

P. O. Box 1024  
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March 16, 1965

Dear Phil,

Wendy read through my newsletter (the one I sent a couple of days ago) and found a mistake, on page 3 I believe. It is where I talk about the outbreak of fires in the school and stores, and I say this is continuing in Americus - but I mean Moultrie.

Roy got a letter from his draft board yesterday - a little questionnaire to check up on him and see if he's still around to be sent to Viet Nam. They asked a lot of silly questions like "present occupation" to which he replied "outside agitator"; special skills and interests: picketing, demonstrations, making things clear for folks; and on like this so I assume the Army won't be wanting him. Cobb also tells great ~~xxx~~ stories about his induction physical experience in which he sought to engage the sergeant and then the psychiatrist in a dialogue about the Army - and they finally sent him home.

among the roomful of clients waiting to see CB and getting in each others way. After that summer a young Negro lawyer named Tom Jackson who had just been admitted to the Georgia Bar, came to work with him. So he rented two adjoining offices next door and had them cleaned up and painted. I now use one of these offices and the other is used for files, etc. Anyhow along with these offices came a private bathroom which couldn't be reached from the hall. This was quite a bargain as before this, in the summer I was here, we had to share a toilet with the office down the hall, and also all the drunks in Harlem who would wander upstairs to use it as a place to throw up their wine and sleep off their drunks. Since no one wanted to assume the responsibility of cleaning the toilet up it was a really horrible place and I learned to regulate myself to avoid using it. When I wrote an article for The Progressive I mentioned the condition of the toilet. Anyhow it was on CB's mind and when he got the new office space with the bathroom included he was very conscious of it. Last summer three law students came to clerk here. I had written to him that one of them would be a friend of mine from California, Dick Duane. What he didn't know was that ~~at~~ another one was a guy who was going to NYU Law, but who came from California and did his undergraduate work there. At the beginning of the summer he came back into the office and there was a law student sitting there. The secretary introduced him as a student who had come from California, so he immediately assumed it was ~~f~~ my friend, and therefore someone who had read the Progressive article, or who had been told the story about the toilet. So he said to this guy, come with me - before you start your duties here I want to show you something that will be very important to you and will go to refute any unkind stories you might have heard - and he took this guy by the arm and pulled him into the new bathroom. "There, what do you think of that". And this poor guy was completely mystified and extremely apprehensive that he had walked in on a stone lunatic. It ~~it~~ was only a ~~few~~ ~~days~~ while later that CB learned that he had introduced the wrong guy to the new toilet.

That summer (1964) was a very interesting one here in Albany an CB was running for Congress (~~House of Reps~~) from the 2nd District of Georgia, in the Demo primary. He never had any kind of chance but thought it would serve as an excellent vehicle for forcing REAL questions before the people - he was the only candidate to speak to any issues such as a \$2/hr minimum wage which would cover domestic workers and agricultural workers, etc. But the major purpose was to increase voter registration among Negroes throughout southwest Georgia. Although Albany and a couple of other cities have a fairly decent number of registered Negro voters, there are still counties in this district which compare to Mississippi and Alabama statistics. As a result of his campaign over 3000 Negroes were registered in about a month - and the great majority of them in areas where there was no prior registration work done. And as it turned out he came in 4 out of 6 candidates, and received all sorts of interesting phone calls from whites telling him that they were going to vote for him, had seen him on t.v., etc., but couldn't let anyone know about it. He spoke at one rally in a small south Georgia town and a white school teacher came up to him at the rally and told him that not only was he going to vote for him, but he was authorized to express similar sentiments from about 6 other white teachers at the high ~~in~~ school. A ~~real~~ really important thing that grew out of this campaign was the Committee on Political Action (COPA). This started out as a coalition of Negro leadership throughout these counties who all pledged themselves to work on his campaign, set up speeches, etc. But as a result of the campaign all these guys started to see the potential power of the Negro vote in this district and the organization had held together and still has monthly meetings to discuss problems common to the District. It still has a long way to go in terms of being a grass roots political organization like the Miss Freedom

Democratic Party, but there is no question that the potential is there. We hope to engage COPA in a District-wide voter registration drive this summer, implimenting this with SNCC staff, and using the voter reg drive as a take off point for ~~take~~ other community actinn. Right now they are caught up in the hopelessness of trying to get in on the Poverty Money fiasco but I think by this summer people will begin to catch on to what a joke that is, and will start doing something REAL that they can participate in.

At the begning of the week we were paid a visit by the opposing counsel in the Moultrie school suit. He wanted to serve his answer on us and wanted to do it in person rather than send it through the mail (Iguess he was curious about our office, etc.) So he came up and sat around making a whole lot of stupid conversation about how he understands the aspirations of the Negroes but this (demonstrations) is certainly the wrong way to go about it as it only antagonizes the good people (himself I suppose). Then he made a fatal mistake. In the middle of ~~me~~ one of his sentences he said, "...well, C.B...." and CB didnt look ~~h~~ up but started thumbing threw his ~~answer~~ answer which he had on the desk in front of him until he came to his signatuee, and then looked into his eyes and said "Yes, Hoyt." - and that ~~poor~~ poor Cracker about passed out - It was probably the first time in his life a Negro had used his first name. But for the rest of the conversation it was "Mr. King."

Meanwhile, in Americus the mysterious school fire~~stx~~ ~~me~~ continue. They picked up ~~six~~ <sup>eight</sup> local kids and charged two of them with malicious mischief and six of them with blackmail. We are supposed to see them and their parents on Monday - they are out of jail on bond now.

