THANKSGIVING FAST FOR FREEDOM

Thursday, November 19, exactly one week before Thanksgiving, students at an estimated 120 colleges and universities throughout the United States will participate in THANKSGIVING FAST FOR FREEDOM. On that day, college students at dormitories, fraternities, and sororities and at campus cafeterias will abstain voluntarily from one dinner meal to help feed hungry and impoverished Negro families in Mississippi and the deep South. The money that would ordinarily pay for the missed meals will instead be donated to a special fund earmarked to provide preserved meat and dried dairy products for the needy families. THANKSGIVING FAST FOR FREEDOM is a joint undertaking of three major youth organizations: the United States National Student Association, the United States Youth Council, and the Northern Student Movement. It is hoped that the food will reach its destination in time for Christmas.

Friday, November 6, Reverend Martin Luther King kicked off the national THANKSGIVING FAST drive by announcing the Committee of Sponsors, consisting of individuals nationally prominent in education (OVER)
and civil rights. At a news conference in New York, Reverend King announced that, in sympathy with the impoverished Negro families, THANKSGIVING FAST FOR FREEDOM is dedicated to help and in support of the thousands of students throughout the United States who will be fasting so that the hungry may eat, each member of the Committee of Sponsors also will FAST FOR FREEDOM on November 19. The Committee of Sponsors includes: Nobel Peace Prize Winner Reverend Martin Luther King (Chairman, Southern Christian Leadership Conference), Roy Wilkins (Executive Secretary, NAACP), James Farmer (National Director, CORE), A. Philip Randolph (President, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters), John Lewis (Chairman, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee); also Dr. Arthur S. Flemming (President, University of Oregon and former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare under Eisenhower), Dr. Frank Graham (United Nations Official, former President, University of North Carolina and former U.S. Senator), Dr. O. Meredith Wilson (President, University of Minnesota), and Ralph Bunche (Nobel Peace Prize Winner, currently United Nations Under Secretary for Political Affairs).

Also present at the news conference were Steven McNichols, Civil Rights Director of the United States National Student Association; Frank Millspaugh, National Affairs Vice President of the United States Youth Council; and William Strickland, Chairman of the Northern Student Movement, representing the sponsoring organizations. McNichols and Millspaugh are Co-Directors of THANKSGIVING FAST FOR FREEDOM.