COFO Community Center
Box 547
Shaw, Mississippi
August 9, 1964

Dear Ones,

Hi! I want to thank you for accepting all of my collect calls; I know that I impose on you many times and I really appreciate it when you don't seem to mind.

Things are quieted down here to a certain extent, but we are worried about who we can get to stay in the Center and take charge when we all leave (One of the guys will come back in 2 weeks if he can get a car, but he can't stay straight through.) No, I won't stay, because I am too anxious to get home, and I don't think that I am capable of handling emergencies that might arise, but we are looking for local people who can take complete charge. This is a difficult assignment for someone to handle, but we think we can work it out.

It looks like there will be no problem about my leaving on the 20th, I may even be able to leave earlier. Dennis said that his truck would not be coming down between the 16 and 19, but would be here later. If they have room for your stuff, I suggest that you wait and send it down then. We may want the money it would cost to get it down here some other way. If they don't answer or if they don't have room, still try to get it here then. And if I am just confusing you, forget the whole thing and pretend that I never said anything.

I'm kinda tired now, but I guess I shouldn't complain. Monday we are starting a full-time Freedom school which will run until we leave. I will be handling an English class, a history class, and a group of youngsters in pantomime. I am really looking forward to the last, since I had so much fun with the same kind of thing when I was young.

About the class that is waiting for me, I'm not so sure I want it. In water I could move faster than they could, but on land they can beat me every time. We'll see.

There was a second cross burning on the same night as the first. It, too, was outside of Shaw, on the land of a man who has had no connection with the Movement. He is scared, to say the least.

Meeting today in Mound Bayou, which was wasted as far as I am concerned. But things are seldom accomplished at staff meetings here, they are mainly for the purpose of informing others of what everyone is doing.

Donna has gone home, Judy is going home on Tuesday, and I leave a week from Thursday. It hardly seems possible the summer has gone so quickly. But the summer has been infinitely valuable. I'm really glad I came, more for my own sake than for anything I may have done to improve the situation. I feel that I can honestly say that I understand the situation much better than the normal Northern white, but I am not an expert in any sense of the word. I hope than no one looks on me as one. I am reasonably well acquainted with a small

area in one small section of one state in the South. Other areas are bound to have similarities, but they are also bound to have differences. I cannnt speak authoritatively for even this one section. But I don't really know why I am saying this to you, you already know it better than I do.

I'm going to stop now, but I promise to write again soon.

Love,

Judy