

"But, We'll Never Turn Back"



These are the faces of the children and adults of Greenwood, Mississippi during a mass meeting in March, 1963 -- as Negroes braved jail and snarling police dogs to register to vote in the Leflore County Courthouse. These are the faces of Negro citizens who have lived their lives in the Mississippi Delta, where voter registration sometimes means a burning home, shots in the night, police harassment -- even possibly, death.

On the night of February 28, James Travis, a 20-year old field secretary for the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee, was shot by white assailants near Greenwood. Travis, a gentle Mississippian and former Freedom Rider, almost died from bullet wounds near his spine.

Travis is one of 30 SNCC field secretaries who work on voter registration in the state of Mississippi. These workers -- most of whom are native Mississippians, and most of whom are in their late 'teens and early twenties -- each day knock on doors all over rural Mississippi urging Negro citizens to register and vote. For this, they have

been beaten, shot, jailed, and mobbed, and live each day never knowing whether there will be a next one.

These young people see a new day in Mississippi's future when legislators will be truly representative of the state's citizenry, when there shall be equality before the law, and when all citizens shall have a chance for equal employment and equal education.

But they cannot do it alone. As you have read in this LOOK article, SNCC's financial needs are great, and the work is long, hard, and dangerous. Please send your contributions to:

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

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