

STORYPATH®

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The Civil Rights Movement
Freedom Summer

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What was life like in the 1960s?

The 1960s was a time of great change. It was an age of youth, as the children of the post-World War II baby boomers were entering adulthood and wanted to move away from the conservative lifestyles and lack of social change America experienced throughout the 1950s.

In 1960, ...

- The average salary was \$4,743.00
- A teacher's salary was \$5,174.00
- A gallon of gas was 31¢
- A McDonald's hamburger was 15¢
- Popcorn at the movies was 20¢
- A brand new Chevrolet was \$2,529.00

Let's start with music in the 1960s...



SET 1

SLIDE 2

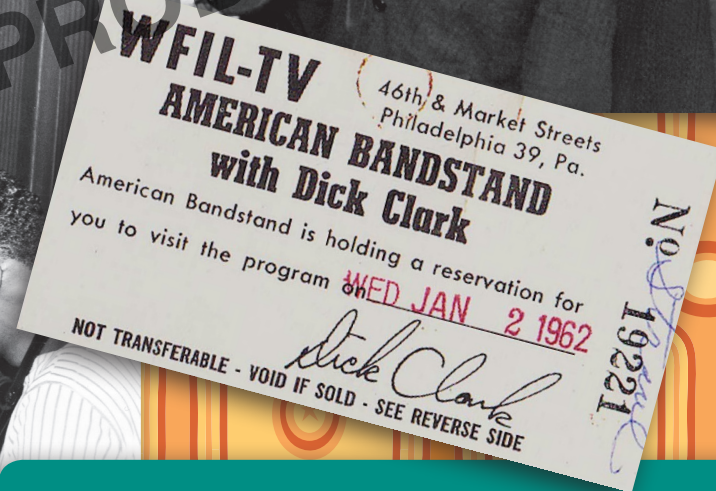
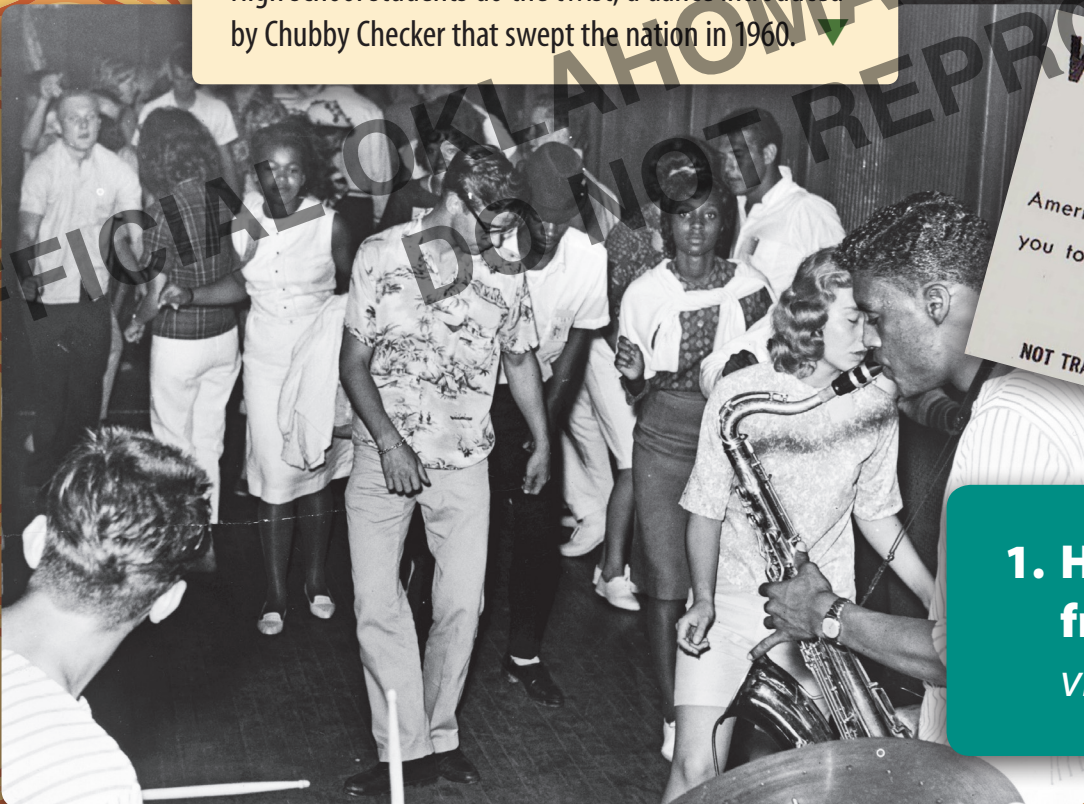


◀ Elvis Presley

The Beatles arrive in the US in 1964. ▼



High school students do the twist, a dance introduced by Chubby Checker that swept the nation in 1960. ▼



1. How was music similar or different from today's music? (understanding visuals, comparing and contrasting)

TV shows in the 1960s



SET 1

SLIDE 3

Leave It to Beaver ►

Bonanza ▼



2. What inferences can you make about these television shows? (*understanding visuals, making inferences*)

Vehicles



SET 1

SLIDE 4



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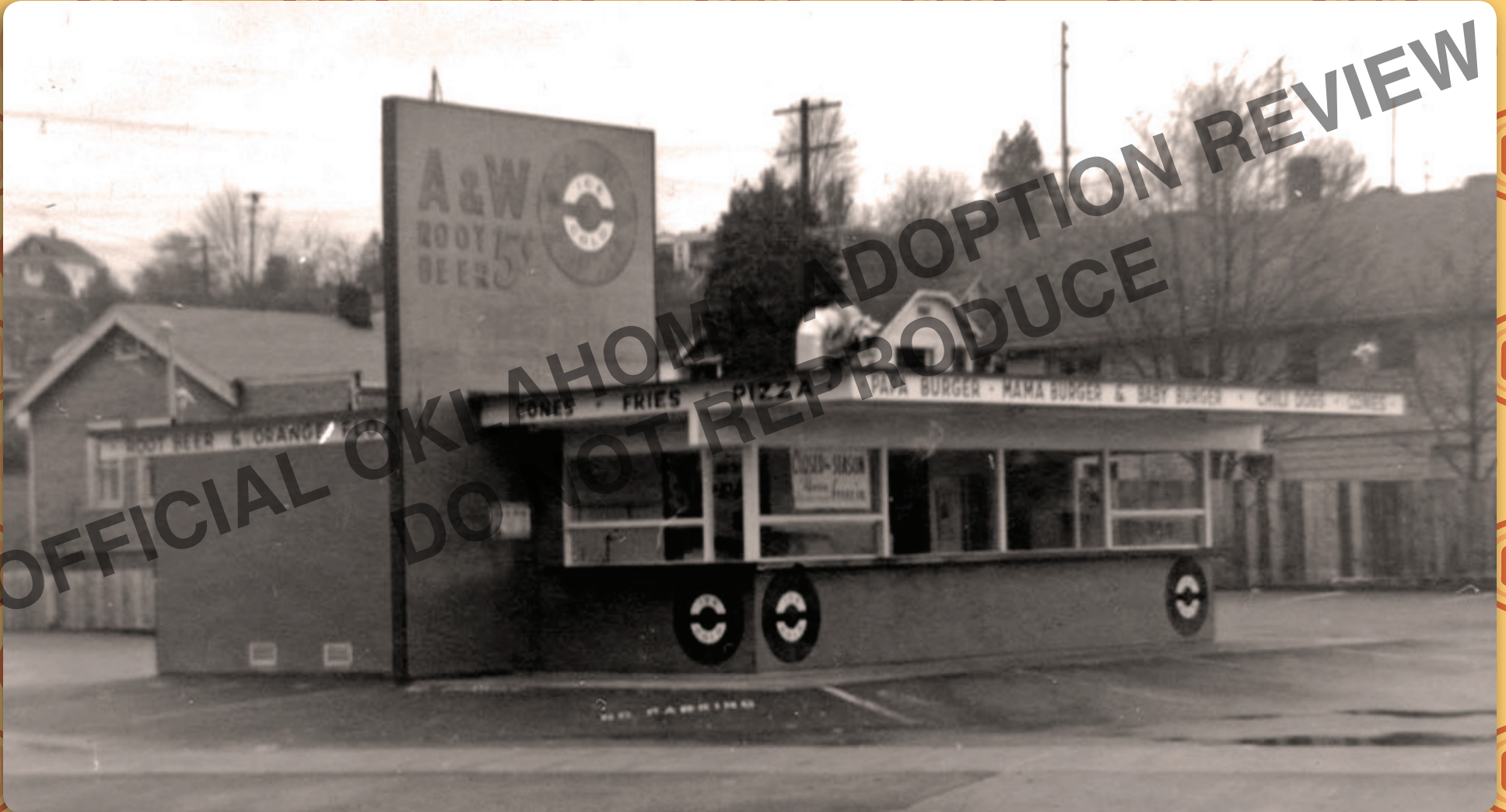
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Fast food restaurant



SET 1

SLIDE 5



Everyday things



SET 1

SLIDE 6



Men and women socializing in the 1960s.



