

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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WHITES ORGANIZE TO OPPOSE MISSISSIPPI SUMMER PROJECT

CLEVELAND, MISSISSIPPI --- A group of white Mississippi college students has joined the growing list of white supremacist organizations which Mississippi newspapers report have appeared in this state during recent months.

The newly formed group, headquartered here, calls itself the Association of Tenth Amendment Conservatives (ATAC). The organization proposes that hundreds of white Mississippi students meet civil rights workers when and where they come into the state.

ATAC's head, Jack Bishop of Indianola--home of the White Citizens' Councils formed in 1955--told reporters the group would "peaceably discuss" segregation with incoming civil rights workers.

The "invaders" Bishop claims his group will meet are presumably hundreds of teachers and college students, mainly from the North, who will man Freedom Schools and voter registration drives for a Mississippi Summer Project. The project is directed by the Council of Federated Organizations--a union of four civil rights groups working in this state.

Mississippi newspapers have reported the formation of anti-Negro, anti-Catholic, and anti-Semitic bodies in southwest Mississippi. One group, the Association for the preservation of the White Race (APWR) draws most of its membership from dissatisfied Ku Klux Klan and White Citizens' Councils ranks. A spokesman said many members of the new supremacist organization had left the White Citizens' Councils because dues were too high and because the Councils were not "doing a grass roots job." The spokesman estimated membership at 30,000 with chapters in 15 counties around the Natchez area.

A Pike County source for the Ku Klux Klan claims the KKK controls one-third of Mississippi's votes. J.E. Thornhill, Sr. of Summit said during a Klan rally near McComb May 16 that Klansmen number nearly 100,000 and included some law enforcement officers.

Klan literature distributed in southwest Mississippi urges "Christian, American, Anglo-Saxons" to join the organization "because it is a very secret organization and no one will know you are a member," among other reasons. A publication called "The Freedom Fighter," published by the Klan, scores the "Kennedy brats, the black Warren court, and the Nationally Associated American Communist Party, and the too dumb to learn, filthy, diseased, evil minded Negro.