

OFFICE ONLY

(15) 23

McComb...McComb

To: Friends of SNCC
From: Betty Garman

As we all predicted things are getting continually worse in McComb. Two more bombings on Wednesday evening, 18 arrests for "criminal syndicalism, nearly a hundred other arrests for various minor charges or people picked up for questioning.

Once again we are calling on you to use all the the resources at your command to bring pressure on the federal government for some kind of action/pressure on the McComb officials to alleviate the presently serious situation. The enclosed information and analysis carries you one step further from the mailing(s) you've just received.

Again we are asking for a visible show of support from people all around the nation. Use the suggestions in the last cover mailing -- plus your own ideas. Several new ideas have come up since:

1. Try to get local Johnson for President headquarters -- the campaign volunteers -- to call a formal hour long strike during which time all the Johnson supporters would write letters and wires to the President demanding action in McComb -- now.
2. Urge local Democratic organizations to pass resolutions, send wires, etc. to the President.
3. If you demonstrate (or even in letters and telegrams) urge President Johnson to visit McComb as a disaster area -- to lend his support and encouragement to the people of McComb who are being harassed, intimidated, run out of their homes, beaten, jailed, etc. Point out that there is a large Freedom Democratic Party element in McComb totally in support of Johnson but fast losing faith in their candidate.
- 4....and Most Important...Mobilize massive community support for the McComb people by a) getting prominent local people to make statements to the press, send telegrams to Johnson which can be used for press releases after the wires are sent b) asking candidates to take a public position on the inaction of the federal government or simply the present reign of terror in McComb c) having the summer volunteers in your area who were in McComb intensify their speaking engagements d) send prominent local people to the U.S. Attorney's office to present a statement which they would ask the attorney to read over the phone to Katzenbach or to Burke "marshall over the phone e) phone the McComb information to the "call-in" radio shows in your area f) keep calling news media for information on McComb -- get alot of people to do this to encourage them to print daily stories on the situation.

If you come up with good new ideas -- pass them on so we can inform other groups of what you are doing.