

WADDELL

15 August

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Greenwood: 12:10 PM: Waddell gave the three reports from Natchez to Grn\*wd. Told them to call the Dept of Justice and FBI.

Natchez: 12:45 PM We are at our residence St Cath. St. Removed all records and things of value from the office. ---- Several people reported that the kpolice were on the spot at the time the bomb went off. They shouted saying "we told them the place next door." ~~THEIR~~

Greenwood: Evangeline Thornton's Grocery Store is burning now (609 South Wall). Thornton is Negro. At 611, two movement worker girls are living. ~~The~~

Natchez: White guys around after the bombing shining flashlights at COFO house. Dory said "Who lives in that house?" "Firmonad replied that George Greene rents that house, etc. --- Other people around said that the police were saying the same things: They should have got that place - referring to the COFO house.

George is around someplace where Dory is calling from (office) - heZ's X OK.

Dory tense, because lots of whites around now. (1:00 pm). White's around office - but also 9 St. Catholic, where they are now, is known and they RE WORRIED white's may come there too. 9 St. Catholic is about 2 miles from office. All these areas seem to be integrated.

Police talked to them earlier - surprised things hadn't happened ~~earlier~~ already - but he had been holding the people off.

Police apparently on the scene when bomb went off.

When police said above things, they were talking between themselves, and seemed unhappy that the wrong place had been bombed. Local Negroes gave Dory et all protection while they got away from white's at office.

They will call in tonight on the hour (2 1/2 - 3 - 4 until leaving word no longer necessary) They will also stand watch on their present location.

The bombed place is both tavern and home - the home is next to the house where the workers stay - the tavern behind that. The owners' are a mixed couple - white man (Jake Fisherman) and Negro woman (Evangeline Thornton). Back of this is wooded area, and bomb was placed there. ~~The~~

The firemen told Dory (whom they did not recognize); "Those outside agitators are in that house. The bomb was set for that house (referring to the place where COFO workers stay) They're here to stir up trouble. George Greene rents that place."

the COFO office

Upon entering ~~THEIR~~, the COFO people found that the back door had been opened but everything seems to have been in place.

Jackson: BillR talked to FBI agent Key who said they had a man on the scene Time was 2:10.

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WEIL

McComb: Supermarket two blocks away Freedom House Bombed - right across street from St. Paul's church used as freedom school. ~~EXACTLY~~ 12:50 pm. Big blast - almost knocked Mendy over - thought it was their house. Probably thrown from car and landed pretty far from building - big hole in ground - shattered all windows in Supermarket - also damaged walls and roofing. Noboby hurt. No good reason for bombing this place - but Bob Moses used to hold voter registration classes in Masonic Lodge above supermarket. Cops came out - Mendy hasn't talked to them. Agent Lee very worked up. Right after explosion Mendy ran out and jumped in car and a car with two whites were passing and Mendy pursued - couldn't get license but after about four blocks it turned into drive and started back and it went passed and it turned again passed house - Mendy followed - got license - have seen car before - on suspicious car list - license F 6193 55 Ford blue stationwagon (maybe only part blue) with two white men in - ~~marksmanship station wagon~~.

Check back around 2:30. "Don't know how much longer we can take these bombings."

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Page 2 (con't'd)

McComb: Supermarket is Burgland Supermarket on Warren St.

Doar knows of both situation and will have FBI contact SNCC staffers in Natchez at least.

Jackson: We will call McComb on the half hour and expect Natchez to call us on the hour--if they don't, we call them to see why they haven't checked in.

Natchez: 2:00AM: Dorie speaking: We've been getting tel. calls. You MF's won't live to see the morning. There are 4 workers there inc. Dorie. They're calling them and hanging up. We'll call every 15 minutes. House is more or less in the center of town. Only one bombing. which was the Tavern.

SUMMARY: There was only one bombing in Natchez tonight. The tavern near the COFO house. The conflicting earlier reports were due to the fact that the place bombed was described from different points of reference--it was only one place.

McComb: 2:15AM: Cliff Hopson was arrested for interfering with an officer.

