

MEMO TO ACCEPTED APPLICANTS

To: Mississippi Summer Project Workers

From: Mississippi Summer Project Committee

- 1) We hope you are making preparations to have bond money ready in the event of your arrest. Bond money for a single arrest usually runs around \$500. We shall assume that the first person listed on your application as the person to notify for your bond will be the best person to contact in the event of your arrest.
- 2) There will be a series of orientation periods starting in mid-June and running until the beginning of July at Berea College. People will be staggered over three sessions, each lasting about four days.
- 3) After July 1 there will be a series of summer long orientation sessions held at Mount Beulah in Edwards, Mississippi. We expect all summer workers to go through some orientation period before going into the field.
- 4) A conference was held the weekend of March 21-22 at which various civil rights people and educators gathered in New York to work out a detailed curriculum for the Freedom Schools. The conference broke into small working groups which discussed the various Freedom School programs -- remedial instruction, leadership training, cultural activities, etc. At present various people are pulling together the results of their sessions and sending reports to the Jackson office. By the end of April we hope to be able to put together a comprehensive and detailed curriculum with working suggestions which will be circulated to all those who are being assigned to work in Freedom Schools this summer.
- 5) We are presently in a very critical financial condition. We are trying to run a number of very important programs this spring and at the same time we are preparing for this summer. We are running three congressional campaigns as well as a senatorial campaign and conducting a Freedom Registration program -- in which we hope to register 400,000 Negroes on our own registration books -- and building a grass-roots foundation for our delegation to the Democratic National Convention to challenge the regular all-white party delegation. Believe it or not, at the moment we are absolutely broke. Our workers go without eating and our bills are piling up. While two years ago this would not have cut seriously into our program, at the present time we can no longer operate for extended periods without funds -- e.g. we need money for office rent, phone, office supplies,

transportation, etc. We are enclosing a prospectus of our spring program and hope that you could raise some money, however small, to help finance our current programs.

6) Of course, we will also be needing a huge amount of funds for this summer. For this purpose we are enclosing a Freedom School Prospectus in the hope that you might interest some church, civic or other group in financing a specific Freedom School. In addition, it is hoped that you could help raise money for general operating funds. If there is a Freedom Center in your area, this could probably best be done by working along with the people active in the center. Though, in the final analysis, you would be best judge of what approach would produce the best results.

7) We would appreciate two more photos of yourself as soon as possible. These will be needed for publicity and other purposes.

8) Finally we must point out that the Mississippi leadership must reserve the right to "deselect" any summer worker at the time of orientation as well as to ask people to leave Mississippi at any time during the summer.

We will try to communicate with you periodically from now until the time you come to Mississippi. We will be feeding you general information, specific instructions, and suggestions of things you might do for the summer program before this summer. Thus, we will shortly be sending all Freedom School teachers curriculum material as indicated above. In addition, we will be sending out lists of materials which it would be helpful if you could help gather and send to us or bring with you. Further, there will be specific information on where you will be assigned to work and what you will be asked to do, when you will be expected at the orientation period, etc. If you own a car and are planning to bring it to Mississippi this summer there will be some specific information that we will need to know.

Keep in touch with us if you have any suggestions, require any information, etc.

Yours in Freedom,

Bob Moses  
COFO Program Director