

TEXAS SO. FIVE

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around the country against black people is political.

The MOVEMENT: Is there a defense committee?

Floyd: The TSU Five defense fund for the purpose of publicizing what happened in Houston. Now we're also talking about what happened in Orangeburg because we know exactly what happened there -- how many students were murdered and wounded and who they charged with the whole deal -- Cleveland Sellers.

TSU and Orangeburg

The MOVEMENT: Would you like to say a little about the link-up between TSU and Orangeburg and other black campuses?

Floyd: Well the whole thing as far as black campuses are concerned is that the city officials, the local government and the states are trying to control black campuses in every state and every city in the U.S. And the methods that they practice -- they have people to try to find out exactly how militant black students are supposed to be -- so then they'll know how to maneuver on the campus. So TSU was the first - it was a test tube for police and government trying to take control of campuses by using fire power.

Grambling was the first used as a test tube -- and Central State -- to see how the National Guard could come in and just arrest people on the campus and surround the campus. They're making examples of certain so-called radicals in order to say if you're now thinking about becoming a human rights activist well then this is what'll happen to you. You'll either be murdered or put in jail on trumped-up charges. And these methods are being used on all the black campuses such as Central State, Grambling, Arkansas A & M, South Carolina State, Howard, Tuskegee. And we've had some information that they're planning on breaking up the BSU at Hampton Institute.

The MOVEMENT: What's been the response to your case by students at TSU?

Floyd: Well they've been trying to organize around our trial but the administration is collaborating with the local and state government. They put out sheets for freshman entering the college which list what you can and can't do, who you can talk to, how long you can say out, and when you can't stay out. Its actually been incarceration or a concentration camp but you know, you can't see it but its there.

The MOVEMENT: Are the black university administrators co-operating with white local governments to control the campuses?

Floyd: Definitely. The black administration with the white masters are collaborating with the city and local and state governments. The administration lets all the police and national guard come on the campus. They don't tell them they can't come on the campus.

The MOVEMENT: Are the students or-

ganizing anyway on all the black campuses? **Floyd:** Well, they're trying, but a lot of them have been scared into organizing a Book of the Month Club. See they won't let us on to organize. They can keep us down like they want to keep us down.

The MOVEMENT: What is happening along these lines at TSU itself?

Floyd: Well the people are willing to support us, but due to the atmosphere that was created -- what they can do and what they can't do -- see they're under



a hammer that they'll be thrown out of school if they protest on campus or off campus. They're taking a hell of a chance if they protest on or off campus regarding our trial. Some are planning to take that chance when the trial comes up. So they haven't actually stopped the students, but they're trying the best they can. They're kicking some out every semester, then they let them come back in and kick them out again.

Publicity

The MOVEMENT: You have been travelling around the country now trying to get publicity and funds for the case.

Floyd: We need the money for publicity so the legal defence can be made into a political defense.

The MOVEMENT: What sort of response have you gotten around the country?

Floyd: On the East Coast and the South and in Texas, pretty good. The West Coast is slow, but its coming.

The MOVEMENT: Who have you been talking to around the country? Black and white students?

Floyd: Yes.

The MOVEMENT: What's been the response from white students?

Floyd: Very, very good.

The MOVEMENT: What sort of support are you asking for?

Floyd: Number one is organize around trumped-up charges for blacks -- because we receive most of the trumped-up charges -- and also for whites who are having trumped-up charges put on them. We want to organize a national legal defense fund. And also we'd like organizations and churches and everybody to write letters to the Mayor, City Hall, 900 Brazos Street, Houston, Texas. Also to the city councilmen at the same address. Also to Herman Short, Chief of Police, City Jail, Reasoner Street. Funds can be sent to the TSU Five Defense Fund, Box 21085, Houston, Texas 77026.

The Movement is setting up a photo co-op, we desperately need darkroom equipment, etc. Send anything, it will be put to good use.
