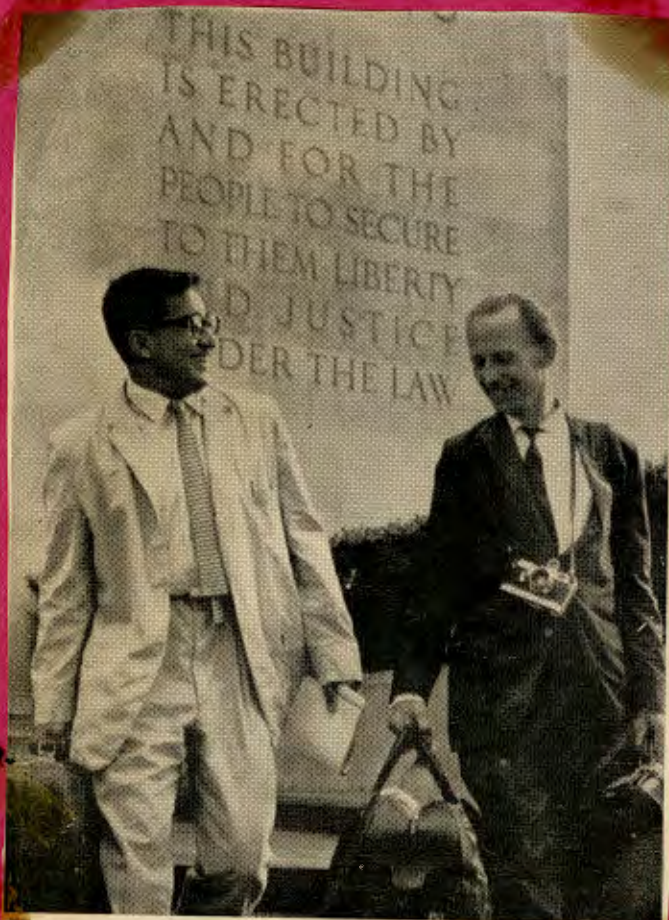


# Confessions of a FREEDOM RIDER



Freed after he lectured Mississippi court on democracy, reporter Pabel leaves jail with brown-skinned friend "Wee-jo."



M. Associates

■ 'Freedom Fast': Demonstrating their solidarity with Freedom Riders, James Peck and Gladys Harrington, members of the "Fast-For-Freedom" group, pose at base of the Statue of Liberty. Group's 24-hour fast was partly spent in Battery Park at lower tip of Manhattan.



CONFESIONS OF A  
FREE DOM LIEBER

Copyright 1961 by Kroll Publications Inc.

First printing, Sept., 1961

All characters in this book are genuine and  
any resemblance to persons fictional or ima-  
ginary is purely coincidental.

Printed in the United States of America.



Meet The Author - A man who's rare,  
He's Freedom Rider - Byron Baer.

before



BYRON M. BAER, as he appeared to friends and neighbors before his historic tour of Mississippi jails.

after \*



Jailed Freedom Riders, (l.-r.) the Rev. Wyatt T. Walker, Carl Jones, Bernard Lee and the Rev. Mr. Abernathy keep planning.

BAER (center of picture) - crusader, fighter for freedom and citizen of the world, after arrival in Mississippi - about to enter vehicle which will transport him to first penal institution.

\* Jet Magazine - Aug. 17th



I DEFIED RACIAL PURITY

UNDER MAXIMUM SECURITY

\* \* \*

FORTY DAYS IN MISSISSIPPI JAILS

Hind's County Jail  
Jackson, Miss.

Mississippi State Penitentiary  
Parchman, Miss.

ITINERARY

Friday, July 28th - 7:55 A.M. - Departed from Idlewild Air Port, NY

Saturday, July 29th - Arrest in Jackson, Miss.

Monday, July 31st - Sentenced to Hind's County Jail, Jackson, Miss.  
for 4 months plus \$200 fine.

- Transferred to Mississippi State Penetentiary  
in Parchman, Miss.

Friday, Aug. 18th - Transferred from First Offenders Dormitory to  
Maximum Security cells - CELL NO. 8

Saturday, Sept. 9th - Released on bond.

Monday, Sept. 11th - Arraignment at Jackson County Jail.



# NON VIOLENT FIGHTING WITH INVISIBLE WRITING

To convey and receive messages of importance to family and to CORE, Baer devised unique system of communication, including secret codes and invisible writing.

