

# Council Of Federated Organizations

9698 MAR-4'64  
1017 Lynch Street  
P.O. Box 2896  
(601) 352-9605

Jackson, Mississippi 39203

March 1, 1964

Mr. Roy Wilkins, Executive Secretary  
National Association for the Advancement of  
Colored People  
20 West 40 Street  
New York, New York 10018

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

Enclosed is a report of the Mississippi Freedom Summer program drawn up by the staff of the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO), which is a federation of all the national civil rights organizations active in Mississippi. Since the NAACP is an integral part of COFO, I'm sure you are familiar with its program.

COFO is holding a conference on March 15, 1964, to which it invites all national civil rights leaders, to coordinate their efforts in one direction for the proposed Mississippi Freedom Summer program.

It is extremely vital that you try to schedule the afternoon of March 15, 1964, to attend the COFO conference in Jackson, Mississippi, beginning at 11:00 a.m., along with other national leaders. James Farmer, James Forman, Whitney Young and Rev. Martin Luther King are also being invited in order to establish and project each other's views for working together on a joint COFO project, and make all plans and decisions in common.

Since a press conference is being called after the conference, we feel it is imperative that all national civil rights organizations be present in order that the statements issued will be representative of our program. We feel that your joint efforts together in Jackson would lend valuable impetus throughout the nation for the Mississippi Freedom Summer project.

The agenda for the COFO conference for each national civil rights leader, hopefully, will be as follows:

Aaron Henry  
President

Robert Moses  
Program Director

David Dennis  
Assistant Program Director

#### Congressional District Coordinators

Frank Smith, 1st  
Columbus

James Jones, 2nd  
Greenwood

Jesse Harris, 3rd  
Vicksburg

Matteo Suarez, 4th  
Meridian

Lawrence Guyot, 5th  
Hattiesburg

State Office Coordinator  
Charles Cobb, Jackson

Welfare and Relief Committee  
Vera Pigeo, Clarkdale  
Annelle Ponder, Greenwood

Political Program Committee  
Lawrence G. Guyot, Hattiesburg

Finance Committee  
Rev. R. L. T. Smith, Jackson

Federal Programs Committee  
Jesse Morris, Jackson

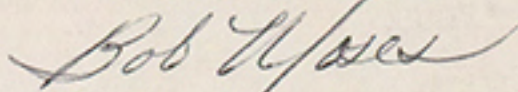
Letter to Mr. Wilkins, March 1, 1964, page 2

Agenda:

1. Arrive in Jackson for the conference by 11:00 a.m. March 15, 1964.
2. Participate in the COFO conference, and learn of the new programs projected for Mississippi by the COFO staff. The agenda will cover various reports: on voter registration, including Freedom Days, on the welfare and relief program, on the plans to challenge the Mississippi delegation at the national political conventions, and will include the nomination of Freedom Candidates for the Senate and the House of Representatives.
3. Take a few moments for each national civil rights leader to address the people attending the COFO conference.
4. Meet and plan among the national civil rights leaders and the COFO officers for the press conference to follow the COFO conference.
5. Announce nationally to the press the Mississippi Freedom Summer.

Please reply as soon as ~~prax~~ possible, when you check your schedule. We hope to hear from you soon. I can be reached at the COFO office at all times for your reply.

Yours in Freedom,



Bob Moses, Program Director  
Council of Federated  
Organizations

Enclosure  
RM/MM/lc

cc: Mr. Charles Evers, NAACP, 1072 Lynch St., Jackson, Miss.  
Mr. Aaron Henry, 213 Fourth St., Clarksdale, Miss.

also, similar letters sent to Mr. James Farmer, Mr. James Forman  
and Rev. Martin Luther King