

SNCC Begins Drive to Free Clyde Kennard from Miss. Jail

by Chuck Anderson

On December 14, an urgent press release of the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee announced the start of a campaign to petition the Federal Government in behalf of Clyde Kennard.

Kennard is a 33-year old Negro veteran who found it necessary, after 3 years at the University of Chicago, to return home to Hattiesburg, Mississippi; whereupon, he applied for admission to Mississippi Southern University, once in 1958, again in 1959. Both times he was rejected without explanation for "deficiencies and irregularities" in his application.

After his second and last attempt, State and school officials showed their readiness to stop at nothing to keep Kennard out. "If Clyde did reapply," said Governor Coleman in 1959, "there'd be no way of holding him out, because his record was sufficient. There'd

interview, he was arrested and charged with reckless driving. At the station, police alleged they had found several pints of whiskey in his car and added the charge of illegal possession of liquor. Although Kennard could prove that he neither drinks nor smokes, he was convicted, fined \$600, and denied an appeal.

Frame-up

But Kennard was still considered a danger to the Mississippi way of life. So in 1960 he was charged with receiving 5 bags of stolen chicken feed, valued at \$5 each, and with being an accessory to the theft. The illiterate teenager charged with the actual theft, one Johnny Lee Roberts, turned state's evidence and charged Kennard with planning the burglary. Further testimony showed, however, that Kennard lacked the necessary knowledge of the warehouse or of the watchman's schedule to have done so.

An all-white jury — Negroes in Forrest County, Miss., are systematically excluded from registering to vote, and thus from jury duty — took 10 minutes to convict Kennard to 7 years in Parchman Penitentiary. Johnny Lee Roberts was sentenced to 5 years on probation and is not now in prison.

National Shame

As Charles McDew, chairman of SNCC, has said, "It is comforting to think of the might of the Federal Government protecting James Meredith at Ole Miss, but America must not forget Clyde Kennard, like Meredith a veteran, whose reward for trying to enjoy an education in his home state is a 7-year prison term on a trumped-up charge. Kennard's imprisonment is a national shame and every American should work toward his release."

When you consider that the Federal Government moved decisively in Meredith's case only after racist rioting took 2 lives; and when you see the Government's reluctance to use its power to protect Meredith's relatives or ensure normal study conditions on campus; you get an idea of the pressure that will be needed to make the Kennedys defend civil rights in the Kennard case.

The petition campaign initiated by SNCC must be supported to the utmost. It has already pressured the Kennedys to reopen the case. It must grow until the racists are forced to FREE CLYDE KENNARD!



James Meredith

be no alternative but to close the school."

Apparently someone thought of another alternative. When Clyde returned to his car after his last

MSU Students Win Free Speech Fight

by Jan Garrett

President MSU Young Socialist Club

East Lansing — A speaker policy, allowing anyone to appear on campus who does not advocate "overthrow of the government by force and violence," has been established at Michigan State University for the first time since the 1930's. Sponsored by the Young Socialist Club, Herbert Aptheker, editor of the journal *Political Affairs*, spoke to 140 students on "The McCarran Act and American Democracy" in the MSU Union on Jan. 17, thus establishing the policy in practice as well as on paper.

This completed a 9-month free speech fight, which began last May when the YS Club invited communist spokesman, Robert Thompson, to speak on campus. In a typical example of Administration double-think, University President John A. Hannah (also President of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission) assured us then that we had "academic freedom . . . , but!" He called our club "subversive" and gave the nod to the Board of Trustees to ban Thompson.

9-Month Fight

With that, student indignation exploded. A fraternity offered its backyard for the meeting, which drew a crowd of 2,000. (10 leaders of the fraternity were fined \$50 each by their Alumni Board for participating.)

This fall, the Administration hand-picked a Clearance Committee to screen all incoming speakers and veto those not approved. Several club presidents

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THE YOUNG SOCIALIST

Ten Cents

Voice of America's Future

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Student Movement Threatened by McCarran Act:

Gov't to Outlaw Youth Group

By Barry Sheppard
National Chairman
Young Socialist Alliance

The witchhunt on the campus reached new and dangerous proportions in the past few weeks with direct attacks leveled against three campus organizations.

