This is a report submitted to the Mississippi Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights at a meeting held March 18, 1964. It is filed on behalf of the state's 950,000 Negroes. It is written from the viewpoint of those who are workers for the end of racial discrimination and segregation in Mississippi, for the encouragement of the exercise by Negroes in Mississippi, of their right to vote and to register to vote, and for the exercise and preservation of civil rights generally in Mississippi, whether such persons are paid or not paid to act as such workers.

The purpose of this report is:

1) To indicate to the Advisory Committee, (a) that there is a need for greater public awareness in regard to denial of civil rights and civil liberties for Negroes and for persons who are working to end racial discrimination in Mississippi, and (b) that the Advisory Committee could fulfill a vital need by issuing frequently reports, for nationwide distribution, informing the nation at large of these denials.

2. To submit to the Advisory Committee material which will give it a substantial basis for petitioning the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to hold hearings in Mississippi, and

3. To indicate to the Advisory Committee the overwhelming need for greater federal government activity in Mississippi, if the rights and lives of Negroes are to be insured.

This report has been prepared by:

The COUNCIL OF FEDERATED ORGANIZATIONS (COFO)
1017 Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi

COFO Publication #10

labor donated
THE MANIA FOR INTIMIDATING

Southwestern Mississippi:

Acts of intimidation take many forms: For example, the coming of the New Year marked the reorganization of the Klu Klux Klan in Southwestern Mississippi; in addition, Negroes have been beaten, shot, and murdered and assailants have as yet been discovered or brought to justice.

McComb

On the evening of January 9, 1964 there were several instances of shooting in the McComb area. The pieces shot into included:

- H.C. Wells' Grocery (hole in window)
- Carter's Shoe Shop (hole in window)
- Mrs. Alyene Quinn's home in Summit,
  Also: Mr. Isadore Carter's home was shot into on Wednesday evening (January 8, 1964) (two large holes in a picture window.)

Speculations about the cause, or the occasion, of the shootings conclude that the general program of voter registration had disturbed the unruly white population. The immediate occasion was apparently the televised addresses of President Johnson (State of the Union Speech) and Charles Evers, Mississippi Field Secretary for the NAACP which were televised into the area on Wednesday evening. Mr. Evers was speaking in rebuttal of Jackson Mayor Allen Thompson's earlier speech about consumer's boycott in Jackson. The purpose of the shooting was apparently to discourage Negro people from paying poll taxes and registering. About fifty or sixty have tried since November.

Mr. Carter, whose home and shoe shop were fired into, reported that the sheriff (Pike County sheriff Warren) came into his business Friday morning (January 10) and said that he had caught four white men; but would not give their names. Mr. H.C. Wells, whose grocery store was shot into said, that he saw a white Corvair go by at the time of the shooting, and it was going so fast that he was unable to tell anything more.

Notes on conversation with H.C. Wells:

"Shooting happened about 5:15 P.M.--heard no sound from the car, a white Corvair--it was travelling fast...my store front, glass window, fell in, sending glass fragments as far as five feet. The shot came from the back of the car going uphill." When asked as to why one would want to shoot up his place of business, Mr. Wells said that he believed that "someone just wanted something to do and shooting up a colored neighborhood was something to do."
On February 18, 1964 Archie Curtis of Natchez received a phone call at 12:45 A.M. He was told to go out to Palestine Road and go "two miles past the black top" where "a man with a lantern will be waiting to show you the way to Henry Goodman's house." (He was told that Mrs. Goodman had had a heart attack and needed an ambulance.)

Curtis went out to Palestine Road as requested, accompanied by Willie Jackson. After going two miles past the black top, they did not see anyone with a light. Curtis blew his horn. A car pulled up behind the ambulance. Two white men got out of the left side and two white men got out of the right side. All four had white hoods over their heads. One had a gun in his hand. Curtis and Jackson were told to get out of the ambulance. Curtis told them to go away because he had no time for foolishness. Curtis told them he was looking for a Mr. Goodman. One of the four white men said, "I'm Henry Goodman. I am the one who called you for an ambulance--and damn it, I want you to get out." Another of the four men walked over to the driver's side of the vehicle and asked Curtis, while pointing a gun at him, "didn't you hear him say get out?" Curtis turned to get out -- they caught his hand and hit his head. Curtis got out of the ambulance, he was told to take off his glasses. Curtis was slow getting them off; one of the men grabbed them and threw them away. Next Curtis and Jackson were blindfolded and carried to the white men's car, pushed in the car. Both Curtis and Jackson were put in the front of the car and driven down to a field called Duck Pond. They were told to get out of the car in Duck Pond, which they did; they were told to remove their clothes. They refused. After being hit "two or three times," they dropped their pants. Curtis was told to hand over his NAACP card. Curtis replied by saying he didn't have a NAACP card. He was told "yes, you have and that damn West has a NAACP card too." Curtis said "I don't think West has one" Curtis and Jackson were told to lie on their stomachs and then they were beaten. One of the four men suggested killing them -- but another said no "let's just leave them here." Curtis and Jackson went to a friend's house and got a ride into town.