Teenage girls receive a dance lesson.



3. How has life changed from then until now? *(connecting, comparing and contrasting)*





Dateline

continued

1960

The 50 star flag was adopted



1961

Alan B Shepard, Jr., became the first American rocketed into space.



1961

The Bay of Pigs Invasion occurred.





Dateline

1963

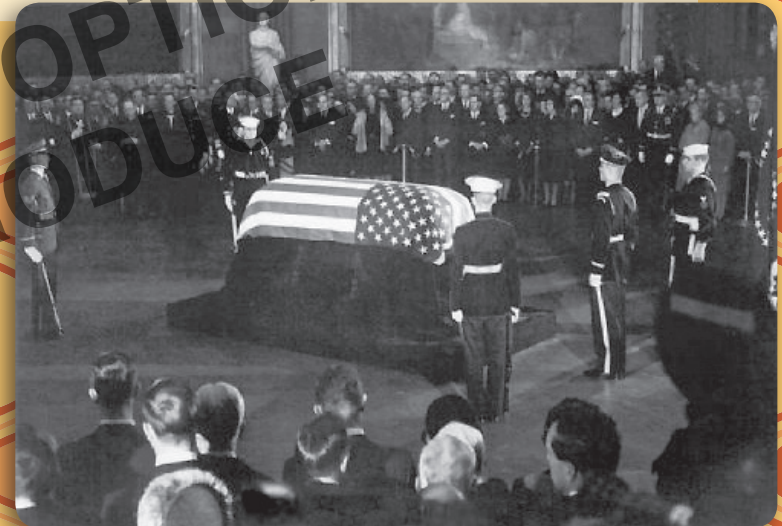
Prayer in schools was declared unconstitutional.

1963

President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.

1963

Congress passed a bill providing for "equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex."



4. Which events do you think had a major impact on the nation at that time? Why?
(main ideas/supporting details, making inferences)

Civil Rights Events



SET 1

SLIDE 9

What important civil rights events happened before the Summer of 1964?

Dateline

continued

1896

Supreme Court in *Plessy v. Ferguson* rules segregation is constitutional.

1914

The Universal Negro Improvement Association is founded by Marcus Garvey.

1942

The Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) is founded by James Farmer and others in Chicago.

1909

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is founded.

1939

Marion Anderson sings at a concert at Washington D.C.'s Lincoln Memorial on Easter Sunday.

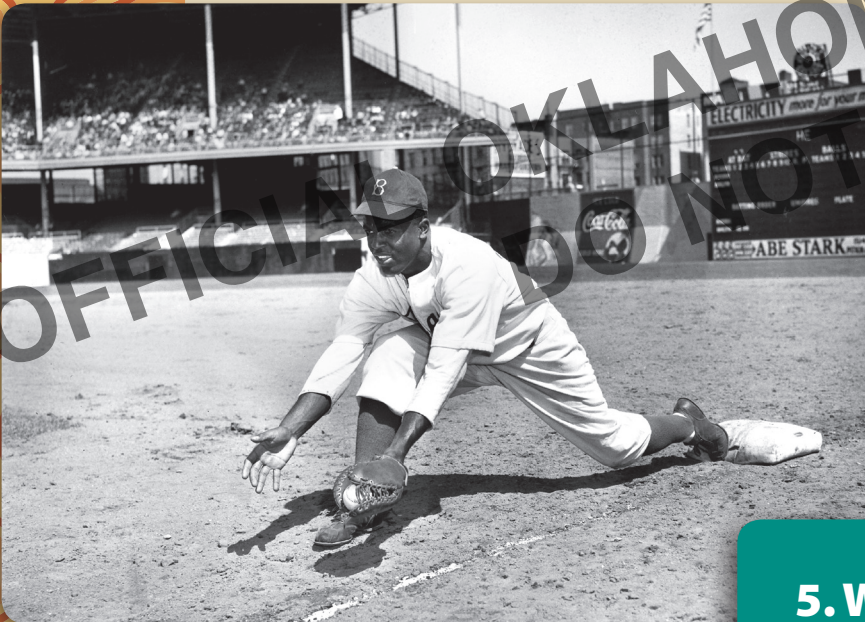


Dateline

continued

1947

Jackie Robinson becomes the first African American baseball player for the major leagues.



1948

President Truman orders armed forces desegregated.

1947

Freedom Riders test the Supreme Court ban on segregation in interstate travel on Trailways and Greyhound buses.

5. Why do you think these events were important to the Civil Rights Movement? *(making inferences)*



Dateline

continued

1954

The Supreme Court rules in *Brown v. Topeka Board of Education* that racial segregation in public schools is unconstitutional.

1957

Martin Luther King helps to found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

1955

Rosa Parks is arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama.

◀ White and Black students dance at a senior prom at an integrated high school in New Jersey, 1959. The question of segregated schools becomes a national concern.





Dateline

*continued***1957**

Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas is integrated.

1960

Students from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College stage a sit-in at a Woolworth lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina.

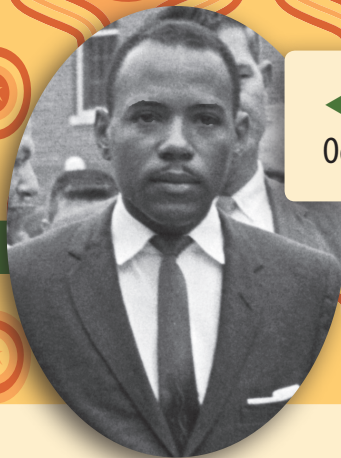
1960

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) is organized.





Dateline



◀ James Meredith,
October 1, 1962

1962

James Meredith becomes the first Black to enter the University of Mississippi.

1963

Children participate in nonviolent demonstrations in Birmingham, Alabama, and are arrested.

1961

Thirteen people—White and Black—board Trailways and Greyhound buses and travel through the South. Outside of Birmingham, Alabama, an angry mob sets fire to one of the buses and the riders are beaten by the mob as they flee the bus.

1963

Martin Luther King and other civil rights activists work to integrate downtown Birmingham, Alabama's lunchrooms and restaurants and stage nonviolent demonstrations in the city. King and others are arrested.



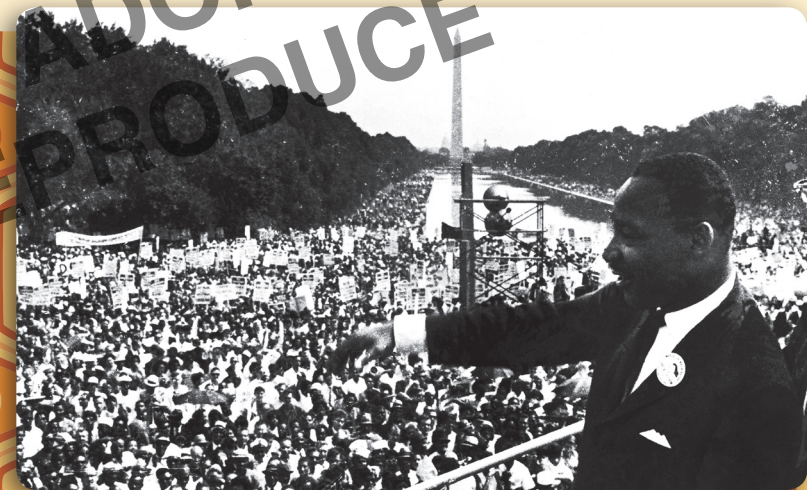
Dateline

1963

Medgar Evers, who worked to desegregate stores, businesses, and public facilities in Jackson, Mississippi, is murdered.

1963

Martin Luther King and others organize a march on Washington to draw attention to civil rights and jobs for Black Americans.



6. Reviewing the timeline, why do you think these events were pivotal? (*scanning, making inferences*)

7. What civic actions did people take to ensure their rights as citizens? (*main ideas, supporting details, connecting*)



SET 1

SLIDE 15

James Meredith was the first African American to attend the all-white University of Mississippi. To ensure his safety, federal marshals protected him. When Meredith first tried to register for classes, Governor Ross Barnett blocked the door to the building and would not let him register. Finally he was allowed to register, and on October 1, 1962, he began to attend classes. ▼



8. Why was James Meredith's admission to college newsworthy?
(main ideas/supporting details, making inferences)



Who went to Mississippi in 1964?

In 1964, over 1000 volunteers traveled to Mississippi to participate in Freedom Summer. The volunteers came from thirty-seven states, England, Australia, and New Zealand. Most of the volunteers were affluent; they could take the time away from jobs and school to volunteer for the summer. They were idealistic and wanted to make the world a better place.

Keepsakes



SET 1

SLIDE 17

Postcards



Diaries

Photo albums

How did the civil rights volunteers get to Oxford, Ohio?



