

CORE - Congress of Racial Equality  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTN: Marvin Rich or Jim Peck

RECORD MONTH IN LOUISIANA VOTER CAMPAIGN

Baton Rouge, La., Oct. 8<sup>10</sup>--"We registered a total of 1,082 persons in September--the highest number for any single month since CORE started its Louisiana voter registration campaign two years ago," report CORE Field Secretary Ronnie Moore, who has led the drive over the two-year period. The figure covers a total of 13 parishes in the fourth and fifth congressional districts.

Pointing out that "the existence of biased registrars and the limitation of federal action still constitute a major obstacle," Moore says in his report: "The only factor which made it possible for us to make such a gain was the sudden and enormous concern of the Negro people motivated by their desire to defeat or at least put the strongest voting protest possible against Barry Goldwater."

Asserting that discrimination is "just one of the problems," he states: "Negro voter applicants and civil rights workers constantly are harassed, arrested, prosecuted and subjected to economic, political and physical reprisals by private citizens, public officials and sometimes businesses."

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TRIPLE REGISTRATION IN FLORIDA COUNTY

Quincy, Fla., Oct. 8--The number of Negroes registered in Gadsden county more than tripled during a three-month concentrated registration campaign conducted by CORE. This was reported by CORE Task Force Workers David McVoy and Stuart Wechsler, both of whom were arrested on phony charges during the campaign. The total number of Negroes registered rose from 1,425 on July 7 to 4,755 on October 3 when the report was issued. Substantial increases in Negro registration also were made in three other northwestern Florida counties involved in the CORE drive.

"Not only have 5400 Negroes been registered in the four counties, but there has arisen a realization among members of the community that change is possible. Task Force Workers, both Negro and white, have been accepted readily by the community and in general there has been community support for the project."