In General

There have been at least five Negroes murdered in Southwestern Mississippi since the year's (1964) beginning. None of them have been solved and all seem to have racial overtones:

Lewis Allen was killed on February 1, 1964. He was shot in the face with a shotgun at night as he departed from his motor vehicle.

Three people were found dead in their automobile. Carbon Monoxided to death, however, they also had bullet holes in them.
A Mr. Walker was also found dead in Southwestern Mississippi, an obvious murder, the case still remains "unsolved."

There have been a countless number of cross burnings in Amite, Walthall and Pike counties. Many feel this is the result of the re-emergence of the KLU KLUX KLAN in Southwestern Mississippi.

In Franklin County barricades have been put in the middle of the street and Negroes have not been permitted to pass.

JACKSON MISSISSIPPI:

Intimidation takes a different form in sophisticated metropolitan Jackson. In Jackson the city's mayor is largely the intimidating force and he does it under the pretext of waging a war against those who he prefers to refer to as "agitators from outside."

What is causing apprehension in the minds of civil rights workers presently in the state is that during the summer of 1964 hundreds of college students are planning to come to Mississippi and most will probably pass through Jackson. The mayor seems to manifest the attitude of a mayor whose city is about to be invaded by an alien armored division whose purpose is total destruction rather than college students who have a desire to work on voter registration, educational, and re-training programs. His words as follows:

"We're ready for them...We've got the stuff...I'm going to use every force necessary to keep them from getting out of hand. I don't want to do it. My purpose is to maintain law and order in this city. Anything they bring in we can handle."

The mayor will no doubt be able to handle everything that is brought in, seeing as he has prepared for a small war and the only thing those students who do come to Mississippi will be bringing with them are knowledge and skills, that they desire to impart to unskilled, uneducated, poverty-stricken Negroes.

Mayor Thompson can rely on a strong police force—city policemen, city employees who can be pressed into duty as officers, sheriff's deputies and a cordon of state highway patrolmen.

The pride of his force is a special riot control car known locally as "Thompson's Tank." It can carry 10 policemen and two drivers into a crowd—shotguns, tear gas and other weapons inside.

Jackson has 400 policemen mostly tough young recruits who have joined the force in the last year or so, and is adding 35 more!
Last year Mayor Thompson bought 200 shotguns. Fifty more are ordered. Shotguns loaded with buckshot are mounted on motorcycle officers' vehicles and carried in patrol cars. Riot helmets and gas masks have been acquired for every officer.

Two city trucks have been equipped with searchlights and converted into troop carriers. Three flat-bed trailer trucks are now wire-enclosed paddy wagons for hauling away demonstrators in wholesale lots.

And the Mayor delightfully declares, "there's no way for them to win"---he has reference to the summer "invaders."

**THE FREEDOM VOTE**

From the "freedom vote" campaign which was held during October and November of 1963 ample evidence is offered to substantiate the assertion that any person who is engaged in any activity, regardless of how harmless it seems on the surface, that attempts to organize Negroes politically, runs the risk of being imprisoned or even killed.
POLICE BRUTALITY

Negroes who are arrested whether civil rights workers or not are vulnerable to acts of police brutality. At times, however, it becomes naked and open as incidents last summer (1963) indicated.

The following was reported in Newsweek Magazine, June 21, 1963. It is in reference to Jackson city policemen during a demonstration by Negroes:

"Once more, police started making arrests. From porches along Rose Street, spectators took up the chant: Freedom! Freedom! Freedom! Police ordered them to keep quiet, then charged the porches, kicking up swirls of dust in the yards, dragging Negroes to the ground, choking and clubbing them with billies. This is my house! one woman screamed from her doorway, but police dragged her out and beat her. Two cops seized John Salter, a white Tougaloo Christian College sociologist who had been slug during a sit-in three weeks earlier. "Here he is, here he is," one shouted. A third cop clubbed Salter on the head and knocked him sprawling, blood running into the dust."

