

NEWS RELEASE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SELMA, ALABAMA- A civil rights worker has charged Selma Postal Authorities here with "systematic violation of the security of the United States mail".

In a letter sent last week to United States Postmaster John A. Gronouski, Student Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Project Director John Love listed seven incidents of tampering with mail, ranging from the opening of packages to the losing of letters mailed from and to Selma.

Love charged that on September 4th the national SNCC office in Atlanta, Georgia mailed subsistence pay checks to Selma SNCC staff members which were never received or returned. The SNCC office in Atlanta reports the checks were never cashed.

Love, who directs SNCC activities here, reported further that first class letters sent by him to Washington, D.C. and to local Ministers in Selma were never delivered or returned.

Love said packages sent through the mails to him in Selma arrived damaged or opened without explanation.

Selma and Dallas County--have been the scene of an intensive SNCC voter registration campaign.

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"MISSISSIPPI TOPS IN DEATHS & POVERTY"

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI- Mississippi has the highest infant death rate in the United States according to latest figures released here.

The Mississippi State Board of Health reported that the infant death rate for Mississippians was 15 percent higher than the District of Columbia and 17 percent higher than Alaska, the second and third ranking states in the United States.

A Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) spokesman said here "that there was a direct connection between the high death rate and poverty which Mississippians experience daily".

A recently released study by the U.S. Dept. of Health, Education, & Welfare reported that the poorest county in the nation was in Mississippi and that Mississippi was the most impoverished state in the entire Country.

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