U.S. asked to back right to register

By EDWARD PEEKS

"Mississippi is worse now for colored people than it was 100 years ago," declared William M. Kunstler, one of the lawyers representing plaintiffs in a suit filed Wednesday in District Court.

He made the statement at a press conference at the Burlington Hotel after filing the suit that demands Federal action to put a stop to intimidations and beatings in the voter registration drive in Mississippi.

The statement came in reply to a question by a reporter on the 100th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation.

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SEVEN COLORED plaintiffs and a white Mississippian brought the suit in a class action for themselves and all others similarly situated in what virtually amounts to trial by fire and floggings.

Named as defendants are Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy and FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

The court is asked "to compel defendants to perform their statutory duties" calling for them to order Federal marshals and FBI agents to arrest state police and others for violating the constitutional rights of colored and white citizens.

The white plaintiff in the suit is William L. Higgs, a graduate of Harvard Law School, who is co - counsel in the case.

He served as a lawyer in litigation that opened the doors of "Ole Miss" to James H. Meredith. He was campaign manager for the, Rev. Merrill W. Lindsay, who recently ran as the first colored congressional candidate in Mississippi since Reconstruction.

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OTHER PLAINTIFFS are members of the Student Non-Violent Co - Ordinating Committee, which is conducting voter registration projects in the state under Robert Moses.

In addition to Mr. Moses, a native of New York, they are Sam Block, Greenville, Miss.; Charles McLaurin, Rulesville; Charles Cobb, Massachusetts.

(Young Cobb, 19, former Howard student, is the nephew of James B. Cobb, Washington lawyer).

Also, Jesse Harris, Rulesville, Miss.; Hollis Watkins, Jackson and Lafayette Surney, Greenville, Miss.

Plaintiffs Moses, Block, Cobb and Higgs, all young men, helped conduct the press conference, recounting police abuses; intimidations and beatings cited in the suit.

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MR. BLOCK told how he and two other companions "barely escaped from a white lynch mob" last August in Greenwood, LeFlore County, where some 22,000 colored residents today are being denied government surplus food.

He said they eluded the mob by running across the roof of a two - story building and "sliding down a TV antenna pole."

The suit says:

"Plaintiff Block immediately contacted John Doar of the Civil Rights Division of the U. S. Department of Justice, who told Plaintiff Block that the Department could not act until someone was hurt and therefore denied Plaintiff Block's request for help."

The suit adds that the plaintiff "has continued to suffer at the hands of the local law enforcement officers," who are accused of having a hand in the near lynching.

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CHARLES McLAURIN was "arrested and dragged off the steps of the Federal Building in Jackson in July, 1962, by city policemen," the suit says.

It goes in, "U.S. Marshals, agents of the, FBI, U.S. attorneys were in said Federal Building, but made no effort to prevent his arrest.

"During all this time, Plaintiff McLaurin was on property under the exclusive jurisdiction of the U.S. government."

Robert Moses was beaten in Liberty, Miss., in 1961, and was arrested last summer in Indianola on "the charge of passing out handbills without a permit," according to the suit:

The suits says of the beatings, "County officials in Liberty played a part in this act which resulted in severe [illegible]

"This action resulted in the [illegible] of prospective colored voters in Amite County."

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WILLIAM HIGGS says in the suit that he and four college students, including a colored co-ed, were arrested by county police in Clarksdale last June.

They were held for more than 20 hours without being charged and weren't taken before any magistrate, he said.

He charged in the suit that his life was threatened, and explained to reporters that a county official told him:

We know how to take care of you. We'll put you in a cell with a life termer and tell hif you're an—r lover."

The lawyer said his mother and friends no doubt saved his life by expressing public concern over his detention.

Along with Hodding Carter Jr., editor of the Delta Democrat - Times, their proding and inquiries caused officials to release him and others, Mr. Higgs said.

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THE SUIT says colored citizens have been "ambushed with firearms and have barely escaped being killed. One associate was shot in the head, but survived."

William Kunstler, civil rights lawyer from New York, said that colored people in the state received better protection a century ago from the Federal government than they do today.

However, he and the plaintiffs made note that they were expressing no "antipathy toward" Attorney General Kennedy and FBI Director Hoover, or any lack of appreciation for the two-year record of the Civil Rights Division of the Justice Department.

They said they are seeking legal action in this civil rights area to equal the 1954 Supreme Court school decision.

Federal judge Sidney C. [illegible] [illegible] PLAINTIFFS TOLD the Washington AFRO that voter registration will continue in Mississippi and other Deep South states, despite difficulties and opposition.

They said that the Student Non-Violent Co - ordinating Committee (SNCC) needs more money from the public to carry on the job in co-operation with other social action groups in the registration drive.

