

June 27, 1965

Dear Phil:

I'm returning Murray's latest - also enclosing a letter to my draft board (for you). Had a damn interesting meeting with Marion King Slater, CB & Carol, and Goldie last night - which I'll describe in newsletter. Goldie is a BITCH of the worst sort. She is a fantastically hard worker, but in a sick compulsive way - like she won't let anyone else do anything without clearing it with her first, overbearing in her possessiveness (which was o.k. when no one else would do any work but is now a big pain in the ass). Wendy had been doing much of the same kind of thing with the Nursery School but for different reasons - it was a lot easier to just work with the CME neighborhood kids and not ask for "community volunteers" (middle class "community") on her project. Also she has a paper board of directors (also middle class) but has never consulted ~~at~~ them since the first meeting. Goldie is extremely jealous over Wendy's success and also because she feels left out and has started a whole lot of nasty rumors and innuendos re the NS funds - like Wendy is stealing, etc. She doesn't come out and say this but can ask the right questions of people to get them thinking along this line - this community being so fucken greedy and larcenous anyhow its no problem for folks to figure she is doing this. So we finally ~~talked~~ talked it out last night and things seem to be better - Goldie came off feeling very very guilty and ashamed; and Wendy now ~~ex~~ realizes that she will have to at least make overtures of involving others (which won't net anything except it will cut down on gossip) she will have to attend Board meetings and make financial statements, etc. Thank God I scared her into keeping good books once we got tax exempt status so she has asked Goldie and Slater to both review her books and then they will be in a position to defend her when this malicious shit starts up (we pretend that Goldie is not an attacker, but just isn't in a position to defend her as she doesn't know the whole story and this gets Goldie out of a nasty situation).

Congratulations to Doug Hill - please convey them for me.

Did I tell you Alan Wofsy passed through here on his way to Dominican Republic and had absolutely no idea what I had written in my letters. Fuck him. ~~These~~ People like that shouldn't get them. Just take him off the list and ignore letters from him to be put back on.

I can't remember who is on your Despite list from Albany, but if anyone here gets it I would appreciate your taking him off from the NS article, as it could prove very embarrassing to Wendy. Otherwise the stuff you mention that you want to use is fine with me. They are about to tell Head Start to cram the whole fucking thing anyhow. It's just absurd with "volunteers for vision" and now they have a new one, Head Start Day where you get a flag to fly over your county Court House and if you run a good program you get your own flag to keep at the NS (I guess if any kids get killed you get gold start to sew on your flag).

I sent you my comment on Coleman yesterday. Shit I just ran out of ribbon. Hold on.

Dear Friends:

This letter will be a short one as I will only be able to relate what I heard went on - as I wasn't in the office all week. I went up to the Doctor in Atlanta who told me that he didn't think I had a disc but rather a severe strain and to ~~stay~~ stay off my feet for another week. But its Sunday night and I'm able to come back to the office tonight and will start work tomorrow.

One of the law students, a guy named David Rudovsky from NYU, had been working out in Worth County. Its a very rural county with a long history of repression. Roy had worked out there for a while and there are some very good strong people in the county. He had been working with the people helping them draft letters to raise hell with the School Board, etc. The other night someone burned a cross on his lawn. At 4 A.M. the landlord came by, put him in a car and drove him to Albany, Roy is pissed off at him for leaving, but he'll probably go on back out there tomorrow.

Well, the impossible finally happened. After last week when I said that CB won a case in Recorders Court in Moultrie, but couldn't ever win one in Albany before A.N. Durden, I was proven wrong. Roy got picked up for running a red light in Albany (which he didn't do). He had two people in the car and also a Negro gas station operator who said he didn't run the light, against the word of the cop. But for some unbelievable reason Durden took the word of the Negroes over the word of the cop and dismissed the charges. But he couldn't let it go just like that so after dismissing the charges he told Fred Anderson, one of the next witnesses that he couldn't possibly have seen the light if he was sitting in the back seat. Fred disagreed with him and after a heated exchange Fred said, "well Judge, you're wrong" and walked out of Court. CB said Durden just sat there shaking.

Wendy has been running the school under the Head Start program about a week now. The school itself is a great success - the people in the neighborhood are very proud of it, and the pressure from the older kids is starting to ease up. One of the most important things is that the kids who are enrolled in the school are from really poor families - I mean the hard core poor - who are not enrolled in these programs elsewhere. Like she has kids where she had to go to the home three different times to try to convince the mother to bring the kid down to register him; which is a hell of a lot different than the type of parent who brings his kid in after responding to a newspaper article or radio spot about Head Start. We thought attendance would be a big problem, but the kids come every day. This is mainly because the older brothers and sisters who would have the responsibility of watching them otherwise see that its to their advantage to bring them down every morning. But the Head Start bureaucracy is something else again. A mountain of forms has arrived, with the most complicated instructions. There is one form called the "Transmittal of Forms" form (triplicate) which you fill out and enclose with the other forms you are sending in so they can see what forms you have enclosed. It gets mailed to Indiana to the Bureau of Census. There are a lot of wierd things like that, with all sorts of people getting a piece of Poverty Money. For example, when Wendy went to the training session at the U of Ga they later sent her a check to reimburse her for her expenses. But it wasn't drawn on the Federal treasury as was the Head Start grant itself. This check came from Federal Somethingorother, a division of International Telephone and Telegraph. I guess they got the contract to issue room and board checks. Oh, there's another form called Form CHS-3a which is titled "Distribution Notice" and tells you that Form CHS-6 provides instructions for filling out Form HS 31 (in case you weren't smart enough to read Form CHS 6 which says "Instructions for filling out form HS 31").