The New York Times carried a front page article on June 11, 1963 whose lead read: JACKSON NEGROES CLUBBED AS POLICE QUELL MARCHES.

From the June 14, 1963 edition of the New Orleans Times-Picayune: "A fifteen year old Negro girl was hit with a police club when she started to cry "they got my brother."

"An officer surged into the house when the girl went down and a relative of hers, Mrs. Margaret Ann Porter, pulled her inside the front door."

"........One of those on the porch was Rev. Edwin King, white Methodist Chaplin at Tougaloo College. One officer cursed him when he asked police if they would call an ambulance for the Negro woman owner of the house who had fainted because of hysteria."

ACTS OF INTIMIDATION

The instances of police brutality and acts of intimidation occur in an atmosphere of official condonance. An examination of a few acts passed this year (1964) by the state Legislature will attest to the fact that the Negro can obtain no redress from state officials.
UNMARY OF EVENTS, October 22 through October 28

Between October 22 and October 25, 22 election workers were arrested in Indianola for distributing leaflets without a permit. (Four SNCC workers were arrested, convicted, and appealed on the same charge in September of 1962. The charges were dropped and the bond returned when the Justice Department intervened; there was a consent agreement that no more arrests would be made under the ordinance.) The 22 were sentenced to $25 fines and 30 days in jail (suspendable upon payment of fines).

I. In Clarksdale on October 24, after attending a meeting in the home of the candidate for governor, the chairman of the Campaign Advisory Committee and 2 Yale students were arrested while crossing the street from their parked car to enter the hotel where they had planned to spend the night. They were charged with violating a curfew and put in jail.

The next day another Yale student was arrested and charged with distributing leaflets without a permit. He has been fined $50.

Yesterday, Four Yale students were stopped by police and told they could not stay in the Negro section of town. "Either you stay in the white section or get out," they were told. The students spent the night in two Negro homes, and today one was arrested. The other was taken by police from Henry Headquarters and told the police would no longer "protect" him from the wrath of the Negro community. The Chief of Police predicted that the student would be "stabbed in the back". This conversation occurred while the student was in the back seat of a police car and with guns displayed conspicuously.

II. A Yale student and 2 SNCC workers arrived in Yazoo City at 4:00 PM, October 23. At 4:30 PM the police phoned the office where they were meeting with local Negro leaders. Presently it was "suggested" that they let the police escort them out of the city to "protect" them from injury. Otherwise, the Negro leaders warned, there was no telling what might happen to them. A rally scheduled for Yazoo City for the following evening was subsequently cancelled after similar warnings.

III. The mayor of Columbus refused requests for permits to distribute leaflets for Aaron Henry because it would "cause racial disturbance." Requests for permission to use a sound truck in Columbus were also denied. Distribution of Mississippi Free Press has been prohibited. Similar refusals of permits for the distribution of pro-Henry material have been reported from many places throughout Mississippi.

IV. Two white Methodist ministers were arrested in Jackson on Sunday, October 27, after they had attempted to enter the Capitol Street Methodist Church with a Negro student. There have been approximately 15 convictions in Jackson in the last 2 weeks for similar activity. The standard punishment for attempting to attend church services in an integrated group is 1 year in jail and $1,000 fine.

V. It is commonplace for campaign workers throughout Mississippi, with the exception of the city of Greenville, to be taken into custody on a variety of traffic charges. (On one occasion the candidate for Lt. Gov. was fined for four separate traffic "violations" while in Jackson for an afternoon.) Perhaps the most difficult of these to cope with
is "suspicion of auto theft," a charge which has been levelled even at people driving their own cars and carrying the registration papers on their person. Persons driving cars owned by relatives or borrowed from friends have found themselves detained for long periods, and have had their cars impounded for long periods by the police.

I. In Jackson it is the habit of the police to apprehend campaign workers especially en route to and from campaign offices during the evening hours. The custom to date seems to be to trail cars, quiz drivers and passengers and search interiors. Every third or fourth such incident ends with driver and passengers being taken to the police station for "questioning". These procedures produce a substantial number of traffic fines.