SET 2

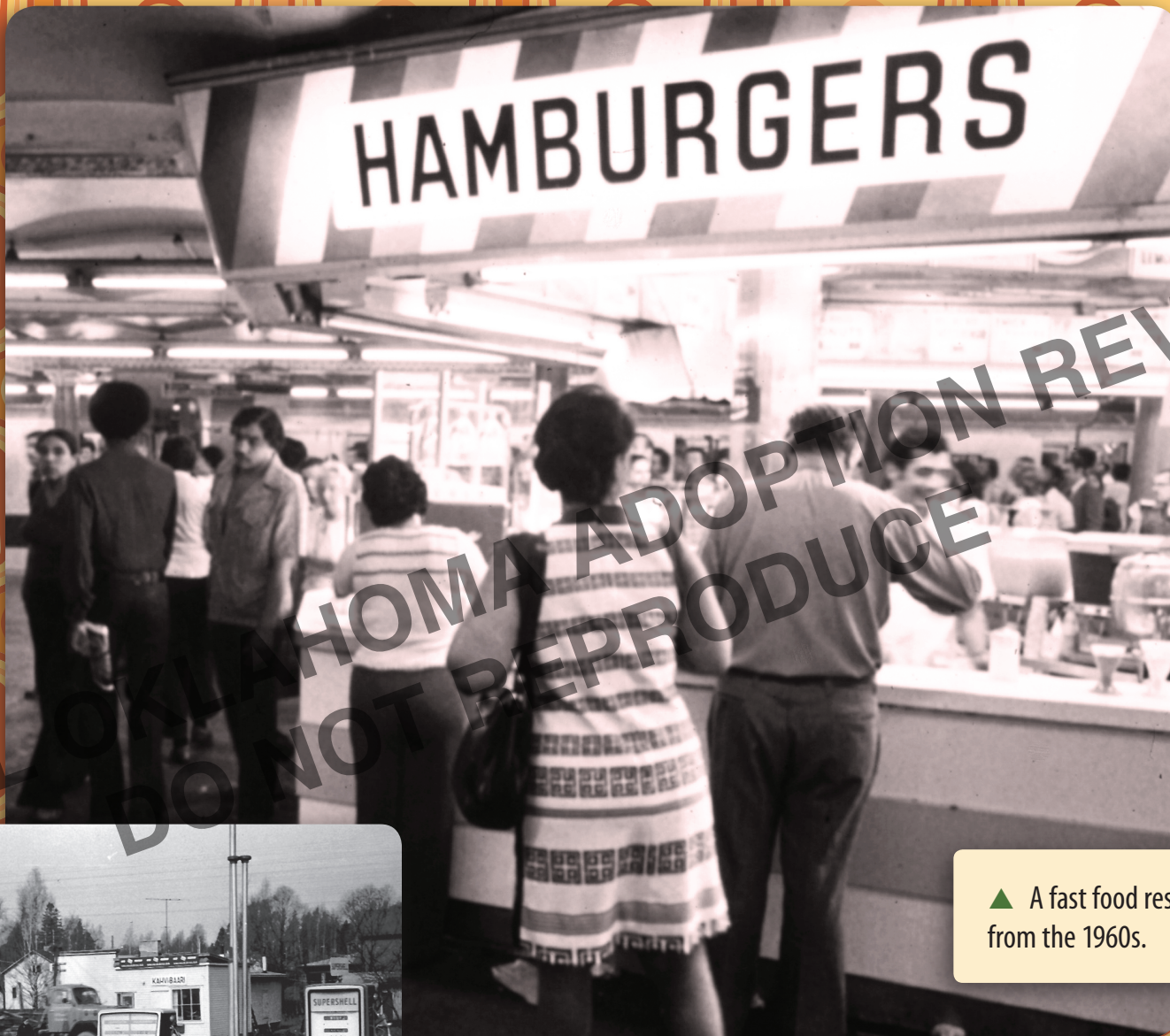
SLIDE 1



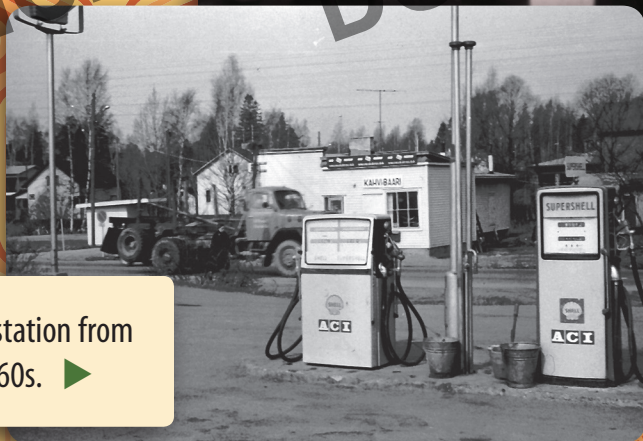


SET 2

SLIDE 2



▲ A fast food restaurant from the 1960s.



A gas station from the 1960s. ►



SET 2

SLIDE 3



A bus from the 1960s similar to the kind volunteers rode on. ►



The Council of Federated Organizations

In the fall of 1963, many civil rights organizations joined together to conduct the Freedom Vote Campaign. They called their coalition the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO). Some of the organizations had a long history of working on civil rights issues while others were newer. Nonetheless, they were all committed to change and committed to voter registration, freedom schools, and special projects.

Civil Rights Organization

Congress of Racial Equity (CORE): Founded in 1942, CORE was an interracial group of students in Chicago funded by voluntary contributions. The organization initiated "sit-ins" against segregated public accommodations in Chicago and then expanded to other regions of the United States with sit-ins and freedom rides.

Civil Rights Organization

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC): The SNCC was established in 1960 following a conference of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The SNCC was pivotal in organizing and recruiting volunteers for sit-ins and freedom rides in the early 1960s. It also played a major role in the 1963 March on Washington, and later made its central mission voter registration in southern states.



Civil Rights Organization

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP):

Established in 1909, the NAACP's central mission is "to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination." It is still in existence today, with an enrollment of over 425,000 members.

Civil Rights Organization

Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC):

An organization originally formed by African American clergy to coordinate and support nonviolent direct action as a method of desegregating bus systems across the South. The organization then expanded to resist all forms of segregation.



◀ The leaders of the NAACP in 1956: Henry L. Moon, Roy Wilkins, Herbert Hill, Thurgood Marshall.



SET 3

SLIDE 3

Why did volunteers go to Oxford, Ohio for training?

The organizers of Freedom Summer knew that many volunteers would be unfamiliar with life in Mississippi and the challenges of Freedom Summer. Thus in mid June 1964, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) organized two week-long training sessions at Western College for Women. Of the 900 volunteers attending the training sessions, 135 were African American.



▲ Freedom Summer volunteers are warned of the dangers they may face in Mississippi.



Bob Moses, the director of the Summer Project, prepared the volunteers for their work. He lectured on life in Mississippi and explained that in Amite County in southern Mississippi, five Blacks had been murdered since December. No one was charged with their murders. The Klan wanted to keep Blacks in their place and violence was common. He told the volunteers,

“When you come South, you bring with you the concern of the country—because the people of the country don’t identify with Negroes....Now, he said, because of the Summer Project, because whites were involved, a crack team of FBI men was going down to Mississippi to investigate. We have been asking for them for three years. Now the federal government is concerned; there will be more protection for us, and hopefully for the Negroes who live there.”

Ku Klux Klan

The Ku Klux Klan (KKK or The Klan) has a long history of violence with Blacks being its primary target. The Klan began during Reconstruction at the end of the Civil War to intimidate Southern Blacks. Violent attacks were commonplace including lynchings and tar-and-feathering. During the 1960s, The Klan opposed the Civil Rights Movement using intimidation, beatings, bombings and murder.



SET 3

SLIDE 5



▲ Freedom Summer volunteers on their way to Mississippi in a show of solidarity, sing “We Shall Overcome.”



