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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1000 NEGROES IN LOWNDES COUNTY, ALABAMA HEAR
JULIAN BOND IN ANNIVERSARY FESTE

LOWNDES COUNTY, ALA., March 27 -- Over 1000 Negroes here - most of them sharecroppers and tenant farmers - heard Representative-elect Julian Bond urge a renewal of "peoples' politics" at a rally celebrating the first anniversary of the Lowndes County Freedom Organization (the so-called Black Panther Party).

The Legislator who was expelled from the Georgia Legislature after making criticisms about the government's policy in Vietnam told the group: "I've learned something about politics. There's politicians' politics and peoples' politics. For 400 years we've had politicians' politics, but then a new kind of politics is developing here in Lowndes County."

The "Black Panther Party", so-called because of its symbol of a black panther, will run independent candidates for a variety of county offices. Other such parties are being formed in several Alabama Black Belt counties.

Also at the meeting was Mrs. Rosa Parks, whose arrest on a Montgomery bus sparked the 1956 bus boycott in Montgomery.

Lowndes County had no Negro voters a year ago, despite the fact the Negroes are 82% of the population. However, since the civil rights bill of 1965, over 3000 Negroes have been put on the rolls.