

1965 SUMMER COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AND POLITICAL EDUCATION PROJECT

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Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., President

Hosea L. Williams, Director

SCOPE

To judge the success of our Summer Community Organization and Political Education Project by comparing the number of dollars spent with the number of Negroes registered would be distorting the facts. Although, statistically speaking, the cost per voter was far cheaper than that of any recorded normal voter registration campaign when other primary accomplishments were simultaneously validated. SCOPE operated in six southern states covering fourteen southern black belt counties.

Over 1,200 workers were involved in our summer program; 650 summer volunteers which represent more than 120 colleges and universities, 150 paid SCLC staff workers and 400 local volunteers. 1,026,457 citizens were involved in SCOPE's political education classes; 666,316 were involved in community organization. Approximately 70,000 Negroes attempted to register, resulting in the registration of 49,302 qualified voters throughout these black belt counties. It is important to say that there are more than 1,000,000 Negroes of voting age residing in the counties selected by SCOPE, and of that number less than 300,000 are registered, leaving more than 700,000 Negroes of voting age unregistered.

SCOPE was responsible for mobilizing several movements that gathered national attention such as Americus and Crawfordville, Georgia; Barbour and Butler Counties, Alabama; Allendale and Orangeburg, South Carolina; Sussex, Virginia; and Plymouth, North Carolina demonstration the necessity for federal registrars and

total implementation of the bill.

We can safely predict that to capitalize upon the Voting Rights Bill, which was held up in Congress until August, will change many of the political dynasties of at least 125 of the South's most segregated counties. In many of these counties there will be great opportunities to elect Negro state representatives, county commissioners, sheriffs, city councilmen, police chiefs and mayors. In Hale, Perry, Green, Wilcox Counties of Alabama; Jefferson and Taliaferro Counties of Georgia; and Craven County, North Carolina, we have more Negroes registered now than whites. There were, with no exceptions, more people registered in the counties where SCOPE was this summer than those counties that did not have SCOPE Chapters.

One of the great rewards of SCOPE is that by bringing so many white persons into the movement from varied elevations of life, the movement embarked upon a true "Grand Alliance" for the first time. Thousands of Negroes across the Southland were able to witness their first sincere, dedicated white person in their quest for equality.

The white South reacted to SCOPE as if it was a unique conscience disturber. Many whites have become really concerned about seeking national harmony through integration since SCOPE invaded black communities with whites and white communities with blacks.

SCOPE enabled the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to embark upon the ultimate "rid the body politics of racism" practically for the first time.

The struggle for human dignity owes a great indebtedness to those that involved themselves, through SCOPE, in the implementation of constitutional suffrage.

SCOPE closed with a reorientation on August 28th, by calling together the South's Negro leadership and all of the SCOPE workers to critically evaluate the progress of SCOPE. This meeting was attended so enthusiastically that one hundred SCOPE volunteers agreed to give up one year of their lives or postpone their educations one year in order to work in the civil rights movement that all men created by God may live in a society where opportunities are equal.

THE FOLLOWING ARE STATISTICAL RESULTS OF SCOPE:

COUNTY	Number Registered	No. Attempt- ing to Reg- ister	No. Involved in Political Education	No. Involved in Community Organization	No. Ar- rested
Barbour	400	468	12,800	13,400	100
Bullock	608	700	13,720	13,172	0
Butler	385	1,000	12,400	15,600	0
Choctaw	725	775	16,400	18,000	0
Clarke	295	380	13,400	14,000	0
Crenshaw	101	490	14,200	8,800	0
Dallas	6,000	7,000	11,720	18,000	0
Etowah	141	281	13,000	4,680	0
Geneva	187	220	12,972	16,576	0
Greene	84	102	12,840	12,736	0
Hale	3,000	3,400	18,000	16,000	600
Henry	260	500	8,720	12,572	0
Marengo	3,800	6,450	17,100	16,720	10
Mobile	1,000	1,500	2,500	5,000	0
Monroe	86	132	250	175	0
Perry	2,800	3,000	13,600	12,500	0
Pike	1,400	2,500	12,680	12,680	0
Tuscaloosa	0	900	24,800	32,600	0
Wilcox	1,200	2,000	16,000	15,200	18
TOTALS FOR ALABAMA:	21,522	30,308	247,038	258,411	737
Baker	700	1,300	960	1,112	0
Ben Hill	500	650	4,500	4,400	0
Bibb	2,470	2,616	13,200	12,800	1
Chatham	1,680	1,830	16,600	18,700	0
Clarke	307	334	8,860	10,000	0
Dougherty	350	360	21,576	21,720	0
Houston	1,203	1,280	19,746	18,884	0
Irwin	237	280	8,748	11,800	0
Jefferson	3,492	3,492	13,600	6,000	0
Jones	200	200	8,496	9,424	0

COUNTY	Number Registered	No. Attempting to Register	No. Involved in Political Education	No. Involved in Community Organization	No. Arrested
Laurens	600	680	18,000	14,400	36
Liberty	75	90	14,000	14,000	0
Peach	450	550	23,000	12,800	0
Richmond	1,130	5,000	25,800	26,528	0
Sumter	3,500	5,800	15,200	16,400	180
Taliaferro	90	280	380	225	34
Terrell	500	680	560	840	0
Walton	519	521	12,600	8,760	0
Ware	170	220	16,900	8,500	0
TOTALS FOR GEORGIA:	16,673	25,163	242,726	217,393	251
Beaufort	0	0	70	70	0
Bertie	0	0	225	250	0
Cartaret	0	0	3	13	0
Chowan	0	0	300	220	0
Craven	500	300	232	312	0
Duplin	0	0	20	120	0
Franklin	0	0	200	250	0
Greenville	0	0	200	200	0
Hertford	0	0	65	65	0
Jones	0	0	30	19	0
Lenoir	0	0	500	400	0
Martin	0	0	600	500	0
New Hanover	0	0	110	90	1
Pender	0	0	5	8	0
Perquimans	0	0	120	95	0
Sampson	0	0	150	200	0
Vance	1,800	1,830	600	784	0
Washington	0	0	340	250	0
Wayne	254	280	410	350	0
TOTALS FOR NORTH CAROLINA:	2,554	2,410	4,225	4,186	1
Allendale	187	678	25,760	12,248	54
Berkeley	388	500	25,920	20,440	0
Charleston	780	891	82,200	14,520	13
Fairfield	234	280	33,640	27,440	0
Greenville	500	520	40,820	24,696	0
Kershaw	421	480	16,000	12,340	0
Newberry	1,100	1,135	55,400	2,080	0
Orangeburg	1,105	1,700	57,000	1,392	51
Richland	1,700	1,800	82,135	5,316	0
Calhoun	260	600	20,400	10,000	1
TOTALS FOR SOUTH CAROLINA:	6,575	8,584	439,278	130,462	119
Amelia	186	190	12,540	8,000	0
Hopewell	100	345	16,400	1,000	0
Lunenburg	340	500	37,000	1,000	0
Southampton	500	45	33,428	25,840	0
Surry	136	194	600	200	0
Sussex	182	182	28,480	19,364	0
TOTALS FOR VIRGINIA:	1,344	1,456	128,448	55,404	0
Gadsden	490	490	450	195	0
Madison	360	385	350	300	0

Note that the numbers for attempted to register, political education, and community organization are cumulative. So someone who attended three political education events would be counted three times.