

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
OCTOBER, 1963

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL  
DENIES "NO BRUTALITY" REPORT

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, October 2--An official of the United States Department of Justice has told a Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) worker that "any prior press reports that our investigations in Americus, Georgia, had been completed, and that no evidence of police brutality was found, are in error."

The official, Attorney Jerome K. Heilbron, writing for Civil Rights Division head Burke Marshall, told SNCC staffer Julian Bond "investigations are continuing."

Bond had sent Marshall copies of a report issued by the Sumter County movement detailing police brutality and intimidation of Negro demonstrators there.

Heilbron told Bond that investigations of charges of police brutality there were begun when the Justice Department received protest telegrams from SNCC.

On August 13, the Atlanta Constitution carried a wire service story quoting a Justice Department spokesman saying the Federal Bureau of Investigation report revealed no evidence of police brutality in Americus.

Four civil rights workers are facing charges there which carry the death penalty. The four - three from SNCC, one from CORE - are charged with "attempting to incite insurrection."

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ONE MAN - ONE VOTE