SET 3

SLIDE 6

Volunteers receive training in Oxford, Ohio. ▼

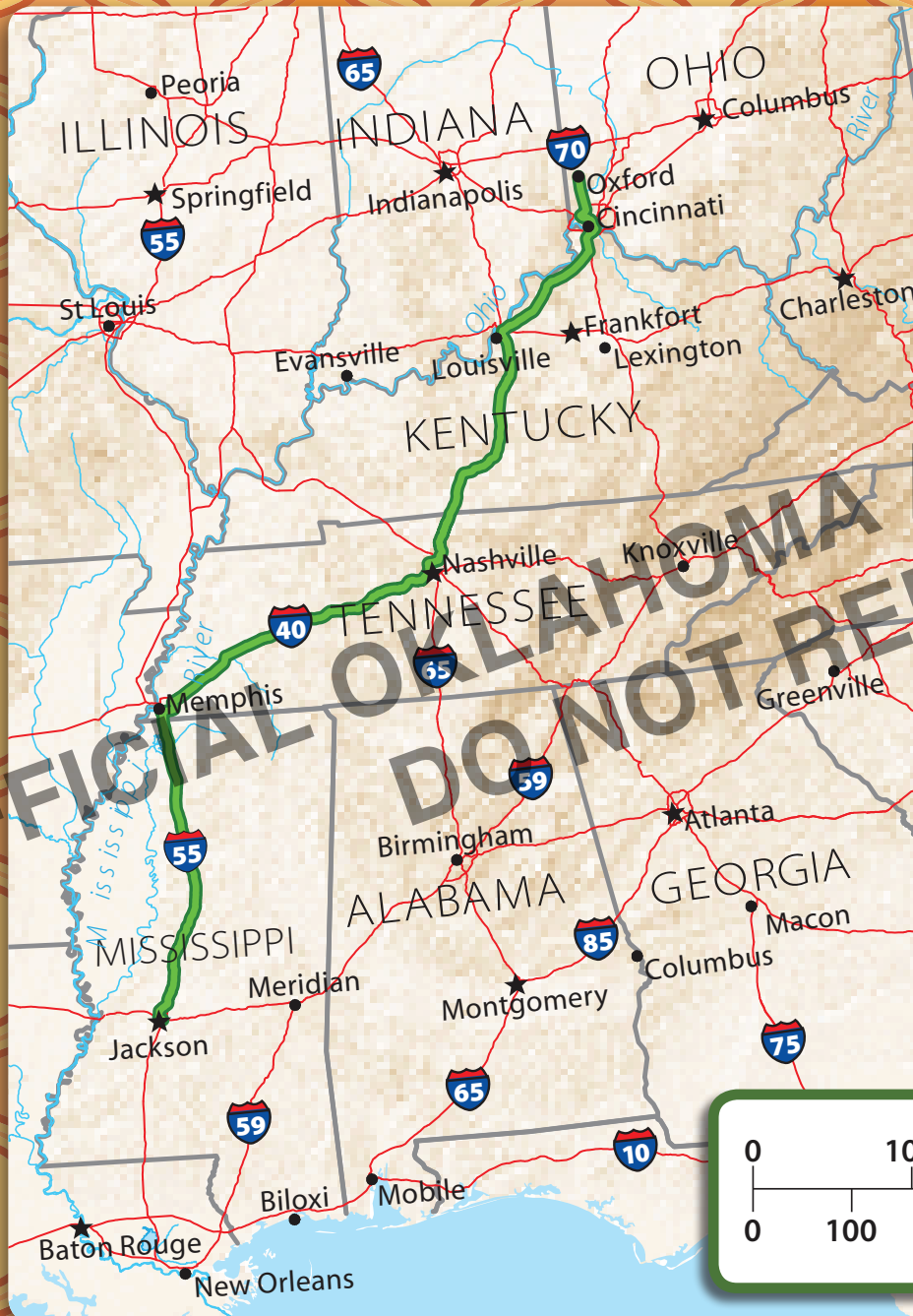


What plans did the civil rights volunteers have to make to travel to Mississippi?



SET 4

SLIDE 1



- 1. How many miles (kilometers) was it from Oxford, Ohio to Jackson, Mississippi (estimate the miles/kilometers)?** *(understanding visuals, making inferences)*
- 2. How much time do you think it would take to travel that distance?** *(understanding visuals, making inferences)*

How did segregation affect everyday life?



SET 4

SLIDE 2

Imagine you are walking down a street in Jackson, Mississippi in 1964. There are signs that indicate which drinking fountain you can drink from based on the color of your skin. You know that if a group of white people is walking down the street, and you are Black, you will need to step aside. You know that if a White and Black couple were to marry, the marriage would be unlawful.

A Coke machine labeled "white customers only." ▼

The Rex Theatre "For Colored People" in Leland, Mississippi. ▶





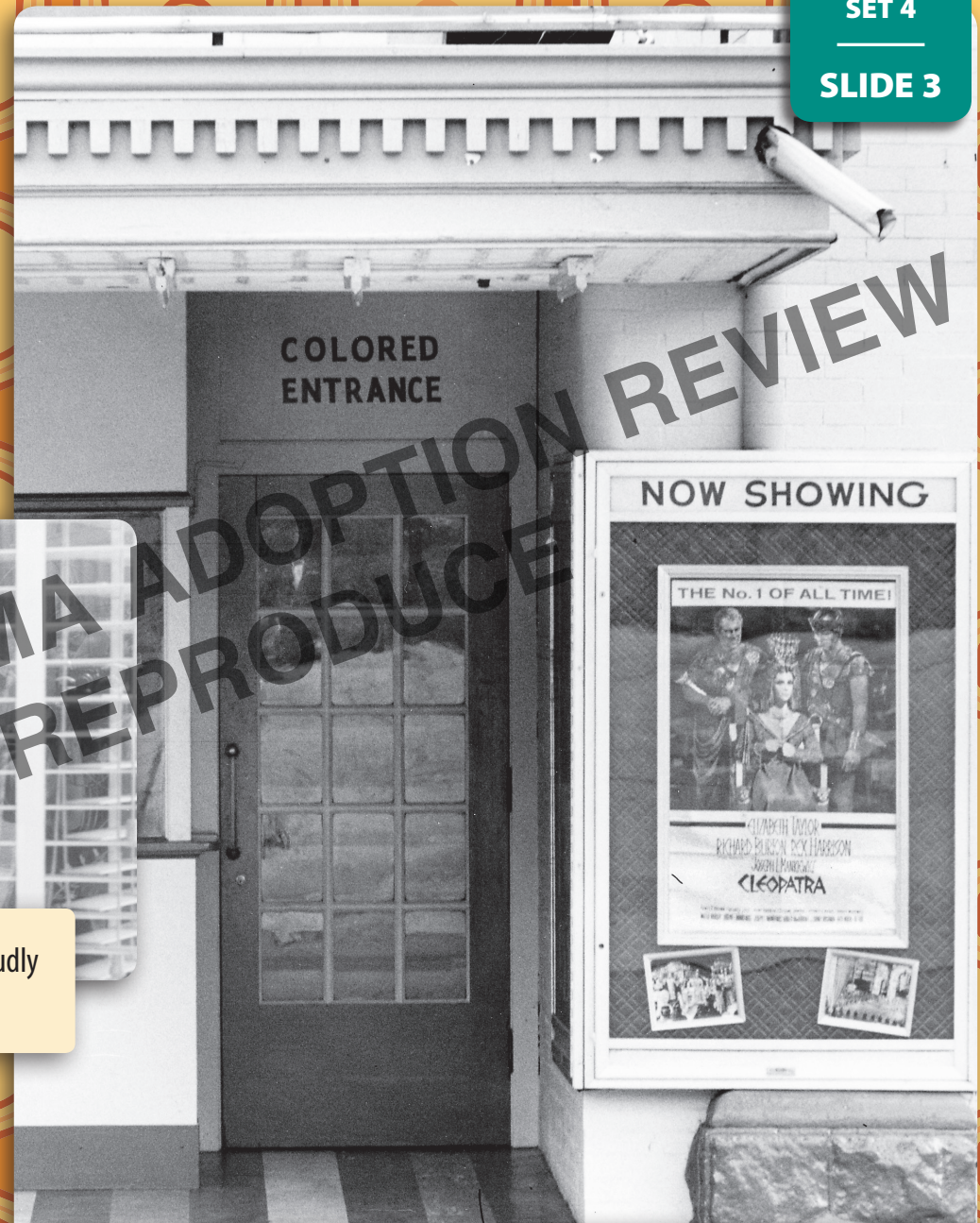
SET 4

SLIDE 3

Even suggestions in favor of social equality or intermarriage between Whites and Blacks could result in a fine up to \$500 or imprisonment for up to six months. If you visit a hospital, the hospital has to provide for separate entrances: one for Whites and one for Blacks. And you must know and follow these rules.



▲ A restaurant in Lancaster, Ohio, that proudly proclaims "We cater to white trade only."



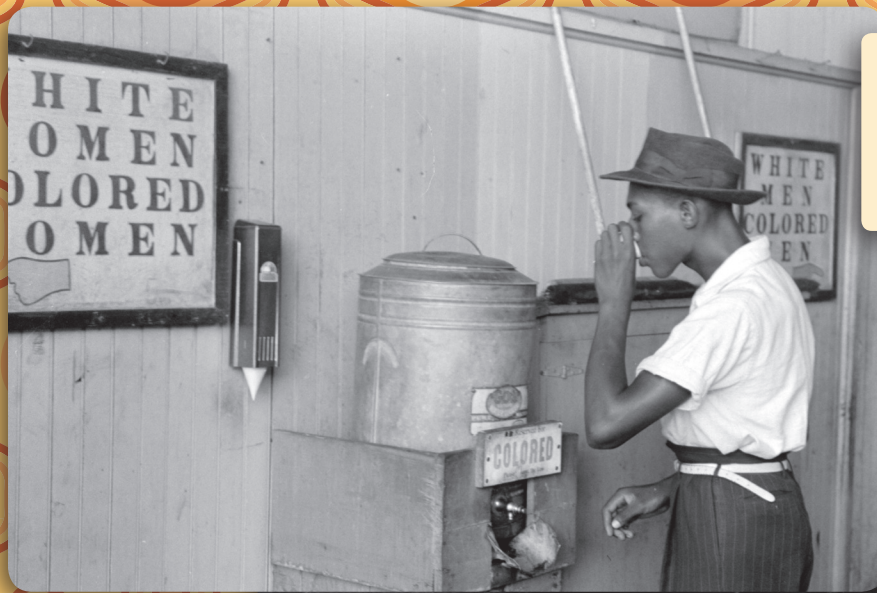
▲ The Strand Theater in Vickburg, Mississippi shortly after Congress passed the Civil Rights Act in July 1964. The sign here still indicates a "Colored Entrance."



