President Lyndon B. Johnson
The White House
Washington 25, D.C.

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, wish to express our concern for the lives of our compatriots who will be working in Mississippi this summer on voter registration projects, in Freedom Schools, on research programs and in community centers.

Ten years ago the Supreme Court ruled that public schools should be desegregated "with all deliberate speed." Yet in the state of Mississippi there is not one integrated public school. This summer, then, hundreds of student volunteers will undertake a program of Freedom Schools to supplement inferior state education for Negro youth.

In addition, since the summer of 1963, eight Negro youths are known to have been murdered in the South. College students working on voter registration have faced continual harassment, have been fired upon, beaten, jailed and fined excessively for their work to make American democracy a reality.

Therefore, by the guarantees set forth in sections 241, 242, and 594 of the U. S. Codes, as well as section 3052 of the U. S. Administrative Code, we urge you as President of the United States to take definitive action now to insure federal protection for all students, black and white, Northern and Southern, working in the South, and particularly in the state of Mississippi this summer.

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