"FREEDOM VOTE" VOLUNTEERS ARRIVE IN MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI - Over 50 volunteers from Northern and Western colleges arrived here last week to begin organizing for an October 31-November 2 "Freedom Vote" and an additional 100 workers are expected this week.

The Freedom Vote, sponsored by the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP), "will give Mississippis voters a choice between Democratic and Republican slates, and will give them a chance to vote for MFDP candidates whose names were not allowed on the regular Ballot" Lawrence Guyot MFDP Chairman said.

Guyot, a native Mississippian and field worker for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), said the first 50 workers were dispatched to 17 Council of Federated Organizations projects ranging from Holly Springs in North Mississippi to Biloxi and Gulfport in the South.

The volunteers, mostly white male college students, come from Princeton, Dartmouth, Stanford, Brandeis, Tulane and Southern Illinois Universities, and Oberlin, Sarah Lawrence and St. Elizabeth's Colleges.

Last year's "Freedom Vote" offered Mississippi citizens - including the state's 325,000 unregistered Negroes who are eligible to vote - a choice between segregationist Democratic and Republican candidates and an integrated slate of "Freedom Vote" candidates running for governor and lieutenant governor. The Freedom Vote slate polled 90,000 votes.

This year's Freedom Vote, held the three days before the general election November 3, will offer Mississippians a choice to vote for Democratic or Republican candidates for President and Vice-President and MFDP candidates for federal offices.

Four Negroes, running under the MFDP banner, were denied a place on the regular ballot. They are Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer of Ruleville, Aaron Henry of Clarksdale, Mrs. Annie Devine of Canton and Mrs. Victoria Gray of Hattiesburg.

Mrs. Hamer was vice-chairman of the MFDP delegation which tried unsuccessfully at the Democratic National Convention to take the seats held by the all-white regular Mississippi Democratic Party.

The Executive Committee of the MFDP voted last week to mount a legal challenge against the seating of the all-white regular Democratic representatives.