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The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

"INSIDER'S NEWSLETTER" Thursday, June 17

TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN JAIL--WE ARE STEPPING UP OUR PROTEST CAMPAIGN. THE STREETS OF JACKSON WILL RING WITH THE SOUND OF FREEDOM. THE WHOLE NATION KNOWS WHERE YOU ARE AND WHY YOU ARE THERE. KEEP UP THE SPIRIT--MORE ARE COMING

FDP DECLARES "D-DAY" ON FRIDAY, SYMPATHIZERS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY EXPECTED.

The BDP will continue its demonstration activities protesting the illegal government of Mississippi with a massive "Demonstration day" effort this Friday. The call has gone out for all sympathizers from across the country to come to Jackson for the march.

"Friday we will pull every strategy we know how in the city of Jackson. We will do whatever the spirit tells us to do Friday," a party spokesman told a news conference yesterday.

James Farmer, CORE National Director, plans to join with FDP demonstrators and Dick Gregory, currently active in Chicago demonstrations, says that if he is not busy in the Chicago jail, he will be glad to join the group in the Jackson jail.

Demonstrations headquarters will today be moved from the Morning Star Church to the larger Masonic Temple on Lynch St. to accommodate the large crowds expected for today's and tomorrow's activities.

Most of today will be devoted to workshops and planning sessions on canvassing and organizing. In demonstration activities this afternoon civil rights workers from Selma Alabama will join Mississippians and FDP volunteers as guests of the city of Jackson.

At last night's mass meeting a spokesman for the Negro Business mens Club said the group will support the FDP protest. Some businesses will close on Friday to permit workers to participate in the march.

MOVEMENT LAWYERS SEEK FEDERAL COURT AID TO STOP ARRESTS OF DEMONSTRATORS

On Saturday Judge Clayton Cox of the Federal District Court in Jackson will hear a suit filed by attorneys with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund seeking a ruling from the court against the arrest of demonstrators. The suit also seeks to have the city ordinance requiring a city permit for demonstrations declared unconstitutional.

The court ruled favorably in a similar suit submitted by McComb civil rights demonstrators earlier in the year.

CHICAGO MOVEMENT
TELEGRAPHS SUPPORT

Following is the text of a text of a telegram to the FDP from the Coordinating Committee of Community Organizations, Albert Raby, chairman. The group has been actively demonstrating, with picket lines and sit-ins, protesting the re-hiring of School Superintendent Benjamin Willis. In a week of activity close to 550 demonstrators have been arrested.

"Greetings from the Chicago movement in the 11 St police station to our brothers and sisters in the Jackson jail. In Mississippi and Chicago, we shall overcome."

(signed) Al Raby
Dick Gregory

Yesterday the Chicago group focused its demonstration action on the arrests in Jackson, protesting police brutality and the illegal arrests. And in Washington D.C. demonstrators enter their third day of picketing at the Justice Dept. protesting the Jackson arrests and calling for the unseating of the Mississippi Congressional representatives.

New York SNCC announces plans to begin demonstrations in support of the FDP protest early next week.

LIBERALIZING LEGISLATURE PASSES REPRESSIVE ACTS

In a one hour session yesterday morning the state Senate temporarily abandoned their alleged efforts to liberalize the state's voting laws and passed, without debate, two measures banning demonstrations at the Capitol and at courthouses throughout the state.

The Capitol measure, designed "for the protection of buildings and property of the state Capitol building" carries a maximum penalty of \$100 fine and one year in jail. The courthouse measure, which carries a penalty of \$1000 fine and one year in jail, makes it a crime to "demonstrate or picket in or near a building housing a court of the state. . . or occupied as a residence by a judge, juror, witness or court officer, with the intent of interfering with, obstructing or impeding the administration of justice."

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BAIL FUND FOR DEMONSTRATORS CONTINUES TO GROW

Miss Thelma Hill of the FDP office announces that the bail fund for the demonstrators is growing daily, with loans and contributions coming in from all over the country.

Friends and relatives of the arrested demonstrators have been speaking at meetings and talking to people in their communities, to help build up the fund. Many civil rights groups, such as SNCC, CORE and NAACP have also mobilized to seek bail contributions.

LIBERALIZING LEGISLATURE--con't

Following the Senate's passage of the measures, Gov Paul Johnson announced he would ask the legislature to ban demonstrations at the Governor's mansion, the old capitol building and the state office building.

Mrs Annie Devine, FDP Congresswoman, stated that the Party would ignore the rulings.

"These laws will in no way affect our plans for continued demonstrations at the Capitol. Those men hold office illegally because almost half of the state's population is denied the right to vote. They have no right to make the laws of Mississippi and we have no business honoring and respecting their laws."

An FDP volunteer commented: "The Mississippi legislature called to liberalize the voting laws winds up spending its time drafting unconstitutional and repressive legislation. I guess they got tired of posing as something they're not."