

1017 Lynch St.  
Jackson Miss.  
Feb. 18, 1965

dear alicia,

thanks for the check. i couldnt believe it would finally come. <sup>/way</sup> ~~anyway~~ it comes--money order or personal check is fine. anything over \$100 should be sent money order of course (smile).

for the past two weeks communications has been concentrating on a documentary tape radio program for the press and mfdp. we collected tapes of depositions and interviews from witnesses in about seven counties. putting it together seems simple but we have to boil it all down to about 30 minutes--which is tricky. when the thing gets done we'll send you a copy.

nothing of great news value occurred to me personally except for an arrest a few weeks ago. seven of us tested a tiddle house restaurant in jackson-- two negroes and five whites. while the waitress served us she made three or four hectic phone calls--apparently to the police. when we left an unmarked police car followed us with its lights off all the way to the cafe office. a cop, partially in uniform, asked for my identification and when I asked to see his first, he pushed me into his car and searched me. he looked desperately for some kind of violation and finally decided on reckless driving because there were seven people in the car. i went to court and on advice of counsel pleaded nolo contendere and posted \$10 bond. we have 40 days to appeal the case. this is a clever way for white restaurants in the south to get around title II--the public accommodations section of the CR Act. the lawyers here may decide the case is worthy of appeal or removal to the federal courts.

we'll send you more news releases soon to make sure that the historical society doesnt run out of material. meanwhile what madison fence can do is tell the press that the depositions will continue during the next forty days and the fight will probably be as dramatic if not more so than during the first 40 days. our fdp witnesses will be called to testify in attempts to trip them up and accuse them of perjury, etc. also people expect that the white attorneys will ask uncle toms to say how wonderful things were down here until the agitators came, etc. meanwhile sporadic violence still breaks out despite governor johnson's appeal for law and order "particularly during the next 6 months-- which means the end of the deposition period.

there is a bit of a lull now because the state has not subpoenaed witnesses yet for hearings and they appear to be a little slow getting started. only thing of note--the laural freedom house

was burned down early this week and 15 people including mrs. chaney were arrested in meridian after some tried to attend a public meeting on crime prevention-- the meeting--actually a luncheon was announced in the papers and was to include an address by fbi miss bureau chief roy moore. he failed to show. that was a clever move since it might have been embarrassing especially since the press was on hand here for the civil rights commission hearings. the hearings by the way, got a fairly good coverage in the jackson papers and the local tv stations gave it live coverage--the negro community watched ever and aaron henry go on for hours. the best part was when the belzoni registrar was asked to interpret a section of the miss constitution as required in the vr test-- and fumbled around until his attorney objected on the grounds of irrelevancy. former dean griswold speculated that the registrar probably couldnt interpret the test nor could most ~~of the~~ law school deans.

sorry for the brevity--i have a racking cold and feel miserable generally for the past two weeks--everybody in the jackson office seems to have come down with the lbg or some damn virus.

freedom,  
charley