At the Federal level, Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy is seeking to force a New York youth group, the Advance Youth Organization, to register as a "communist front." In Bloomington, Ind. the local Prosecuting Attorney has announced plans for a Grand Jury investigation into the Indiana University branches of the Young Socialist Alliance and the Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

Kennedy's attempt to label Advance a "communist front" under the provisions of the McCarran thought-control Act will put that organization in the category of a "foreign agent." This is the first Federal attack upon a section of the student movement, and as such it creates a very dangerous precedent.

In his petition to the Subversive Activities Control Board, Kennedy

said that the "purpose of Advance . . . is aiding and supporting the Communist Party by conducting picket lines, protest rallies, propaganda campaigns, and other activities." This bald statement completely uncovers the real motives of the witchhunt.

What the Attorney General can only mean is that Advance is guilty of holding and expressing certain ideas. He is saying that some ideas can not be expressed, under pain of Federal harassment and registration as a "foreign agent." Any group that "conducts picket lines, protest rallies, propaganda campaigns" for ideas which the Attorney General does not like or which also happen to be the ideas of the Communist Party can be labeled a "foreign agent."

The Communist Party stands for peace — are those students who have engaged in "picket lines, protest rallies, and propaganda campaigns" for peace "foreign agents"? The Communist Party stands for racial equality — are the Sit-In demonstrators in the South "foreign agents"?

The false and unconstitutional

labelling of the Communist Party as "foreign agent" was a transparent excuse to outlaw that political party and was a serious



Robert F. Kennedy

blow to the civil liberties of all of us. Now the powers that be are extending their definition of "foreign agent" to include a youth group. The attack upon Advance will not end with Advance. It lays the basis for further attacks upon the whole student movement.

The witchhunt in Bloomington, Ind. grew out of a demonstration in October against the blockade of

Young Laborites Attacked in Canada

On Wednesday, Nov. 14, eleven members of the left wing of the Youth section of the British Columbia New Democratic Party (NDP) received registered letters from the Youth Executive. The letters carried fantastic "charges" of which the eleven were to prove themselves innocent the following Sunday before the Youth Executive.

This Executive had been elected at the last convention of the youth by a two-thirds majority. The left wing lost all their previous executive posts to the strong right-wing delegation, (through the suspected setting up of paper clubs and falsified mem-

berships by the right wing of the youth section.) All the credit cannot go to the youth for their gaining control; the help of the senior section right-wing was instrumental in the takeover.

The right wing of the senior section threw their support behind their fellow-thinkers in the youth, the majority of whom had just come from the old-line capitalist parties within the past two years. Now these Liberals and Conservatives intend to sit in judgement over the Socialists in the New Democratic Youth.

On the day of the "trial" the defendants were refused the right

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Following is the text of a letter of support sent Jan. 11 to the Advance Youth Organization by the YSA National Chairman:

Dear Comrades,

The YSA unconditionally supports your defense against Robert F. Kennedy's attempt to outlaw your organization through the use of the witch-hunt McCarran Act. This attack threatens our whole generation because it is aimed at stifling all protest by youth. It is obviously aimed at the student movement, of which you are a part.