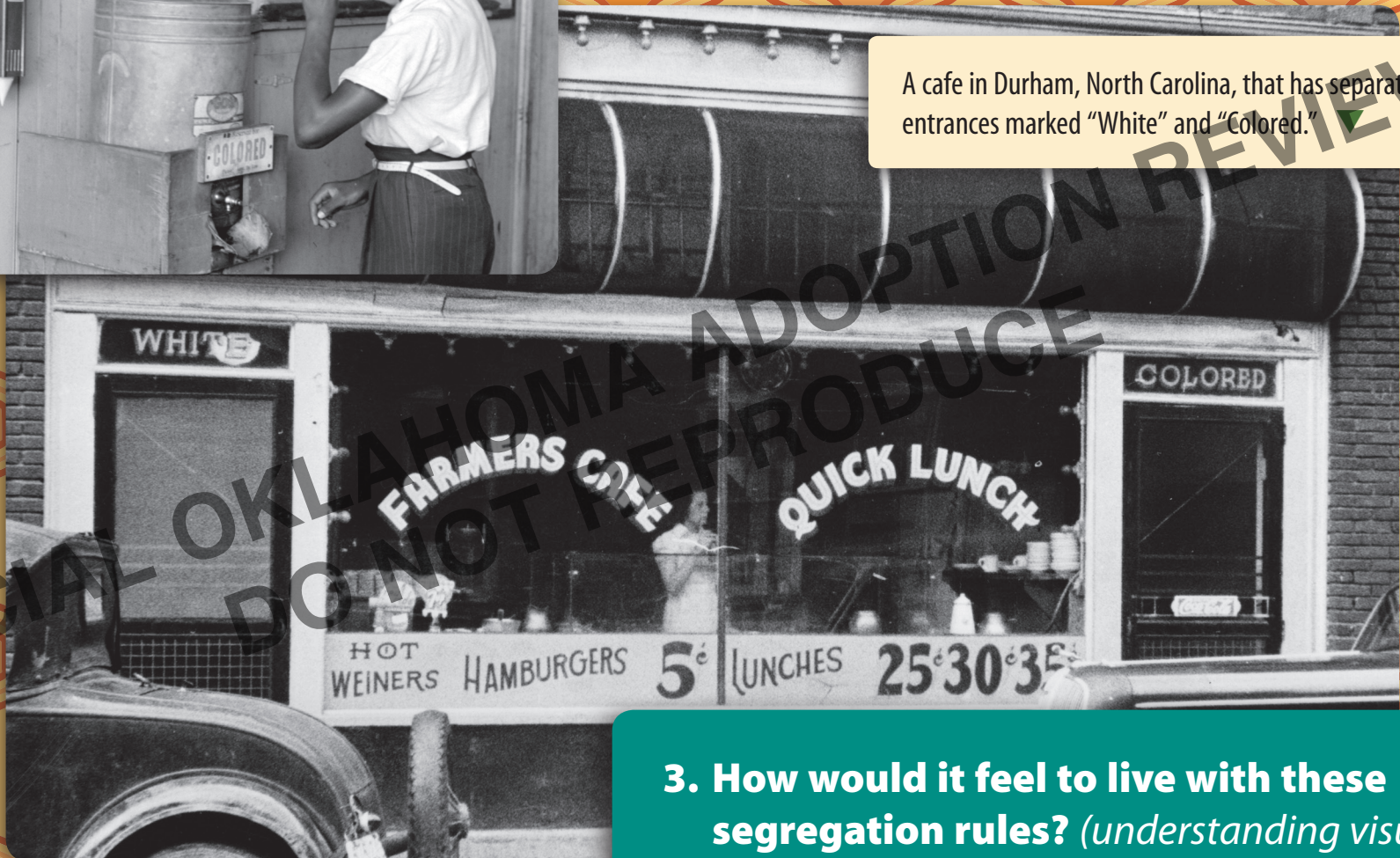
SET 4

SLIDE 4

◀ This street car terminal in Oklahoma City doesn't have segregated restrooms, however it does have segregated drinking facilities. The water cooler is marked "Colored."



A cafe in Durham, North Carolina, that has separate entrances marked "White" and "Colored."



3. How would it feel to live with these segregation rules? *(understanding visuals, making inferences)*

4. If you didn't follow the rules, what do you think might happen? *(making inferences)*



What effect did violence have on the civil rights workers in the Summer of 1964?

The Freedom Democratic Party of Mississippi was founded in April 1964, to challenge the white-only Mississippi Democratic Party. Until the efforts of the Civil Rights volunteers during Freedom Summer, the Black voice in Mississippi was not heard; voters were intimidated or harassed into silence. The goal of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party was to gain enough votes to represent the state of Mississippi at the 1964 Democratic National Convention.

The Mississippi Democratic Party would not allow Blacks to attend meetings or participate in party activities. This new Freedom Democratic Party was open to both Blacks and Whites and was determined to have a voice in the political process in Mississippi.

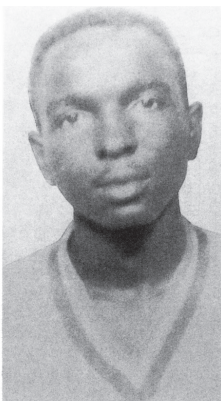
MISSING CALL FBI

THE FBI IS SEEKING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE DISAPPEARANCE AT PHILADELPHIA, MISSISSIPPI, OF THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS ON JUNE 21, 1964. EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IS BEING CONDUCTED TO LOCATE GOODMAN, CHANEY, AND SCHWERNER, WHO ARE DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

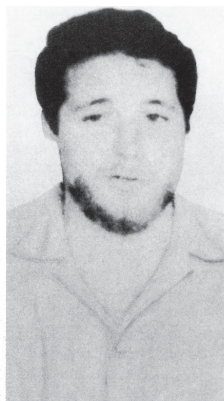
ANDREW GOODMAN



JAMES EARL CHANEY



MICHAEL HENRY SCHWERNER



RACE:
SEX:
DOB:
POB:
AGE:
HEIGHT:
WEIGHT:
HAIR:
EYES:
TEETH:
SCARS AND MARKS:

White
Male
November 23, 1943
New York City
20 years
5'10"
150 pounds
Dark brown; wavy
Brown

Negro
Male
May 30, 1943
Meridian, Mississippi
21 years
5'7"
135 to 140 pounds
Black
Brown

Good: none missing
1 inch cut scar 2 inches above left ear.

White
Male
November 6, 1939
New York City
24 years
5'9" to 5'10"
170 to 180 pounds
Brown
Light blue

Pockmark center of forehead, slight scar on bridge of nose, appendectomy scar, broken leg scar.

SHOULD YOU HAVE OR IN THE FUTURE RECEIVE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE WHEREABOUTS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS, YOU ARE REQUESTED TO NOTIFY ME OR THE NEAREST OFFICE OF THE FBI. TELEPHONE NUMBER IS LISTED BELOW.



SET 5

SLIDE 2

The parishioners of Mt. Zion Methodist Church in Neshoba County, Mississippi were urged to register to vote. Michael Schwerner and James Chaney had visited the congregation on Memorial Day in 1964 inviting them to set up a community center. The community center would provide political education and other services. On June 17th, the KKK burned the church to the ground.

On June 21st, Schwerner, Chaney, and Goodman drove to the site of the burned church to inspect the damage and reassure local Blacks. While driving back to Meridian, Mississippi, they were stopped for "speeding" by Deputy Sheriff Cecil Price. Instead of giving them a speeding ticket, he escorted them to the local jail. About

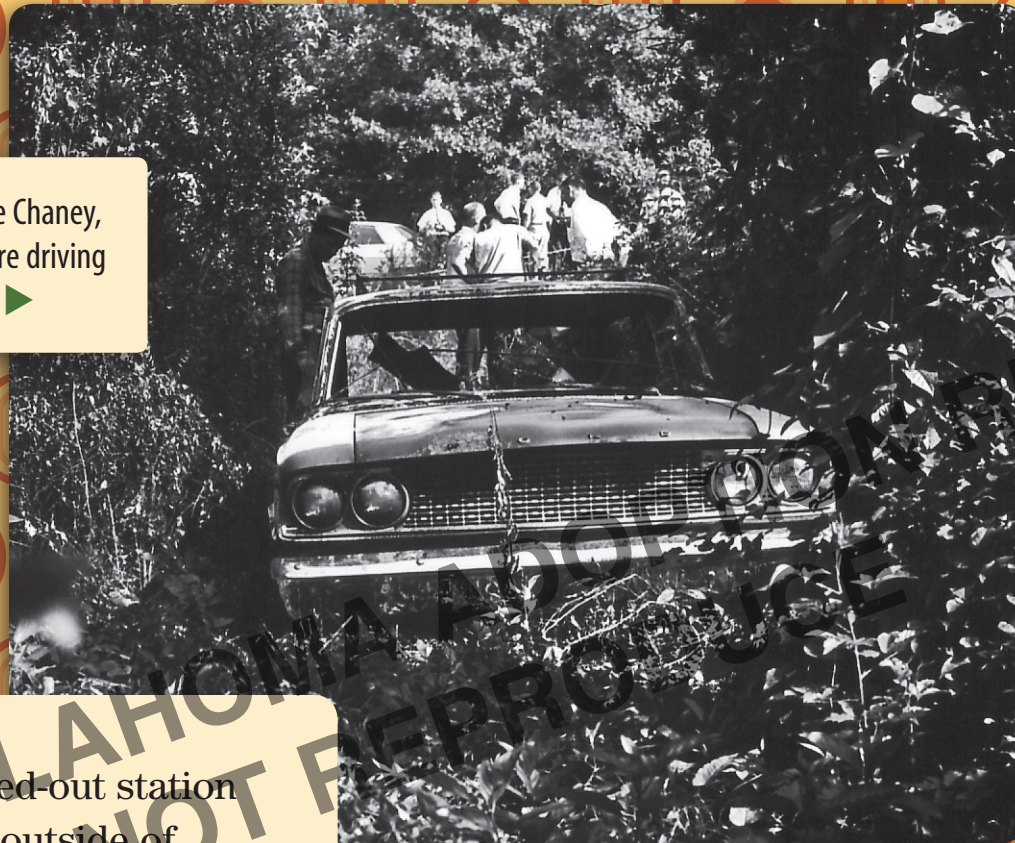
10:30 p.m., the civil rights workers were released from jail posting a \$20 cash bond. They were told to leave town immediately. They thought they were out of danger. Schwerner, Chaney, and Goodman never arrived home.



