NEWS RELEASE

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Atlanta, Georgia 30314

MISSISSIPPI SUMMER PROJECT TO BEGIN IN JULY

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI - On July 1, several hundred white and Negro college students, doctors, nurses, lawyers and teachers will settle at

different points throughout the state to begin work on the "Mississippi

Freedom Summer".

Under the sponsorship of the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO), composed of SCLC, NAACP, CORE and the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the summer workers will teach in "Freedom Schools", man Community Centers, and work on registering the state's 380,000 unregistered, but eligible, Negroes.

"Summer workers are being recruited at 'Freedom Centers' at Northern and Southern college campuses, and from protest groups in the South", SNCC worker Betty Garman said. "We are asking them to bring \$150 with them, as well as a list of people we can contact for bail money if they are arrested.

Freedom Centers have been established to serve:

the Universities of California, Michigan, Southern California, Oregon, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Illinois; Southern Illinois, Harvard, Yale, Howard, Stanford and Atlanta Universities; and Oberlin, Morehouse, Spelman, Emory, Radcliffe, Queens, Clark, Morris Brown and Pomona Colleges.

Students accepted for the project so far are largely from the New England, New York - Philadelphia area, the West Coast and the South.

More than half are white, and for most, it will be their first trip South. Students are selected on the basis of the skills they have to offer, rather than for "a missionary spirit or the feeling that the summer will be just another adventure," a SNCC worker said.

They will attend a two-week orientation session at a mid-Western college campus, and will learn from lawyers and teachers and experts - SNCC staff workers with two and three years experience in the deep South - what their summer will be like.

SNCC worker Bob Moses, COFO's Project Director, will direct the summer project. "We still need supplies of paper, school books, pencils, typewriters, tape recorders and mimeograph machines as well as cars and money to make the summer a success," Moses said.

Books should be sent to the main headquarters of SNCC at 6 Raymond Street in Atlanta, Georgia, he indicated, while other materials should be sent to the COFO office at 1017 Lynch Street in Jackson, Mississippi.

"The success of the project depends on whether Americans are willing to move together against the forces that deny freedom in Mississippi and across the South," SNCC Chairman John Lewis said.