## CODE: SYSTEM OF PERFORATIONS

1. Perforation through letter - stands for letter
2. Perforation before word - stands for word
3. Perforation under word - stands for syllable.

TO INDICATE DATE on which letter is being sent, perforate above letter of alphabet (on first line) which indicates date, ie., if letter is being sent on 20th of month, place perforation above 20th letter on first line.

Perforations above letters will also be used to signify dates on which other letters have been sent. Perforation above second letter of first line will signify that letter was sent on the second day of the month. If 2 letters were sent on that day, there will be 2 perforations above the letter signifying date. (Perforation on left - Anne; perforation on right - Betty). Last perforation on first line (above letter) indicates date on which current letter is being sent.

## RE: INVISIBLE MESSAGES

### To Indicate Where Invisible Message Can Be Found: \*\*

- Outside of envelope - front.....1
- Outside of envelope - back.....2
- Inside of " - front.....3
- Inside of " - back.....4
- First page - front.....5
- First page - back.....6
- Second page - front.....7
- Second page - back.....8

\*\*Perforate after line (1 to 8) to tell where message can be found.

IMPORTANT: To indicate that letter contains message in invisible writing or code message, do following -

USE UNACCUSTOMED NAME IN SALUTATION -

- ie. Dear Bi or Dear Bud (for Byron)
- Dear Annie (for Anne)
- Dear Liz (for Betty)

Will message appear on or in envelope or on pages of letter?

If address appears on letter, message is contained on backs of letter pages. If address is ~~missing~~, message will be found in envelope.

## HOW TO INDICATE WHAT FORM OF INVISIBLE WRITING IS BEING USED

1. Blot or x-out (if typewritten) at TOP, indicates that saliva is reagent.
2. Blot or X-out at BOTTOM, indicates urine is re-agent.
3. Blot or X-out in MIDDLE, indicates soap solution is reagent.



SECRET MESSAGES (cont)

TO SIGNIFY THAT CODE MESSAGE WAS RECEIVED -

Use phrase... "I GOT YOUR LETTER....."

If first t is not crossed, this means one message was received;  
if two t's not crossed, this means two messages received; if three  
t's not crossed, three messages received.

If no code message involved, say "I enjoyed reading your letter  
of (date) ..or some such thing..."

NOTE: DUPLICATE secret and code messages. (Send via two letters)...  
If anything important, have it appear in two letters - chances of getting  
through greater.

TO DECIPHER INVISIBLE WRITING IN LETTERS RECEIVED:

1. Intense Heat: Apply hot iron to paper until yellow.
2. Phenolthelien: Small amount of 'phenol' in small quantity  
of water and apply with damp cloth to surface of paper.  
If not successful, make solution stronger.

TO SEND INVISIBLE MESSAGES:

EXHIBIT A

Pin used for perforations in sending of secret code  
messages.





EXHIBIT B

First letter received from Baer just before he entered Hind's County Jail. (Note unique writing paper.)

Message Conveyed in Invisible Writing: NOTIFY CORE ;  
JOE CERRAC - MOSCOW YOUTH FESTIVAL

SAMPLES OF MESSAGES RECEIVED:Letter of August 12th:

Morale high.....Unanimity on smaller issues impossible but no small issues have come up....Unanimity is possible on large issues.....Permitted to write one letter a week.....Messages to parents about Riders are being transmitted by Rabbi Nussbaum.....Mail to prisoners uncertain...

Letter of Aug. 19th

Since no protest policy, we have avoided question of equality within prison.....However, warden threatened that power left at MSU allowed concentration by our transfer there from \_\_\_\_\_ unnecessary.....Negroes on one side - white on other sing songs of freedom....Morale here all time high.... All past mail confiscated....Only one letter, one page out per week.....Could not get any results from soap solution..... Please test and check....Construction here prevents certain communication.....Rabbi will give me your message....



Letter of September 3rd

Morale still high.....Expect to leave in week with 4 others so this is last message....Remaining 7 well adjusted to prison life and are strongest of those with drive \_\_\_\_\_ here...No inconvenience will deter.....Most still without real feeling of hostility towards guard and trustees, tho' at times some fail our efforts to understand their point of position and responsibility..... tickets....We are all well...See you soon.

