

NEWS RELEASE from:
STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
8 1/2 Raymond Street, N.W.
Atlanta 14, Georgia
688-0331

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 15, 1963

MEK

SNCC WORKERS DISPATCHED TO BIRMINGHAM
CALL FOR NATIONAL PRESSURE AGAINST INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS

ATLANTA, GA. --- Four workers for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) including the Chairman, John Lewis, arrived in Birmingham on Sept. 15, it was announced here, in response to the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church earlier that day, in which four children were killed and 22 others injured.

SNCC workers Worth Long, Julian Bond, Danny Lyon and Sam Shirah, Jr., went there, they stated, "to work for justice for the terrorized Negroes of Birmingham."

Chairman John Lewis wired President Kennedy, the Justice Department, and the General Secretary of the United Nations: "We urge the immediate use of all possible strength by the Justice Department, the Federal Government, and concerned bodies of the United Nations, to end the heinous crimes and barbarism being perpetrated against the Negro citizens of Birmingham."

ATLANTA, GA. --- In a request sent from SNCC headquarters here, Northern Coordinator, Sandra Hayden, called for immediate response from "all friends of justice and supporters of SNCC." "We are asking that you use every possible means to exert pressure on the corporation executives who control much of Birmingham's economic and racial policies. These industrialists, by their silence and inaction, are supporting the killing of innocent children

In a special mailing, the names and addresses of directors of ten corporations which employ over one-third of Birmingham's manufacturing workers were listed. The appeal also called for demonstrators by supporters, "to protest the failure of Birmingham officials to apprehend those responsible for the 20 some bombings of a racial nature which have occurred there in the past few months."