the Got to include this in about 75 mailings
COFO-HATTIESBURG

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Sunday, 13 September 1964

TO THE ALUMNAE OF COFO-HATTIESBURG:

Hi Veterans!

Now that you've been home for several weeks and are all rested up, feeling fit as a fiddle and all that, I'm sure you want to know all the happenings here in the old burg. Generally speaking, things are quiet...but it seems a deceptive calm. In the enclosed propaganda, you can read about most of the happenings, so I'll skip that and try to give you some of the inside dope:

First of all, we had a tragedy last night. Young Patrick Cameron (Mrs. Helen Anderson's son) accidently shot and killed himself. You Palmer's folk should know him. Pat was planning to leave tonight to return to college (Mississippi Vocational) after having been out since late January. I had just finished congratulating him on his decision to return to school minutes before the mishap. If you'd like to drop Mrs. Anderson a card, her address is Route 6, Box 348, Hattiesburg, 39402.

As for who's here: Barbara Schwartzbaum and Dick Kelly. Mary Sue Gallately is working up in Shaw, Miss. (Box 547). Joyce Brown is away on a speaking-fund-raising tour and should return in a few weeks. Phyllis Cunningham is due here tomorrow. Johnnie Winchester is due back sometime during the week of the 21st. Dick Landerman around the 1st of October. Bill Ninde, Big Daddy, and Jim Nance all couldn't make it back --much to our dismay. I haven't heard anything from you, Soda Pop. Wha cha gonna do? Ditto Lorne Cress, Greg Kaslo, et al? Doug Smith has entered Harrison Jr. College in Meridian. He just registered yesterday. I don't have his address but will forward it via the next newsletter.....And I'm still here.

The bus boycott situation which is being directed by the Walthal faction isn't doing so hot. Mass meetings are being called each Thursday and are fair to well attended. They are on the order of prayer meetings and much discontent has been uttered. So far I haven't stepped in to do anything about it. I'm trying to let them solve their own problems with little or no coaching from the sidelines. One bright note: the coming exec meeting on Tuesday night should produce changes.

The Priest Creek Library-Study Hall is way out. There are about 40 kids signed up to use it on a weekly basis. The Latin American student mentioned in the Voice is from Feru. He heard, I guess through the grapevine, about our Freedom Schools, came by the office and volunteered his services. He told us of another Latin American student who got just a little bit too vocal with his views on Freedom, Justice, and Democracy at Carey College. That one got thrown out of school. Since he was here on a student visa, he had to leave the country. That incident has served to incense others in the Latin American studentry. What happens in the future is anyone's guess. I'll keep you posted on that. Vincent will teach Spanish twice a week in Palmers.

We got the swing for Palmer's Community Center. Old Mr. Pierce has gotten someone -- More

committed to begin digging post holes, pouring cement and erecting it beginning tomorrow. As for the actual program there's not too much happening outside of the day care center which is being run by the local ladies (one day each per week with Mrs. Bourn taking charge of this phase of the program).

The Dewey Street (True Light) Community Center is still in a state of unpreparedness. Actually, we didn't realize the extent to which the repairs would be required. Ten windows and three doors need to be replaced. The front porch needs repairing. The building needs roofing. And since there is but one electrical outlet (a fixture for one light bulb), the place needs re-wiring. And so on. Hopefully, this can be done during next week. That is, the wiring and replacing of the doors and windows. The rest will have to be done as we can get to it.

Which brings me around to the panhandling part of the letter. I know you expected it so I thought I'd save it till last. Those who can't do anything about it can just stop reading now and get busy answering. Those who can, read on, and then go out fund-raising for dear old Alma Mater. This project is desperately in need of funds to finish the work we've started. In addition to taking care of the needs of the Community Center at Dewey Street, I've been told of a site in Walthal for a Community Center and need help getting that started. The people in East Jerusalem and Newman Quarters want something done about their areas. And they are looking for a site. Perhaps we can get the architect to draw up plans for a building like the Community Center in Harmony (Miss., where else?) in these last two areas. I don't know. I'll have to check this out with Jackson. At any rate, all this is to say, as I said before, we need dough. Can you (and will you) help us? And would you please make your checks payable to COFO-Hattiesburg? Thanks loads.

Well, I guess I've taken enough of your time. We here miss all of you. Since our contact with the Free World is so limited, why not keep us in touch with you.

Freedom and all that,

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Barbara Schwartzbaum

Dick Kelly * Kolly