



# Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

6 Raymond Street, N.W.  
Atlanta 14, Georgia

August 17, 1963

688-0331

Nathaniel O. Harris  
5440 Mosholu Avenue  
New York 71, New York

Dear Mr. Harris:

How are you. I'm sorry that our correspondence had to resume under such circumstances.

Don was arrested on August 9 with four other people, including two other SNCC workers.

Don and the other two were "roughed up" according to witnesses at the scene of the arrest, and Don called the Albany SNCC office the next day to report that all three had been beaten that night.

He was visited, however, by Albany Attorney C. B. King - in company with Atlanta Attorney Donald L. Hollowell, and a white law student working in Albany this summer, who reported all three bruised but in good spirits.

In his telephone conversation with Albany, Don reported the three were being held on:

- inciting to riot
- attempting to incite insurrection
- obstructing a lawful arrest
- unlawful assembly
- seven peace warrants

He also reported that their bail was \$43,000.00 each.

Americus' Sheriff, Fred Chappell, who refused to acknowledge to this office or to inquiring newsmen that he had been present when the arrest were made - witnesses report him as the arresting officer - has also refused to acknowledge the charges. However, a newspaper reporter did validate the bail, after a conversation with an Americus police official.

We have retained Attorneys Hollowell and King to defend Don, the other SNCC workers, and others jailed in the course of demonstrations there.

We have also received assurances that the Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc. of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People, that they will assume all legal costs in the Americus cases.



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You can contact Attorney King at:

436-3629

in Albany.

Charles Sherrod, Director of our Southwest Georgia project, is more likely to be in personal contact with Don and the others in the near future than is Attorney King.

You can contact Sherrod at:

436-4902  
504 Madison Street  
Albany, Georgia

We are working with the lawyers in the case in an attempt to get the bail lowered.

We are also aiming protests at the Federal Government, asking them to intervene to lower the bail, to investigate charges of brutality, and to insure the civil rights of Americas Negroes in general.

I might suggest you send protests to Attorney General Robert Kennedy, the Civil Rights Commission, and your representatives in Congress, asking them to take action to see that Don and the others are freed as soon as possible.

We will keep you informed here as to our progress.

Sincerely,

Horace Julian Bond  
SNCC