

THE CIVIL RIGHTS
DIVISION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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February 4, 1965
Selma, Alabama

FEB. 4 - SNCC staffer Stanley Wise arrested in Marion with 200 local people protesting yesterday's arrests. Wise was charged with "encouraging a riot" and cash bond was set at \$300. While in Sheriff's office, Wise was beaten. Local people are being held on \$100 property bond each.

- In Selma, U.S. Judge Thomas issued an injunction barring the Dallas County board of registrars from using lengthy literacy test which includes Constitution answer section. The injunction also prohibited the three-member board from processing fewer than 100 applications each registration day and failing to provide enough personnel and facilities so at least 8 applicants can apply for registration at one time.

- From Marion, 200 local people released from Camp Selma and reported these prevailing conditions: 300 men were housed in one cell and had to stand up all night long. There was nothing in the cell but wet, concrete floors. No blankets and heat was turned off. Only one commode which didn't flush. They received only one meal consisting of one piece bread and a few peas. Many of the women have colds from being forced to sleep on damp concrete floors during the night.

FEB 5 - Dr. King released from jail. 78 adults carrying petitions addressed to Mayor Smitherman of Selma and the County Registrars asking their names be recorded as prospective voters are arrested. Minutes after their arrest, 450 students march in protest and are arrested also.

In Marion, 225 adults marched past the Sheriff's office and the Perry County Courthouse singing. SNCC worker George Bess is still in jail.

SNCC hopes to expand its Alabama operations into other Black Belt Counties. Early attempts at registration work in Wilcox County - where SNCC workers took the first group of Negroes to try to register in that county since Reconstruction - and other counties near Selma have laid a groundwork for future operations.

For further information, contact:

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Why we went - Democracy
great
hosting
Special - New Orleans
FDP - presence in office, through post
convention
challenge - congress
14th Amendment
National Government
Washington 1962
Legal Justice Department
injunction
Why not use them
Southern
relations with locals

SPECIAL REPORT from:
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 4, 1965

SELMA, ALABAMA
MARION, ALABAMA
THE BLACK BELT