ARKANSAS HOLDS FIRST STATEWIDE CONFERENCE

Little Rock,
The Arkansas Project of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) today ended its first statewide conference aimed at discerning the needs and wishes of people from various parts of the state. Fifty people gathered at Ferncliff Camp near Little Rock for two days of exchange of ideas and information about their home communities. Most of the persons attending were from counties in eastern Arkansas where SNCC currently operates projects. Representatives were also present from Little Rock and Fayetteville. SNCC conducted the conference so that the persons most affected by racial discrimination in Arkansas could participate in laying the guidelines for SNCC's future programs.

The first day of the two day conference included discussion of voter registration and other political activities, school desegregation, federal programs, and community centers. Highlights of these discussions include the following:

An intensive effort must be made to register as many people as possible under Arkansas' new voter registration procedures.

-- We must seek to challenge, as militantly as circumstances require, those school districts and school boards which seek to evade compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We must seek better education for ALL the people.

-- We should attempt to observe closely the working of such federal programs as Operation Headstart of the Poverty Program. Racial discrimination in any such program should be challenged.

-- A high priority exists for the establishment of community centers. Racial segregation in Arkansas has produced gross inequities in recreational facilities for Negro youth. This, coupled with the prevailing inferior schools, creates a need for centers where people can play, learn, correct educational handicaps, and meet together without fear.

James Forman, Executive Secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee addresses the conference, calling for increased communication between people similarly oppressed in the South.

JAMES FORMAN, Executive Secretary of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, addresses the conference, calling for increased communication between people similarly oppressed in the South.

UNITED MEMBERS TALK STRIKE

MISSISSIPPI

Everybody should be on strike because you are not getting anything for your work. Why work and be hungry when you can gain the union get some support. All the people that have children really should be on strike as well as the parents. Why make your child work for low wages when you all of your life have been working for nothing? Why buy the white meat when you can't hardly eat neckbones? As cheap as chicken is you can't even eat it but once a week on Sunday. Wake up and think. We are Negroes should want to be equal and get high wages. For over two hundred years we have been working for nothing. Please join the union because if you are not in a union just aren't anywhere.

HERE'S HOW WE GOT STARTED

The union started in January, a group of people at a freedom school discussion got together and decided that they weren't getting anything for their work. They form a union and started paying dues. They went to other counties in Mississippi spreading the idea.

In March the people in Shaw, Miss. about 90 people canvassed trying to get people to strike for higher wages. At that time the union didn't have a name and they didn't have papers for people to sign to go in the union. But now the union have improved a lot since this. They didn't have any way of knowing how they were going to get support then.

In April we found a name for the union and drew up the rules and they were decided on at the state workshop. Some of the people all over the Mississippi Delta are on strike.

Shaw is the headquarters since it started in Shaw. Every month we have a state meeting. Some of the things we do at this meeting are from people every precinct give us a report on what they have been doing in their county. We have officers. We have 1325 members in the union and 350 people on strike. The way we got these many people is talking to them and showing them the point of how important it is to form a union. We talk to people in the homes and on plantations at stores, churches and towns.

CITY WORKERS

The city workshop held in Shaw by the chairman with local people to discuss what we would talk talk about at the Statewide workshop. We also elected committees to issue, And we selected the rules for the union.

STATEWIDE WORKSHOP

In the Statewide workshop we had people from the following places: Glennallen, Winsonville, Louise, Greenville, Batesville, Vicksburg, Thorn, and Marks, Miss.

Out of these places we have 100 people on strike.

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MRSU members picketed for higher wages and decent working conditions in Shaw, Mississippi.
MISSISSIPPI IMAGE AND REALITY

Part II

THE CHALLENGE

Gulfport, Miss.

Leon Acker, his wife and his children disappeared from their home in the Catahola area of Hancock County in the middle of March. Evidence of their hurried departure was a cooked meal, untouched, on the stove, and a freshly-tined hog. One of the family two cars was also missing.

The background of the disappearance centers around a special election held March 6 for County Supervisor of Hancock County. Acker's niece, from Gulfport says Acker ran out of town "because he was afraid of being voted on in the election.

In early April Mrs. Annie Devine and Mrs. Grace Palmer of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) went to Hancock County and talked to people who knew the Acker family. Soon after that the Missis-

sippi State Sovereignty Commission put out a statement refuting allegations made by Mrs. Devine that the family was missing.

The MFDP in Jackson, Miss., then attempted to discover the make and model of car missing from the Acker home, but the Mississippi Highway Patrol refused to release this information.