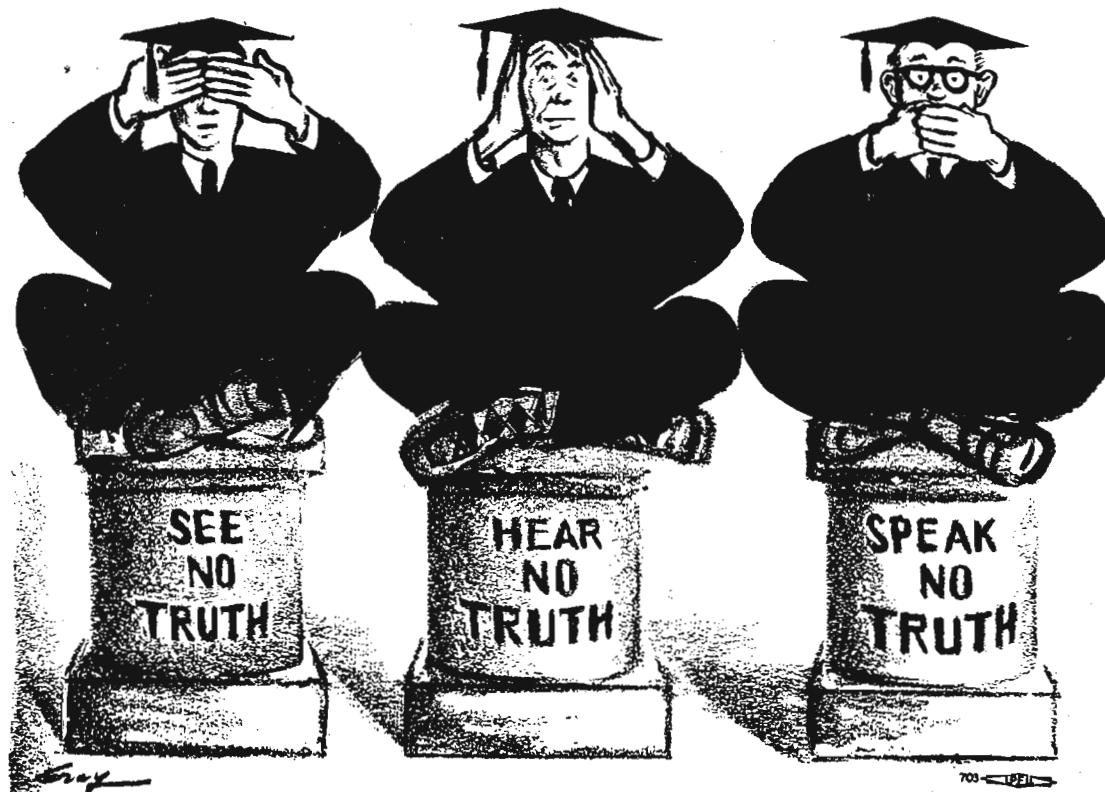
Agreement or disagreement with your policies has no bearing on the issue at hand. We urge all who value their rights of free speech, press and assembly to come to your defense.

This persecution of a minority political group will open the door to more vicious attacks by the Southern racists against the students struggling for civil rights, to more witchhunting on the campuses, to more speaker bans, in short to the further curtailing of the Bill of Rights.

The YSA wishes to make a standing invitation to you to use our halls and facilities to explain your case throughout the country.

Fraternally, Barry Sheppard,
YSA Nat'l Chairman

NEW FRONTIER STUDENTS



Cuba. At that time 22 anti-blockade demonstrators were met by a crowd of 2000, of whom about 200 were actively hostile to the pickets. Campus Young Americans for Freedom leaders formed the core of the hostile elements. These rightists succeeded in physically smashing the demonstration.

The police arrested two local hooligans who attacked the demonstrators. Fred Rice was charged

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YOUTH IN ACTION



These students demonstrating in sub-zero weather in Chicago show the determination of youth who support William Worthy against the persecution of the Justice Department.

IN OUR "FREE" CAPITAL

On Jan. 31, some 40 persons — mostly young people — picketed in Washington, D.C. to protest Pres. Kennedy's role in the prosecution of Afro-American reporter, William Worthy, who was convicted supposedly for returning home "without a passport" but really because he reports the Cuban Revolution truthfully.

The picketline, organized by the Harlem Anti-Colonial Committee, was aimed at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, where the B'nai B'rith was presenting Kennedy with their "Democratic Legacy" Award.

In keeping with the "democratic" spirit of the occasion, cops and dogs met the picketers, who were then removed to a dark, deserted corner half a mile from the hotel doors. They were not even allowed to distribute leaflets unless any of the few passers by asked for one.

To complete the harassment, 16

demonstrators were arrested and fined \$10 each. The reason: after an hour of silent picketing they began to shout "Free William Worthy!"

IN DEFENSE OF ADVANCE

Students in the Philadelphia area are planning to picket Robert Kennedy when he comes to Philadelphia this month to receive an award for his supposed services to democracy. They will protest his recent move toward outlawing the New York youth group, Advance.

At the University of California in Berkeley, the Young Socialist Alliance and the W.E.B. DuBois Club issued a joint statement in defense of Advance. The statement was widely distributed on campus in leaflet form.

The Student Peace Union at the University of Chicago passed a motion supporting civil liberties for Advance.

In New York, the Emergency

Civil Liberties Committee announced it would accept the case of Advance to test the constitutionality of the McCarran Act. In the event of a ruling against Advance by the Subversive Activities Control Board, which will probably hold hearings early this spring, ECLC will carry the case into the courts.

