

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
6 RAYMOND STREET, NW
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30314

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SNCC ALABAMA DRIVE ENTERS 3RD
YEAR

SELMA, ALABAMA - A voter registration drive sponsored here by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) enters its third year next month.

"SNCC workers have been living in the Selma area since February, 1963," SNCC Chairman John Lewis said.

"In 1965, we hope to move from our present operations in Dallas County and surrounding rural areas into other black belt sections of Southern Alabama," Lewis said.

Selma has been SNCC's operational base in Alabama since early 1963. Early intimidation aimed at SNCC workers and local citizens included:

- beating SNCC project director Bernard Lafayette
- beating SNCC workers Bossie Reese and Worth Long
- beating of Negro high school students
- the arrest of SNCC Chairman Lewis when he picketed on the steps of the county courthouse here

Lewis, himself an Alabama native, said his organization hoped to expand work in the state's counties with heavy Negro population.

The SNCC Chairman said the SNCC staff here now is publishing a newsletter, the Frederick Douglas Free Press.

In Dallas County, Negroes are 57% of the county's population but only .9% of the eligible Negroes are registered voters. Two adjoining counties, Wilcox and Lowndes, with 70% Negro populations, have no registered Negro voters.

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FST HAS ATLANTA DEBUT: WILL TOUR MISS.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA - The Free Southern Theatre, a New Orleans-based repertory theatre, held its Atlanta debut January 4.

The group will continue a tour of rural areas of Mississippi in late January.

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