

26 June 1964

This is the first of a series of spontaneous news letters that the Sacramento Area Friends of SNCC (SAF-SNCC) will be mailing throughout this summer; these letters are total or excerpts from the letters received by SAF-SNCC. The purpose of this and newsletters to follow are to inform the outside (of Miss.) community of more truths than will be found in the newspapers. A desperate need confronts the Summer Project - as you will read. My appeal goes out to each of you receiving this letter, SUPPORT THOSE WHO HAVE THE COURAGE TO MAKE OUR NATION STRONGER!

Phoned into SAF-SNCC by George Winter, 25 June 1964... Tuesday night there were a series of bottle throwings, 2 or 3 shots fired - no identification as to who fired them. Wednesday night a church in RULEVILLE was burned, but not destroyed.

The following letter was received from George Winter.

24 June 64, Ruleville, Miss.

Arrived safely in RULEVILLE. Valerie left the same time. You should get a letter from her soon...

The ride down Sunday was uneventful, except for several cops following us about Oxford, Miss. We went down by bus...

Two that arrived the day before were picked up by the police and talked to by the mayor ...(seen on CBS)...

Please phone Ione 'collect' and tell my parents I'm okey...

Mississippi is green and beautiful. Interesting how even a police state isn't in all respects bad...

The people are wonderful, 45 of them have asked to take us in. They've been tremendously friendly...The people, beautiful ebony people, that we're living among. It's hard to express their valient struggle, their brotherhood...

BUT LET ME STRESS AGAIN - WE'RE GOING TO NEED BAIL - WE ARE GOING TO BE ARRESTED...

Following received 25 June 64:

Four people are in jail in Clarksdale, the charge is unknown. Their condition unknown; they were picked up while canvassing...AGAIN the Staff is eating on _____!! They need money, the project and much of our safety depends upon them. It's natural they don't get enough sleep, etc., but at least they should have enough to take care of eating expenses.

Yours for FREEDOM, George

NOTE: We're already short on paper (His letter was written on a sheet that had been mimeographed on one side.)