SET 5

SLIDE 3

Searchers discover the vehicle Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman were driving the night they disappeared. ►



On June 23rd, their burned-out station wagon is found 15 miles outside of Philadelphia, Mississippi on the edge of Bogue Chitto Swamp, so begins the hunt for the bodies of the civil rights workers. President Johnson learning of their disappearance sends in national guardsmen and sailors from the nearby Naval Air Station Meridian to search the county for the three workers.

- 1. What do you think happened to the civil rights workers?** *(making inferences)*
- 2. Why do you think President Johnson ordered national guardsmen and sailors to search for the three civil rights workers?** *(making inferences)*

How did Freedom Summer end?



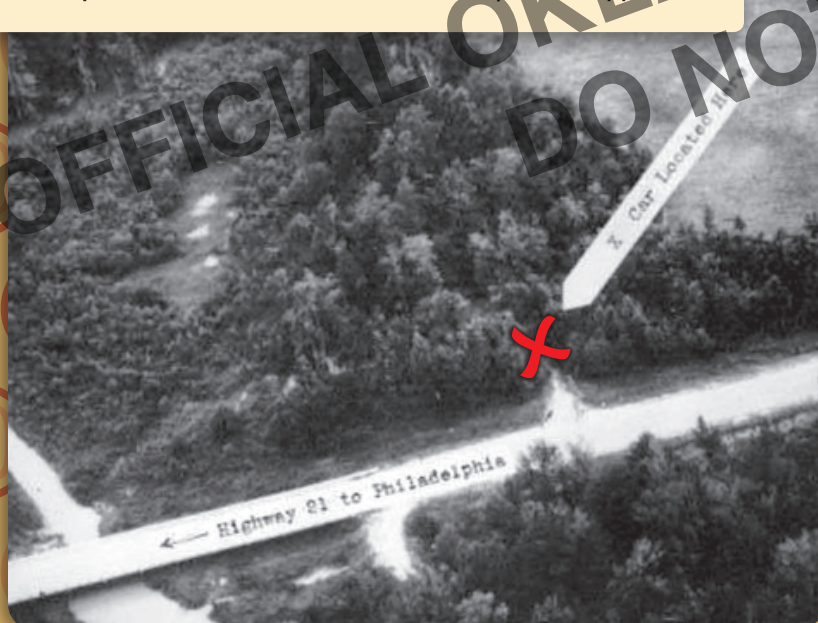
SET 5

SLIDE 4

The vehicle Michael Schwerner drove before his disappearance. His body, along with fellow Civil Rights workers James Chaney and Andrew Goodman, were found in July 1964. ►



Where the vehicle was found, just off of Highway 21 to Philadelphia in Northeastern Neshoba County, Mississippi. ►



3. Why do you think this drew national headlines? *(making inferences, connecting)*
4. Why did this case become a high profile matter for the FBI? *(making inferences)*



SET 5

SLIDE 5

Navy personnel and law enforcement officials from Mississippi plan where to search for the missing men. ►

“My husband, Michael Schwerner, did not die in vain. If he and Andrew Goodman had been Negroes, the world would have taken little notice of their deaths. After all, the slaying of a Negro in Mississippi is not news. It is only because my husband and Andrew Goodman were white that the national alarm has been sounded.”

—Rita Schwerner



Rita Schwerner

5. Why do you think Rita Schwerner said the nation was concerned because two of the civil rights workers were white? *(making inferences, connecting)*

**ON THE SCREEN****FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover speaks about the missing civil rights workers**

In July, FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover traveled to Jackson, Mississippi for the opening of the FBI office in that city. With the disappearance of the three civil rights workers, President Lyndon Johnson directed Mr. Hoover to have a stronger FBI presence in Mississippi. The President wanted to signal his support for the civil rights workers.



- 6. How did Mr. Hoover respond to the question regarding FBI protection of civil rights workers?** *(main idea, supporting details)*
- 7. As a civil rights worker, how do you feel about his response?** *(making inferences)*



Why were Freedom Schools important in the Civil Rights Movement?

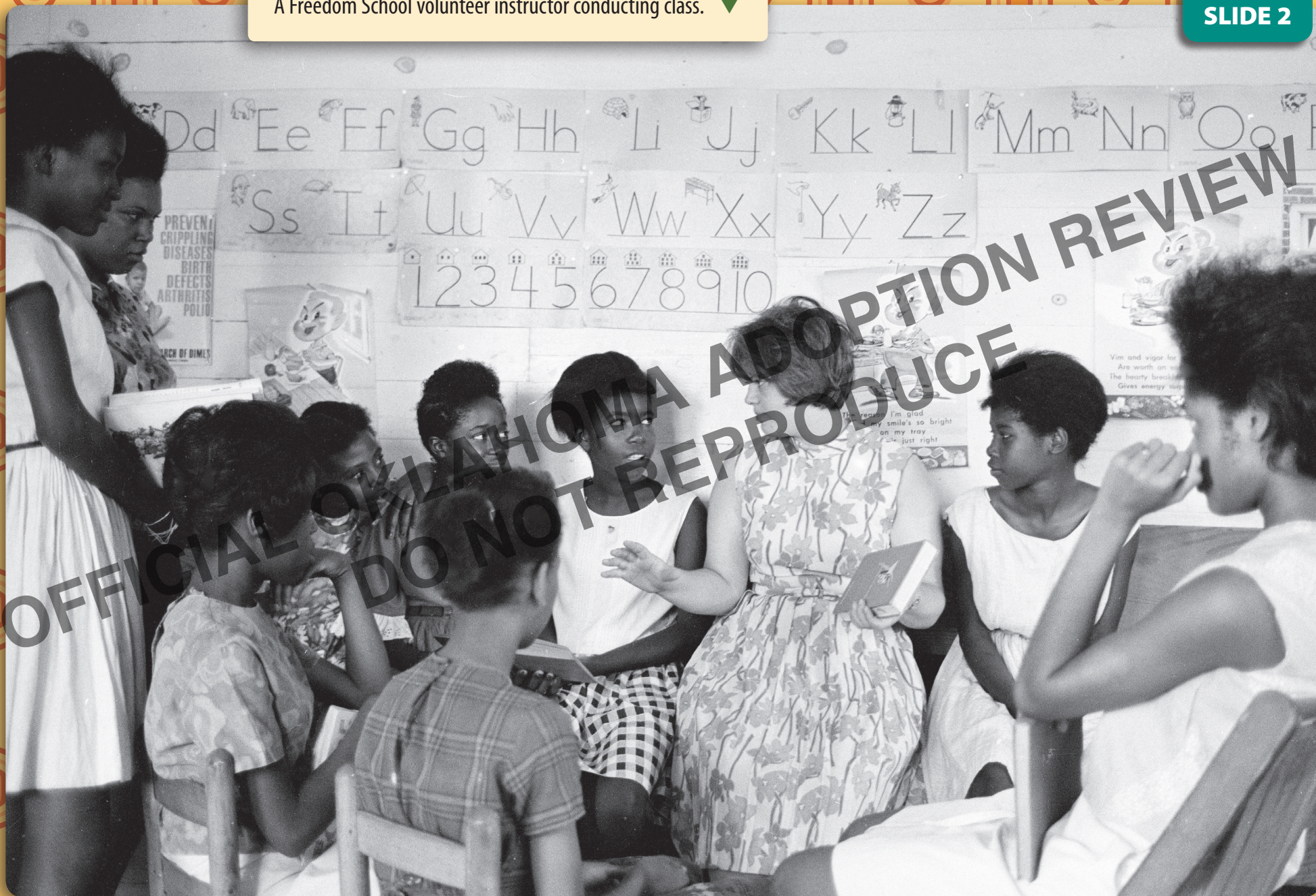
Volunteers of Freedom Summer understood that their challenge wasn't only to recruit Mississipians to vote; Mississipians also needed a proper education—something they were not receiving because of poverty and White influence over curriculum—in order to be informed on current events. For this reason, organizers established a number of Freedom Schools to teach students how “to challenge the myths of our society, to perceive more clearly its realities, and to find alternatives, and ultimately, new directions for action.”*



