BEATEN IN BOGALUSA

by a gang of whites on February 3, CORE task Force Worker William Yates suffered a broken hand. It was shielding his head as he curled-up nonviolently on the sidewalk to ward off the onslaught.

This is but one of repeated assaults by white vigilantes in this Louisiana town where Klan terrorism forced cancellation of a meeting to be addressed by former Representative Brooks Hays of Arkansas and where one of the meeting's sponsors, Ralph Blumberg, owner of Radio Station WBOX, almost has been forced out of business.

These white gangs are used to maintain segregation in public places in violation of the civil rights law. When Negroes seek service, managers make a phone call and within five minutes the white vigilantes arrive. Presently, not even the restaurants which CORE integrated in January will serve Negroes.

This violence on the part of the whites has given rise to a Negro organization called the Deacons for Defense & Justice, which has a policy of armed self-defense. Many members of this group cooperate with CORE, but while engaging in CORE projects, they agree to remain unarmed and to adhere to nonviolent discipline.

The biggest employer in town, Crown Zellerbach Corp., a paper manufacturer, whose plant is completely segregated, has thus far shunned responsibility in the situation. A 55-man deputation headed by CORE Vice-Chairman Wilfred Ussery recently conferred with top company officials in San Francisco but to no avail. A boycott of the company's products is being contemplated.

SCHOOL BOYCOTT IN JONESBORO

On March 27, the final day of a 2-week Negro high school boycott in Jonesboro, Governor McKeithen (at center) flew there "to avert another Selma" and helped to negotiate a settlement. The strike, supported and coordinated by the local CORE staff, was in protest over inadequate courses and facilities at the Negro high school.

On March 23, CORE National Director James Farmer led a march which climaxed with a mass outdoor rally attended by over 1000 persons. The following day, 350 students marched to the office of the school board.

At present students from the University of Kansas, Syracuse University and Washington University are spending their spring break in Jonesboro starting to rebuild two churches which were burned to the ground in January.

The Kansas students came from a campus where CORE had helped win a 2-day student sit-in. The chancellor reinstated 110 arrested students and agreed on demands to bar discrimination in student housing, in advertising accepted in the student paper and in placement of student teachers.
Barbara Chaney Moss, sister of James Chaney, one of the three civil rights workers murdered last June, is shown leading this CORE-initiated demonstration February 27 at the federal courthouse in Meridian, Mississippi. Chaney's younger brother, Ben, also is among the pickets.

The purpose of the demonstration was to protest the ruling of U.S. Judge W. Harold Cox dismissing felony indictments against 17 Neshoba county officials and residents in connection with the triple slaying. Judge Cox left standing only the misdemeanor indictments.

"Murder is a Misdemeanor in Mississippi," asserted one of the picket signs.

"The demonstrators converged on the building from both sides in groups of three and four," reports CORE Task Force Worker Joe Morse. "After reaching the steps, they pulled picket signs from under their coats and jackets and merged into a single line. If they had displayed their signs on the way, they would have been liable to arrest under a local law for 'parading without a permit.'"

"Awaiting us in front of the building were the police chief, a large number of patrolmen and about 150 onlookers. There was considerable heckling and name-calling by a group of white youths, whom police made no move to curb. But there were no incidents and no arrests!"

Mrs. Fannie Lee Chaney, mother of James Chaney, led 14 persons in a preliminary picketing of the courthouse the day before the main demonstration.

CORE HELPS GAIN UNION CONTRACT IN NEGRO AREA

Joining forces with Local 876, Retail Employees Union, Detroit CORE has helped to win a contract with Fair Way Supermarket, a store in the Negro community.

"Community support for the picket line was almost 100%," reports Larry Anderson, the CORE group's publicity chairman. "As a consequence of CORE's effort, workers at three other grocery stores in the neighborhood have contacted our employment committee for advice on organizing. Before Fair Way was organized, employees were paid as little as 60 to 70 cents an hour and often worked as long as 60 hours a week."

In January, a CORE picket line at the Food Farm Market persuaded that store to rehire five Negro employees who had been discharged after trying to get Local 876 to organize the shop.

IN BRIEF

CORE Associate National Director George Wiley was among 48 demonstrators arrested March 19 for a sit-down in front of the Chase Manhattan Bank Building in New York protesting the bank's policy of making loans to South Africa. The demonstration was sponsored by Students for a Democratic Society, other student groups and CORE.

