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MISSISSIPPI RIGHTS FIGHTERS LOSE JOBS;
45 OUT ON BOND IN ITTA BENA

ITTA BENA, MISSISSIPPI, August 20 -- Eleven Negro residents here indicate white employers are attempting to force out of the state any Negro who seeks his rights.

The eleven men said they have been told they will not be given back their jobs if they participate in civil rights work.

Four of the rights workers had been working at Mississippi Vocational College, an all-Negro school near Itta Bena. They were told by the school's chief administrator, President John H. White, that they would probably be able to get their jobs back if they gave up the movement.

White told them, "By your protesting, a cloud has moved between the white and colored in Itta Bena. If you continue to wear your civil rights buttons and going to meetings, how can you expect to clear the cloud."

According to Scott Harris, one of the group, all the people who were on the County Work Farm will be "marked men" in Itta Bena. But, Harris said, "I'm not going to give up the freedom fight. I'll never go back begging for a job. If I have to leave town, then I'll find a job someplace else."

The eleven were part of a group of 45, ranging in age from 15 to 75 years, who were arrested when they sought police protection after the bombing of a voter registration meeting at Hopewell Baptist Church here.

The 45 are free on bond raised by the National Council of Churches. The Justice Department has appealed the case to the Fifth Circuit Court.