PICKET RACIST GOVERNOR

On Feb. 4 Mississippi Gov. Barnett, notorious for trying to keep James Meredith out of Mississippi University, spoke in the large Sanders Theater at Harvard University. Earlier the Cambridge (Mass.) School Committee denied him the use of a high-school auditorium. He was met by some 30 picketers carrying signs such as, "Negroes Don't Vote in Mississippi — Whose Governor is Barnett?" and "We Support Free Speech. We Oppose Segregation."

Large numbers of Harvard students reacted favorably to these sentiments, milling around but not joining the picket line. Inside, Barnett avoided the subject of segregation. Local NAACP officials called for an "orderly integrated audience," and did not join the picket line.

Represented on the line were the Young Socialist Alliance, the Cambridge Ward 4 Republican Club and the Socialist Workers Party. The picket line received much attention in the press, TV and radio news. About half an hour after the picketing began, a group of about ten young Negroes arrived from Roxbury (Boston's Harlem). They had hastily made their own signs and hurried to join the protest after hearing news of the demonstration.

CHICAGO FOOD DRIVE FOR SNCC

On Feb. 1 Chicago Area Friends of SNCC launched a food collection campaign in response to SNCC's appeal for food for Mississippi Negroes victimized for trying to vote there. Thirteen food collection depots were set up around the city. The Packinghouse Workers donated their

Young Socialist

George Saunders, Editor
Thadd Beebe, Circulation Manager

"A World to Win!"



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union hall as central headquarters. Leaflets were distributed door to door and followed up by food collections. Collectors were also posted at super-market entrances to give shoppers leaflets asking them to buy a few extra items for Mississippi.

The drive has caught on among high school students and church groups, and donations exceed all expectations. To date 50,000 lbs. of food and \$3000 have been collected. The first load was accompanied by comedian Dick Gregory on a chartered plane, which brought more publicity to the campaign. The Teamsters Union donated the transportation for the second shipments of 36,000 lbs. which went on Feb. 15.

PROTEST BETANCOURT'S VISIT

Venezuelan students liberated the freighter, Anzoategui, in order to protest Venezuelan President Betancourt's trip to the United States and his repressions against Venezuelan students and patriots. When Betancourt stopped in San Juan, Puerto Rico Feb. 18 on his way to visit his ally, Kennedy, Puerto Rican students joined a picket line of some 500 called by the Movimiento Pro-Independencia. They protested Betancourt's promise to support the U.S. in a coming U.N. debate on the status of Puerto Rico, which remains in disguised colonial subjection to the North American colossus.

Betancourt was also greeted by protests on his New York visit of Feb. 21. The New York University Socialist Club on hearing that

their University planned to award a medal to the Venezuelan executive, called for a protest line in front of the Law Building where the ceremony would take place. These students were joined by local YSAers, bringing the picket line to around 25.

Picketers carried signs saying, "Why Honor Murderer of Students?" "Rockefeller Oil Buys Medals for Betancourt," and "Medals for Trujillo, Jimenez and Now Betancourt." Hastily alerted police soon outnumbered picketers and prevented them from holding a street meeting to explain their stand to onlookers.

LEFT PRESS GROWS ON CAMPUS

The month of February saw two new socialist journals start up on campus. At the University of California in Los Angeles the *Young Socialist Reply* is now being published twice monthly. This newsletter, official voice of the local Young Socialist Alliance, is distributed on campus in an edition of 1000 copies. The first two issues included among others, articles on Advance, Kennedy's labor policy, Bertolt Brecht and Cuba.

The University of Michigan Socialist Club in Ann Arbor announced plans to begin publication in February of a magazine, *Spectrum Left*. Addressing itself to "politically concerned students and those involved in youth and reform movements," the new magazine aims to act as "a means of communication between them" and is soliciting articles from differing viewpoints for publication.

Dutch Socialist Students Register Gains

By Ross Dowson

The entrance of the youth — a fresh, idealistic, militant generation into the social and political arena has been widely noted in Africa, the Middle East, Cuba, and the rest of Latin America. Having initiated struggles against the ruling class and their minions, lifting back into the struggle many of the older generation who had become tired and disillusioned, the youth have come up against the official leaders of the working masses.

In these great areas the youth have become the conscience of the workers and peasants. There is considerable evidence now that a similar process is well underway in North America and, as one would expect, on the European continent too.

