

Council Of Federated Organizations

1017 LYNCH STREET,
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

September 14, 1964

Dear Lisa,

Can't find your letter at the moment, though am shure (wow!) that i put it into safe hiding somewhere. We got a report via telephone early one morning last week which Larry Brenton took (in his usual early-morning frame of mind) saying that you kids had raised \$1351. Is this true? I'm just afraid that in his stupor Larry misunderstood whoever called (John Kessler?). At any rate, do you suppose that there is a possibility. . . stop. BAD NEWS. We just received the check from Kessler, entirely for the Herbert Lee Center, which is just grand except for the fact that the COFO accout in EMPTY and we are B+R+O+K+E. You wouldn't believe how the money has been flowing out. Dizney Church repossessed the Freedom House and made us pay \$144 in back rent (Rev. Young still wants more money to repair damages, but since we don't have it, they won't get it). The Freedom School was closed, but we didn't move out in time and "cClendon wants another \$50 for the week it took us to move out. The phone bill for August was \$150! Louis Grant had an accident with the staff car we had just gotten -- the man of the truck he hit wants \$200 to repair the truck -- the damage to the staff car will run about \$65. As you know there is now only one WATS line in the state (and that in the iddiotic Jackson office). Consequently we now have to call other projects directly -- all of ~~xx~~ which is long-distance. Adn I wish I could tell you what we went through last week. It was enough to make the summer in Greenville look like kindgrgarten. First Morton and Larry got shot at and spent the night in a culvert out@ side of Greenwood and no one could locate them. We had barely 24 hours to catch up on sleep from that when a Negro by the name of King showed up. He had evidentially worked here while we were up north. To make a long story shorter, King is paranoic and psychotic and in 12 hours time last week managed to terrorize the whole city from the hospital (where he cursed out the nurses and refused treatment) to the Merabsons to and through the office where he almost knowked Muriel out with a bottle and ripped the phone out of the wall not to mention threatening to exterminate all of ~~miss~~. COFO project by project. These two incidents alone cost us around 15 long-distance calls, plus aging all of us by ten years at least. So we are planning to get in touch with Kessler and askx him if he would mind rewriting the cashier's check to give Gr'ville COFO a couple hundred dollars or so. Hope you don't mind and will ok this if Kessler asks you about it.

At the moment the project is more or less empty. Morton is in Cleveland (Bolivar), Larry down ~~xxxx~~ where Louis was and Val will be heading for the top of the county soon. Dave and Russ are expected eventually. Sam Randolph is about to leave for Chicago for good (there goes ~~xxx~~ our car). There's so much more I'd like to tell you, but for the moment i'd best shut up and get to work. We really miss you. Mr. Moore has asked about you several times. He and Page are "re-kicking-off" the HL Center Thurs. night. More from us soon, Thanks for all you did in the north.

Struggling,