SET 6

SLIDE 2

A Freedom School volunteer instructor conducting class. ▼

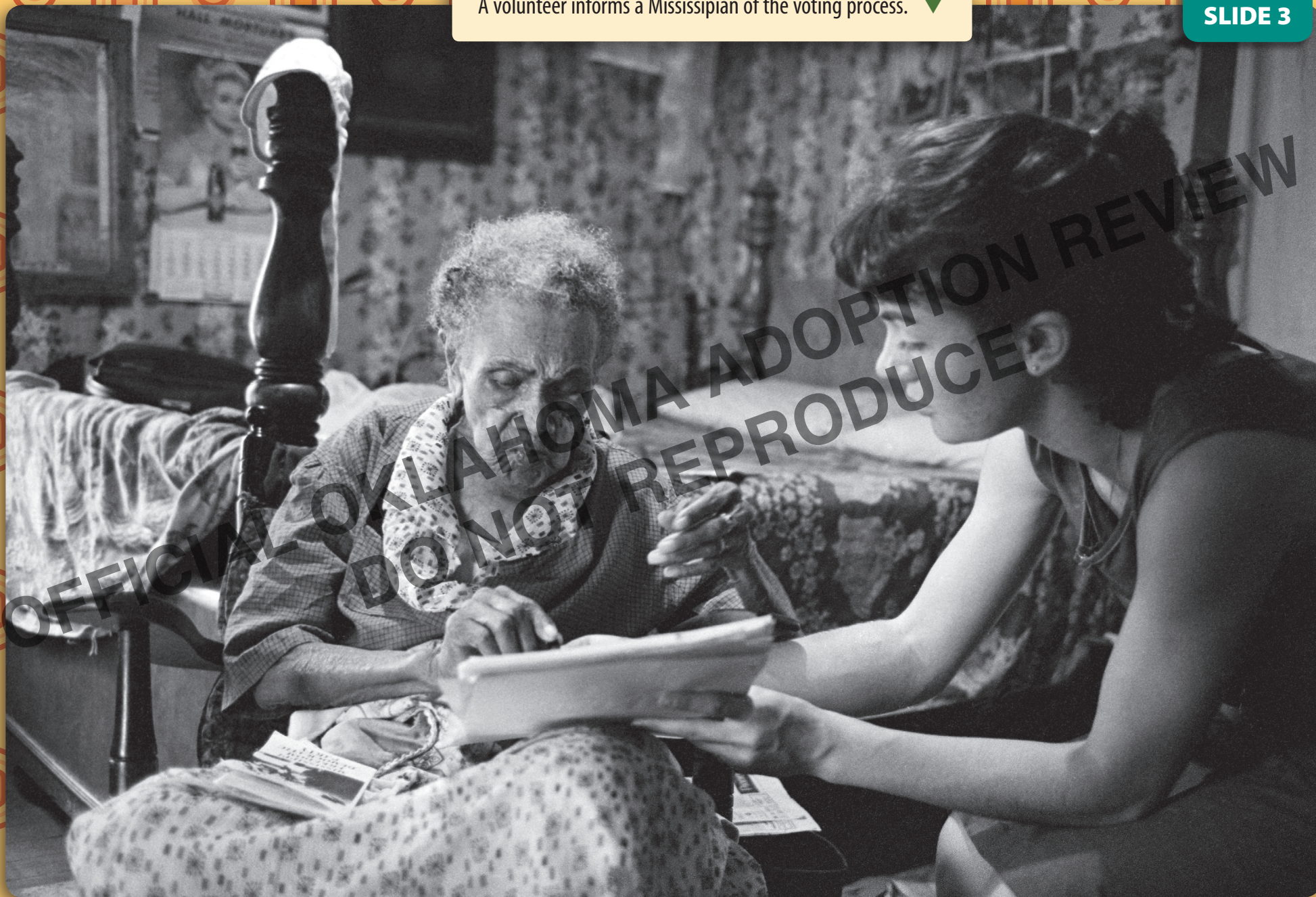




SET 6

SLIDE 3

A volunteer informs a Mississippian of the voting process. ▼

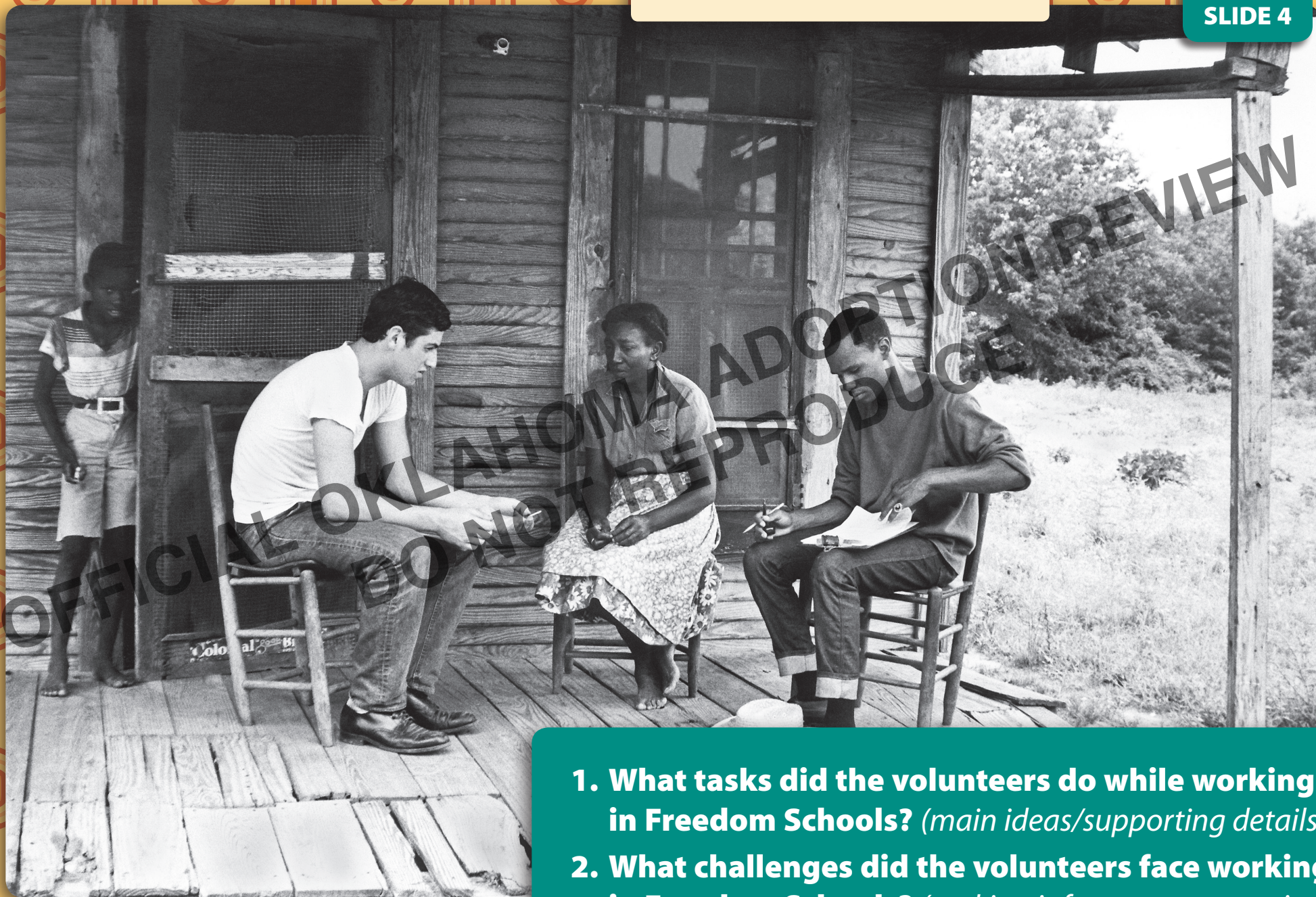




SET 6

SLIDE 4

Two students registering a woman to vote. ▼



1. What tasks did the volunteers do while working in Freedom Schools? *(main ideas/supporting details)*
2. What challenges did the volunteers face working in Freedom Schools? *(making inferences, connecting)*



SET 6

SLIDE 5



▲ Demonstrators at a lunch counter sit-in in Jackson, Mississippi are harassed.



