

SNFC Newsletter



Vol. I

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Dec., 1964

HUAC AND THE MOVEMENT

SNFC ANNOUNCES A PROGRAM FOR

As the legal and moral defense of segregation crumbles, segregationists have turned increasingly to the use of an old, but still viable, tactic--the "red" smear. They attempt to discredit the integration movement by equating it with "communist subversion." As Civil Rights activity has been increased and progress has been made in the area of Negro rights, the charges of "subversion" have been intensified.

If you trace these charges back to their source, you find, in almost all cases, a common fountainhead: the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC). HUAC was set up by the House of Representatives in 1938 as a temporary committee to investigate "the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States." Life magazine reported, "On its first day of hearings in Washington, the Committee . . . heard testimony about the 'American Nazis.' Next day it switched to communism and stayed there. Opening its door to anybody who cared to call anybody else a red . . . it heard that the American League for Peace and Democracy, and most other anti-fascist, anti-war, pro-labor, and pro-civil liberties organizations of grownups and students are dominated by Communists."

Twenty-six years later, in 1964, we see that HUAC is still going strong. From its beginning HUAC has led the fight against racial equality. They have slapped the Communist label on such groups as the NAACP, CORE, and the Southern Conference Educational Fund. For the most part HUAC members have been Southern racists and right-wing reactionaries. HUAC's present chairman is Rep. Edwin Willis of Louisiana. He was
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J O B S

We shall be negotiating with the City of Carbondale, the various Civic groups, and especially with the local merchants. Our purpose is to change the current discriminatory hiring practices in Carbondale IMMEDIATELY!!! We ask your help: if you learn of a job opening which suits you better than the job you now hold (or do not hold), apply for it. Apply for it even if you know that the employer has never hired a Negro in that position. If you feel that he has rejected your application on the basis of race, contact SNFC and let us know about your experience. We will do everything possible to change that employer's hiring practice. Remember, if you apply you will be helping yourself and your community: the employers and the community must be made aware that there are able, qualified Negroes who want better jobs than they now have.

FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS OF ILLINOIS

Freedom Democratic Clubs are being organized in Carbondale and Cairo as part of a statewide drive to form a progressive political action group. George Graham is leading the Cairo drive as a project of the Freedom House, while the Carbondale club is being organized through the Community Organization Committee of the SIU Student Non-Violent Freedom Committee. Other organizing efforts are reportedly concentrated in East St. Louis, Champaign, Peoria, and Chicago, where the Illinois FDC is headquartered.

The FDC was originally organized by Chicago civil rights militants in July,
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a floor leader in the fight against the 1964 Civil Rights Bill and a signatory of the Southern Manifesto defying the Supreme Court school desegregation decision. The present Vice Chairman is Rep. William Tuck of Virginia, the architect of Virginia's massive resistance planto the Supreme Court school desegregation ruling.

By passing off fake accusations as "official" government findings and by publishing the statements of racists in government documents, HUAC has fed the fires of racism throughout the nation. HUAC has created a situation in which American citizens are afraid to speak or act in favor of Civil Rights for fear they will be labelled communists. HUAC has provided racist propaganda in the form of government pamphlets that have been used to support the prejudices of the uninformed. HUAC has perpetuated violence, especially in the South, by equating Civil Rights workers with subversive agents. HUAC is the number one enemy of Civil Rights in America today.

Wider public understanding of the adverse effects HUAC and organizations like it have had on the Civil Rights movement is needed. Two good reference books on HUAC and congressional investigations in general are: Telford Taylor's Trial By Inquisition and Frank Donner's The Un-Americans. A recent pamphlet by Anne Braden called HUAC: BULWARK of SEGREGATION is also an excellent source of information. It can be obtained by sending 20¢ to: SNFC Newsletter, c/o Ed Clark, 200A W. Monroe, Carbondale, Illinois.

A vote on HUAC's mandate can come only every two years at the opening of a new Congress. In recent years a number of Congressmen have been opposing the continuation of HUAC, but not nearly enough. We are sure that if the facts about HUAC were brought home to every American citizen, enough pressure could be brought to bear on the Congress to abolish HUAC in 1965.

Those interested in abolishing HUAC should write letters to their representatives in Congress as well as to

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Speaker McCormack to insure that he recognizes the abolition motion on January 4, 1965. Petitions will be available soon, and other political action is being planned by the National Committee to Abolish HUAC, P. O. Box 74757, Los Angeles 4, Cal.

In the words of former President Harry S. Truman, "The House Un-American Activities Committee is the most un-American thing in America." HUAC MUST BE ABOLISHED!

Ed Clark, Editor

FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS (CON'T)

to provide support for the seating of the Freedom Democratic Party delegation from Mississippi to the national Democratic Party convention in Atlantic City. After that convention, FDC leaders decided to continue the organization for a concentrated "defeat Goldwaterism" drive. Clubs were organized in every ward and township of Cook County.

At a founding convention in Chicago in early October, Freedom Democratic delegates from across the state determined to continue the group on a permanent basis as a progressive pressure group on public officials and on the Democratic Party. Mississippi Civil Rights leaders Aaron Henry and Fannie Lou Hamer spoke of the links between the fight for freedom in Mississippi and the struggle for economic and social justice in Illinois. Delegates adopted a "Platform for Freedom" which called for positive measures from national, state, and local government for fair treatment and improved housing, education and employment opportunity for all Americans, and also expressed the group's awareness of the need for world peace and increased civil liberties. A primary theme in the platform was "One Man--One Vote" which symbolizes the voter registration drive in Mississippi and the fight for full participation and representation for all citizens in the Northern states.

