

A N E M E R G E N C Y A P P E A L T O
S O U T H E R N C O L L E G E S T U D E N T S

1EK38.02

Dear Fellow Students:

As you know, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee was formed in 1960 to serve as a channel of communication and to loosely coordinate protest movements of southern college students across the south. In addition to voter registration and public accommodations demonstrations, SNCC's activities have broadened to include organizing freedom schools, running candidates in Agriculture Stabilization Conservation Service elections, and running independent political candidates in local and state elections.

SNCC is more of a spirit than any concrete organization. It is an approach to life and a way of treating people. SNCC has no membership.

We have a staff of over 130 students like yourselves, who work in the south's black belt to develop local leadership so that people can organize movements for change within their communities. SNCC believe in organizing others to exercise alternatives in shaping their lives.

Students at Howard, Fisk, Morgan, Tuskegee, Hampton and other colleges are organizing so that each man -- black and white -- can have an effective voice in determining his own life. In a profound sense, we are interested in mass education. We also encourage our workers to further their education and help them with SNCC scholarships.

To continue our work, we are dependent upon hundreds of people in the nation who support us through the Friends of SNCC, personal donations and campus contributions. Our roots are in southern campuses, and we hope to involve those campuses significantly in our fund-raising efforts. We must survive and continue our work.

Our needs are great. Cars are needed to travel the county roads so that workers can speak with residents and they are needed for interstate travel between projects. Two-way radios, tape recorders, typewriters and other communication equipment is in great demand. If James Chaney in Philadelphia, Mississippi or Samuel Younge in Tuskegee, Alabama had had proper communication with the outside world, maybe they would still be alive.

Since we live on subsistence wages, your pledge of 3 1/2 cents a day or \$1 a month, will provide gas for cars, radios and communication equipment needed for adequate security. Your small contribution added to thousands of others will provide office supplies and food for our workers.

SNCC workers are fighting and risking their lives and their children's lives to insure that future generations may have the security that we all hope to share some day. Most of our staff have attended southern colleges such as the one you are attending. Please help support us!

In Freedom,

John Lewis