SET 6

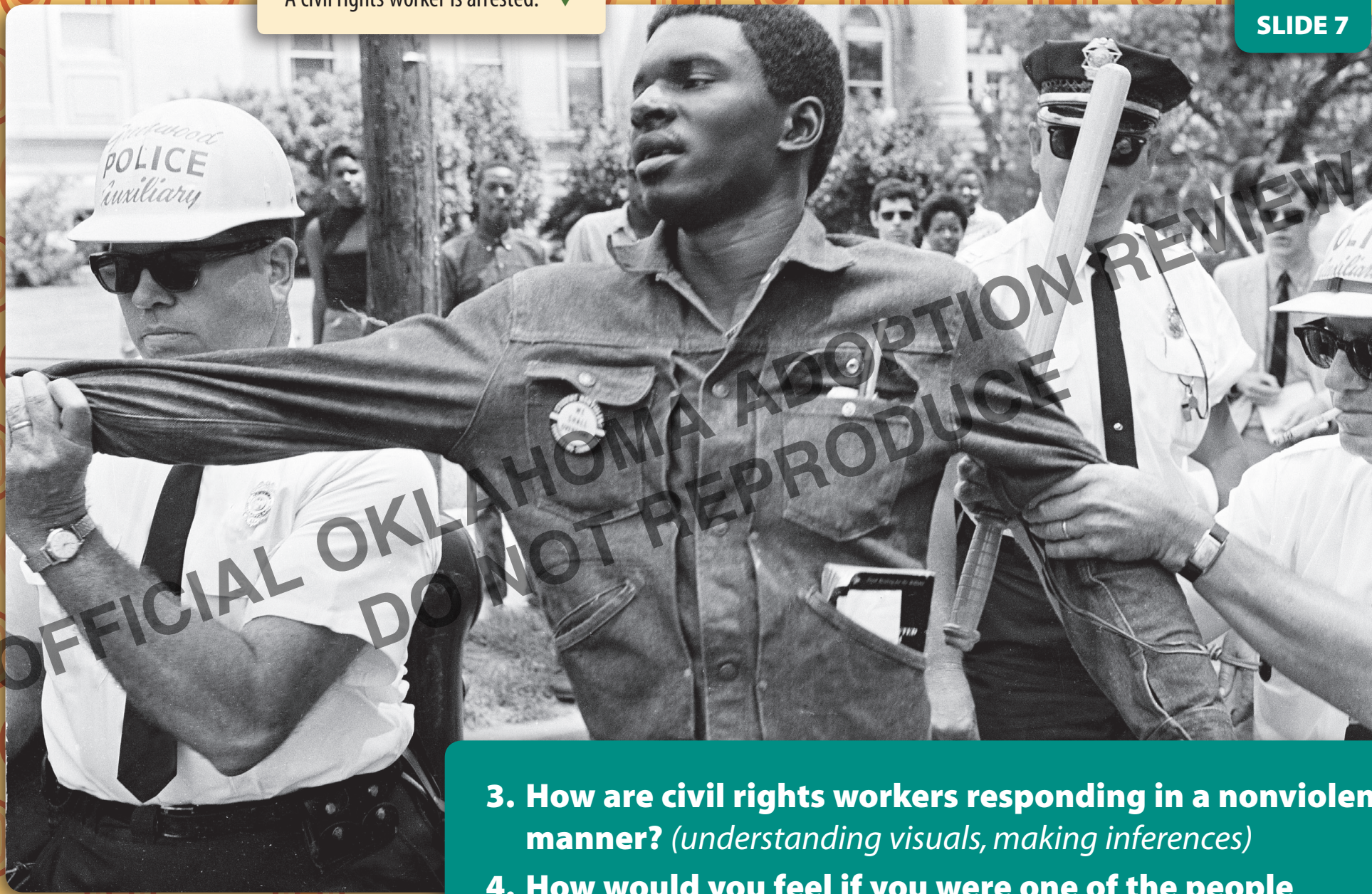
SLIDE 6



◀ Police violently arrest a pregnant woman in Greenwood, Mississippi.



A civil rights worker is arrested. ▼



3. How are civil rights workers responding in a nonviolent manner? *(understanding visuals, making inferences)*
4. How would you feel if you were one of the people pictured? *(connecting)*



August 4, 1964

News Flash

★ ★ ★

Slain Civil Rights Workers Found

The remains of three civil rights workers whose disappearance on June 21 garnered national attention are found buried in an earthen dam near Philadelphia, Mississippi. Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman, both white New Yorkers, had traveled to heavily segregated Mississippi in 1964 to help organize civil rights efforts on behalf of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). The third man, James Chaney, was a local African American man who had joined CORE in 1963. The disappearance of the three young men led to a massive FBI investigation that was code-named MIBURN, for “Mississippi Burning.” ...

The next day, the FBI began an investigation into the disappearance of the civil rights workers. On June 23, the case drew national headlines, and federal agents found the workers’ burned station wagon. Under pressure from Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, the FBI escalated the investigation, which eventually involved more than 200 FBI agents and scores of federal troops who combed the woods and swamps looking for the bodies.

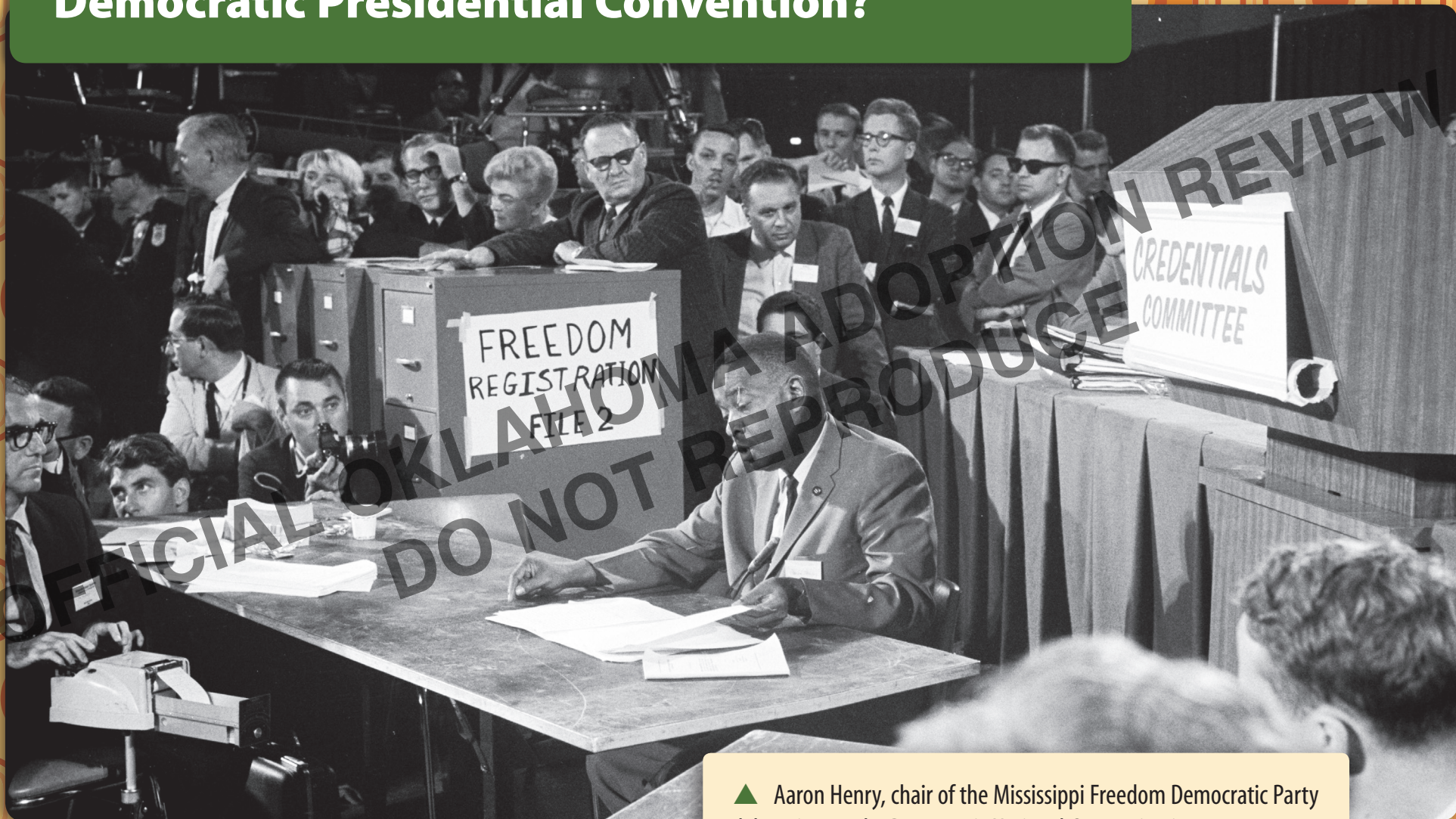
1. How do you think the civil rights workers responded to the discovery of the slain civil rights workers? *(making inferences)*



SET 7

SLIDE 2

What happened when the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party went to the national Democratic Presidential Convention?



▲ Aaron Henry, chair of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party delegation, at the Democratic National Convention in 1964.



SET 7

SLIDE 3

ON THE AIR

▲ Click here to hear
her testimony.



◀ Fannie Lou Hamer at
the Democratic National
Convention, Atlantic City,
New Jersey, August 1964.

**2. Do you think the Mississippi Freedom
Democratic delegates were successful
Why or why not? (*making inferences*)**



SET 7

SLIDE 4

ON THE SCREEN

Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner

