



# NORTHERN STUDENT MOVEMENT

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Dear Bob:

Sorry about the tardiness in writing this. Had to go to Detroit almost as soon as I returned because the man is trying to send some of the guys there back to the penitentiary. I am also getting married this Saturday-- which has discombobulated my schedule a trifle.

On potential cooperation:

1. I think there is general agreement among those not yet coopted (I was saddened by the contradictions I observed in the FDP while in Miss.) on the need for independent black politics. There is thus a need for a national explanation to black people on why this is necessary, as well as educational and organizational programs to mobilize "believers". This in turn suggests a national political research and education unit staffed by people from various organizations, to relate to the general and the particular situation.
2. There is a need too, to sophisticate and modify existing resources and groups to meet new needs. (In that connection, I have been studying the Zionist movement and recommend it.) We talked about raising an internal army as an alternative to the man and even sending people to fight in Africa. Given objective reality and a sober assessment as to what stage we are presently in, I think a more realistic alternative would be working to expand the Deacons into a specialized defense unit for the movement as a whole (just as the expansion of Snncc's research dept. and printing facilities would be nationally useful.) What I am proposing is a division of labor, in a way that doesn't threaten anyone's autonomy or organization identity. I don't see why there couldn't be nationally recruiting in behalf of the Deacons. And common support, financial, psychological, etc. for common programs.
3. Joint pressure on the so-called Negro news media (Negro disc jockey associations, reporters and commentators, the magazines, newspapers, athletic and show biz folks, setting up Am radio stations like Hayden is trying in Newark - only for us and by us, etc.)
4. Vietnam -- accepting specific territorial responsibility to implement a program of opposition to Vietnam. I have asked Marv Holloway in Washington to look into a strategy for resisting Vietnam.

Marv has just been reclassified 1-A, but does not intend to go. His specialty is African affairs so I especially want him to explore the possibilities of making a citizens' protest to the UN and perhaps to the world court. I understand that, though, the world court adjudicates legal contentions between states it is possible for citizens to lodge a protest when their state will not.

Secondly, I have just received a great poem from Vincent Harding called "To The Gallant Black Men Now Dead" which should be in the hands of every young black guy. I am having copies made and will send one to you. It is a complete work in that it categorizes all the wars blacks have died in to maintain white supremacy in the world - and for what? It's an education in itself.

Thirdly we are going to see a lawyer tomorrow to look into the question of the draft boards. (What right do whites from suburbia have to send blacks to die?)

5. Communications among projects where independent political work is taking place.

Specific programmatic suggestion.-

6. At the moment there is a demand for <sup>registrars</sup> federal registrars and pollwatchers in Miss.. How about organizing to bring 50 black students and African students into Bolivar or Sunflower or Lowndes to canvass, hold voter education classes and poll watch. The Deacons protection could be solicited and the 25 people whom you mentioned could make their announcement re Vietnam from that platform. At the same time the other students there could return to campus to set in motion the supporting machinery for the struggle. Work should begin now on the mobilization plans and information might be disseminated at our student conference in Sept. and your institute this summer.

Well, talk this over with Mrs. Hamer and Amzie and Mclauren for their reactions. then let me know.

Bill  
Freedom through unity