used to transport 1,000 pounds of food and medicine to Delta Negroes. Police charged them with violation of the state's drug laws, but two doctors in Louisville, Kentucky, who had donated the medicine, said that vitamins and "that type of thing" and that physicians had checked the materials to make sure there were no objectional drugs.

Donaldson is a field worker for the Atlanta-based Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and has been active in anti-segregation de-had been working with the Louisville Student Non-violent Action Committee (SNAC), an affiliate of the Atlanta group, in collecting most of the food and medicinal supplies.