II. In Hattiesburg, the chief of police has announced that any white "agitators" found in the city limits will be sentenced to 6 months in jail and a $500 fine. Four Yale students who had arrived there at 1:00 A.M. on October 28 were taken from their beds to the police station for "questioning" at 6:00 A.M. They were released after 3 hours, and after the intervention of an FBI agent had obtained the release of one of the four who did not have his draft with him. Subsequently, however, a Yale divinity student was picked up on "suspicion of auto theft" and convicted of "interfering with a police officer" after he had asked if the police, who were searching his car, had a warrant to do so. There were 3 other arrests in Hattiesburg yesterday, including that of a cafe owner who had served a meal to two Yale students. She is out on $100 bond on charges of "illegal possession of alcohol," but before "finding" the half-pint of whiskey which formed the basis of the arrest, the police had "searched" the premises in such a fashion that the garbage had been dumped all over the floor, along with a considerable part of the food in stock.

The daughter of SCLC field secretary in Ruleville was arrested for "shoplifting" while shopping yesterday. In Greenwood today a white lady who has been working in the campaign was arrested on a number of traffic charges and is now in jail on $1000 bond.

During the last two days we have received a succession of calls rescinding permission to use church and store facilities for meetings or balloting. Many of these calls have included bitter or pathetic descriptions of threats.

Last week a white worker in the Literacy Project at Tougaloo College was arrested while driving back to the college, charged with "obstructing the flow of traffic," grilled by detectives for half an hour ("What are you doing here?" "Who are you sleeping with?" etc.) and fined. Such interrogations by officials occurs constantly, often without any charges being lodged either before or after interrogation.

Responsible persons, including some senior members of the journalistic corps and the Chaplain of a Negro college near Jackson, have what they consider incontrovertible evidence that their phones are tapped. There is also some evidence of tampering with mail addressed to people active in the civil rights movement.

III. Threats and violence by non-official persons have added to the atmosphere and required such measures as the posting of guards near the homes of whites who have been active in desegregation efforts, etc.
November 1. Bruce Payne of Oakland, California, a 21-year-old University of California graduate now studying political science at Yale University, was forced out of a "Freedom Vote" Votemobile in Port Gibson, and beaten by four men. He and the two Freedom Vote workers accompanying him were followed by the four men all the way from Natchez, 42 miles away. They had been organizing polling places for the Freedom Vote election which takes place November 2, 3, and 4. Payne and the two other workers were warned to stay out of Natchez.

November 2. (Event occurred app. 11:45 a.m.)

George Greene, a 20-year-old SNCC worker from Greenwood, Miss., was driving a Votemobile with Bruce Payne on the way from Natchez to Fayette, a distance of 23 miles, to work with balloting for the Freedom Vote campaign. The balloting takes place on November 2, 3, and 4.

Three miles out of Natchez, Greene realized that they were being followed by two of the four men who had beaten Payne the day before. During the 25 ensuing minutes, Greene tried to evade or lose the pursuing car by turning around, and out-racing it, but the top speed of 105 m.p.h. on the 1963 Chevrolet was no match for the 1964 Impala driven by the pursuers. Finally the workers were forced off the road against a bridge and one of the men walked up to Greene, pulled out a pistol and told him to get out. Greene, whose door was locked and window rolled up, shifted into low, swerved sharply, and escaped back on to the highway. As the car
left, the assailant shot three times at the left rear tire, hoping, it is believed, to disable the vehicle in order that the two workers could be forced into the Impala and taken somewhere more isolated than the highway.

With a slow leak in the tire, Greene once again tried to lose his pursuers, going through three red lights, crossing double lines and driving in oncoming traffic lanes. Finally he managed to get three cars ahead of the Impala and turned out of sight on to a backwoods road where the tire was changed.

Payne and Greene then proceeded to Jackson to report the incident to the highway patrol, Department of Justice, Henry headquarters and the press.

Payne stated that about all that saved the two workers was Greene's excellent driving. (Greene had raced in high school.)