Then the MFDP asked the FBI to investigate, continuing their stand the Sovereignty Commis-

sion said they had evidence that a check signed by Acker was received by a local finance company after Mrs. Devine had reported them missing. In May MFDP was informed that a spokesman from the De-

vene family stated that the FBI were unable to find any trace of

Continued On Page 4

WHO RUNS SOUTHWEST GA?

One of the most important things in a man's life is his job, the nature of which determines his stan-

dard of living, the sort of education he aspired to when he was young, and ultimately how much he has
to say about the issues which concern him. The man he works for not only hires and fires him, but also,
as we shall see, decides who will pay the tax bill and what it will be spent for, whether he will be allowed to vote, where he can eat a hamburger, and just what he can expect from a police officer.

The financial worries of state leaders not only pertin to tourist trade, developing industries and selling products, it also extends to federal aid. Mississippi wants to be considered part of the union so that it will continue getting federal aid in amounts that, according to Drew Pearson, totaled more than one billion dollars in 1964.

"Leadership on the state level agrees that we cannot afford to lose federal aid," Erle Johnson, Jr., told a civic club meeting in early February. Johnson is head of the segregationist State Sovereignty Commission.

Next Issue: Mississippi Image and Reality Part III

TERRORISM AND THE LAW

FBI Finds No Trace Of Missing Family

Negroes have a chance to register for the first time in Sunflower County, Mississippi.

Workers continue the door to door, day to day work in Alabama.

Arkansas workers are preparing for a small summer project.

Voter registration continues in Georgia.

You can help.

I want to keep SNCC workers in the field. I enclose

$____ toward SNCC's Program.

Name_________________________

Address__________________________

State________ Zip Code____

(Contributors of $3.00 or more receive a 12-month subscription to the Voice)

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Charlie's Poem

1

I want to say about all the dead people killed by the trigger we've been taught it's our responsibility to pull all the people killed so that interests can be protected and secured all the dead people who look alike dead all the killers who kill people all over the world and not just in SELMA all the reasons for killing that are given uniforms to match the teaching,

2

Jimmy Lee Jackson shot by a cop protecting Alabama as he'd been taught and as he'd always seen the country protect itself just the uniform was different but wars are all fought alike on battlefields you try and kill the enemy to have the best killers and win the war you teach the Morality of the cause and give uniforms and sanction and law and armed to preserve interests to protect that's just Standard Procedure we do it in boot camps around the country also the same song's sung in Saigon not in strange at all about that

3

Now we're told about ALABAMA that Rev. Reeb's killing was senseless shooting shameful brutal and many other things i could et cetera on about the Reeb killers were simply uniformed with the spirit of their duty to the State of Alabama in what's been called by a lot of newspapers the BATTLE OF SELMA How many wars has the USA fought where it asked the enemy to fight it's way why then Alabama?

4

the cop in Selma pulls the trigger that kills for Alabama for god and Alabama as he's been taught just like his brother who fought or bombed or gassed in south viet nam last week and all the people who don't make wars but just kill and get killed in them kill some more or bury the dead wishing mostly that it all would end so they could go home

5

And let's not just point fingers at ALABAMA but also point at Babies Bombed the world over in wars that kill people who want to live who never get a chance to (Babies Bombed) by people in all kinds of UNIFORMS UNDER ALL KINDS OF FLAGS that stand for SOVEREIGNTY SO THAT WE CAN HAVE SOMETHING TO KILL FOR AND TEACH LITTLE CHILDREN to kill for and salute and stand at attention

6

Who's always killed everywhere in the wars? It's people who are always killed everywhere in the wars THEY ARE THE ENEMY to be shot at Bombed and gassed in the wars that are fought all over everywhere that I have to stop.

7

the cops that have shot all the people white and black that they have shot have shot because they were given guns and told it's alright to shoot people sometimes and kill the man to preserve Law and Order and our Way Of Life we have been taught it's alright for people to be killed by the cops and the U.S. Army like in viet nam where our interests are being threatened by the Disorder of the people of Viet nam who think they can run their own country and after all how can they think they can run their own country when they won't even help us fight their own people who don't like us and don't want us and besides they're not even White these people in Viet nam who want us to stop killing in their country and blowing it up with bombs like Birmingham also a place where

8

And now the people have marched to protest the senseless shocking shameful brutal killings in Selma and the denial of the right to learn the Standard Procedure for Enslavement which is not really learned but integrated into Responsibly And someday maybe if I give America a chance I'll be able to wear the uniform and have the gun of the cop that shot Jimmy Lee Jackson or be the commander of the army that will send the bombs to blow up more people I won't have to cry for the Jimmy Lee Jacksons cause I'll have the right along with the Responsibility to kill them for god and my country which I'll have learned about standing at attention in uniform that's what will happen to me when I'm given equality.