A spokesman for the SIU SNFC said the Carbondale Freedom Democratic Club will "hopefully develop a progressive grassroots political action group which will

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FREEDOM DEMOCRATIC CLUBS (Cont.)

involve Jackson County Negroes, white workers, and collegiate liberals." Further information about the Freedom Democratic Club may be obtained from Keith Miller, 422 West Jackson (Phone 549-3674).

Jim Peake

NON-VIOLENCE WORKSHOP

Jim Jones, SIU student from New York, member of SNFC executive council, and chairman of the Marshall's Committee, attended a Non-violent Workshop at Camp Reinberg in Palatine, Illinois, on the weekend of November 13-15.

This workshop was sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, and was attended by approximately 200 people. They represented such groups as JOIN, CORE, FDC, SPU, AFSC, and SNCC.

Jim arrived at the workshop early Saturday morning and went to the registration center. Here he reported that he was without funds and would spend the entire weekend sleeping in the open and not eating. He was then presented with a full scholarship by the officers of the workshop.

The first event Saturday was a program where different views on Nonviolence were given by people from both the North and South. After these talks the group broke up into small discussion groups and each individual was given the opportunity to express his own views on Nonviolence. The Freedom Democratic Clubs were discussed, as well as the regional problems of members.

There was a break after these meetings and songs were sung and everyone got to know each other. Among the people with whom Jim discussed the Carbondale SNFC were: Mrs. Kenneth Montgomery of Chicago, SNCC; Pat Packard, Chicago West Side CORE; Al Raby, President of Illinois Freedom Democratic Clubs; Pat Lefor, Evanston SNCC; Bernard Lafaette, AFSC.

A large assembly was held after the break. At this time the problems of (Top)

members were dramatized to show how they could be dealt with. After this mock action Jim was asked to give his views on Non-violence and also to lead songs.

After the dinner break, informal discussion continued until the small hours of the morning.

Sunday after breakfast one half hour of meditation was observed. Then another large assembly was held which was open to discussion on all aspects of the Movement. The workshop ended Sunday afternoon.

YMT

ABSENCE IMPLIES APATHY

See you at the
SNFC Meeting
Thursday, December 10
Furr Auditorium
8 p.m.

ONE DOWN, ONE TO GO

"Centuries shall elapse and the Communist generations of the future will deem us the happiest of all mortals that have inhabited this planet throughout the ages, because it is we who have seen Stalin, the leader-genius, Stalin the sage, the smiling, the kindly, the supremely simple. . .!"

---from a speech by Avdeyenko reported in Pravda, Feb. 1, 1935

"Fearless fighter and implacable foe of the godless of cancerous communism . . .in spirational, leader, champion of the people, outstanding American."

---description of J. Edgar Hoover from an FBI pamphlet, quoted in Life, May 22, 1964

HUAC:
BULWARK OF SEGREGATION

by

Anne Braden

Send 20¢ to SNFC Newsletter
c/o Ed Clark
200A West Monroe

***** Carbondale, Illinois *****

INITIAL MOVEMENT

Below is presented (humbly) a key to aid in the translation of the many confusing initials representing various organizations involved in Civil Rights frequently mentioned in this and other publications:

- SDS - Students for a Democratic Society
- JOIN - Jobs or Income Now (division of SDS)
- CORE - Congress of Racial Equality
- FDC - Freedom Democratic Clubs
- SPU - Student Peace Union
- AFSC - American Friends Service Committee
- SNCC - Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee
- COFO - Council of Federated Organizations
- ADA - Americans for Democratic Action
- NAACP - National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- MFDP - Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party
- SCLC-- Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- UL - Urban League
- ACLU - American Civil Liberties Union

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

The SNFC Newsletter reminds its readers that there are many ways to contribute to the cause of Freedom, especially during the Christmas season --among them being in the form of:

- standard office supplies
 - a filing cabinet and folders
 - kitchen utensils
 - linoleum
 - bedding
 - mattresses
 - records
- MONEY**

These are only a few of the items urgently needed by the Freedom House in Cairo, Illinois, according to its staff, George Graham. Anyone wishing to donate any of the above mentioned articles is asked to contact Lynn Leonard at 457-7169.

The SNFC Newsletter is a bi-monthly publication and is the official organ of the Southern Illinois University Student Non-Violent Freedom Committee. It is dedicated to informing both the SNFC membership and general public in matters concerning civil rights on the

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SIU campus, in Carbondale, and throughout the nation.

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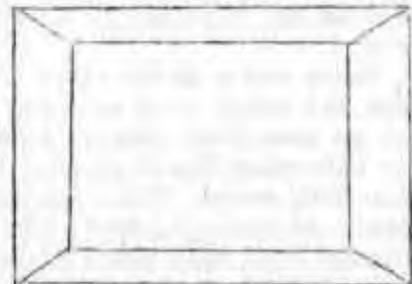
BRIEFLY

***650 white citizens of McComb, Mississippi signed an advertisement in the local newspaper, November 17, calling for an end to racial violence.

***In New York, Jesse Gray, Harlem rent strike leader, announced an intensified rent-strike campaign for the 1964-65 winter which he hopes will lead to a political challenge to Mayor Wagner's re-election next year.

***The FBI Nobody Knows, by Fred J. Cook, MacMillan, New York, 463 pp., \$5.95, is now on the stands.

***The Ku Klux Klan is presently engaged in a terrorist campaign against certain progressive trade unions in Mississippi. Seventeen officers of the International Woodworkers of America in Laurel, Mississippi inserted an ad in the Laurel Leader-Call denouncing the KKK and calling on its members to arm themselves for protection against the racist killers.



How many Communists working in the Civil Rights Movement can you find in this picture? The House Un-American Activities Committee can find seventeen. It takes practice.