~~2:25AM~~

Natchez: 2:35AM: They have 2:45AM. We are to call Grn\*wd. and tell them that it was the Chief of Police inciting the riot and not the Sheriff. OK in Nat. right now.

Greenwood: 2:50AM: We told Grn\*wd. They're going to call Ilene here.

McComb: 3:00AM: Cliff was talking to the policeman when he was arrested. Cliff grappled through the crowd and talked loudly to the ~~people~~<sup>peoplexxx</sup>. Mindy bailed him out for 52.50. Trial Monday at 7:30PM. Charge: interfering with an officer. We'll get lawyers and mail the money.

Natchez: 3:00AM: Dorie says that Atlanta is going to call soon. OK for now.

Natchez: 3:15AM: OK----They cut Atlanta's conversation off, though.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Natchez: 3:30AM: OK.

Meridian: 3:31AM: Preston Ponder, Sam Brown, David ~~McGilligan~~ McClienton. In Jasper County--on Highway 11-- shot hit and cracked front window-- were passing a filling station--either from there or from someone in woods Sam and David local volunteers--CORE--Hattiesburg res--Preston--22 rifle rental car--had been around to investigate beating of a schoolteacher and her mother for civil rights com hearing tomorrow--Heidelberg Miss was investigation site. (This is detail of earlier noted shooting at a car)

Natchez: 3:45AM: OK

Fred Stokely - 7469963  
Rev Miller -

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Natchez: 4:02AM: OK.

Natchez: 4:17AM: OK

Natchez: 4:30AM: The fire seems to have started before the bomb went off. By the time the people had cleared out of the tavern, the bomb went off. By the time Dorie got to the scene there were already about 200 spectators--well dressed, not as if they had just gotten out of bed---at least half of them white.

McComb: 4:15AM: Pat Walker reported: local person arrested, Roy Lee who returned to the scene of the bombing. Arrested for no apparent reason, charged with inciting a riot, threatening life of a policeman, cursing and disorderly conduct, taken to jail, placed under \$900 bail bond. Police won't accept property bond; project doesn't have the money. FBI notified. ~~Two workers~~

Two workers went down to check on Roy in jail. They stopped at a gas station to buy cigarettes. The attendant refused to sell them any and made threatening gestures. --want lawyer immed. as don't think man safe in jail--reported police threats "if ever got that nigger agin, etc."--Pratt sending lawyer down--should be there by 9:30--check on getting bail from Gwd. or Jackson.

5:00AM: OK.

Natchez: 4:50 am--"quiet"

~~Ridgeland: 5:05AM: Ph NO. 7465002~~ T. J. Jones says Dave has been out all night. Dave rooms at his house. Tried to reach this number on WATS and it is busy--but I explicitly told the caller to hang up so I could dial him right back. (5:15AM) I think this call is from Yazoo City.

Natchez: 5:20AM: OK.

Yazoo City: 5:25AM: T. J. Jones, volunteer worker reports that Henry Davis hasn't come in and was last seen at about 6:00PM Friday. and he said he was going to see a Rev. Barnes. T. J. Jones went by to see Barnes at about 7:30 and Barnes said that Henry hadn't come by at all. ~~XXXXXX~~ Davis said nothing about going out of town. I told Jones to call us here in Jackson and ask for himself, T.J. Jones--if he got any further information.

746-1131--Yazoo police--Ilene-- (John G. Barnes--746-5361)--not there under Henry Davis.

Yazoo City: 6 am. Ilene--Jones says there are no other jails in small towns around there--he will call all local contacts starting at 7 a.m. asking if anyone has seen Davis --will call us back with results.

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Strelitz

Greenwood: 6AM Henry Davis missing to Greenwood.

Natchez 6:15AM OK

Yazoo City 6:50AM: T.J. JONES reports that Henry isn't found gave us the number of a Mr. Robinson--746-2532. We called, he wasn't in.

Natchez: 7:00AM: OK. We will wait for them to call.

Canton 7:10AM: Tom Harris has arrived, will be back soon.

Yazoo City: 7:30AM: Henry Davis was found at someone else's home.

Clarksdale 8:10: Yvonne will be taking 2:00 bus out, getting to Jackson about 6. She is still working on Joe to come to the hearing --tell Bob Weil-- little success.

