

NEWS RELEASE  
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COOR-  
DINATING COMMITTEE  
6 Raymond Street, N. W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30314  
For Immediate Release # 14  
February 26, 1964



Gregory



Hansen

#### PINE BLUFF PROTESTS MAY CONTINUE

PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS - Negro comedian Dick Gregory and white Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) worker William Hansen were sentenced February 25 to six months in jail and fined \$500 for a February 17 sit-in demonstration at a segregated truck stop. In addition, Gregory was fined \$50 and costs when he appeared in court one-half hour late. Both posted \$2500 appeal bonds.

Their arrests began a series of anti-segregation protests here that have resulted in the court-ordered closing of the eating place, Ray's Barbecue; and in the arrest of more than 50 demonstrators.

Gregory described the jail as "somebody's torture chamber" after his release last weekend.

On February 18, fifteen people were jailed and crowds of whites - some identified by newsmen as "professional segregationists" - began to gather outside the eating place. SNCC worker James Jones was "roughed up" by a state trooper.

On February 19, thirtynine others were arrested. Reverend Benjamin Grinnage, Chairman of the Pine Bluff Movement, was shot at during a protest by the owner of Ray's Barbecue.

Hansen said after his trial that the Pine Bluff Movement would press the city to adopt a public accommodations law. He said the group would continue anti-segregation protests.

The Pine Bluff Movement began demonstrations on February 1, 1962.