SNCC headquarters are at 135 Auburn Ave., NE, Atlanta 3. Chairman is Charles McDew, who was in Washington with plaintiffs, also Willie Peacock, Charleston, Miss., a field secretary.

William Mahoney former Howard student, passed through enroute back to New York after delivering a bus load of food to hard-pressed colored residents in LeFlore County.

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Young men and women in the movement say they earn an average of $25 a week for running the gauntlet of fire and flogging to advance the cause of freedom in the Deep South.

PRESENTING campaign funds for the United College Fund, from left to right: Harlee H. Little, director of public relations and UNCF director at Livingstone College; Catherine Rivens, senior of Salisbury, who is president of the Pre-Alumni Booster Club which conducts the campaign annually on the campus; and Dr. S. E. Duncan, president of the college. The Livingstone students contributed $1,806.21 and the faculty staff $1,250 for a total of $3,006.21 for the campus.

AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU say these happy guests of the Consorts Dr. and Mrs. Coleman Tuckson (left couple) wished Mrs. Carlisle Pratt (center) and Dr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Mumford (right couple). As usual, the Consorts had a great New Year's party. Don Vernon is president. (AFRO photo by Cabell)

100 Years of Emancipation

WHEREAS Jan. 1, 1963, marks the centennial of the Proclamation in which President Abraham Lincoln declared all persons held as slaves in States or parts of States still in rebellion to be "then, thenceforward, and forever free"; and

WHEREAS the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation marked the beginning of the end of the iniquitous institution of slavery in the United States, and a great stride toward the fulfillment of the principle of the Declaration of Independence that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator which certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"; and

[illegible] 13th and 14th amendments to the Constitution of the United States guaranteed to negro citizens equal rights with all other citizens of the United States and have made possible great progress toward the enjoyment of those rights; and

WHEREAS the goal of equal rights for all our citizens is still unreached, and the securing of these rights is one of the great unfinished tasks of our democracy:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOHN F. KENNEDY, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim that the Emancipation Proclamation expresses our nation's policy, founded on justice and morality, and that it is therefore fitting and proper to commemorate the centennial of the historic Emancipation Proclamation throughout the year, 1963.

I call upon the governors of the states, mayors of cities, and other public officials, as well as private persons, organizations, and groups, to observe the centennial by appropriate ceremonies.

I request the United States Commission on Civil Rights to plan and participate in appropriate commemorative activities recognizing the centennial of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation; and I also request the Commission on Civil Rights and other federal agencies to cooperate fully with state and local governments during 1963 in commemorating these events.

I call upon all citizens of the United States and all officials of the United States and of every state and local government to dedicate themselves to the completion of the task of assuring that every American, regardless of his race, religion, color, or national origin, enjoys all the rights guaranteed by the Constitution and laws of the United States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed this 28th day of December in the year of our Lord 1962, and of the Independence of the United States of America the 187th.

—JOHN F. KENNEDY

Bishop Wiggins dies in Minn.

MINNEAPOLIS — Bishop John C. Wiggins Jr., pastor of St. Paul's Church of God in Christ, died suddenly here Sunday, Dec. 16.

Memphis, where a new senior bishop had been named to preside over the church official council, to succeed the late Bishop C. T. Mason founder of the church.

Bishop Wiggins had been in poor health for several years but continued to carry on actively for his congregation. He was made presiding bishop of the Church of God in Christ in the state of South Dakota several months ago.

He came to Minneapolis in 1932 from St. Louis where he was born. He founded St. Paul's church in 1935.

Bishop Wiggins is survived by his widow, Roberta B., a son, John C. Jr., a sister Mrs. Minerva Moore of St. Louis, two brothers, Central of St. Louis, and Willie of Clarksdale, Miss.

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WRITE FOR CATALOG
Terms to suit your church budget
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Make an appointment to learn Shirley Queen's method of Hair Weaving. Classes can be completed in six days.
* 40 Hours of Training
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Licensed Beauticians Only
* If you want a streak for color or tipping;
* If your temples are not amply covered;
* If the hair is too short;
* If you want to change the color;
* If you need scalp treatments for hair growth;
* If hair is brittle or dry;
* If your hair is not growing.

Capital Heartbeat

Benny Mays turns down AID job

DR. BENJAMIN MAYS, the distinguished, scholarly president of Morehouse College, very recently turned down an offer from newly appointed Agency for International Development director, David Bell, to work fir AID on a temporary basis.

Dr. Mays gently but firmly informed Bell that the offer would not sufficiently utilize his talents and in effect, was not a challenge.

For some reason or other, the Kennedy Administration has simply not accorded "equal status" to colored college presidents and has not offered them the same high-level jobs as white college presidents.

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AGE AND RACE — Bill Moyers, recently appointed deputy director of the Peace Corps, is 29 years old. Dr. Samuel Proctor recently appointed as associate director is 39 years old. Dr. Proctor has been the president of two colleges. Moyers merely graduated from one.

