

Dear Jan and Al,

I'm sitting in the kitchen just getting ready to pack. Today we received this word: "I have the gravest respect for you, your project, you co-workers and the local negroes. Some may say that the overall project in your county has not come up to expectations, but taking into consideration the obstacles, I say you all have done a damn good job....I have toiled with this idea for some time, both day and night, and can only come up with one answer --AMERICUS, Ga. MUST BE BAILED OUT. Therefore I am asking you-- is it possible for your SCOPE Chapter to get a busload of people to go into Americus, Ga. and participate in the direct action program for 2- 5 days?

I know you do not have the finances for transportation, food and housing for such a trip. Please call me immediately and let me know what day you can leave for Americus, Ga. Even if you can corral not more than five or ten persons, this would be a great help.

In God we trust, Hosea L. Williams (Commander and Chief)!

Myself and another girl went down last Friday Sat. Sunday to assist and led two direct action groups on local grocery stores. The first went off successfully, at the second also, but not without incident. The moves were part of an complete economic boycott to force the white community into creating ~~kk~~ a biracial comm. The city Attorney ~~kkkk~~ merely suggested the possibility and is now faced with a petition of 2000 names and called a communist. At the second store I and several others were beaten to the sidewalk with a revolver while the Ga. State patrol looked on. I was not hurt badly only bruised and shocked. Monday 23 pickets were arrested. ~~Ekk~~ News coverage is bad down here conditions worse. ~~Ekk~~ Mother knows about the beatings. I would ~~N8~~ tell her about the trip until its over. there are plenty people down here who will know where

I am at all times so don't worry about communications or care. We don't need money not necessarily from relatives. Also, contact the Uof Minn SCOPE chapter and assist if a Selma type push should come.

[Letter from Denny Lienau to sister Jan Saari in Minn. concerning move from Macon GA to Americus GA in July of 1965. Denny came south after graduation from Midland College (University). August, 1965]

A-ok  
  
Denny