SAMPLES OF MESSAGES SENT

Your name appeared in print twice in BERGEN RECORD - once in NY TIMES - no other metropolitan or Philadelphia newspapers.  
Aug. 2

Arthur Bloom working out soap solution as reagent for invisible writing.  
Aug. 2

ICC hearing tomorrow - if strong, rides will stop.  
Aug. 14

Russian orbits earth seventeen times in 25 hours.  
Aug. 24

Trials of Riders began Tuesday - two a day thru' January.  
Aug. 24





A MODEST MAN — BAER HUSHED HIS CAPERS,  
BUT COULDN'T HUSH THE LOCAL PAPERS.

Page 9

## N.J. 'Rider' Is Convicted

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Byron Baer, 31, a motion picture technician from Englewood, N.J., was among 22 "freedom riders" convicted yesterday of breach of peace and sentenced to four months in jail and a \$200 fine.

City Judge James Spencer levied the maximum penalty on the riders. Police Capt. J. L. Ray testified he arrested the riders for refusing to obey his orders to move out of transportation terminals during desegregation attempts. Nine arrests were made in the Greyhound bus terminal, the others in the Illinois Central terminal.

### Wife "Happy"

Baer lives at 135 Belmont St., Englewood. He is married and has two children, David, 6, and Laurie, 4.

His wife, Ann, said he left Friday. She said she felt "very happy" about his going. "I feel this is a way to help integration not only in the South but also in the North," she said.

Born in Pittsburgh, Baer was graduated from Cornell University in 1952. A member of CORE since his college days, he has lived in Englewood four years.

## JERSEY RIDER IS CONVICTED

### Englewood Man Fined, Jailed In Jackson

(Special to The Record)

Jackson, Miss., Aug. 1 — A motion picture technician from Englewood, N. J., was among 22 freedom riders convicted yesterday of breach of peace and sentenced to 4 months in jail and a \$200 fine.

Byron Baer, 31, of 135 Belmont Street, Englewood, received the maximum sentence for attempting to desegregate the Negro waiting room of a city bus terminal here.

Police Captain J. L. Ray testified he arrested the riders Saturday for refusing to obey his order to move out of the terminal, nine in the bus terminal, and the rest in a railroad station.

Ray said he arrested the riders because he felt their presence would tend to cause a breach of peace.

Among those arrested was a 50-year-old German magazine photographer, subsequently released by the judge, who said the man probably was confused about American customs and language.

## Bergen Man Faces Trial<sup>2</sup> With Other White Riders

### Among Eight Arrested At Jackson, Miss., Bus Terminal; Hearing Set For Today

(The Associated Press)

Byron Baer, 31, of Englewood, was one of eight white freedom riders due to go on trial today in Jackson, Miss. He was one of a group arrested on charges of breach of the peace Saturday for attempting to desegregate the Negro waiting room of a Jackson bus terminal.

### BEACH IS INTEGRATED

Police refused to charge two members of the group, an Indonesian exchange student and a blind woman.

Baer lives at 135 Belmont Street.

Peaceful integration has come to a traditionally white beach in Chicago after 3 week-ends of antagonism among police, bathers and wade in demonstrators.

Some 65 Negro and white demonstrators sat on the sand and talked yesterday in their fourth consecutive integration attempt at the beach. A few went swimming.

Several persons were arrested on disorderly conduct charges in the previous demonstrations, and a police detachment of 200 patrolmen stood guard as the integrationists congregated yesterday.

Beach guards estimated that the hot sunny weather attracted about 30,000 bathers to the beach, and about 300 gathered to watch the wade in demonstrators. But there was no shouting and no arrests. The demonstration broke up after about 3 hours.

In Dallas, Tex., integration has come to a number of downtown eating places as a prelude to public school desegregation planned for this fall. There were no demonstrations, and the decision to serve Negroes came after plans were prepared by a group of seven Negro and seven white civic leaders.

Citizens of Yorktown, Tex., voted 166 to 64 to integrate their schools. The board of education called the referendum after the State Education Agency said improvements would have to be made at the district's Negro school.

Extra policemen patrolled New York's Harlem over the week-end after more than 1,000 residents of the predominantly Negro area and 150 policemen were involved in scattered disorders Friday night. Detectives said they found no organized pattern in the outbreaks, and no major incidents were reported Saturday or yesterday.

### NY Times Sentenced in Jackson

JACKSON, Miss., July 31 (AP) — City Judge James Spencer convicted twenty-two Freedom Riders today and released a West German. Hilmar Ehrenfried Pabel of Munich, a photographer for Quick magazine.

