

freedom information service



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August 29, 1966

Mr. Bruce Hartford
c/o Springfield
819 Pearl Street
Grenada, Mississippi

Dear Bruce,

Sorry not to have answered your first letter earlier, but it was one of three letters that got out to Mt. Beulah by some complication and we didn't receive them for a couple of weeks.

Actually, the only answer I can give to that one is that we don't have any specifics. Certainly there have been successful boycotts which have brought concessions. Edwards is now reported to be about a week away from half the stores closing down. If information has been published lately, we don't have it on file because we've been much too busy to clip newspapers and anyway can't afford to buy another file cabinet we'd need to file the clips if we got that far. We would like to know, though, what has been happening with things in Grenada: the boycott and other activities. Could you send us copies of any reports that are available? We could make copies and return things you have just one copy of. Might write DCFDP, 802 G St., SE, Washington, to see if they have any info.

About ASCS: FIS is trying to get money from at least 3 sources to run workshops and distribute materials around the state. I enclose a pamphlet we used last year, which we hope to revise and print up. The other from the government you can get a box of by writing to ASCS, USDA, Washington, D.C. They'll probably send them right away, as they seem pretty scared by the Lownes County suit and other criticisms.

The Grenada County community boundaries you will have to get from the local ASCS office. If they refuse to give them to you (or preferably to a local farmer) you should send complaints to the Jackson and Washington ASCS offices, copy to Roberta Galler, FIS address above. All five community committeemen will be elected this year from each community. However, these people will elect 3 (chairman, vice-chairman, member) of the county committee instead of the previous 5 (including two alternates).

We will put you on the mailing list for whatever we are able to publish about ASCS. If we get the money to do it, there will be several kinds of workshops held - for organizers, candidates, farmers in general, etc. - to drum up participation. We'll let you know.

P.S. Please send names of 1 or 2
community leaders who are reliable
about passing out info. We'll put
them on our regular mailing list, too.

Go well,

Jan Hillegas