"I saw the doors close and now I have seen them open again."

Rev. W.G. Middleton
Batesville, Mississippi

Rev. Middleton saw the doors close in 1890 when he was 10 years old. In that year Mississippi in effect repealed the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments by disenfranchising almost the entire Negro population of the State. For 74 years, Rev. Middleton and almost one million other Negroes lived under the "Mississippi Plan" - a legal and social system that kept them silent, powerless, and terrorized. But in 1964, these Negro citizens began to speak out through an organization of their own creation - the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party.

The MFDP is undertaking:

1. A state-wide voter registration drive;
2. Campaigns with MFDP candidates running against all five Congressmen and Senator Eastland;
3. A drive to get mobile registrars;
4. Intensive political organizing to develop local leadership;
5. A reapportionment suit calling for redistricting of the State Legislature and new elections;
6. Demanding recognition as the only functioning Democratic Party in Mississippi from the National Democratic Party;
7. A drive to get federal registrars into all 82 Mississippi counties.

In order for all of us to accomplish the issues which we are now undertaking, it is very important that everyone involve themselves in a sub-committee. Through these sub-committees we can begin to organize in our communities, gain local leadership and explore the provision of the various programs offered us on the state and national levels.

We would urge everyone to take an interest in the sub-committees and take note of each sub-committee meeting in future mailings.

FREEDOM,