The riders were sentenced to \$200 fines and four months in jail, the maximum penalty for breach of peace. They refused to obey a policeman's order to leave segregated waiting rooms.

Those sentenced from the New York area were:

Catherine Prenskey, 18 years old, of New Rochelle, a University of Wisconsin student, and Byron Baer, 31, of Englewood, N. J.



NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 30, 1961.

### MORE RIDERS HELD

#### West German Among Whites Seized in Jackson, Miss.

JACKSON, Miss., July 29 (AP)—Seven white Freedom Riders who came here by bus from Nashville, Tenn., were arrested today. The group included a West German photographer, identified as Pabel, who described himself as an observer.

A second observer—Widjonarke Gjakroadisumarto, an Indonesian exchange student—was not arrested.

The arrests brought the number of riders taken into custody in Jackson to 278.

A blind woman identified as Norma Wagner of Rochester, N. Y., who traveled with the group, was also taken from the station by officers. But the po-

lice said she was not under arrest.

The other riders were identified as Wollcott Smith, a Michigan State University student; Rick Sheyiakov, student at San Francisco State College; Sally Rowley, New York City; Ellen Ziskind of Lowell, Mass., a student at Columbia University; Catherine Prenskey of New Rochelle, N. Y., and Judy Scroggins of Cincinnati, Ohio.

### 78 FREEDOM RIDERS PLEAD NOT GUILTY

JACKSON, Miss., Sept. 11 (AP)—Seventy-eight Freedom Riders pleaded not guilty today to charges of breach of peace. Their trials on appeal were set to start March 12 in Hinds County court.

One rider, James Robert Wahlstrom, pleaded nolo contendere—no contest—and was fined \$400 and given a suspended eight-month jail term.

Mr. Wahlstrom, 24-year-old former University of Wisconsin student, was arrested June 2 in the Trailways bus terminal and July 31 in the Greyhound bus terminal while free on bond. He is white.

Earlier, a jury convicted Abraham Bassford 4th of Brooklyn, N. Y., former Wagner College student, on breach-of-peace charges.

He had been arrested and convicted June 6 with a group of six other riders seeking to desegregate the Trailways bus terminal. They were fined \$200 and sentenced to four months in jail. Two months were suspended.

After Mr. Bassford's conviction on appeal, Judge Russel Moore fined him \$200 and sentenced him to four months in jail. He, too, is white.

### Too Much Freedom For Bias Foe

United Press International. 7/31/61

JACKSON, Miss., July 31.—

An Indonesian diplomat's son failed yesterday in his second attempt to get arrested as a "freedom rider." Fifteen other integrationists succeeded.

Widjonarke Tjokroadisumarto, 24, a graduate student at the University of Washington in Seattle, was on hand to greet the 15 riders, most of them from the West Coast, when they arrived at the Illinois Central terminal.

He went first to the Negro waiting room. No luck there. He scurried to the white waiting room.

Still no luck, so he badgered policemen as they escorted the others to a waiting paddy wagon.

But determined officers insisted he go free.

"I wouldn't mind going to jail," Tjokroadisumarto, the son of a former Indonesian ambassador to Pakistan, said. "I would like to know the situation in jail. I am trying to learn all I can about the non-violent movement."

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[6]

[6]



**NOT ARRESTED**



Jackson police debate in bus terminal whether or not to arrest Widjonarko Tjokroadisumarto, Indonesian student whose father was formerly ambassador to Pakistan. They finally decided not to. For one thing, they were unable to determine whether to classify this Freedom Rider as "white" or "colored."



Being interviewed during the Bus Terminal protests in New York, are Charles S. Zimmerman, vice-president of the I. L. G. W. U., "Freedom Riders" Jim Peck and Henry Thomas, and author Lillian Smith.

[6v]

[6v]



EXHIBIT C



C O P Y

C O R E

Dear Parent:

CORE is proud of your son or daughter in Mississippi's "Freedom jail." We know you are proud as well - and that you are concerned.

We have corresponded with some of you suggesting a way in which you can help. If you would write a letter to the clergymen on this list and ask them to visit your child it would prove heartening for all the prisoners if he is allowed to visit. If you have already written to one of the ministers, may we urge you to write to the rest of them. As a result of parents writing such letters, Rabbi Nussbaum was permitted to enter Parchman, and visit some of the people. The more clergymen that you contact, the greater the possibility of their being allowed to visit. Please do not feel that you must only write to the man who is of your faith. When any of the clergymen do go to visit the prisoners, they will see as many of them as possible.

