

NEWS RELEASE
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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ATLANTA, GEORGIA, 30314

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ATLANTA "OPEN CITY"
DRIVE CONTINUES

ATLANTA, GEORGIA--Racial protests continue here daily as high school and college students continue their struggle to make Atlanta an "open city".

Twenty-one demonstrators were arrested at three different locations over the weekend, and sixteen more were jailed here Monday evening, January 13.

Among the 21 arrested Saturday night, January 11, at the Heart of Atlanta Motel were John Lewis, Chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and the Reverend Wyatt Tee Walker, Administrative Assistant to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Lewis' arrest was his 29th.

Other protestors were arrested at two Krystal's Restaurants after the managers took out warrants charging them with violation of the state anti-trespass law.

The demonstrators have succeeded in integrating twenty eating places in the Dobbs House chain and several smaller eateries since the campaign began here just before Christmas. The protest drive has also resulted in the admission of the first Negro to all-white Georgia Baptist Hospital, when a Negro SNCC worker, injured during a racial demonstration, was given treatment there.

The students - members of SNCC and the Committee On Appeal For Human Rights (COAHR) - have also picketed the home and office of Atlanta Mayor Ivan Allen Jr., the Board of Education, and evangelist Billy Graham, here in Atlanta to speak before a joint session of the Georgia legislature.

"We want to make Atlanta an 'Open City'" COAHR Chairman Larry Fox said. "We want jobs, decent and integrated schools, and the right to eat or rent a room wherever we choose."

Seventy-nine high school students have been temporarily suspended from classes since demonstrations began, and several college students who have participated in demonstrations report their school's administration has threatened to expell active students.