



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

Moses Moon Civil Rights Recordings 1963-1964: Greenwood, MS: circa November 3, 1963: Side 2

Extracted on Mar-25-2023 06:46:18

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives Center - NMAH as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives Center - NMAH website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives Center - NMAH or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives Center - NMAH. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

WEBVTT

00:21:08.000 --> 00:21:13.000

<i>John Lewis</i>: [oh yeah!] We gon' win 'em! But we got to have information, see?

00:21:13.000 --> 00:21:16.000

That's right! See?

00:21:16.000 --> 00:21:23.000

All these little things we got to do, you know, they don't understand us when we say, "Yes'm" and shake our heads and smile.

00:21:23.000 --> 00:21:29.000

They don't know what's inside us. They don't know, no, they don't know!

00:21:29.000 --> 00:21:31.000

So we gotta get together.

00:21:31.000 --> 00:21:46.000

And ultimately all the maids in Greenwood have got to get together, and have some sort of a maid's union where we can get four dollars a day instead of two and a half to three, or even five dollars a day, you see?

00:21:46.000 --> 00:21:49.000

All these things have to be done.

00:21:49.000 --> 00:22:00.000

I'm not gonna hold you up too much longer, but I'd like to end this thing with what we say all the time.

00:22:00.000 --> 00:22:04.000

Having looked at what we been doing three hundred and fifty years,

00:22:04.000 --> 00:22:09.000

how we've suffered on the slave block, in the cotton fields,

00:22:09.000 --> 00:22:13.000

how we been hung up by the head or by the feet and whipped,

00:22:13.000 --> 00:22:21.000

we been dyin' every day and the way things are a Negro comes into life not to live,

00:22:21.000 --> 00:22:24.000

but he comes in here to die.

00:22:24.000 --> 00:22:29.000

And every day he's dyin' bit by bit. 'Cause it's a sad thing to be segregated.

00:22:29.000 --> 00:22:30.000

We can't even be human.

00:22:30.000 --> 00:22:34.000

Ya got to go around with a lot of burdens on ya.

00:22:34.000 --> 00:22:37.000

And ya got to wonder, "Can I go here?" and "Can I go there?"

00:22:37.000 --> 00:22:41.000

In Chicago they not free. I used to live up there.

00:22:41.000 --> 00:22:47.000

I went downtown and every time I go downtown I wonder, "Can I go in this restaurant?" or "Can I go in that restaurant?"

00:22:47.000 --> 00:22:55.000

And that's not freedom! [No, no!] Freedom is when you know within your soul that you are a man.

00:22:55.000 --> 00:22:59.000

There are times when people have experienced that, but not in America.

00:22:59.000 --> 00:23:04.000

I was over in the Philippines and it was like a whole weight lifted up off of me.

00:23:04.000 --> 00:23:09.000

You know, I felt somethin' like I was floatin' in the air almost, 'cause I knew there wasn't any segregation.

00:23:09.000 --> 00:23:14.000

And that's the way these soldiers comin' back from France and Germany have felt.

00:23:14.000 --> 00:23:17.000

They'll tell you about it, am I right, you who've been in the army?

00:23:17.000 --> 00:23:20.450

They know what I'm talkin' about, it's like a whole weight bein' taken off of you.



Smithsonian Institution

Archives Center - NMAH

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)