{Mississippi Freedom Summer'}

By SIDNEY ROGER

December Staff

"One Man Vote" is the despairing cry being sounded by hundreds of idealistic young Americans—Negro and white, student and worker, from every part of the United States, who are knowingly facing injury and death to bring freedom to Mississippi this summer—free from the white power structure of that state—which also bitterly exploits its poor white population—is not ready to take up its struggle on education, wealth, the land, public office, and in the white house. The power structure—willing police, its goons and lynching mobs and its frightened policemen—will not hesitate to commit murder this summer to perpetuate the South as a "colonial" area.

Mississippi's 42 percent Negro population has long been denied the simplest fundamental rights. The Negro is being systematically and endlessly targeted in that state, and if the targets do not answer back. If they are attacked physically, they do so as best they can. They must learn to protect themselves without fighting back, and their teachers have warned them that death is only one of many dangers they face.

Among the variety of dangers girls face is the constant threat of sexual assault. Some cannot escape this even while in the shelter of the jails. Boys, in contrast, are more likely to strike back, or other forms of resistance. This has led to cases where they have been injured or killed in jail if they don't answer back.

Veteran civil rights activists talked to the students in the training sessions about arrests on trumped-up charges, conditions in jails, beatings, and brutality. They also tried to teach them how to fall, how to collapse in such a fashion as to keep the police off their backs. They taught them to discuss possibilities they never dreamed would happen to them.

In every case, they all had to agree that striking back, or other forms of resistance, was not an option. The students are expected to learn from the experiences of those who have already faced these dangers. They are being taught to answer with their lives, not to answer back. If they are attacked physically, they do so as best they can. They must learn to protect themselves without fighting back, and their teachers have warned them that death is only one of many dangers they face.

Despite the dangers, they are moving into Mississippi by the scores, by the hundreds. The only way that Mississippi can be changed is by the courage and dedication of those who are willing to risk everything to bring about a more just society. This is the only way that Mississippi can be changed, and this is the only way that the students are willing to risk everything to bring about a more just society.

In Mississippi, the state has been preparing for this "invasion." Armored cars, police men with riot guns and tear gas, and large trucks with prison bars are converging on the town. The white ruling class is determined to prevent any further civil rights movement and will attempt to stop all efforts to bring about a more just society. This is the only way that Mississippi can be changed, and this is the only way that the students are willing to risk everything to bring about a more just society.

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FREEDOM PARTY

In Mississippi, a Freedom Democratic Party is running four Negro candidates for Congress, one for the Senate, and one for the state's Negroes. This is the only way that Mississippi can be changed, and this is the only way that the students are willing to risk everything to bring about a more just society.

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