

2614 Dana  
Berkeley, California  
feb 25 [1966]

Dear Alicia:

Just a note to let you know that my mail from Forrest City finally was forwarded and arrived here a few days ago and included in it was your letter explaining the program at the University of Wisconsin. Thank you so much. I have sent the letter back to Forrest City. Dave ~~Archibald~~ Archibald and Tex Lowe are the SNCC staff now in Forrest City (114 Cox Street) and if there is any further info or change of plans in regard to what you wrote December 14, please let them know about it. The program ~~is~~ good but what will happen out of Forrest City is hard for me to say now, being away for two months.

The kids in Forrest City did go back to school this semester; they wanted their high school diplomas (who can blame them) and the local school officials promised that they wouldn't penalize them for not attending classes the first semester. However they have had some troubles, according to one of the letters I got from Forrest City, one of the boys "got into it" with his typing teacher and was consequently arrested...what this means I don't know, is it possible to get a clarification and the boy is a very gentle quiet person (altho one who believes very deeply in his convictions -- very religious and good) so it is even harder to understand. You can see that I am suffering from a severe case of SNCC homesickness.

Anyway I do want to thank you for that good letter (and please forgive me for all those pesteringings these past two months) and also thank you for all the help that you gave me while I was in Atlanta. Now that I am back to ivory tower intellectual milieu, it is easier for me to understand the problems that folks face...here at Berkeley (so called radical center) civil rights is so "passé" that folks and core are uniting this semester, the current craze is the VDC.

Freedom,

*Esther* [Heifetz]

p.s. even tho the kids went ~~back~~ back to school...I hope that that lady (I forget her name) in charge of the fall program, will continue to see what can be done about credits for kids who are out of school cuz of a boycott and attending "freedom school classes" -- I think that if some preparatory work can be done in getting credit for such people, school boycotts could be a heck of a lot more successful....it will be a long haul before the schools are integrated and I doubt very much that we have seen our last boycott. whatever work that could be done here would be wonderful, and if you do learn anymore I would appreciate hearing about it.