



Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

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August 5, 1964

Mr. Robert Penn Warren
2495 Redding Road
Fairfield, Connecticut

Dear Mr. Warren:

I trust that you have received a transcript of the hearings we held in Washington around the subject of terrorism and lawlessness in Mississippi.

Our office in New York is arranging similar hearings for August 20th at the Town Hall in New York. The format of this hearing will be very similar to the Washington one. The prominent trial attorney Ephraim London will conduct the hearings. We have invited prominent political figures to sit on the panel. We hope to have Senators Javits and Keating and Congressman Ryan on our panel.

We are fearful that as soon as the summer volunteers leave the state and national attention is removed, the old patterns will resume. It was only due to a determined federal posture after the murder of the three workers in Philadelphia that we were able to conduct the project (which was very successful) without further loss of life. We are very anxious that this protection be continued, as events this summer has shown that violence in Mississippi can be contained.

The purpose of the hearings will be to point out the danger that faces local Mississippians who have worked with the project, and to underline the need for continuous law enforcement.

I would normally be very reluctant to ask you to interrupt your vacation, but I recall your interest in the Washington hearings and your disappointment in not being able to participate in them. If you are able to sit on this panel, I will appreciate your contacting Mrs. Julea Prettyman at the New York address. Your assistance in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Mike Thelwell
For New York SNCC

"One Man, One Vote" cc