

MISSISSIPPI FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY
52 1/2 SHORT STREET
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL
601-352-9605

Chairman, Laurence Guyot
State Executive Committee
Mr. Lee Dilworth, Holly Springs
Mrs. Victoria Jackson Gray, Hattiesburg
Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, Ruleville
Mrs. Annie Devine, Canton
Miss Peggy Conner, Hattiesburg

FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC PARTY PROTESTS
CAMPAIGN INTIMIDATION IN TELEGRAM
TO DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

Jackson, Mississippi--Laurence Guyot, Chairman of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, called upon the National Democratic Party to conduct investigations into the "suppression" of MFDP attempts to campaign for the National Democratic ticket.

Guyot charged in a telegram sent yesterday to John Bailey, National Democratic Party Chairman, that "unfair campaign practices and illegal acts" were being used against workers in the MFDP campaign. The telegram included a list of some 20 incidents of beatings, shootings, and arrests of campaign workers which have taken place in 16 areas since the MFDP campaign began. The text of the telegram follows.

October 30, 1964

John Bailey
Democratic National Committee Chairman
Washington, D.C.

The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party has been actively campaigning for President Lyndon B. Johnson and Hubert Humphrey, seeking votes both in the regular election and in our own Freedom Vote--an election designed to give disfranchised Negroes in the state an opportunity to make their choice for political office known. This telegram is in protest of the often brutal actions of private citizens and law enforcement officials that occur in a closed society. In the following cases we witness not only the oppression of a minority group, but the oppression of a minority opinion. We request that the Democratic Party conduct an investigation of the following incidents and/or refer us to the appropriate body for actions against persons committing the following unfair campaign practices and illegal acts suppressing political organizing in Mississippi.

Laurence Guyot,
Chairman, Mississippi Freedom
Democratic Party