

1017 Lynch Street
Jackson, Mississippi
January 16, 1968

Karl and Ann Braden
4403 Virginia Avenue
Louisville 11, Kentucky

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Braden:

I regret the unfortunate delay in getting information to you on the desperate conditions ~~is~~ for Negroes in the Delta. At first we ~~we~~ kept delaying over the question of how to distribute in some of the ~~most~~ really hard-core areas (like Tallahatchie), considering the great danger involved. It was only in the last few days that we finally got commitments from people living in the county to receive and distribute feed. And this only came after Charlie Cobb made a special trip up there. Unfortunately, Charlie was not able to stay long enough (he is now state office coordinator and had to get back to Jackson) to put together a really comprehensive report. Thus, at present we are still without the kind of fact sheet that we would like to get out on the general situation. But rather than delay any further I am sending you a copy of some notes Charlie put together plus a ~~copy~~ a report of a phone conversation which I had with Mrs. Hamer. ~~They~~ While hardly adequate, they should give you something of an idea of what's happening--which I am sure you are aware of already--and serve as ~~the~~ beginning until we can get you more information.

We ~~have~~ are now establishing three new food and clothing centers in Mississippi, one in Ruleville, one in ~~Sharkey~~ Cleveland, and one in Vicksburg. The one in Cleveland will be used to service both Bolivar and Tallahatchie County. Amzie Moor is prepared to take a truck (every~~at~~ time one comes in) into some places we now have in Tallahatchie where food and clothes can be stored and distributed. We feel this is a better arrangement than having the names and addresses of of centers in Tallahatchie become too public. (We are also in the midst of setting up a ~~new~~ center in Greenville which we hope will service Issaquena and Sharkey counties as well as Washington county--but the details have still to be worked out. Our three new centers are as follows:

Amzie Moore
614 Chrisman
Cleveland, Mississippi

Fannie Lou Hamer
c/o I. Johnson
820 Quiver St.
Ruleville, Mississippi

Warren County Improvement League
King Solomon Baptist Church Hall
Famer Street
Vicksburg, Mississippi

Emphasis should be put on food rather than clothing--though

shoes is a clothing item which is desperately needed.

I am planning to make a trip into the Delta tomorrow so that by tomorrow night I should be able to put together a more comprehensive report for you than the one enclosed. I will send it out to you immediately, but you may feel you have enough in this letter to act upon immediately.

Yours in Freedom,

Mindy Samster