Freedom Vote for Governor Headquarters
1072 Lynch St.
Jackson, Miss. tel: 948-0690
OCTOBER 24. Three campaign workers, accompanied by local ministers, visited the office of a local Negro citizen. While they visited him, he was telephoned by the police and intimidated. A scheduled campaign rally was thereupon cancelled. (See Nelson Soltman statement of Oct. 24)

OCTOBER 30, NOVEMBER 1, 2, 3. George Raymond, campaign worker and CORE Task Force worker, returned to work in Yazoo City. Each day he was followed by police everywhere he went. His campaigning was generally unsuccessful. On Sunday, Nov. 3, he was followed into a Negro church, where the police spoke against him to the congregation.

NOVEMBER 4. Several campaign workers (George Raymond, Lenore Thurman, Bob Gore, Claude Weaver, Jesse Morris and Doris Erskine) accompanied by an NBC camera crew came to Yazoo City to solicit votes. There were several incidents of minor harassment, e.g., the police would not allow a sign to be posted on the trunk of the campaign car, forcing the campaign workers to stand on the sidewalk holding the sign; Police Officer Moody, according to George Raymond, wrote "agitators" (sic) indelibly across Raymond's driver's license. Lenore Thurman was arrested when, police alleged, she handed a ballot to a man in public. George Raymond later, at the trial, testified that he had given the man the ballot, but the judge did not believe him.

NOVEMBER 7. Lenore Thurman, George Raymond, George Greene, Jesse Morris and Claude Weaver came back to Yazoo City for Miss Thurman's trial. She was convicted of distributing literature without a permit; the case is being appealed. After the trial, George Raymond went to a Negro restaurant to make a phone call; as he entered, he was kicked and curse
Events in Yazoo City, page 2

by a police officer he believes to be Assistant Captain Otis. When the others in the group joined Raymond at the restaurant, they left to return to Jackson, followed by the police escort. Just inside the city limits of Flora, Miss. (in Madison County), the car was stopped and Raymond was arrested by a highway patrolman and Yazoo City police. He was arrested for reckless driving (the charge was discovered the next day by Jesse Harris, who went up to bail him out), handcuffed so tightly that the circulation was cut off in his hands, kicked while entering and leaving the car, and cuffed around in front of the police station as he was being led to his cell, in Yazoo City. Back on the highway, the others in the group were ordered out of the car. The police asked who in the group had a driver's license. When George Green said that he had, they arrested him also, taking him into custody on an unspecified charge (later revealed as "disobeying an officer"). None of the others would volunteer the information that he or she had a driver's license, so the police sent them walking along the highway after dark. The police called a wrecker to take the car back to Yazoo City, where it is still impounded.

NOVEMBER 8. Jesse Harris, Claude Weaver, Carl Arnold, and Jesse Morris arrived in Yazoo City to pay fines or post bond for the two who had been arrested. George Raymond was released, on an appearance bond of $250, but the police refused to release George Greene, claiming that he had been arrested in Madison County, not Yazoo County. As of Sunday, November 10, negotiations to secure his release have been fruitless.

Freedom Vote Headquarters
1017 Lynch Street,
Jackson, Mississippi
tel: 352-9605
Events of November 1 and 2, general

November 2, 1960--Henry Headquarters in Jackson

Campaign workers in Belzoni, Leland, Tupelo and other communities reported incidents of arrest, detention and questioning all day.

November 1, 1960--Tate County

Hugh Smith, a senior philosophy student at Stanford University, resident of Menlo Park, California, was shot at three times while in his car in Tate County, Miss. Earlier in the day Smith had delivered a carload of Rust College (in Holly Springs), Negro Freedom Vote Campaign workers to Tate County, near Senatobia. When he returned, at about 1:00 p.m., to pick them up, he was recognized by a group of people at a market. Two shots were fired over his head, and one into the dirt as he drove away.
EVENTS IN MISSISSIPPI NOVEMBER 1 and 2:

November 1--JACKSON--Nicolas Bosanquet, British subject and Yale University student, and Robert Honeysucker, Negro senior at Tougaloo College (Negro) here, were arrested while attempting to enter a London Royal Philharmonic Symphony concert at a Jackson public auditorium. While they had bought tickets on public sale, they were told that only Jackson Music Association members were being admitted. The next day they were released on $500 bond each. They are to appear for trial Monday, November 4 on charges of disturbing the peace.

November 1--NATCHEZ--Bruce Payne, Oakland, Calif., Yale University undergraduate student, was forced out of a "Freedom Vote-mobile" and beaten by four white men here. The four followed Payne and two other "Freedom Vote" workers from Port Gibson where the beating occurred, for 42 miles to Natchez. They were warned to stay out of Natchez.