We have received inquiries from many of you concerning communications with Freedom Riders during their stay in Jackson. CORE tries to maintain constant contact with them. This is done through the attorney, incoming and released Freedom Riders, and through the ministers. CORE stands ready to post bond money as requested by the prisoners. Once out, we supply money for transportation home.

Unfortunately, while your child is in Parchman he may only write two letters weekly. Oftentimes the mail you send him arrives 14 to 17 days late, many times it never reaches him. CORE has devised a system whereby new Freedom Riders memorize important personal messages for those already in Parchman. This form of communication will help to maintain a high level of morale for those in jail.

Again, let me urge you to contact the men on the enclosed list. Please let us know of any progress made by those you asked to contact your child.

Sincerely yours,

GORDON R. CAREY  
Field Director

P.S. If the minister or rabbi finds that your son or daughter is in need of some of the basic necessities (towels, toothpaste, toilet paper - no books) ask him to contact Tom Gaither, CORE Field Secretary, at Edward Lee Hotel, Jackson, Mississippi who will supply him with these articles to take into the jail.



JACKSON CLERGYMEN

Methodist

Dr. Robert Bergmark  
Prof. of Philosophy and Religion  
Millsaps College

Dr. J. D. Wroten, Jr.  
Chairman of Dept. of Religion  
Millsaps College

Rev. Roy C. Clark  
531 West Capitol Street  
FL 2-0059

Rev. E. A. Mayes  
111 Church Street  
Jackson, Miss.  
FL 2-0354

Rev. G. R. Ma- Haughton  
Pearl St. A.M.E. Church  
447 W. Pearl  
Jackson, Miss.  
Office FL 2-6087  
FL 2-3273

Lutheran

Rev. Wade H. Koons  
1525 Robinson Street  
FL 2-7273

Catholic

Most Rev. Joseph B. Brunini  
123 Northwest Street  
FL 2-6544

Unitarian

Paster  
First Unitarian Church  
1164 Ellis Avenue

Jewish

Rabbi Perry Nussbaum (be sure  
Temple Beth Israel to send)  
546 Woodrow Wilson Ave.  
EM 6-1880

Rabbi Sidney Goldstein  
Meridian, Miss.

Rabbi Charles Mantinband  
P.O. Box 1326  
Hattiesburg, Miss.  
JU 4-7787

Presbyterian

Rev. W. J. Gipson  
Faith Presbyterian  
2219 Morton Ave  
FL 5-1277

Rev. J. Harold Harper  
Trinity Presbyterian  
640 East North Side Drive  
EM 6-5218

Episcopalian

Rev. Edward H. Harrison  
Pastor, St. Andrew  
3536 Hawthorne Drive

Friends

Patsy Hinds -- c/o Friends Meeting  
Chi Omega Sorority  
Southwestern College  
1937 Harbert Street  
Memphis 4, Tennessee



### 310 Ohio Freedom Rider Denies Miss. Suicide Try



**Brown**  
An Akron, Ohio, Freedom Rider, Elmer Brown, 20, released on \$500 bond from the Parchman (Miss.) Prison, denied published reports that he had attempted to commit suicide in prison. The Akron University sophomore told JET: "My cell was so filthy, I decided to hang my clothes from the ceiling with my belt to keep them as clean as possible. When they found my belt hanging from the ceiling, they lied and said I tried suicide." Brown also denied 17 tablets found in his Bible were dope pills. "They were Dristan tablets," he said, "for my hay fever." Brown said local newspapers twisted his praise of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and erroneously quoted him as attacking the organization.

## FREEDOM RIDE NEWS

### TRIAL DATES SET FOR 189

Trial dates starting on August 22 and ending on January 18 have been set for 189 Freedom Riders out on appeal. The trials will be held at the rate of two a day.

In an obvious move of harrassments, Hinds County Court had ordered all 189 to return to Jackson on August 14 for setting trial dates or forfeit \$500 bail apiece. New trials are necessary for appealing because the original trials were unrecorded.