I wasn't long in Amsterdam, in the Netherlands, where as in many other small European countries there is little difficulty in understanding and being understood, for those ignorant of languages other than English, when I heard talk of the activities of the socialist youth. If I wanted to know the score about the socialist youth I was told to go see Huib Riethof, a student at the Amsterdam Municipal University. Its 8,000 students make it the largest in Holland.

I didn't have to wait long for Huib after his wife and infant child had welcomed me into their modest apartment. He spends several hours a day in order to earn a small income doing research at

one of the university institutes. Right now he is working on the archives of the Dutch revolutionary socialist H. Sneevliet, martyred during the occupation by the Gestapo.

Huib, who is 21 years old, has been a socialist three years and is the general secretary of the Netherlands Socialist Students Organization. He is also secretary of a socialist educational group Socialistische Outmoetings Kernen (SOK) which publishes *De Kern*. It is a big influence for Socialism in SPACE, a youth movement of the Workers Party and about 500 of its 3,000 members pay membership fees into SOK. Its activities are largely cultural and social.

Highly Political

The Socialist Students Organization, POLITEIA, which Huib heads, is highly political; it has a militantly internationalist outlook. Very early, back in 1958, it identified itself with the Algerian revolution, and began to popularize its cause.

At that time the students called a meeting at the Amsterdam University to hear an officer of the FLN. They were forbidden by the government from proceeding with the meeting. They thereupon set up a Committee of Information on Algeria and went ahead — playing a recorded version of the speech that the Algerian Revolutionary would have given in person.

They mounted several demonstrations in front of the French Embassy, in protest against the

brutal tortures inflicted by the French imperialist forces on the Algerian fighters. Huib proudly showed me a whole stack of photographs, some of which had been reproduced in the daily press — photographs of students and members of SPACE staging sit downs and struggling with police in front of the Amsterdam courthouse.

They were demonstrating their solidarity with Sal Santen and Michel Raptis who were being persecuted by the Dutch courts for the aid that they had mobilized in support of the Algerian Revolution. A considerable number of internationally renowned liberal and labour figures, including Jean-Paul Sartre, some 40 British Labour MP's, solidarized themselves with the demand that Santen and Raptis, leaders of the Trotskyist Fourth International, be released.

At the time of the Belgian general strike POLITEIA held a meeting for one of the strike leaders. About a month later the top brass of the Workers Party issued a public statement formally dissociating itself from POLITEIA and withdrawing all subsidies. This is the leadership which in 1958 capped its campaign against the long standing tradition of the socialist movement by formally purging the word socialist from the party name and adopting the name Workers Party.

This has not in any way deterred the socialist student youth from carrying on as before. The Dutch

Cuba Committee has provided speakers for several forums held on the campus under the students' auspices. At Easter this year they participated in full force in the demonstrations which rallied some 20,000 in downtown Amsterdam in protest against the H-bomb and nuclear testing.

This spring they joined the demonstrations protesting the sending of Dutch troops to New Guinea. The crowds surged on to the dock areas in Amsterdam. Their appeal to the workers to stop loading the ships met with considerable success. The army was forced to load many of the ships with the use of military conscripts. Some of the members of the conscript forces refused to go to New Guinea and were sentenced up to as high as 10 months in jail.

Things are beginning to move in the Netherlands. Next to Spain, Portugal and Southern Italy, Holland is the lowest wage area on the continent and there are increased rumblings in the working class.

The ranks of labour are badly split. The failure of the Workers Party leadership to adjust in any way to the rising opposition to nuclear testing and the nuclear arms drive (they support NATO) has resulted in the formation of the Pacifist Socialist Party which won two seats in the 150 seat house last election.

Huib says that the PSP is growing and is certain to register a considerable increase next elec-

tion. While the mounting concern over the threat of nuclear war is an inspiring development, this splintering is one of the most serious problems confronting the Dutch working class.

As an activist in the youth movement Huib Riethof is particularly enthusiastic about the possibilities in the anti-nuclear arms struggle and the response that SOK and its socialist message is receiving in widening layers of Dutch youth.

