To all Freedom Democrats

I've prepared a short report on the first depositions being taken so that in places these depositions aren't being taken until later this week or next have no idea as to when ending on.

The first depositions were taken in trans. to Jackson and were followed by depositions on Tues. in Jackson. In both places the opposition was present with a full team of lawyers and congressmen of the District (John ell Williams led through the谢谢 hearing on Thurs. Am the CCD office and on Treat the next two days, from 9:30 a.m to 11:30 a.m). In Natchez we had friendly witnesses and the opposition all cross-examiners. The pattern of the cross-examination for local people stressed the fact election was you refused the right to register and vote for the election under certain, did you have trouble registering, to vote within the last year, were you excluded from a precinct the previous meeting, did you vote in the primary. Most of the questions was turned toward showing that this election was on the up, up. It is their argument that the 3 Congressmen did not violate any election procedure, were the valid candidates of their parties and therefore are entitled to sit in Congress. They maintain that they knew nothing about Negroes not being able to register and vote, and they have the right to sit in Congress.

when they cross examined a staff member they asked her where she was from and since she was from y., had she known about this. She explained that she had been living here for a while and that many people had told her about the state and she had heard about it for you, for example in the Daily Mail. They then asked her if she would feel if they went to y. and heard that Negroes were being excluded, what. She said that if they believed it and agree that they would act on their convictions and begin to read to locally illegal to it, they then shut-up.

The hearings in Jackson were so a lot different because they were of unfriendly witnesses, Joe T. Totten, Attorney General, Bobbie Lamer, Secretary of State, Robert Torche, editor of the Citizen, director of the Citizen's Council, Robert E. Morgan, editor of the Citizen's Councils of Mississippi. In all three cases our lawyers are since we were out of town, for the example Torche Stovall asked Totten in series of questions about denial of the right for Negroes to register and vote.

S. Did you defend the county registrars when voting suits were brought by the ATY

S. Yes

S. Did you ever take an investigation into whether the charges brought by the government are true.

1. No

S. You are your office has received the county registrars in the following cases (he then asked 60 counties were there been voting suits).

1. Yes

S. Did you ever take an investigation into the charges that Negroes are denied the right to register the vote.

1. No

S. You are you just 60 to the registrars defense without investigating the charges.

1. Yes

S. In any of the 60 counties where there have been voting suits do you know of one single act of discrimination against Negroes.

1. Yes

S. There are suits in all 8 counties, under the general suit of the United States against , but these are just charges the Justice Dept hasn't made they haven't been proved.

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S. well, as the chief law enforcement officer of the state did you ever investigate to see if they were true.

P. I told you I have never made any such investigation nor do I know of one single case in which Negroes have been discriminated against.

According to Joe Jefferson and other members of the state government all is peace and quite in Mississippi and everyone is happy, or if there are any problems they certainly don't know of them.

Mrs. Muffin of the Laurel P.D. will be making a full report on the Jackson hearings which will soon be sent out.

Freedom
Theresa Del Rio, for

F. S. Don't forget, the next state meeting of the JDI will be in Jackson Sun. Feb. 21, at 11:30 a.m.

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