Canton 7:25AM : Sally Shidler reports: desperate for transportation because they have four people who want to go to the Library Convention.

Breaker

Clarksdale: Yvonne Klein won't be coming here by bus but by car.

Indianapolis: Liz Fusco--Needs immediately 20 more work study program applications, 20 Negro student scholarship applications and 20 College Board Scholastic Aptitude tests.

Administering 10 tests this morning.

Billy Stafford called.

Shaw : ?

Biloxi 10AM: Al Version: Norm Zoltan called: Removal petitions of Pascagoula have been delivered to LCDC in Jackson. If not send by mail from Biloxi to Jackson.

Meridian 11:10: New volunteers, Dave Griffith, William Melish are in Meridian. Lois Perez in Meridian. Came from N.Y. for one day to get here for 12 noon meeting. Mr. Collim wants lawyer guild to know he is on his way home as soon as he can find a bus.

McComb : People from McComb who need ride to Atlantic city: Freddie Greene, Pat Waldker, Mendy Samstein, Jesse Harris, and Marshall Ganz.

Hattiesburg: James Nance left the project.

Tchula : Doris Wilson: The car Stokely Carmichael is in was coming from Greenwood to Milestone. Were being followed when they got to Tchula by white , '64 cadillac . Stopped at gas station and crowd formed. OK Now.

Breaker (broke)

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Greenwood: Judy Richardson-- Jesse Harris, SNCC worker, was picked up today for disturbing the peace. He was walking into a restaurant when he was picked up. The police had a warrant out for his arrest. Thinks that this is in connection with the boycott that is going on. G'wood will get him out today.

Laurel: New office number-- 428-8461.

Tupelo 2:45: bus to Atlantic City rerouted. When leave from Jackson and from where.

Greenville: 3PM: John O'Niell needs done:

Call Ivanhoe: they can't change the date of their performance there and they must know soon if this is ok. Talk with Debbie Flinn in Holly Springs. If not have 19 in Holly Springs will take the 19th in Batesville. If can't be 19th in Batesville will go there the 20th. Bob Moses: be sure to send letter to bank. Soon because they are leaving soon. Can Jackson reimburse for the bail money? Will Jimmy Bolton let them know.

Natchez: Prayer meeting has been planned for 4:30 $\frac{1}{2}$  today. Leaflets have been passed out.

Canton: Mary McGroarty-- for Landy McNair-- if you have room going to the convention, please let Mary know.

Hattiesburg: Joyce Brown: Sheriff George Gray drove into Mrs. Victoria Gray's yard with two buddies waving some sort of paper (thinks that it is an injunction paper). Mrs. Jackson, her sister, and Greg Kaslo ~~s###~~ told the sheriff that she couldn't be found. Doesn't The ~~#~~ same ~~#~~ thing happened to Jean O'Conner yesterday. ~~#~~ what the papers are either.

McComb: Jesse and Jimmy B., please call Curtis in McComb.

Gulfport: Jim Perry -- Wants to Jackson to know that he exists and will be at the meeting for volunteers on Monday.

Barry Goldstein, call Mary Lou in Gulfport at UN 35678.

Indianola: Tom Harris call about the young Democrats.

Laurel 4:15: 2:10PM Fred Richardson, staff, entered Kresses Dept. store. Wearing camera. Manager told Fred to get out, etc. Fred left. 4 Negroes one local staff, 3 not: Leavelle Keys, James House, Larry McGill, Ben Hatfield. Seated selves at Kresses (formerly only theoretically integrated). While being served, one of COFO staff in back with miniature camera and witnessed: 10 whites approached 4: 2 beat with baseball bats. Fred Richardson called police and was attacked and beaten on the street out front. Police appeared and Larry McGill's mother and police restored order; took 4 Negroes and 2 whites to police office (made no arrest). Held 3 whites in store (a white woman had threatened Larry McGill with a pistol) and police tried to get their identity. 2 white men who used clubs: Harry Strange, James Eastland. Woman: Mrs. John Dola. Police took Negroes and workers and asked if they wanted to senk out warrants against

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Laurel cont.

the attackers. Warrant was sent out against Mrs. Dola to Dept. Store where being held.

