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Tp: All College Friends of SNCC groups and College Contacts

SUPPORT ACTION ON SELMA AND MARION, ALABAMA

Enclosed is a report on the current situation in Central Alabama and the conditions which led to that situation. This information can and should be used as a basis for immediate support action in your college community. You should take particular note of the summary of recent events which appears in the last three pages of the report.

This year's voter registration drive has been characterized by mass arrests and intolerable jail conditions in Dallas and Perry Counties. Decisive and enforced Federal action is clearly needed, but is unlikely to come without pressure from the North.

1. News Media A telephone chain should be organized to have people call the college and community newspapers and radio stations to indicate that people are concerned that continued coverage be carried about the events in Alabama. Newspapers and radio station should be encouraged to phone the Atlanta or Selma SNCC offices for background material and up to date news. (We are receiving hourly reports over the WATS line.) Several spot tapes are available from the Atlanta office.

Photographs may be obtained from the SNCC Photo Department in Atlanta. SNCC has had one or more photographers in Selma and Marion since the 17th of January, and can provide up to date news photographs as well as background shots on immediate notice.

College papers should be approached about doing large feature stories on the situation. Hundreds of those arrested in the past two weeks have been students from the public schools in Selma, and a number of Southern college students have been involved. A group from Tuskegee Institute has been in Selma since the 18th, and two of their number were attacked with cattle prods on Feb. 1.

2. Support Action A protest should be centered around the Federal buildings in your area -- possibly a sit-in at the U.S. Attorney's office or sending a delegation to the U.S. Attorney's office. Perhaps the best possibility is to organize a delegation of law professors to present a list of demands to the U.S. Attorney. It should be demanded that the Attorney phone Washington in your presence and speak with John Doar or Nicholas Katzenbach and that he read the list of demands presented to him.

Rallies can be held on campus, both for the purpose of publicizing the Alabama situation and raising funds for the expansion of SNCC operations in Selma and the surrounding counties.

Letters and telegrams should also be sent to Washington.