

5,000 To March On Atlanta

A massive mobilization of 4,000 to 5,000 opponents to capital punishment will converge in Atlanta, Ga. Easter Weekend, April 8-10 for what has been called a "Witness Against Executions." Sponsored by the Southern Coalition of Jails and Prisons, the "Witness" will include speakers by well-known freedom fighters, workshops, musical entertainers and a march to the state capital.

Making the announcement for the Coalition of Jails and Prisons was North Carolina organizer Allan McGregor who said more than 200 are expected to attend from North Carolina. He said that persons desiring to attend, needing transportation and housing were being provided for.

Questioned why the mobilization of death penalty opponents to Atlanta, McGregor said that "Georgia looks like the next place to have executions and it is important for us who oppose it to give the people of the state the feeling that they are not alone."

The exact number of persons awaiting to be executed in Georgia is not known. Central records are not kept by the state but are kept by county subdivisions.

When the Supreme Court knocked down the mandatory death penalty in North Carolina as unconstitutional because it did not give discretion to judges and juries in its application, the capital punishment statute in Georgia was upheld. Legal maneuvers running out, executions are to

begin there soon. Needless to say the majority of those to be executed are Black and all working class.

Friday evening, April 8 there will be an informal gathering to assign housing and prepare banners at the Ebenezer Baptist Church, where the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. pastored before his assassination. Beginning Saturday, April 9th at noon and ending at 4 p.m. a march from Auburn Avenue and Jackson Streets to the Capital will conclude in several speeches. Among the speakers are included Georgian State Senator Julian Bond; Associate Editor of the New York Times, Tom Wicker; Civil Rights Attorney, Jerry Paul; the Director of the Southern Coalition of Jails and Prisons, Rev. Joseph Ingle; and Dorothy Day representing the Catholic Workers Party. Live entertainment will also be provided.

Saturday evening workshops will be held on the legal system and how to organize opposition to the death penalty. Sunday, a mass Easter workshop celebration will be held "to call witness against state-imposed death."

Twenty-three organizations are cooperating with the Southern Coalition of Jails and Prisons to sponsor the three day event.

Graham's Latest Album Debuts Vocal Bass

Larry Graham, founder and leader of Graham Central Station, is readying a new album from the group entitled "Now Do You Wanna Dance," scheduled for release on Warner Bros. early next month.

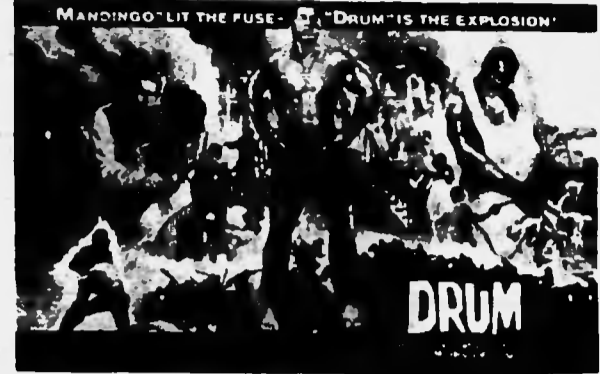
Graham, father of the thumping and plucking funk bass style which has revolutionized contemporary soul and pop music, is adding a new dimension to his instrumental and vocal repertoire: the world's first talking bass. Through a series of technical processes, Larry's bass (which he has named "Sunshine") can make voice-like sounds at Graham's command.

The talking bass effect will be heard on "Now Do You Wanna Dance," as will "The Crazy Chicken," a new dance which Graham has invented. Basic instruction for the Crazy Chicken are as follows (according to maestro Graham): "Peck you neck, And flap your wings

Knock your knees
Let your body fling"

No word yet from Blue Cross and the other major

medical plans as to continuing coverage for those attempting the Crazy Chicken without a crash helmet.



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