November 1--TATE COUNTY--Hugh Smith, Menlo Park, Calif., Stanford University student, was shot at three times in his car here. Recognized by onlookers after an earlier trip to deliver "Freedom Vote" workers, two shots were fired over his head and one into the ground as he drove away.

November 2--JACKSON--Four SNCC workers were stopped by three Rankin County patrol cars and told to leave the airport. They went there to pick up rented cars and see Bob Moses, Campaign Manager for the "Freedom Vote" drive, off to Memphis. Moses was questioned and released, the other four were told to leave or go to jail, despite their insistence that car rental papers were being delivered to them. The four included Charlie Cobb, Springfield, Mass.; Langston Mitchell, New Orleans, La.; Jesse Harris, Jackson, Miss., and Ivanhoe Donaldson of New York City.

November 2--JACKSON--David Dennis, CORE Field Secretary here and Michael Sayer, SNCC worker of Atlanta, were stopped by airport police and interrogated while bringing car rental papers to SNCC workers at the airport. Telling them "The Federal government doesn't have jurisdiction over this airport," the patrolmen threatened the two with jail and charges of trespass. Meanwhile, four SNCC workers were forced to keep their hands on their car for more than an hour during interrogation by police. One officer twice rapped Ivanhoe Donaldson on the knuckles. The officer also placed his pistol at Donaldson's head and threatened to kill him. All were finally released after threats.

November 2--NATCHEZ--George Greene, SNCC worker from Greenwood, Miss., and Bruce Payne were on the way from Natchez to Fayette to work with their "Freedom Vote-mobile." Near Natchez the four men who beat Payne the day before were observed following. Greene tried to out-race them unsuccessfully and was forced off the road where Greene was ordered out of the car at pistol point. Swiftly moving the car onto the highway, Greene escaped only after the car was shot at three times. One bullet entered the rear, one grazed the side, the other hit the left rear tire causing a slow leak. Skillfully manipulating through traffic, Greene managed to enter a side street unnoticed and fixed the tire.
November 2--JACKSON--Jesse Davis, SNCC worker from here was canvassing for "Freedom Votes" on a corner near a cafe when a policeman told him he was blocking traffic and subject to arrest and then left. Several minutes later, he returned with an additional policeman who said Davis was under arrest, charged with snatching a purse. He was placed in the patrol car, told he was being taken to be identified by the woman whose purse was allegedly stolen. Instead, he was taken to a white residential district and put out of the car. After a 3-block walk, Davis noticed the policeman gathering a crowd of white men around him, apparently attempting to create a hostile mob. A Negro motorist came by and fortunately offered him a ride to town.

November 2--JACKSON--Fred Goff, white Stanford University (Calif.) student was ordered out of a Negro cafe by police. They told him "It's okay to buy a coke in a negger cafe but not to sit in one. If you want to live with niggers, do it outside of Mississippi."

November 2--MORTON--Two female CORE workers, Lenora Thurmond and Doris Erskine, were canvassing for votes in the unofficial "Freedom Vote" campaign when they were ordered out of town by local police.

November 2--YAZOO CITY--George Raymond, Theodus Hewitt and John Lee Watt, CORE and SNCC workers planning to canvass for votes here were tailed by police officers each place they went. This made their work impossible and they left town with police following for some distance.

November 2--ROSEDALE--John Lewis, Chairman of SNCC, Bruce Gordon and Lawrence DiBivort were canvassing here when police stopped them and escorted them out of town. They left here for Cleveland, Miss., where they were stopped by police and told not to be in town after sundown. They were escorted by police to Mound Bayou, Miss., where they contacted a local vote worker and returned to Cleveland unmolested.

November 2--DREXEL--Willie Shaw was arrested for "parking too close to a fire hydrant" during his canvassing for "Freedom Votes." His bond was set at $100 and released.

November 2--JACKSON--A "Freedom Vote" worker here canvassing at a football game at the Jackson State College (Negro) was told by police to either stop his activities and sit down or be arrested.