I've mentioned in previous letters where I think its at with the War on Poverty - that iss a complete shuck which has done more to destroy the Movement than all the repressive tactics of the cops in that it has good people suddenly fighting among themselves over who is getting paid what to do work they used to do voluntarily. Not only here but in Miss, and other places. Well the Dougherty County Res. Dev. Assn. submitted a very complete Community Action Program to Washington which encompassed a tutorial program for the summer and also next year; 4 nursery school

centers to be housed in the recreation buildings of the Federal Housing projects; a complete city-wide recreation program (Dougherty County "officially" doesn't have any more city recreation but on the white side of town its financed by various Businessmen's organizations). The total budget (including some healthy payroll sums) came to about \$400,000. for the year. So the proposal went up to Atlanta where they raved about it (Goldie did one hell of a good job) but regretted to inform the folks that the entire Poverty War allocation for the entire State was only 4 million and that Atlanta has already gotten a bit over one million. Therefore the most they could give Dougherty County was \$100,000 (or about \$1.50 per person) Which is about right for the nation as if all the War on Poverty money were divided across the board everyone in the country would get a dollar and that would be the end of it - or you could do it the way the Federal govt wants to do it and then you would have a whole lot of executives getting \$20 to divide up the rest at fifteen ~~sxxx~~ ~~sentsxx~~ cents per person. So CB & Carol, Marion & Slater, and Goldie came over last night to talk about what could be done. At first its seemed very hopeless, but after * we talked about it for a while we learned certain things. Like Dougherty County Res Dev Assn ~~work~~ has set up a damn good tutorial program this summer. They ~~arexxservixxahxx~~ have about 50 tutors - granted that some of the tutors are only doing it free now because they think that Fed money will come in and they will be put on the payroll (like the teachers in the group) but there are also a bt of high school and college kids who are doing tutoring and they would probably do it without getting paid. So the tutoring program wont be as elaborate as the one submitted to the War on Poverty and they wont serve hot lunches and have directors and assistant directors and students wont get paid for attending (as well as tutors) but they also dont need the \$200,000 requested for the program and can run a damn good program, granted alot smaller but perhaps geared to a real need like for the kids who have gone over to the white schools, and it wont cost anything. Also we considered trying to talk Ablany State College into using their phys ed students to run a recreation program and give them credit just like if they practice taught and if the school goes along with this they can run a recreation program at a tiny percentage of the cost that they initially budgeted for (minus directors and coaches salaries and the like). The ~~max~~ meeting broke up with everyone on the verge of telling the Fed Govt that they could take the War on Poverty and put it elsewhere.

One last exploit of CB (and now I am convinced that there is a definite change down here). I wrote that the Board of Educ came up with some crap about the Negro students who transfer to white schools would be "migrant students" and therefore ineligible to take part in athletic competition. So we filed a Motion for Further Relief in the Federal Court. CB got a phone call from the School Boards lawyer who asked him to please come to a meeting with the ~~Rxx~~ Superintendent and the Head of the Bd of E. uc. Very friendly, with handshakes all around (behind closed doors) and "Mr. King" at all times & "couldn't ~~this~~ we find some areas of agreement without going into court, I mean we are amenable to some change, etc." The upshot of it was that they have promised not to apply the migrant student rule (tho they claim that they cant control what the Ga Athletic Assn's ruling on it will be but will use every means they can to get them to rule the same way - we meanwhile will write to HEW asking that Georgia receive no funds until this rule is construed without its racist application) and they were so eager to get this straightened out without the Court (and therefore without HEW possibly cutting \$ff funds) that they agreed that a few kids who applied to wrong schools and therefore were rejected, could reapply to the correct school after the deadline and they would be admitted. So the mighty federal government is exerting some pressure after all - lets hope they dont crap out on this as usual.

~~PHIL: dont remember if I wrote you this before but I went~~

p.s. A couple of very interesting pieces of information which I learned on my recent visit to Atlanta. Which bank do you think that Martin L. King uses for SCLC payroll checks. Why Chase Manhattan of course (currently being picketed by SDS because it does business with the racist Union of South Africa government). But assuming that civil rights should only be limited to this country and we can excuse that (maybe their checks are cheaper) I also learned that SCLC uses Hammermill stationary to write their letters on. In case you dont know who that is they are the company in Pennsylvania who announced that they were moving to Selma, Alabama and SNCC has been picketing their Penna. plant. Whatever happened to Dr. King's boycott of Alabama products - I guess Uncle Lyndon showed him the folly of his ways. And its not like he doesnt know that SCLC is using Hammermill paper because immediately after SNCC announced the picket and he called for his boycott of Ala. products SCLC sent back a huge shipment of Hammerhill paper - and ordered Internation Paper instead (International comes from Mississippi; but I guess business is business). After a couple of weeks with International they sent that all back and re-ordered Hammermill. This info comes from someone who works for SCLC so it is fairly reliable. I guess its still business as usual in the civil rights movement.

Dennis