

Feb. 15, 1965

Dear Phil,

Under separate cover you will receive my harvest of literature from the SNCC conference. We drove up Saturday night, stayed 3 hours and had to turn around and come back to Albany. The reason for the trip up was that some chick in New Jersey, who is a northern fund raiser for SNCC, had brought a station wagon load of toys for the N/S - the reason we couldn't stay longer was that Sunday morning I had to be in Moultrie for the school desegregation suit. We are going to finish it up this morning and file it in Columbus, so I have to make this letter short.

The literature I mentioned above is a kind of wierd compelation of things, and taken en mass gives a very good picture of the complexity of SNCC and SNCC people. There are 3 reports from Mississippi, and a large one on the Arkansas project which all have interesting moments in them. Then a kind of public relations oriented thing by Monsonis, who works in D.C. and is all caught up with SNCC's image on "the Hill"; and a long rambling poem, which is interesting in that it got mimeed up with all the other things and handed out to everyone, because it is as much a field report as anything else - in the same vein is Dorie Ladner's poem, "Band of Brothers" - this is a fantastic chick, by the way, Dorie Ladner. She and her sister grew up in Mississippi and have worked it for years; and then we have a reprint of an excellent speech by Moses; a summary of the meeting on Structure - which debate was going on while I was there, and which will probably go on within SNCC forever - but good because people are extremely sensitive to the problem of what happens when "the main office" is in control, or when "national staff" make decisions instead of the local people (see, for this, position paper called fund sources and staff salaries); I am also enclosing Miller's letter so you can see what he is up to - I saw him there, he and a few others had driven in from California and were very upset because of Jesse Morris' suggestion, in the structure battle, that the executive committee, if there must be one, be limited to Negroes, residing in the South, with no more than a highschool education - but very few people got the point of what he was saying; and the position paper on fund sources and staff salaries, tho it is really a personal hangup of the writer that produced it, still has some very interesting ideas; and finally an info sheet on SNCC research dept - if you need something from them you can let me know, or you can write SNCC 8½ Raymond St, and address it to John Perdeu and mention that I suggested you write.

Newsletter will be out by the end of the week. Until then,

Dennis