November 2--GREENWOOD--Five "Freedom Vote" workers were arrested here today by local police. Jane Stembridge, Dorothy Higgins, Dick Fry, Willie Earl James and Frank Hirsch had set up a sidewalk voting booth to collect ballots. When they began singing Freedom Songs to attract attention to the booth, police ordered them to move on because they were on private property and disturbing the peace. Fry told the officer they were on public property, whereon the five were arrested for blocking the sidewalk and for refusing to obey an officer. Their bond was set at $100 each and they are now in...
November 2--PICAYUNE----Three Hattiesburg Negroes and two white Yale University students were canvassing for "Freedom Votes" at a federal housing project here. When they left the housing development, police were waiting for them. The five were taken to the police station for two hours of interrogation. When they returned to their car in the courthouse parking lot they found it difficult to start. It was discovered that there was water in the gas tank. The car was pushed to the nearest service station where work was done to rectify the damage.

November 2--GENERAL MISSISSIPPI--Campaign workers in the unofficial balloting listing Aaron Henry, Negro pharmacist as candidate for Governor of Mississippi and the Rev. Edwin King, a white Methodist minister as candidate for Lieutenant Governor, reported incidents of arrest, detention, harassment and questioning throughout the day and night. Communities reporting such incidents included Belzoni, Leland, Tupelo, Hattiesburg, and many others.
Statement on Events in Jackson, Miss. -- November 1 and 2, 1963

November 1. Nicolas Bosanquet, Claire Fellow at Yale University, graduate of Cambridge University in England, and a British subject, along with Robert Honeysucker, a Negro senior music major at Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Miss., were arrested when they attempted to enter a public auditorium in Jackson to hear a concert given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of London, England. They were told that the concert performance was open only to members of the Jackson Music Association. The two had bought tickets on public sale.

The next day, November 2, the two were released on $500 bond apiece. They are to appear for trial on Monday on charges of disturbing the peace.

November 2, (app. 12:30 a.m.) While driving to the airport to pick up some rented cars and to see Bob Moses, Campaign manager for the Freedom Vote Campaign, off to Memphis, Tenn., four SNCC workers were stopped by Rankin County police in three patrol cars. After questioning and releasing Moses, the police told the four Negro campaign workers to leave. The four were Charlie Cobb of Springfield, Mass., Langston Mitchell of New Orleans, La., Jesse Harris of Jackson, Miss., and Ivanhoe Donaldson of New York. When the SNCC workers told the police that they were waiting for some rental papers that had been left in Jackson (necessary to rent the cars), the police told them they could either go to jail or leave.
David Dennis, 23-year-old CORE Field Secretary in Jackson, and Michael Sayer, a 22-year-old SNCC worker were bringing the papers out to the airport. They were stopped by the airport police, interrogated for about 20 minutes and threatened with 72 hours in the Brandon jail with charges of trespassing. "The federal government doesn't have any jurisdiction over this airport," the police said. On the way back to Jackson, Dennis and Sayer spotted the other four SNCC workers in a Billups gas station. Cobb and Mitchell and Harris were being forced by police to stand outside the car with their hands on the car for 1 hour and 15 minutes while the police interrogated, harassed and threatened Ivanhoe Donaldson. Donaldson was asked if whites were better than Negroes, and when he replied "no", the interrogating officer took out his pistol and rapped him on the knuckles with the butt of the gun. On answering another question, he was again rapped. Finally the officer placed the muzzle of the pistol against Donaldson's temple, cocked it, and said, "Nigger, I think I'm going to kill you right now." At this point another officer interrupted and said "No, you can't kill that nigger now; it's not time." The four were finally released after threats and "warnings."

Returning from Memphis at 4:30 a.m. Bob Moses attempted to call campaign headquarters on four different pay telephones, hearing in the background all four times: "you'd better not call that number again." His return to town was otherwise without incident.
Anti-Negro laws which are undeniably unconstitutional have been passed this year. Some instances of the legislatures' activities this year are:

JANUARY 15, 1964...

House adopted and sent to the Senate a resolution memorializing Congress to defeat the pending civil rights bill.

Rep. C.C. Bullock of Harrison County offered the resolution and said members of the Congress were "bombarded by the insistent voice of the minority" and the state should make its feelings known.

The resolution was requested by Ross Barnett in his farewell address. The resolution said: "The passage of this bill further invading the rights of the states to govern themselves and solve their own problems would do irreparable damage to the already critical race relations, would widen the breach already brought about by efforts to force a social merger of incompatible elements of society, and would give untold impetus to the strife and turmoil that has torn our nation asunder." The resolution was passed unanimously.

