



OXFORD, O. — In dramatic tableaux, instructors at Mississippi Summer Project sessions here demonstrate methods of passive resistance and self-protection to college recruits leaving today to conduct voter registration drives in Mississippi.

Plain Dealer Photo (Terence Sheridan)

Students Will Seek to Register 200,000 Mississippi Negroes

By TERENCE SHERIDAN
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OXFORD, O.—Voter registration could be the key to success of the affably-named Mississippi Summer Project. A student movement into Mississippi, an area considered hostile, the project is jointly sponsored by major civil rights groups making up the Council of Federated Organizations and the National Council of Churches.

LAST OF TWO ARTICLES

"If we can show that Negroes in the South are not being permitted to vote, we can knock to pieces the thesis that apathy is the reason for low voter registration."

That is the opinion of one of 80 staff members conducting two week-long project sessions at Western College for Women here.

Robert Moses, a soft-talking, 29-year-old New York Negro directing the summer project, said a tentative target of 200,000 voters for "freedom registration" books has been set.

THE BOOKS, said Moses, will be presented to the credentials committee at the Democratic Convention in Atlantic City in August.

Although Negroes constitute 42% of Mississippi's population, they have only about 25,000 registered voters, project officers estimate.

Student volunteers from colleges all over the nation will attempt to register about half of the state's 400,000 esti-

mated potential Negro voters, said Moses.

SOME 200 students who have just completed an orientation week here on voter registration will today begin to head by bus, train and car to Mississippi towns and hamlets.

Sessions this week were on voter education and voter registration.

Next week, when an estimated 300 students arrive, the sessions will be on Freedom Schools, concentrating on remedial and political science classes, and music and drama programs for community centers.

TWO GREATER Cleveland-

Parma Hts. Girl 'on Her Own'

Connie Lee Claywell of Parma Heights, one of 200 volunteers of the Mississippi Summer Project, is "doing it on her own without our approval," her father told The Plain Dealer yesterday.

The father, J. E. Claywell, of 6633 Fernhurst Avenue, said his daughter is participating against the wishes of both her mother and himself.

"It is upsetting, but my daughter is 25 years old and she can do as she pleases because we have no control over her," he said. "We gave her an education to help herself but the freedom school is something different."

ers, Samuel Walker of Cleveland Heights and Matthew Harris of Shaker Heights, finished their training today.

Miss Connie Lee Claywell of Parma Heights will begin Freedom School orientation sessions next week.

The students, all of whom provided personal expense money of \$150 and made contacts in the event jail bond money is necessary, will live with Negro families.

The Rev. D. Bruce Hanson, 28-year-old director of the Oxford orientations, said students will be operating "directly or indirectly" in all of Mississippi's 82 counties.

A NATIVE OF Cleveland, Hanson is a white assistant pastor of the first Congregational-United Church of Christ in Washington.

Project leaders, most of them Negroes, are stressing non-violence. Classes in passive resistance have been held and students have been told what to expect.

It has also been hammered into the Mississippi "Peace Corps" by hard core cadre (those who have been "under the gun" in the Magnolia State) that "to survive a summer in Mississippi will be a success."

"I AM MORE THAN convinced," says John Lewis, 24-year-old national chairman of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, "that when young people—both Negro and white—go into a police state like Mississippi and put their bodies on the line, it is an accomplishment."

To the casually clad students here, Mississippi is the "other world" and Mississippians are "rednecks."

Atmosphere on the 208 acres of Western College, which is just across U.S. 27 from 155-year-old Miami University, is a curious blend of tension and tranquility.

THE BLUE WORK shirt and denim jacket are popular, and footwear ranges from sandals and sneakers to cowboy and motorcycle boots.

But most of the youthful volunteers (the youngest is 18 and the average age is 23) seem to know where they are going and what they are going to do.

They are also aware that Mississippi legislators have