

Medical Committee for Human Rights

(MISSISSIPPI PROJECT 1964)

211 West 56 St.
New York, N. Y. 10019
582-1161 and 1162

Acting Officers

JEROME TOBIS, M.D.
AARON WELLS, M.D.

Co-Chairmen

LESLIE FALK, M.D.
Field Medical
Care Consultant

ELLIOTT HURWITZ, M.D.
Executive
Medical Director

Sponsors

ARTHUR H. BODDIE, M.D.
KENNETH CLEMENT, M.D.
PAUL CORNELLY, M.D.
LEO DAVIDOFF, M.D.
JAMES P. DIXON, JR., M.D.
ARTHUR FALLS, M.D.
ALAN GUTTMACHER, M.D.
JOHN L. S. HOLLOMAN, M.D.
EMILE HOLMAN, M.D.
LOUIS LASAGNA, M.D.
MARK LEPPER, M.D.
SAM LEVINE, M.D.
BERNARD LOWEN, M.D.
JOHN MADDEN, M.D.
BENJAMIN SPOCK, M.D.
JOSEPH STOKES, M.D.
ALBERT SZENT-GYORGYI, M.D.
PAUL DUDLEY WHITE, M.D.
(Partial List)

...from Jackson, Miss., August 1964

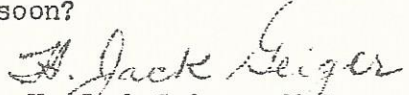
Last Saturday, a few blocks from this office, a civil rights worker was severely beaten by local hoodlums wielding baseball bats. In the next hour another worker was shot in Jackson and, in Greenwood, a third was gravely wounded. In each of these cases a physician from the Medical Committee on Human Rights was there within minutes to give emergency first aid, help arrange for hospitalization, and provide the presence of a sympathetic doctor.

Nearly 100 doctors, nurses, dentists, public health workers and paramedical personnel have already come to Mississippi in the MCHR projects. In Meridian, McComb, Hattiesburg, Clarksdale, Canton, Vicksburg and many smaller towns and rural areas throughout this troubled state, MCHR volunteers share in the daily lives, dangers, frustrations, accomplishments and hopes of the workers in the freedom movement. All MCHR personnel serve without compensation.

When a civil rights worker is jailed, the first person to see him is often an MCHR physician. When an additional autopsy was needed to prove that one of the murdered civil rights trio had been brutally beaten before death, MCHR arranged for an expert pathological examination. When the leaders of the Mississippi civil rights struggle met at Tougaloo during the past few days, MCHR doctors and nurses, working with and under the authorization of local Negro physicians, provided complete health examinations and immunizations for over 200 of them. For some, this was the first medical examination they had ever received.

Our teams, directed from our central office with the National Council of Churches in Jackson, now are assisting freedom workers in the design of health aspects of their community programs. There is much more to be done. Though the long summer is drawing to a close, MCHR--like many other groups--is in Mississippi to stay. The desperate health problems of the Negro community will be our central concern. Our help is needed to develop plans for community programs in health education, medical care research, health services and professional training.

Money is urgently needed to continue this expression of the medical profession's concern for human rights. The generosity of all those who cannot participate directly will determine the survival and growth of this vital work. May we hear from you soon?


H. Jack Geiger, M.D.
Acting Field Director