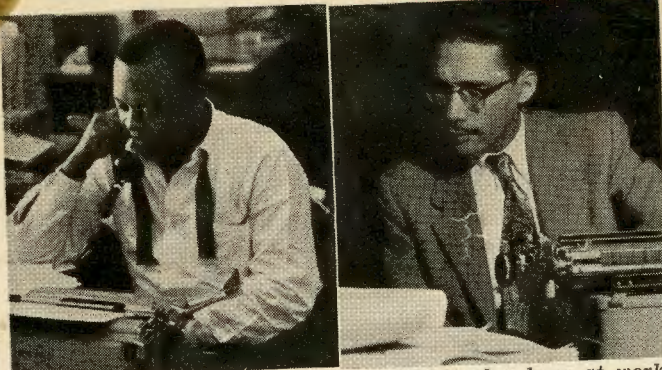
Within a period of less than two weeks, CORE faced the voluminous work and expense of rounding up the 189 Riders from various parts of the country and arranging their transportation to Jackson.

The first four will await trial in Jackson. Others will have to return a third time for their trials. Their attorneys are Carl Rachlin, William Kunstler and Jack Young.

### Top Negro Lawyers Convene In Los Angeles

A report on the defense of 200 Freedom Riders, a talk on constitutional rights and career opportunities in the Federal judiciary, and an appearance by the best known "lawyer" in the U. S. highlighted the 36th annual National Bar Assn. convention in Los Angeles. The Freedom Riders report was given by Jackson, Miss., attorney Jack H. Young at a public rally, and U. S. Asst. Deputy Atty. Gen. Joseph F. Dolan addressed the bar group at its closing session. Also appearing at the final banquet was Raymond Burr, television's famed attorney Perry Mason.

## JOURNALISM



Still (L.) and Washington Bureau Chief Booker busy at work.

### JET Writers Cited For Freedom Ride Stories

Two JET writers, who traveled on Freedom Rides through the South, were awarded "Freedom Writer" citations by the New York State Churches of God In Christ, Inc., in Brooklyn, for their reporting on the historic event. Simeon Booker, JET's Washington (D. C.) Bureau chief, rode through Alabama on the first Freedom Ride bus. Lawrence (Larry) Still, associate editor, rode on the first bus which went into Jackson, Miss. In addition to his JET stories, Still was cited for his article, "A Bus Trip Through Mississippi," in the August issue of EBONY magazine. The writers were cited at a "Rally of Christian Soldiers to Back The Freedom Riders." Also cited, U. S. Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy; New York Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller; and Sen. Jacob Javits (R., N. Y.). Jackie Robinson was honorary chairman of the event.

### Protest Racial Ads In Cincinnati Papers

Protesting "white" and "colored" designations in advertisements, interracial NAACP and CORE supporters continued to picket Cincinnati's two daily newspapers—the Enquirer and Post & Times Star.

### German Newsmen Takes Close Look At Democracy

"Lächerlich," the German equivalent for ridiculous, was a West German photo-journalist's summed-up opinion of U. S. race bias after he watched some 200 policemen guard a handful of Negroes at Chicago's trouble-ridden Rainbow Beach. Prompted by mounting reports of racial friction in this country, globe-trotting news veteran Hilmar Pabel of Quick, a Munich-based magazine with a 1.3 million weekly circulation, was sent across the Atlantic to see for himself. "After the war," he said in fluent, accent-heavy English, "we were told by the Americans to mend our evil ways and learn democracy. Well, we listened and let them teach us democracy. Now, we keep hearing about race troubles in Little Rock, Montgomery, Birmingham, New Orleans and even in the North. This we cannot understand. So I have been sent over here to take a good look and report to our readers how our teacher's democracy works at their home."

After brief stops in Philadelphia, Washington, D. C., and Chicago, Pabel journeyed to the South to accompany Freedom Riders on their perilous journeys. Warned about possible danger in encounters with Dixie bigots, the frail but spunky former frontline correspondent of the Wehrmacht's (German Army) press corps remained unimpressed. This spring, while covering the Congo chaos, he barely escaped execution by Congolese soldiers, who thought him to be a Belgian official.



**CHUCKLE OF THE WEEK.** In San Francisco, comic Dick Gregory described the realistic toys which manufacturers are making for Christmas. "They've got model jets (and) no matter which way you aim them they head straight for Cuba. Freedom Rider dolls head straight for the washroom as soon as you unwrap them."



WE TALKED - WE ARGUED RIGHTS AND WRONGS,  
TOGETHER SANG OUR FREEDOM SONGS.

