

MISSISSIPPI REPORT Aug. 4 7:15 p.m.

About one hour ago the first news came over the AP wire that three bodies have been found near Philadelphia, Mississippi. 44 days ago Michael Schwerner, James Chaney, and Andrew Goodman left Meridian to investigate the burning of a church near Philadelphia. Workers in the Mississippi Summer Project familiar with the mores of that state where "ordinary conversation reeks of manslaughter" have long been convinced that the three young men were dead. It appears now that the only real mystery in the case, the location of the bodies, has been dissolved. The culprits, or some of them, are almost certainly known to the federal authorities.

The July 13 issue of Newsweek said unequivocally that the search for the bodies "amounted principally to a show of urgency to keep the pressure on." The article said that "the feeling"--without specifying whose feeling--is that a dozen men took part in the kidnapping and murders. Newsweek quotes an unidentified federal agent: "We haven't even started leaning on suspects yet. When we do, we're going to lean real hard. I feel like somebody will break."

Then, on July 25, the New Republic carried an article by Christopher Jencks entitled "Mississippi--When Law Collides with Custom." Mr. Jencks point is the not-too-startling revelation that Mississippi law enforcement agencies are a part of the structure of white supremacy, and are instruments of repression on Negro protest. Near the end of his article, Mr. Jencks drops the following piece of information: "On July 9...when Mississippi agents of the FBI thought they were about to break the case of the three