An area-wide campaign for equal job opportunities at 168 Alameda county (Calif.) restaurants has been launched by Berkeley and Oakland CORE with mass picketing of restaurants on Oakland's Jack London Square.

Aided by CORE chapters in Westchester county and other civil rights groups, Local 1199, Drug & Hospital Employees Union won an agreement reinstating workers involved in a 2-month hospital strike in the notoriously conservative, white-Protestant town of Bronxville.

DOOR-TO-DOOR CANVASSING, BOYCOTT OF REALTORS MARK FAIR HOUSING DRIVE

Door-to-door canvassing and a boycott of white realtors are involved in a concentrated, month-long, fair housing campaign in Akron, Ohio, where, last summer, the Akron Area Board of Realtors led a successful drive to repeal a local fair housing ordinance.

The Board is the chief target of the boycott. Harold Bragg, President of Akron CORE points out that there are seven local Negro-operated real estate firms which home seekers can patronize during the boycott.

A second target of the campaign is the current urban renewal plan for the predominantly Negro Opportunity Park area. Bumper stickers being distributed by the canvassers say "We Shall Not Be Moved," which in this instance is meant in its literal sense. If the urban renewal plan is put into effect now, with the local housing discrimination prevailing as it is, Negroes displaced will be unable to find suitable housing.

Training sessions for canvassers have been held at the Greater Peace Baptist Church. The city-wide campaign is being conducted by an ad hoc committee, the Committee for Justice and Equality in Housing, with the support of the local CORE and NAACP groups. The Negro community is being mobilized by block captains armed with literature explaining the campaign.

ACTION DRIVE AGAINST UTILITY BRINGS ELEVEN ARRESTS

Eleven members of Syracuse (N.Y.) CORE were arrested in the first week of a campaign of daily sit-ins at the Niagara Mohawk Power Co., big state utility.

One of the sit-ins was in the office of Earle Machold, company president. Others were in other parts of the building.

"After months of negotiation and several meetings with Niagara Mohawk, it became obvious that the company was not ready or willing to change its hiring policy and had no intention of doing so," said Fern Fred, Chairman of the Employment Committee of Syracuse CORE.

Leaflets point out that "out of a total work force of 1,500 employees, Niagara Mohawk employs only eight Negroes. In other words, only one out of 187 Syracusans employed by Niagara Mohawk is Negro whereas over one out of 19 Syracusans who provide Niagara Mohawk with its income and profits is a Negro."
PITTSBURGH PICKETS
DEMAND ACTION ON SLUMS

Pittsburgh CORE recently conducted the first picket demonstration in its campaign to eliminate health hazards in slum area housing. The picketing took place outside the City-County Building following a fruitless negotiation session between a CORE committee, including residents of the Hill district and County Health Director Herbert Domke.

Frederick Richardson, chairman of the CORE group’s housing committee, complained that the Health Department had failed to answer a request to check 25 violations found by the committee in dwellings on Center Avenue, Foreside Place and Clark Street. Domke asserted that the CORE request had been misplaced due to the absence of the chief of the Health Department’s central district.

Mrs. Ruth Harley, a resident of Anaheim Street, asked if the Department could act against owners of buildings where children are bitten by rats. Domke replied that the Department “doesn’t have the responsibility, money or authority to ratproof a house.”

The violations found by CORE were graphically demonstrated to newsmen through a film shown at the group’s headquarters just prior to the meeting with Domke.

“Some of the things shown included poor plumbing, ceiling and wall holes, rags stuffed in windows, unvented heaters and roaches,” reported the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

As an outcome of the demonstration, Domke has checked the 25 violations disclosed by the CORE group’s housing committee. Orders to correct violations have been issued in 18 cases and four landlords have been brought into court.

“While this is a step in the right direction, we feel that CORE is doing too much of the work which should be carried out by Domke and his department,” commented Vicki Cooper, secretary of the housing committee. “We will continue to demonstrate until county and city officials assume a role of responsibility in enforcing housing codes.”

Seek Anti-Poverty Boards Which Represent Poor

Name Broader Board in Philadelphia

Following Philadelphia CORE’s denunciation and veto of five anti-poverty proposals sent to Washington by the Anti-Poverty Task Force, Mayor Tate has replaced the Task Force with a more representative body, the Philadelphia Anti-Poverty Action Committee. Comprised of from 26 to 32 members, this committee will include 12 representatives of civil rights and labor organizations, including Philadelphia CORE.

In rejecting the five proposals sent to Washington, Philadelphia CORE, as a member of the former body’s Human Services Committee, had asserted: “The guidelines issued by the Office of Economic Opportunity state in simple English that poor people are to be involved in the planning, conduct and administration of all community action programs.”