STEVE GREENSTEIN

Bklyn, Ny. TW. 1-2253

JIM McDONOUGH

30 Kittiwake Lane,  
Babylon, L.I.

516 Mo. 1-0289

RICK SHEVIAKOV

1125 Euclid Ave.  
Berkeley 8, Calif.

Prof. G. Sheviakov at Columbia  
Teachers College - UN .5-6000  
ext. 247. Office: Ext. 572

WOOLCOTT SMITH

Lambert's Cove Rd.  
Vineyard Haven, Mass.

1389 ML3



P. 17  
'THOUGH ROSS BARNETT WAS NOT EUPHORIC,  
THE PRESS FOUND FREEDOM RIDES HISTORIC.

Page 1  
NY Herald Tribune  
3/14

## Arrest Son-in-Law Of Gov. Rockefeller As Freedom Rider

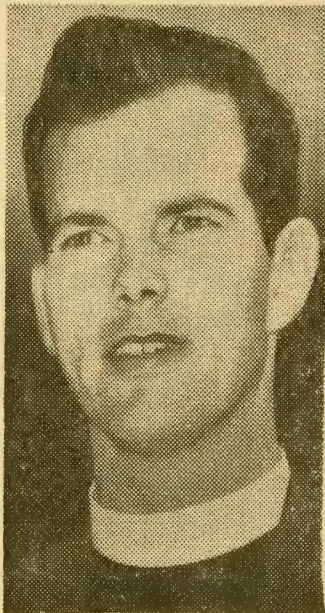
By United Press International  
JACKSON, Miss.

Police arrested fifteen Episcopal ministers, including the son-in-law of Gov. Rockefeller, of New York yesterday when the bi-racial group attempted to enter a segregated restaurant at a bus station.

Officers rounded up the clergymen, from all parts of the nation, when ministers refused orders to "move on." Among the group was the Rev. Robert L. Pierson of Evanston, Ill., husband of Gov. Rockefeller's daughter, Ann.

Mr. Pierson, who told officers he was with the Christ of the Kingdom Foundation, said the police treated him "very politely." He said he couldn't compare the jail treatment with that elsewhere "because this is the first time I've ever been arrested."

Mr. Pierson and eleven other white ministers



Rev. Robert L. Pierson

were placed in one large cell. All have bunks and police said the conditions are not crowded. The three Negro ministers were placed in another cell.

Continued on page 17, column 4

### Son-in-Law

(Continued from page one)

The ministers will be tried Friday.

They were part of a twenty-eight-member group which arrived here from New Orleans Tuesday night on a "prayer pilgrimage" to protest racial segregation.

[Gov. Rockefeller, asked for comment on his son-in-law's arrest, said he assumed it was true and added:

"I admire the courage and dedication of these young people to the basic precepts on which this country was founded and their dedication to the cause of making a reality out of these precepts."

[Asked in Rochester, where he was addressing a town meeting on local problems, whether he planned any action in connection with the incident, he said, "He's one of a group who have dedicated themselves—for that I admire him—and he wouldn't expect any special treatment or want it."]

The group spent last night at Tougaloo College, a Negro school near here.

The ministers arrived about a half hour before their bus was scheduled to leave yesterday. The time of their integration attempt had not been previously announced and there was not a large force of policemen on hand.

However, two officers who were near the terminal rushed into the white waiting room and met the clergymen, most of whom wore clerical collars, as they were about to enter the restaurant.

One officer told them to move on and a minister replied, "We're hungry. We are interstate travelers."

The officer rubbed his chin

and asked, "Are you all going to move on?" Another minister replied, "After we have some lunch."

One of the officers then called the nearby police station for Capt. J. L. Ray, a veteran officer who has arrested most Freedom Riders who have come here. Capt. Ray came to the station, ordered them to leave, and when they refused put them under arrest on charges of breach of the peace.

They were marched out of the rear of the waiting room with a large group of travelers looking on.

The twenty-eight ministers met in New Orleans Tuesday to make the "pilgrimage" to the national Episcopal convention which gets underway in Detroit Sunday. They planned to stop at points along the way for consultation with church and school leaders and demonstrations.

A spokesman for the group, the Rev. Malcolm Boyd, chaplain at Wayne State University in Detroit, said the clergymen were "witnessing or demonstrating for our church against racial discrimination."

The others arrested were the Revs. Gilbert S. Avery 3d, Roxbury, Mass.; Myron B. Bloy jr., Cambridge, Mass.; James P. Breeden, Roxbury, Mass.; John Crocker jr., Providence, R. I.;

James W. Evans, St. Clair, Mo.; John M. Evans, Toledo, Ohio; Quinland R. Gordon, Washington; James G. Jones, Chicago.