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PRESIDENT Kennedy will address the 50th anniversary dinner of the Anti-Defamation League in New York City on January 31st.

This is both a wonderful tribute to the kind of person the President really is and to ADL, since the organization is the one of the most forthright of the various Jewish groups, and has lent its brains, money, and talent in a vigorous assault on racial bigotry as have many colored groups.

legal battles against racial discrimination might not have been won.

Who knows — in a few years President Kennedy may speak to the NAACP

MAXIENNE DARGANS

Rep. Adam Clayton Powell's good administrative right arm, is back from a tour of Italy.

The capable "Gal Friday" was paid a high honor during the trip when she was asked to address the crew of the S. S. Independence, the first woman ever asked to do so.

Man, if Abraham Lincoln could see us now, heh Bob?

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KERMIT Bailer, one of the brainier of the "new frontiersmen," shifts over to AID soon.

room." If you've got any

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"BILLY'S Roundtable" seems to be the name in the lead at the present time for Billy Simpson's "upstairs romo." If your've got any suggestions on names, let the jolly proprietor know about them. He's already turned down "The Chittlin' Chapel."

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HOWARD UNIVERSITY was one of 52 alleges whose picture appeared in the 1963 "College Calendar" right along with Prinfeton, UCLA, Wisconsin, and the others.

PLEASE PATRONIZE the businessmen who advertize in your AFRO and when you do— please tell them why.

COUGHS Due to COLDS
If you have a wheezing and your chest feels raw, get a bottle of ROBINSON'S EXPECTORANT. It loosens the Phlegm and takes away that chilly, achy feeling. Sold with a money back guarantee at
ROBINSON'S CUT RATE DRUG STORE, 2139 Pennsylvania Ave.

Anti-NAACP law voided in Virginia

RICHMOND — Richmond Circuit Court Judge Edmund W. Hening Jr., has ruled that a Virginia law designed to open NAACP membership lists to publication is unconstitutional.

The judgment was hailed as a major victory for the NAACP, since it has contended that disclosure of membership and contributor lists would jeopardize its work.

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SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT RATES
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MY SUBSCRIPTION_____ EDITION_____
NAME_____
ADDRESS_____
CITY_____ ZONE_____ STATE_____
For 1 year ( ) 2 years ( ) 3 years ( )

DAILY FORTUNE FINDER

To learn your "Fortune" for today from the stars, write in the letters of the alphabet corresponding to the numerals on the line of the astrological period in which you were born. You will find it fun.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
JAN. 22-FEB. 20	3	1	16	20	21	18	5	1	14	5	23	4	18	5	1	13										
FEB. 21-MAR. 20	1	17	21	9	3	11	5	14	9	14	7	16	21	12	19	5										
MAR. 21-APR. 20	19	5	20	21	16	9	19	1	16	16	5	1	13	9	14	7										
APR. 21-MAY 20	1	19	20	9	13	21	12	1	20	9	14	7	2	15	15	11										
MAY 21-JUNE 21	7	18	5	5	20	9	14	7	6	18	15	13	1	6	1	18										
JUNE 22-JULY 23	9	13	16	18	15	22	9	14	7	1	2	9	12	9	20	25										
JULY 24-AUG. 23	1	13	5	18	7	5	18	9	19	9	8	5	12	6	21	13										
AUG. 24-SEPT. 23	18	5	22	5	12	9	14	14	5	23	12	21	24	21	18	25										
SEPT. 24-OCT. 23	17	21	9	3	11	5	14	5	4	14	5	23	12	15	22	5										
OCT. 24-NOV. 22	1	3	17	21	9	18	5	1	14	5	23	1	19	19	5	20										
NOV. 23-DEC. 22	2	15	21	14	20	9	6	21	12	8	1	18	22	5	19	20										
DEC. 23-JAN. 21	3	15	18	4	9	1	12	18	5	3	5	16	20	9	15	14										

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GIRL FRIENDS' COTILLION — As excited as the principals were sub-debs, who will be presented at a future cotillion of the Baltimore chapter of Girl Friends, Thursday evening. In picture at left are sub-debs Antoinette Porter, Sharon Streat, Beverly Beasley and Avonne Burge. Second from left, Debutante Carole Matthews is assisted by Post Debutante Doris Wilson, while Miss Sheila Reynolds, also a debutante, chats with a guest, Miss Dorethia Saunders. Right: Mrs. Alan U. Forte is shown with her debutante daughter, Gloria, and Miss Forte's escort, Orris Walker.

(Photos by Irving H. Phillips Jr.)

FAMILY GROUP: Chatting with Miss Adrean Morrison, Mrs. John Colbert, Cleveland Crawford, her escort and Mr. Crawford's mother, Mrs. Vernon Chester, is Debutante Ardean Colbert, center.