YSA LOCALS

BALTIMORE: c/o Roger Sheppard, 1503 Park Ave.
BERKELEY-OAKLAND: c/o Lawrence Shumm, 1930 Blake, Berkeley.
BLOOMINGTON, IND.: P.O. Box 915.
BOSTON: c/o Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave.
CHICAGO: c/o Horowitz, 909 E. 55 St., MU 4-0182.
CLEVELAND: E. V. Debs Hall, 5927 Euclid Ave., Rm. 23.
DENVER: Box 724, TAbor 5-2779.
DETROIT: 3737 Woodward.
EAST LANSING, MICH.: c/o Jan Garrett, 429 Charles St.
LOS ANGELES: 1702 E. 4th St., L.A. AN 9-4953.
MADISON, WISC.: c/o Gerry Paul, P.O. Box 532.
MILWAUKEE: c/o Ed Heisler, 4218 No. 70th St.
NEWARK: c/o Newark Labor Forum, Box 361.
NEW HAVEN: c/o Bill Winnik, 292 Grandview Ave., Hamden, Conn.
NEW YORK CITY: 125 4th Ave., GR 7-3640.
PHILADELPHIA: 3424 Powelton Ave., Apt. 3B.
SAN DIEGO: c/o Wally Hoskins, 5243 San Bernardo Terrace.
SAN FRANCISCO: 1488 Fulton St.
SEATTLE: c/o D. Freeman, 4527 12th Ave., N.E., ME 3-1207.
TWIN CITIES: c/o Binkley, 1302 Como Ave., SE.

... Student Peace Union



5,000 students gathered in Washington, D. C., February 1962 to oppose U. S. resumption of A-bomb testing.

(Continued from Page 1)
 YPSL maneuvered to tighten the SPU Statement of Purpose and make the SPU accept their "Equal Blame Theory" — YPSL's contribution to the analysis of the cold war. This method of operation is exactly wrong, and is diametrically opposed to the real needs of SPU, which are to unite as broad a mass of students as possible who wish to struggle for peace, regardless of their political viewpoint.

Let All In

Let in Young Democrats and Young Republicans who think Russia is more to blame than the U.S. for the present danger to the world! Let in socialists who have the opposite viewpoint! Let in pacifists who don't care who is to blame. Let in the mass of newly awakened students who have not yet made up their minds about the causes of war, but who want to find out, and who want to act against what they know to be evil.

We can all profit from a free and open discussion of war and its causes. The viewpoint of YPSL would be an important part of such a discussion. But discussion is cut off before it begins if one political viewpoint is made the

basis for membership in the SPU itself.

YPSL isn't interested in building the SPU on a broad basis. This became completely clear recently in New York, where SPU members-at-large got together to form an off-campus chapter. At the first meeting of these off-campus members of SPU, YPSL panicked and sent down their national chairman to set the line, because some members of the YSA were present.

Mike Shute, YPSL National Chairman, insisted that the meeting not organize a chapter, but instead concern itself with a debate between YSA and YPSL over the cause of the cold war. He demanded that the group take a position on the differences between YSA and YPSL before it was even organized. Since YSAers were there to build SPU and for no other reason, they refused to carry on such a "debate."

Shute then introduced a motion aimed at restricting membership in the New York SPU to those who would agree that "neither camp in the cold war has deviated from the escalating drift towards war." The YSA feels that statements like that cover up the reality of the cold war, by implying "equal blame" on both sides.

The YSA thinks that the United States is to blame for the war in Vietnam — not the peasant Viet Cong. We think the United States is to blame for the invasion of Cuba that took place in 1961 — not the Soviet Union or Castro. We think the U.S. is to blame for a whole series of acts of the cold war, that it is basically the U.S. and not the Soviet Union which has got us into this mess.

We think the "equal blame" theory is stupid, amounting to no more than a mindless formula to be applied to all situations. But we also feel that YPSL has the right to its ideas and we favor YPSL presenting them inside SPU along with all others who are fighting for peace.

Nobody's Front

The YSA is convinced that SPU can be built only on the basis of being broad. We opposed Shute's motion because it would make the New York SPU into a YPSL front. SPU should be nobody's front — not YPSL's or the YSA's or the Young Democrats' or anyone else's.

Shute and other YPSLs took up the time, which was supposedly for the purpose of building SPU, with a witchhunt. They saw YSAers everywhere — insidiously

hiding their politics behind arguments against a narrow and sectarian SPU and in favor of a broad and non-exclusive SPU.