On Tuesday Charlie Cobb arived in SW Ga. He plans to start working out of Macon and into the counties across middle Georgia to the South Carolina line - counties where absolutely no work has ever been done. We talked some about Martin L. King and the ~~NNEI~~ "deal" in Selma. It seems that SNCC had been against the proposed march from the start but Martin and the ~~SN~~ SCLC people kept insisting on it so finally SNCC went along with it. When the first Mach came off MARTIN didnt show and neither did any of the SCLS ministers except Hosea Williams. He ~~wx~~ and John Lewis led the march which got Lewis clubbed and for a while people thought he had a fractured skull. So Martin had to come up with something the next day to save face, and it seems pretty obvious that LBJ and he worked out that little game with walking up to the troopers and then turning around for a prayer meeting, along with the injunction - I mean even the NY Times said this. Unless he comes up with something a whole lot stronger he is going to leave a very bad taste with alot of people. Here in Albany they had a picket line on Tuesday at the post office of about 30 local kids from the high school and Pritchett didnt bother them. He is under Federal injunction to refrain from bothering demonstrators downtown but this was the first real test. He didnt offer to buy anyone who wanted it a one way bus ticket to Selma, tho. What was really amazing was the next day 30 local Negro ministers, who you normally couldnt force into the streets with whips, went downtown and demonstra about Selma. People couldnt believe it. We also learned that day that two churches were burned in Worth County. There is ~~absolutely~~ no voter regis. or movement activity in Worth County, and these churches werent used for anything but worship - but its fairly near Moultrie and this was ~~para~~ probably a warning to the people in Worth not to get any ideas about copying what is happening in Moultrie. The FBI is "investigating".

Last Monday night there was a bank robbery in Unadilla, Georgia, about 60 miles north east of here. The banker was kidnapped from his home late at night, taken to the bank, and beaten up when he wouldnt open the vault because of the time lock. He died a couple of days ago. The two suspects are Negro high school teachers, one of whom is injail and the other is missing. We have been hired to ~~retaxxt~~ represent the one who is in jail. He is an extremely interesting guy, very religious, and very very calm. He insists he had nothing to do with the robbery. We still have to check out his alabi

but its impossible to believe that he is involved. There are a whole lot of wierd things coming out about this case. Like a neighbor of the banker is supposed to have seen two Negroes "lurking" around the bankers house late that night, but he never called the police or checked on it. Its a bit hard to believe that someone seeing two Negroes "lurking" in a white neighborhood late at night wouldnt shoot them, let alone call the police in a place like Unadilla. Anyhow, in the middle of the week we drove up to Dooley County whre he was supposed to be held. When we got there the sheriff informed us that he was moved to a Federal facility in Americus. This is Sheriff Fred Chappells jail which is authorized to be used for holding federal prisoners. If I had to spend time in a county jail in Southwest Georgia ad could take my choice, Fred's would be the last on the list. We got there about 6 p.m. from Dooley County, and no one was in the jail. We rang the night bell and his wife came out to tell k us he had gone out and she didnt know when he'd be in - but she would phone us at the Barnums when he arrived (a local family in Sumter County). As we arrived at the jai we saw someone who looked like him drive away in the deputy's car; and the Dooley County sheriff knew where we were headed - but why speculate. Anyhow we phoned once from the Barnums and his wife said he still wasnt in. Then the wife of the prisoner called us at the Barnums and told us she had just gotten a call from her husband - the first call he had been allowed in 20 hours - he said the FBI came up and let him make the call (By now the word must have been out that he had counsel and people started getting concerned with his constitutional rights and due process, but again, why speculate). So we immediately called the jail as Chappell would have had to be there to let him make the call but the wife said he still wasnt home - so we went back up to the jail and rang the bell again. She came out and said he wasnt home, but we could hear a mans voice in the background (which could have been the TV). We said that we would wait, and sat down outside. After about 10 minutss she came out, got in the ~~sh~~ sheriffs car, and drove away. A few minutes later we heard a car drive up to the back of his house, a door slam, and the car drove away. Then she mysteriously peered out of the house at us. I would hate to think that the good Sheriff would pull something like that to deny a Federal prisoner his right to see counsel, but,,, So CB had about run out of patience, and we went back to Barnums where he phoned the US Marshall in Macon. The Marshall didnt seem to crazy about the idea but when CB insisted that his clients rights were being violated, agreed to put out a radio alarm for the Sheriff. About an hour later we got a call that the Sheriff had turned up. We got to the jail and he was furious, his face was redder than usual and he seemed a bit incoherent. "Goddamit CB you dont told a lie on me" and a whole lot of other choice comments - "you know goddamn well that you never tried to see the prisoner..." But we ignored him and went on to talk to this guy. Such are the irrelevancies of a practice of law in southwest Georgia. We were up there again Saturday and when we came into his office the Sheriff was surrounded by cronies, ~~and~~ and started muttering about "goddamn CB thiks he ~~as~~ can come up and get into the jail whenever he damn well pleases..." but let us see our client in a private room. In the middle of the session there was a knock at the door and he came in looking very sheepish, said, "excuse ~~me~~ me, I just want to get some keys," said "excuse me" again, and left. But of course this time he wasnt working for an audience.

I just heard from Roy that on ~~the/weekend~~ Saturday there was a meeting for high school kids in Moultrie, with kids from Americus and Cuthbert also attending. There is talk of building a student union among the high school kids in south Georgia. Roy said the discussions were very fruitful ending with a long session of discussions among the kids asking the Moultrie kids how they organized to start their school boycott,e tc.