Templars entertain at dinner dansant

Adding to the holiday gaiety was the annual dinner dance given by the Templers, who with their wives, hosted at the Union Hall, Friday evening.

The hosts were:

Cecil Johnston, who heads the club; Robert Watts, vice president; Perry Bradby, recording secretary; Robert A. Diggs, corresponding secretary; and Ronald D. Scott, treasurer;

Also Gascoe Parker, Samuel Beasley, Daniel Brewington, Earl S. Britt, W. Emerson Brown, Melvin Callaman, Harry A. Cole,

Samuel T. Daniels, J. Adrian Datcher, James Gilliam, James Goodwin, J. Wilson Henson, Albert Jacobs, Cyrus Marshall, Robert Payne, Myles Robinson, Phillip Turner, Royal White and Lester B. Wallace.

Their guests included:

Messrs. and Mesdames Clarence Waller, Raymond . Pinderhughes, Arnold Woodlon, Jackson Trusheart, Otis Sprow, Pierre Davis, Wilbert Johnson, Percy Brinkley, James Addison.

Messrs. and Mesdames Clarence Maines, James Thomas, Howard Jones of Washington, James Cole of Washington, James Dembins, Wesley Stubbs, Malcomb Coe Dudley Henry.

Messrs. and Mesdames Orlando Bengal, Rhesie Monroe, Marsden Rawlings, Arthur Murray, Madison Garrison, E. Lloyd Davis, Earl Hayes, George Yorkman, Phillips Scott, Elwood Brown, Robert Humphrey.

Messrs. and Mesdames Earl Hagan, Herbert Brown, Charles Jackson, Sr., James McDonald, Gaines Lassey, Paul Scott, Charles Mason, William Ortiga, Mavin Davis.

Messrs. and Mesdames William Perry, George Garrick, Alfred Woodland, Robert Woodland of Philadelphia, Charles D. Brown, William Murphy, Harry B. Parker.

Messrs. and Mesdames Edward Parker, Curtis Datcher, James Datcher, Eugene Wesicott, Arnett Brown, Hughes Colds, Gilbert Brown, John Brooks, Marsden Rawlings, M. Quarles, M. Winston, John Cree.

Messrs. and Mesdames William Pinderhughes, Dewitt Howard, Robert Diggs, Wilbur Valentine, Richard Fry, Dwiward Young, Marcellus Dwings, James Saunders.

Messrs. and Mesdames Miles Harrison, John Wood, William Russell, Harry Gail, Charles Michaels, Marvin Pickkoff, Harold Jennifer, Edward Stokes.

Messrs. and Mesdames Delwood Allor, Henry Horsey, Royal Weaver, William Gardner.

Drs. and Mesdames Nathan Pitts, Bernard Christmas, Bernard Harris, Albert Laforest, Theodore Fisher, Sidney Clinton, Charles Venter.

Drs. and Mesdames Robert McDaniels, Marcus Moore, Walter Davidson, Sidney Burnett, William Garner, Simon H. Carter, Jr., Albert Burwell, George Woodland.

Mesdames Bertha Campbell, Frances Turner, Catherine Smith, Ruth Carter, Mercedes Douglass, R. Clark Davis.

Mesdames Alfreda Pinkney, Della Light, Edith LaBeach, Nina Winston, Elsworth Rhetta, Frances Wood, Pauline Brooks, Nellie Theodore of New York City, Dorothy Claiborne.

Misses Joyce Wheatley, Jacelyn Coleman, Georgina Smith, Alice Nixon, Aretha Hewitt, Edna Myers, Jorella Foster;

Jos Lawrence, Milton Hill, James Dorsey, Walter Dixon, Lewis Richardson, Bernard Miller, Charles Richards, Thomas Whalley of Ohio, Clarence Henderson, Bernard Benna, Joseph Obey, George Williams.

Needy families helped by club

Members of the Green Leaf Social Savings Club fixed baskets for needy families at the home of one of its members, Mrs. Lonette Roberts.

Members of the club are: Mrs. Beatrice Keys, president; Gussie Jackson, vice president; Mrs. Lydice Lynch chaplain; Mrs. Mary Smith, treasurer; Mrs. Cloda Thomas, sick fund treasurer; Mrs. Lonette Roberts, secretary; Mrs Naomi Satterfield, assistant secretary; Mrs. Ethel Armstrong, Mrs. John Ray, Mrs. Robert Woodland, Mrs. Hattie Hill, Mrs. Ethel Brown, Mrs. Mamie Brown, Mrs. Ethel Jones, Mrs. Ethel Bell, Mrs. Ethel Jones, Mrs. Ethel Bell, Mrs. Ethel Jones, Mrs. Ethel Bell