Two weeks later, at the next attempt to set up this SPU chapter, the YPSL made its position on red-baiting completely clear. A member of the YSA introduced a motion which read, "The NY city branch will not permit any witch-hunts or red-baiting. On the contrary, as required by the constitution of the SPU, we will conduct every aspect of SPU work in a democratic fashion, 'without committing any member to a precise statement of policy.'" The section in single quotes is from the National SPU Statement of Purpose.

The YPSLs voted against this motion.

Women Strike for Peace gave a fine example of how not to let the peace movement fall into the red-baiting trap when they were called before the HUAC in December. Mrs. Dagmar Wilson told the Committee straight off that Women Strike for Peace would not allow HUAC to red-bait them and would not engage in any internal investigations to eliminate communists or anyone else.

YPSL Paranoia

It is extremely unfortunate, and it shows the depths of the YPSL paranoia, that Gail Paradise, National Secretary of SPU, attacked Mrs. Wilson for this stand in the latest issue of the SPU Bulletin. The WSP did not allow HUAC to sidetrack their struggle for peace — and the national SPU spokesman berates them for it! If SPU continues down this path of witch-hunt and exclusion, SPU will be finished.

SPU will be a viable and important campus organization, and will be able to get out of its present stagnation and crisis only if it again reaches out. To really begin to build (and there are many locals in the country that have continued to build on their own) SPU must remain as broad as possible.

Red-baiting, exclusion, internal witchhunts — they are the death of SPU. Members of YPSL and members of YSA should work together with other tendencies and with uncommitted individuals of every political stripe to build the SPU. Let SPU discuss and argue all political viewpoints — but not exclude anybody because of his politics, and not adopt any one viewpoint as SPU policy. A healthy SPU will look for new members from all political groups, and recruit rather than exclude.

Freedom NOW

CLYDE KENNARD FREED

Clyde Kennard, whose only crime was that he applied for admission to the University of Southern Mississippi, is finally free after spending two years in prison. His release came, however, not because racist officials decided his application for an education was no longer a "crime."

Kennard was released because he has terminal cancer. But this condition alone would not have softened the hearts of the Mississippi authorities. Many are the men who have died unheard of in Southern prisons. It was the nation-wide Free Clyde Kennard campaign launched by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee that put the spotlight on the case and embarrassed the racists into freeing Kennard.

ATTEMPT TO BURN SNCC OFFICE

On February 20, 1963, a SNCC office worker received an anonymous telephone call telling her, "You won't be going down there [the office] no more. That's been taken care of." The next day SNCC chairman, Charles McDew, wired the Attorney General:

"We protest the burning of four businesses in Greenwood, Mississippi. Our field secretary there, Samuel Block, charges that the arsonists meant to burn his office from which he assists Negroes who have been denied the right to vote and who are being starved out of Leflore County because they tried to register. FBI offices in Memphis and Atlanta have been evasive in this matter. Will the Federal Government act to protect him and others who daily risk their lives to bring democracy to Mississippi?"

SNCC is still struggling to aid the starving families in Mississippi who have been cut off relief rolls because of their civil-rights activities. As Sam Block put it, "they lived in little nasty alleys. It was cold and some of them were sitting beside a fireplace with a small amount of wood to keep warm... another thing, the babies had no milk."

Food and clothing may be sent to Sam Block, 115 East McLaurin, Greenwood, Mississippi. Financial contributions can be sent to SNCC, 6 Raymond St., N.W., Atlanta 14, Georgia.

RACISTS SEIZE LEADER OF VOTERS' DRIVE

FLASH! — 22-year old Samuel Block, SNCC Field Secretary in

charge of the Leflore County voter registration project, was arrested on Feb. 22 on a "breach of peace" pretext. He is being held "some where" in Leflore County. The arrest follows closely the burning of buildings near SNCC's office in Greenwood, Miss.

Block has been prominent in the fight against segregation in the delta region. Most recently he headed food distribution to Negro families cut off surplus rolls because of the vote drive. He has been arrested 5 times since the Leflore County drive began. Last August he had to leap from a 2nd-story window to escape a white lynch mob.

SNCC Chairman Charles McDew wired Atty. General Kennedy, demanding "that the Justice Department cease abdicating its responsibilities and move to stop the police-state tactics being employed by the officials of that state." Every voice must be raised to protest any possible harm being done to the heroic young freedom-fighter!