9

so cry not just for Jackson or reeb schwerner, goodman or chaney or lee cry for all mothers with shovels digging at hovels looking for their dead Continued On Page 4
the voice

STRIKE

Continued from Page 1

in Rosedale, 68 in Glenallen and 135 in Shaw.

WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT

We talked about the support of the union and we adopted the same rules for the state that we had in Shaw.

We also discussed ways of getting fund for the union strikers. We decided to write letters to people everywhere and ask for help. We also talked about why it was important for people to join the union.

OFFERING HOUSES

The people in the union stated they would let people live in their homes if they get thrown off of the plantation. So far none have been thrown off.

THE UNION HANDED OUT $30.00 FROM DUES

We gave $30.00 to three union members who need it very badly. One member needed it because they were threatened to be thrown out of their house and it was used as a center. The second was threatened by the man she owed. And the third member and family was starving, living in poverty. So that is how we use our dues to help the members.

On April 14th and 15th people from 8 counties picketed the Motor Inn Hotel in Greenville. They were having a U.S. Department of Labor meeting. We were trying to get them to let us in and meet our demands. The second day

They let us come in to speeches. Mr. Hawkins a Shaw union member ask a question about wages for farm work. Mrs. Hamer spoke inside the meeting the first day and she read the union letters to her and 6 more people went in.

The people are on strike in other places like Greenville, Winterville, Lavy.

mont, Rosedale, Batesville, Tribbett, and Anguilla.

The most strikers we have are cotton workers that mostly what about 100% of the Negroes in Mississippi depend on.

Two maid quit jobs to join the strikers and one tractor driver which was very good.

On plantation 37 people in Issaquena county went on strike for .50 an hour and they were successful on Monday they will strike for 1.00 an hour. They only work 9 hrs. a day.

There are 9 tractor drivers on strikers on a plantation in Glen Allen. On a place in Shaw they struck for more money. Friday they found out they got a raise from 6.00 to 7.50 for drivers drivers. They are planning to strike again as soon as it dries up.

The strikers started with the people who chop and pick cotton and tractor drivers and now the people on various plantations are striking.

Each town is organizing their strike and officers. The chairman in Shaw is George Shelton, Jr., Shaw.

The way we got land to raise gardens they landowner gave us a few acres to plant gardens on. The union started because the colored people weren't getting anything for their work. We will help the Negro farmers that gave us land to raise the gardens.

MISSING FAMILY

Continued from Page 1

of the Acker family and that there was absolutely no validity to the Sovereignty Commission's story about the check received by a finance company.

The MFDP demands retraction by all Mississippi papers “that attempted to spread rumors of a hoax by the MFDP” and they ask that all of the resources of the Justice Department and the FBI be thrown into a nationwide search for the Acker family. “We ask that all people who are concerned with change to join with us in this search. Remember that only last year the disappearance of Chaney, Goodman and Schwerner was called a hoax by these same papers.”

SOUTHWEST GA.

Continued from Page 2

campaign for Congress was a virulent attack on the civil rights movement, complete with promises to get the Civil Rights Bill of 1964 repealed. His town LaGrange recently got War on Poverty money to train "homoemaking and maid (maids), who could, according to a supporter of the project, earn as much as $30.00 a week when they finished their training.

Now, who are the men who control the jobs of the people living in southwest Georgia? About one-fourth to one-third of the jobs (4600 out of 20,000) in manufacturing are controlled by companies owned out of the state. Many of the remaining companies are partially controlled by absentee owners. One of these absentee parent companies is the Minerals and Chemicals Phillips Corporation, the Chairman of which is C. W. Engelhard who has sizable holdings in South Africa. Engelhard seems to like the sort of operation you can conduct in a racist area.

We could go on endlessly with examples of business control in politics and with family control of business, but the examples here should at least support the idea that if you want to change things, you have to look at who owns what, for businessmen are the ones who really swing the bully-clubs.

JUNE 6, 1965

charlie's poem

Continued from Page 3

cry for all the blood spilled of all the people killed in the Standard Procedure of the country which is not ours but belongs to those who run it and can't be seen but are very few who listen to each other and not to us cause we don't know what it takes that makes Standard Procedures

we must say about these guys who uniform us in lots of ways that makes us each the enemy of the other the world around

that we've been taught we should get theirs and not for everybody to get and what they do is teach us to beat every body down who's trying to get what they already got

and what everybody can't get

we throw away our lives and try instead to

kill and hurt be AFRAID

cause that's a threat to

money and cars

slots and walls

cause life can be ours to be planted and grown in 2 Billion ways we can each call our own

360 Nelson Street, S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30313

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