Picket "Silk Stocking" Appointees in Buffalo

With placards saying “Maximum Feasible Participation”—a quote from federal legislation establishing the anti-poverty program—30 Buffalo (N.Y.) CORE pickets marched in front of County Hall protesting the “silk stocking” composition of the committee established to administer the anti-poverty program here. To prove their contention, the pickets had a map showing the location of the committee members’ residences, located in well-to-do neighborhoods.

Requesting that the Office of Economic Opportunity refuse to recognize the Buffalo committee, Luther Burnette, Chairman of Buffalo CORE, wrote: “It’s members are predominantly highly placed public officials, business leaders and persons prominent in organized charities. Eighteen of the 21 members are white, none are Puerto Ricans or Indians, nor for that matter are any ‘poor whites.’”

Builder of All-White Homes "Unfit" in Baltimore

Protesting the naming of Morton Macht as chairman of the committee administering the anti-poverty program in Baltimore, James Griffin, Chairman of Baltimore CORE, wrote Mayor McKeldin: “Mr. Macht, as a builder of new homes, has not offered equal access to those homes to qualified Negroes.

“It is not possible that key persons of the anti-poverty program can identify with people of the ghetto if they are connected with discriminatory housing developments which keep the people of the ghetto walled in.”

Protests Hold Up Funds for Louisiana

Protests by CORE and other civil rights groups over Governor McKethen’s appointment of Shelby Jackson, ultra segregationist, as assistant director of the anti-poverty program in Louisiana has held up a $132,000 planning grant for that state. Another ultra-segregationist whose appointment to a top anti-poverty post drew protest was John Harding, an Alexandria radio commentator.

“We have had more mail and more complaints about these Louisiana appointments than we have had from all the other states combined,” reported an official of the Office of Economic Opportunity.

Urge Funds Withheld for North Florida

CORE Chief Counsel Carl Rachlin has wired the Office of Economic Opportunity demanding that anti-poverty funds withheld from Jefferson County in northwest Florida, so long as the administering agency excludes Negroes.

Throughout northwest Florida, where CORE has been leading a voter registration drive, a campaign is being conducted to block both anti-poverty and school assistance funds to localities which discriminate in these two regards.

Fifteen CORE pickets with placards asking “Does the FBI Condone Discrimination?” were arrested in Meridian, Mississippi on February 16 as they marched in front of the segregated Lamar Hotel where FBI Supervisor Joseph Sullivan addressed a meeting in connection with National Crime Prevention Week.
In this photo, CORE National Director James Farmer is with Martin Luther King in the second attempt to match from Selma to Montgomery. When the match ultimately proceeded, CORE members from many parts of the country were in the ranks. At the concluding rally of some 50,000 persons in front of the Alabama State Capitol, Farmer was represented by CORE editor Jim Peck, who, on the occasion spoke in tribute to William Moore—killed two years ago while freedom-walking across Alabama.

During the Selma crisis, CORE chapters in major cities from east to west, joined with other civil rights groups in mass marches and sit-ins at federal buildings urging immediate U.S. action to enforce voting rights and to prevent a repeat-performance of the brutal onslaught by state troopers at the march's outset.

ARREST 63 DEMONSTRATORS AT ALABAMA EXHIBIT
While two Alabama state troopers guarding the Alabama tourist exhibit at Chicago's National Boat Travel & Outdoor Show distributed terrorism-boosting literature, local CORE members handed out leaflets showing Alabama troopers beating a Negro with nightsticks.

The CORE leaflet distributors stood beneath a marquee reading "Welcome to Friendly Alabama" and close to a large-sized portrait of Governor George Wallace.

"Police moved in when the group, which entered the boat show in small clusters, suddenly formed a line in front of the Alabama exhibit and began singing: 'Ain't Gonna Let No State Trooper Turn Me 'Round,'" reported the Chicago American.

Within five minutes, police arrested 40 demonstrators. Outside the building were CORE pickets with placards saying "Alabama Is a Disgrace to the U.S." and "Free Selma First." The following day, 23 more demonstrators were arrested after they chained themselves together and sat down in front of the Alabama booth. "When they refused to leave, a force of 20 officers moved in with bolt cutters to haul them away," reported the Chicago Daily News. The demonstration March 13-14 was sponsored by Chicago CORE.

THE ALABAMA MARCH

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION
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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.
Marvin Rich, Managing Editor

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