Also John B. Morris, Atlanta; Geoffrey S. Simpson, Pewaukee, Wis.; Robert Page Taylor, Chicago; William A. Wendt, Washington; Vernon Powell Woodward, Cincinnati; and Merrill O. Young, Boston.

### Freedom Rides Used Up North 100 Years Ago

Freedom Rides were used more than 100 years ago by Negroes to integrate Northern transportation, according to University of Wisconsin history professor Leon F. Litwack, one of the nation's experts on Northern discrimination against Negroes. In his new book, *North Of Slavery*, Litwack concluded experience taught that only constant pressure for immediate change would produce results.



# JAILED IN MISSISSIPPI

by James Farmer

(Editors Note—James Farmer, CORE National Director, served 40 days of a 67-day sentence. This was the maximum he could serve and yet appeal his conviction.)

Jail at best is neither a romantic nor a pleasant place. Mississippi jails are no exception. The first 27 Freedom Riders to arrive in Jackson saw the inside of two different jails and two different prisons—The Jackson City Jail, the Hinds County Jail, The Hinds County Prison Farm and the State Penitentiary at Parchman. Jails are no new experience for most of the Riders, but Riders were definitely a new experience for Mississippi jails. For the first time, penal authorities in the citadel of segregation had a glimpse of the New Negro and the Emancipated white. I do not think they can ever be quite the same again after this experience.

Nor will the other prisoners, black and white, be the same again, after having seen in the flesh men and women who do not believe segregation to be in the very nature of things, and who are willing to defy it.

Jail and prison authorities frequently said, and really seemed to believe, that other Negro prisoners like things the way they are and have no sympathy with us, and that it was for our own protection that we were isolated from them. However, the Negro trustees went out of their way whenever the guards were not present to show their sympathy by word and deed. "Keep up the good work," one said. "I admire you guys and what you are doing," said another. "I wish I could do the same thing, but I have to do what these people tell me to do." They smuggled newspapers in to us, delivered notes and messages between our cell block and that of the girl Freedom Riders, and passed on rumors which they had heard in jail or in the community.

One night at the county jail, a voice called up from the cell block beneath us, where other Negro prisoners were housed. "Upstairs!" the anonymous prisoner shouted. We replied, "downstairs!" "Upstairs," replied the voice; "Sing your freedom song." The Freedom Riders then sang. We sang old folk songs and gospel songs to which new words had been written, telling of the Freedom Ride and its purpose. We sang new words to old labor songs, too. One stanza rang out: "They say in Hinds County no neutrals have they met. You either follow Freedom Ride or you 'tom' for Ross Barnett." After the impromptu concert, the downstairs prisoners, whom the jailors had said were our enemies, shouted back: "That sounds good, Freedom Riders; you are our friends." They then sang for us. The girl Freedom Riders, in another wing of the jail, joined in the Freedom Ride songs, and for the first time in history, the Hinds County jail rocked with unrestrained singing of songs about Freedom and Brotherhood.

Then an interesting incident occurred. In a burst of profanity, a white prisoner who was not a Freedom Rider, shouted to the Negro prisoners to shut-up. The girl Freedom Riders immediately met the challenge by singing "We Shall Overcome Someday." Another white prisoner, with an unmistakable Mississippi accent, then shouted his approval of the songs and the singing, and volunteered: "I am for integration 100%. Sing some more songs, Freedom Riders." The first white prisoner then offered to shut his mouth for him. "Sticks and Stones May Break My Bones, But Words Will Never Hurt Me," came the reply. The first prisoner then offered to back up the words. Our new-found white Mississippi friend then asked his antagonist if he had ever heard of Booker T. Washington. Receiving a negative reply, of course, he said: "That's what I thought. Well, Booker T. Washington was my uncle, so if you still want to back those words up, come on down here as soon as the jailer opens the cell gates in the morning." When the cell gates were opened no

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**CHUCKLE OF THE WEEK.** In his night club appearances, Dick Gregory, the comic, nett of Mississippi is going to put all the Freedom Riders on a plane and fly them back and forth to Miami until somebody hijacks them.



First and only Freedom Riders yet to be served at the Jackson bus station were Norma Wagner, a blind woman from Rochester and Earl Bohannon, Jr., a Chicago student.