STUDENTS EXPELLED FOR SIT-INS

Ten students have been expelled from Arkansas AM&N College as a reprisal by the administration because the students participated in a sit-in sponsored by the Pine Bluff Student Movement. William Hansen, field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, who had participated in the sit-ins, reported that notices were placed in school buildings requesting all students who had sat-in to see AM&N President Lawrence Davis.

President Davis told Pine Bluff newspapers that he had advised his students not to participate in sit-in demonstrations, and added that any disciplinary action taken against them would be determined by the college board.

Ten students defied Davis' attempts to intimidate them by conducting a sit-in after the suspensions were announced.

The SNCC field secretaries and local students who have been engaging in direct action for civil rights in Pine Bluff have been met by various forms of harassment. The local Police Chief, Norman Young, told the sit-inners, "You'll beg for mercy before this is over."

Ten cars had their tires punctured near the St. James Methodist church during a mass meet-

ing on Sunday night February 10th. William Hansen and Ben Grinage, an interracial team working for SNCC, were arrested for vagrancy when they first arrived in Pine Bluff.

SNCC WORKER CHARGED WITH 'FALSE PRETENSES'

In Montgomery, Alabama felony charges have been levelled against Robert Zellner, a field secretary for SNCC, on trumped-up charges of 'false pretenses.' This is a felony and carries with it a sentence of one to ten years in a state prison. It is a charge based on a check Zellner wrote on the day he was arrested for vagrancy on the campus of his alma mater, Huntingdon College. This check was never presented for payment, and Zellner returned the article he had purchased immediately.

Charles McDew, SNCC Chairman, has urged "all friends of democracy not to be misled by this charge." The man who arrested Zellner was Al Lingo, present State Director of Public Safety, who was sworn into office five days after the original arrest, and this charge and that of vagrancy are obvious attempts to harass Zellner and to obstruct our direct action and voter registration campaigns in Alabama.

City Attorney Dave Crosland said that Zellner was properly employed "even though his money comes from the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, a group that calls itself 'nonviolent' but does nothing but create dissension, hatred and sometimes bloodshed..." This is the best the officials of Alabama can do in describing SNCC which is attempting to win the rights that are supposedly guaranteed by the constitution for the Negro citizens of Southern United States.

SET PICKETING CAFETERIA

Students for Equal Treatment (SET) an organization of University of Tennessee students have been picketing a segregated cafeteria near their campus. The group is chaired by Marion S. Barry, former chairman of SNCC and a graduate student at UT in Chemistry.

Marion Barry said the group had tried to negotiate "time and again" with the management of the Cafeteria but they had refused to talk with student representatives of campus church centers. SET says it will demonstrate "until we obtain results."

Bulgarian Stalinists Crush African Student Group

by Jim Petersen

On Feb. 12 from 200 to 400 African students marched down the main street of Sofia, Bulgaria. They were going to the government offices to protest the arrest of seven student leaders of an "illegal" All-African Students Union.

They never got there. The police attacked and crowded them into buses. The students charged that many were beaten.

Two years ago the Soviet Union initiated a program of free education to students from former colonial countries. The Bulgarian government followed suit. The Soviet countries hope to find allies and supporters among the students they train, and undoubtedly these students are one of the most volatile revolutionary forces in the world today.

Bureaucracy

But young radicals do not take kindly to bureaucratic treatment even if it comes from would-be "Marxist-Leninists."

The African students apparently felt that they had enough in common to form an All-African Students Union. Such an All-African Students Union could have been an important step in the

development of the African revolution, but the Stalinist bureaucracy, which is in favor of Pan-Africanism in Africa, found itself against Pan-Africanism inside its own borders.

The bureaucracy would not allow the African students to form their own organization. On Jan. 15 the students formed it anyway, and the government arrested the leaders on Feb. 11, which led to the Feb. 12 demonstration.

The strength of the ruling bureaucracy in the Soviet bloc countries rests on its ability to concentrate all the decision-making power in its own hands. An independent organization of African students would naturally lead to demands among Bulgarian students for similar rights to form their own organizations. Ultimately, independent organization among the students would lead to independent organization among the workers, and the foundations of the bureaucracy would be cracked.

The African students were disillusioned and many have left Bulgaria to study in the West. We have the Stalinist bureaucracy to thank for this disservice to the cause of socialism.