JANUARY 22, 1964....

Senators approved a bill by Senator Ed Henry of Canton which would allow Madison County to increase its county patrolmen from one to three in the face of expected racial troubles there.

The Senate went into a committee of the whole and gave a swift approval to the bill presented by Senator Henry which would permit Madison County to increase its county patrol force from one to three men.

Henry said that the new patrolmen would be deputed and used to help control expected racial demonstrations in Canton, Mississippi, where Negro integration leaders recently called for a boycott of white merchants.

JANUARY 23, 1964....

Senate gave final approval to House resolution memorializing Congress to defeat the pending civil rights legislation.

FEBRUARY 6, 1964

Senators argue over whether cities should be allowed to impose stiffer penalties on persons who violate their ordinances. Senator Bill Caraway of Leland, had the measure tabled when controversy arose in order to give senators time to prepare amendments.
The bill would allow increasing maximum fines from $100.00 to $300 and jail sentences from 30 to 90 days. Caraway said the present limits have "proven inadequate in the difficulties we have had over the state," in apparent reference to racial demonstrations. He said the present system is especially ineffective when judges are dealing with repeat offenders.

Several senators questioned him about the right to a trial by jury with the stiffer penalties. Caraway said the cities would object to jury trials in city court because of increased expenses. "They could get a jury trial by appealing to county court," he said.

As more amendments were suggested, Caraway moved to lay the bill on the table subject to call.

FEBRUARY 12, 1964....

The Mississippi Senate rammed through a bill Wednesday, 4-44 making it unlawful for any persons to willfully or maliciously distribute literature calling for trade boycotts.

Senator Ed. Henry of Canton and others offered the measure with Henry terming it the offspring of meeting with four attorney generals and the judiciary committee.

Henry's area of Canton has been hit by civil rights groups calling on Negroes to boycott merchants and businessmen that do not afford Negroes equal opportunity of service and employment.

Senator W.V. Jones of Waynesboro said he felt the bill was unconstitutional on its face and termed it a "with burning bill." Jones said the bill was an infringement on a person's right to freedom of speech. He said, "we can't be putting a bill on the books which will be knocked out on constitutional grounds."

Jones said he was a segregationist, but the boycott bill was, "ambiguous and should not be passed." It was sent to the senate.

FEBRUARY 25, 1964...

Senator Edwin Pittman of Hattiesburg told his upper house colleagues Tuesday they should demand investigation of the presence of five Negroes last week at a University of Mississippi program.

"I hope to find out why the five people were admitted," Pittman said.

He later said he might introduce a resolution calling an investigation or question University officials when they appear with money requests for the next biennium before the Appropriations Committee.
The senate adjourned until after hearing a report from the Municipalities Committee recommending passage of a bill to give cities the right to enforce any needed police regulations "to restrain movements of individuals under certain circumstances."

Backers of the proposal said it would permit enforcement of curfews in racially troubled times.

FEBRUARY 27, 1961....

The Mississippi House of Representatives approved a Senate bill fixing heavy penalties against persons who print or circulate, willfully or maliciously literature designed to interfere with free trade. It passed 74-32 but not before it became involved in a heated debate over proposed amendments to excuse labor activities from the measure. The bill calls for punishment in prison for not more than six months in the county jail or fining not more than $500.00 or both.

Rep. Joe Moss of Hinds County introduced bills Thursday to permit state Penitentiary facilities to be used for municipal prisoners. The two-package bill by Moss and other members of the Hinds County delegation came amid reports that civil rights groups would step up activities in Mississippi.

MARCH 4, 1964....

Rep. Thompson of Clay, had SB1545, a measure making it unlawful to print literature for boycotts, called up and a motion to reconsider it tabled. The act now goes to the governor for his signature.

MARCH 11, 1964....

A bill authored by Rep. Buck Meek of Webster County was approved by the House 72 to 37. Under the bill parents of illegitimate children on second offense may be sterilized in lieu of prison. In calling up this bill Meek cited that there were 8,647 illegitimate non-white births. The bill was held for reconsideration.

A resolution introduced Wednesday in the senate commended Dr. William D. McCain, president of the University of Southern Mississippi for upholding the established regulations of the University.

McCain Monday, for the fifth time, refused to allow John Frazier, a Negro, to enroll at the Hattisburg institution on the grounds that he had failed to submit his application on time.