

B1, F4

November 28, 1966

TO: SNCC STAFF  
FROM: Michael Simmons and Larry Fox  
RE: National Anti-Draft Program

In August, at the Central Committee meeting, we offered a proposal for a National Black Anti-Draft Movement ( find enclosed that original proposal ). At that time, we asked for a car and some expense money to get such a program off of the ground. As you will find, in that proposal, we called for a conference of Black Anti-Draft groups and concerned Blacks immediately.

Our plans were delayed temporarily when we along with 10 other people became the unwilling guest of the City of Atlanta for some 60 odd days. The arrest stemmed from Anti-Draft Activity at the Atlanta Induction Center (see enclosed Atlanta Black Paper).

While in jail, members of the Atlanta Project kept close contact with Blacks across the country via the mails and Wats Line. The Atlanta Black Paper along with a series of anti-draft leaflets and press releases and reports were mailed to all Blacks on SNCC's mailing list.

The response was overwhelming.

Upon being released from jail, we contacted by phone and by mail persons who had responded to the mailings. It was decided, in light of the communications system in this country as well as the potential dynamite of the issue that it would be best to make personal contact with as many of these groups and individuals as possible.

This trip was delayed shortly to attend Bro. Schutz's trial in Opelika, Alabama. Immediately after the decision was rendered against Schutz, an in depth press release was written and given to radio stations, the Press, and Blacks across the country. (see enclosed material on Bro. Schutz) Also a Brochure and Poster on Schutz was prepared and mailed out.



The Draft Program that we envision is not concerned with peace. There can be no peace until our Brothers of color are free from the oppression of the WEST, i.e. Vietnam, Angola, Rhodesia, South Africa, etc. WE MUST DO THIS FOR SURVIVAL - the draft being one of the main tools of this racist government for the solving of the race problem. They know as we know that we Blacks will be killed passively one by one, ten by ten, hundred by hundred, thousand by thousand, in the racist illegal white supremacist war in Vietnam as well as in the cities and towns of this country - (as Rev. Cleague of Detroit said in one of his Revolutionary Sermons - for a strong man's house to be plundered, he must be bound first. The drafting of all our young Black men will leave our Black Nation to be further plundered and murdered!

In the past month, we have traveled along the Eastern Seaboard and to the Mid-West. The following is a brief synopsis of our itenary.

- Our first stop was Philly. Things were relatively slow relative to the Draft. We talked at length with Barry Dawson who is working with High School Students in the North Philadelphia Area. He has a group of about 200. We tried to impress upon him the importance of beginning to work on the Draft with these students.

- We saw Bob Wright, a former SNCC worker, who is in law school at the University of Pennsylvania, <sup>he</sup> agreed to do legal research on the draft for us and others.

- We then swung down to Baltimore where we held sessions with students at both Coppin State and Morgan State Colleges. We laid the basis for a student group. Lois Wiley is a contact for that group. A listing of these students and their addresses follow this report.

- We went to New York. We talked to Robert Allen chairman of AFRO- AMERICANS FOR SURVIVAL. This group is made up of Black cats who



are AWOL or have refused to honor Induction Notices. Their program looks very good.

- Gilbert Banks head of BLACKS AGAINST NEGATIVE DYING was next on our list. His organization is built around Black resistance to the draft.

- BLACK WOMEN ENRAGED. Vida Gaynor heads that group. This group picketed all summer each day at the Induction Center. They have developed some very good anti-draft literature. We have initiated an exchange program with them. They are working with Conrad Lynn on the legal angle.

- Conrad Lynn, a Black attorney gave us some very pertinent and important information ( see enclosure ).

- We then went to Boston. Our best contact there was Bob Eubanks who is the head of a Black anti-draft group called AFRO-AMERICANS AGAINST THE WAR IN VIETNAM. We talked to him about developing common programs for Blacks across the country.

- We met with a group of Black Harvard students who said that they were interested in working with us on an anti-draft movement. They are to do research for us and work with Bob Eubanks on his anti-draft program.

- Detroit. Rev. Cleague -WOW. We spoke at his church. Talked with him about his idea on ordination for SNCC ministers of social change.

- A group there which calls itself the INNER CITY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE has incorporated in its program an anti-draft section. The group has two attorneys, Milton Henry and Lee Moilett working on the program with them. Every Wednesday night they open their office to young Blacks who are in opposition to the Draft. These guys fill out a prepared form telling their specific reasons for not wanting to go. This is passed to one of the lawyers, a retainers fee is paid and the Att's stay on their case to the ending.



- Al Harrison who works with NSM is trying to organize a CAP - Community Alert Patrol in Detroit within which he hopes to incorporate anti-draft resistance.

- Law Student Ken Cochran (senior) agreed to do research for us.

- James and Grace Boggs are head of the INNER CITY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE. We had a long talk with them.

- Chicago. Talked to Muhammed Ali about his draft status.

- We had an interview with Mohammed Speaks that should be in the current issue. We set up an arrangement with them where we can send stories directly to them and they print them in full. We discussed the possibility of sitting up a special section on the National Anti-Draft Struggle.

- James Ellis whose brother owns a bookstore talked about the possibility of using his brothers place as a deciminating point for info on the Draft.

One difficulty that we encountered on our trip was integrated makeup of many of our offices. In these instances, we of course could not work with them and had to work without them; in some instnaces around them.

We feel that while this trip was worthwhile, it was only a very small beginning for the intensive type work that has to be done.

#### PERSPECTUS

##### I. Regional Confere nces on the Draft

- |               |                |               |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| A. North East | Possible Place | New York City |
| B. Mid-West   | Possible Place | Detroit       |
| C. South      | Possible Place | Atlanta       |
| D. West       | Possible Place | Los Angeles   |

## II. National Conference

Possible Place - Detroit

Proposed time - Around Easter

NOTE: Out of these conferences will come programs of action.

In view of the fact that any and all written material pertaining to SNCC gets into the man's hands, we decided not to go into in depth detail on the trip or elebaration of future plans and actions. We invite questions, suggestions; and criticisms.

### NEEDS:

1. Continued use of 1965 Blue Plymouth

### PROPOSED BUDGET:

\$ 4 skids of paper	\$2400.
(\$400. per skid + \$200. for supplies per skid)	
postage	\$1000.
travel cost for setting up Reg. Conf.	\$1000.
Miscellaneous	\$ 600.
Total	\$5000.