

SNCC APPEALS TO THE UNITED NATIONS

On June 12, 1967, prompted by a series of recent outrages such as those described here, the following statement was sent to all African and Asian Missions to the United Nations:

"We reject the position of the United States government that intolerable racism in the United States is a purely domestic concern. We find this claim as hypocritical as the claim of the racist government of South Africa that its suppression of the human rights of 12,000,000 Africans is an internal matter, or a similar claim by the government of Portugal. Such claims are typical of colonial powers. We maintain that unwarranted and brutal suppression of black people in the United States is a matter of international concern. We are therefore addressing to you an appeal for your moral support, in the form of direct and indirect pressure upon that government which loudly proclaims its concern for the freedom of the Vietnamese people yet will not guarantee basic human rights to black people in this country. We make this appeal in the spirit of SNCC's declaration, made formal in May, 1967, that it is a Human Rights Organization concerned with human rights not only in the United States but throughout the world."

SNCC thereby affirmed, in the spirit of the late Malcolm X, that it is not merely a "civil rights organization" concerned with the implementation of local law, but a group working for basic human rights spelled out by the United Nations and its agencies. SNCC sees black people in this country as standing in a colonial relationship to White Power; an internal colony in many ways similar to the external colonies of Europe. Therefore it has turned to others around the world for aid and, in turn, has promised its support where possible and appropriate to the liberation struggles against colonialism, racism and economic exploitation.

But SNCC's new international emphasis will be meaningless if it does not also do the job at home--work to defeat racism right here. It will therefore continue to build its political, social and economic programs with emphasis on independent political organizing as in Mississippi this summer; its anti-draft program; its campus organizing program.

It will therefore support such struggles as that of the Chase Manhattan group and the TSU Five. It invites your support also.

**MAKE YOUR PROTEST NOW
LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD NOW !**

Excerpt from Statement Given by a Texas Southern Student

"I went to bed....When I woke up, two large German Shepherd police dogs were in the bed with me; one was tearing at the mattress and the other was biting me on the leg. I thought I was having a bad dream. I kicked the dog, and suddenly somebody hit me with a billy club and this white policeman said: "Get up nigger, and get downstairs." When I got up, he hit me with the stick and knocked me down, and the dog jumped on me again. Finally, I went behind my desk and got to the door; when I reached the door, they hit me again with the stick. When I got to the end of the hall, they hit me across the head with the stick. Then they kicked me down the stairs (I was on the second floor); when I got to the bottom of the stairs, he said, "Put your hands behind your head, nigger." Then he hit me again across the head with the night stick. When I reached the outside door, he hit me across the forehead with the stick; that's when the skin broke open and blood started gushing everywhere. They first made me sit down; then they came back through beating at people on the ground, saying, "Turn over, nigger, get on your face." Then they took us off to the jail. It was like a nightmare; they were just waiting to shoot somebody."