

NORTH FLORIDA CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION PROJECT Rt. 3, Box 428-F Quincy, Florida Phone 627-8458

TO: Mr. Spiver Gordon, Florida Field Secretary, CORE

Mr. Richard Haley, Director of Southern Office, CORE

FROM: Arlene Bock and David Dukes, Task Force Havana, Fla.

DATE: November 27, 1964

SUBJECT: Progress Report for Havana, Fla. November 6-25, 1964

I. VOTER REGISTRATION:

We went to see the city registrar one day but he weren't in so we called him and asked him "How many Negroes are registered for the city." He replied, "I don't know I haven't counted them."

We will go down Monday to the Havana Printing Co. and find out the registration figures.

II. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION:

Here in Havana they have a NAACP Branch. We attended their meeting Nov. 25 at Palace AME Church. The branch is all confused because of the President Rev. Folson. He is power mad.

Some of the leaders here are:

- 1. Rev. J. W. Young-Pastor of Palace AME 539-6236
- 2. Rev. Simmons --- Pastor of St. Mary's
- 3. Mr. Frank Roberts--Pres. of Pine High Elementary 539-6540
- 4. Mr. Joe Roberts--Pres. of Northside High 539-6780
- 5. Mr. Henry Reeves-Furneal Director 539-6316

III. FREEDOM SCHOOLS:

The only steps we have taken in this area have been extremely tentative, and limited, thus far to a limited survey type of attack.

Northside High School offers evening classes in English, Social Studies, typing, and Science, and recieves what on of the teachers catagorized

as "fairly good" attendance-about 75 adults. One of the social studies teachers attempts to integrate Negro history into his course, and a formal request has been made for the course, but no action has been taken on the proposal. As anticipated, the CIG classes (At two location) in the area have recieved little-cor no support from the community. Still there seemed at least a modicum of interest in the project amongst all those we talked to, and so I believe once inertia has been overcome an influential and strong organization may be formed. We will try to find a suitable location this week.

Community Center: In the Mamilton Heights area where we have canvassed thus far, there is a great deal of interest in the establishment of recreational facilities, and a great need for day care services. Thro-out Havana there are no recreational facilities at all for Negroes, while we learned today there has been a white playground established in Havana proper. The grounds of the local high school contain no equipment, and are so low that they foul in rainy weather—as a result most of the youngsters use the streets. The greatest difficulty will be in gaining the use of a suitable building and surrounding grounds. Ideally of course, the community would be made directly responsible—in fact, this is our most likely "in"— at least in this area. From here we could gain their interest in other areas of the movement (i.e. school integration, which few parents are interested in, or public accommadation). Here also community classes could be established. At this juncture hygiene would seem a necessity.

IV. CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT:

The possibility of organizing a CORE Chapter here is good, very much so.

A we stated in section II they have a NAACP Branch here and

and for

they are having a lot of confusion. We are sure the people will join CORE because they are tired of the local NAACP President. This co nfusion has been going on for sometime.

V. POLICE HARRASSMENT or INTIMIDATION:

As of today we've had no direct harrassment or intimidation on the part of policemen but they've benn passing the house quite often.

TESTING OF PUBLIC ACCOMODATION and FACILITIES: VI.

We have begun to make plans to have the local people to test the following places:

- 1. Havana Motel Restaurant -- Mr. Lewis Graham, Manager or Owner
- 2. Havana Truck Diner --- Mrs. Mary Forehand, Manager or Owner
- 3. Cavalier Restaurant ---- Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, Manager or Owner

Arlene Bock