

Student  
Nonviolent  
Coordinating  
Committee

NEWS LETTER

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA -- At the June 15th meeting of the coordinating committee of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, John Lewis was selected by acclamation as the third chairman of SNCC. Lewis is 23, a native of Troy, Alabama, and chairman of the Nashville Nonviolent Movement for the past two years. He has been arrested 24 times in civil rights demonstrations, and was savagely beaten as a Freedom Rider. Charles McDew, chairman of SNCC for the past two years, resigned because of health reasons and because he wants to continue his education next September. James Forman, executive secretary, said: "We regret Chuck McDew's resigning, but we know we have an excellent chairman in John Lewis."

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SELMA, ALABAMA -- Bernard Lafayette, director of SNCC's voter registration project here was brutally beaten by a white man outside his house June 12. Lafayette, here since February with his wife Colia Liddell Lafayette, was clubbed on the head three times by a white man who lured him to his car by asking for a push. The Lafayettes have registered 190 Negroes in Selma, and have had Negroes try to register in neighboring Wilcox county for the first time in 50 years.

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DANVILLE, VIRGINIA -- After two weeks of demonstrations, 70 Danvillians and SNCC staffers James Forman, Bob Zellner and Avon Rollins were arrested either for so-called "violation" of an injunction or city ordinances limiting or prohibiting demonstrations. Some 40 people -- including Dorothy Miller, SNCC office worker -- were clubbed by nightstick-swinging police and required medical attention. Warrants for 30 persons -- including SNCC worker Ivanhoe Donaldson -- are out. Trial for all demonstrators has been continued until June 27, while Negroes continue to press for equality in jobs and public accommodations to members of the city commission.

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GADSDEN, ALABAMA -- Two SNCC field secretaries were jailed here June 12 during anti-segregation demonstrations in which 1000 Negroes demonstrated in the downtown area and walked through the courthouse. Landy McNair and Eric Rainey were leading a march through the downtown area when they were arrested. They were released by order of the sheriff when 800 students demonstrated all over town and in shopping centers. Seven persons were arrested June 14 for so-called violation of an injunction, and released June 17 when they declared they had no knowledge of the injunction. Some 800 persons appeared at the trial and at least two persons were manhandled by county police in the courthouse.

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JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI -- SNCC workers Diane Bevel, Tim Jenkins, John O'Neal, Jesse Harris, Charlie Cobb and James Jones are holding non-violent workshops here in the tense atmosphere following the murder of Medgar Evers. Jenkins reported on June 15 that police were "running riot" in the streets clubbing Negroes. Dorie Ladner, a SNCC field secretary, is in jail in Jackson after being arrested the same day.

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PINE BLUFF, ARKANSAS -- Jesse Wilson, a 19-year old high school student here was beaten by twenty white youths in a white-only city park while two policemen stood by and watched. Bill Hansen, SNCC field secretary, reported that the Jefferson County Hospital refused to treat the bleeding youth until a Negro doctor arrived.

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(over)

WINONA, MISSISSIPPI -- After a group of six Negroes were arrested here in a bus station for "disturbing the peace," SNCC staffer Lawrence Guyot went to investigate the situation in this small town ten miles from Greenwood. Guyot was also arrested, taken from the jail to a White Citizens Council meeting where he was "exhibited" and attacked by members of the Council. Guyot was held on "suspicion of murder" and then released, badly injured.

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CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND -- Reginald Robinson, SNCC field secretary, and Gloria Richardson, chairman of the Cambridge Nonviolent Action Committee, reported that demonstrations will continue here despite violence which resulted in the shooting of three white men and extensive vandalism in both the Negro and white communities. Robinson said the demonstrations had been touched off by the internment of two juvenile protesters "indefinitely" in reform school. State police have declared "limited" martial law. Shootings occurred after mobs of whites chased Negro demonstrators from a protest march on the city jail. The only Negro member of the school board, Mrs. Helen Walters, reported that the windows of her house were smashed by bricks.

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NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE -- Leaders of the Nashville Nonviolent Movement announced June 12 that all hotels, motels, restaurants and movie theatres -- including neighborhood theatres -- are now open to all. But arrests continued at H. G. Hill's Grocery store where demonstrators have been picketing for equal employment.

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SAVANNAH, GEORGIA -- Benjamin Van Clark, chairman of the Savannah Youth Strategy Committee, a SNCC affiliate, called for a nationwide boycott against Morrison's Cafeteria -- a national chain -- until it integrates in the South. Clark said that demonstrations would continue here until every public facility is integrated.

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA -- Sit-in demonstrations at Leb's restaurant -- where police have arrested at least 40 demonstrators and clubbed some -- continued here under the leadership of the Committee on Appeal for Human Rights, a SNCC affiliate.

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KOININIA FARM, GEORGIA -- Twenty-two SNCC summer and year-round workers, all who attended an orientation session here June 14-20. All but two -- who went to Mississippi -- will be working in Southwest Georgia and Atlanta.

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GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI -- SNCC staffers, led by Curtis Hayes, are forming a Greenville Student Movement which is urging the creation of a biracial committee here to work out some plan of public accommodation desegregation.

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ATLANTA, GEORGIA -- At the June 15th executive meeting, the following structural changes in SNCC were agreed on: that an Administrative Secretary will be hired to assist James Forman; and that a Southern Coordinator will be added to the staff to travel to Southern campuses. Lewis, as the new chairman, will spend most of his time in the South visiting and coordinating field projects.

#### WE NEED

CONTINUED DEMONSTRATIONS, TELEGRAMS, PROTESTS...on the critical situation in the Upper South -- Maryland and Virginia, particularly.

MORE...Freedom Cars, for the Atlanta office and field projects. Thanks to those Californians who came through -- and drove -- three cars here.

MORE...Green Stamp books so that we can purchase needed office and field equipment.

MORE...lamps, scissors, staplers, etc.