Court room hearing 3PM Monday. No police brutality.

FBI notified of coming court room hearing and will interview 4 Negroes.

~~Greenville 6:45:~~

~~Mississippi~~

Columbus 5:35 Bridgefort arrest in Starkville: arraigned for new charge of contempt yesterday. Today due to be released and asked if would be photographed and finger-printed. Refused. \$50 fine again and one more day in the clink.

Steve Frazer temporarily jailed this morning. Bond set at \$50. Had been jailed after going to pay traffic fine.

Back to Bridgefort: Tom Conally, B.'s lawyer, credentials challenged by 2 attorneys from Columbus; can't practice until they are certified. Action being taken. Bond in this case now at \$650.

Jackson: Meridian lawyer arrived

Harmony: 6:05: Paul Lauter reported a car with Missouri or Mass. Liscence no. J 56280 2 miles west of junction of Rts. 16 and 17 stopped and talking to police. There were 5 Negroes in the car.

McComb: Did Ira Valentine and Rich Reemer arrive in Meridian?

McComb: Will call back with details on Freedom Day Tuesday - want big press on it.

West Point 7:15: Where is meeting tomorrow? They have heard 6 different times six different places

~~John Dally, working~~

Meridian 7:30:

Greenwood: 7:34pm Dotte Zellner called to say that the Resolutions Committee of the California State Democratic Party today unanimously passed the resolution to seat FDP. They will bring this up at the Executive Committee tomorrow, no difficulty expected. - Hunter.

Gulfport: 7:45:

Shaw 8:PM: Mat Herron call Nick Barnes.

McComb: 7:55PM: Marshall Ganz reports: Freedom Day tues...culmination of a series of rallies--GET THIS ON THE PRESS--- And TV. ~~XXXX~~ First Southwest Mississippi Freedom Day scheduled after bombings. COFO 702 Wall St., McComb, Aug 15., The first Frdm Day to take place in Southwestern Miss. has been announced for Tuesday, Aug 18. Project director Curtis Hays declared that it will take place at the Pike County Courthouse in Magnolia Miss., near McComb. The protest will involve an attempt by large numbers of Negroes to register to vote. Out of 35, 063 Negro residents in Pike County only 207 or 3 percent are registered to vote. This is in contrast to 9,989 white registered voters or 82.1% of those over 21.

This announcement followed the bombing of the Burglund Supermarket, a prominent Negro business establishment, two blocks from the McComb Freedom House. The explosion occurred at 12:50 A.M. Today. The blast was the sixth in a series of bombings over the past two months. Three churches have been burned. The McComb Freedom House and the home of Charles Bryant, local Negro active in the Freedom Party, were also bombed.

COFO staff indicated that this incident is part of an intensified campaign of violence and intimidation. On Tuesday night two crosses were burned ~~XXXXXX~~ at the homes of local white residents - the first since January. The City Council

McComb Cont.

last week passed an ordinance aimed at preventing all leafleting and also increased the maximum misdemeanor penalties to three hundred dollars and / or ninety days in jail. At the bombing last night, two arrests were made. At 1:45 A.M. McComb Police arrested Clint Hopson, Negro law student assigned to the COFO Project, for allegedly obstructing an officer. He is now free on bond. At 3:00 A.M. Roy Lee, local Negro active in voter registration, was arrested on charges of inciting to riot, trying to do bodily harm to a police officer, cursing, and disturbing the peace. He is still in jail pending attempts to raise the \$950 bond required.

The past several months have seen a substantial increase in Ku Klux Klan terror in Southwestern Mississippi. This and the increasing tempo of violence as the summer ends has prompted COFO staff to file a specific request for protection with the FBI and the Justice Dept. They are requesting the presence of federal officials at next Tuesday's Freedom Day..

~~Tchula: 8:35PM: Mat Herron call Geo. Ballis in McComb.~~

Meridian: 8:40PM: busy

Hattiesburg: 8:40PM: Joyce Brown reports that Lawrence Guyot is still in jail as is Billy McDonald. These two want to know when they are getting out. Hunter Morey talked to Joyce and explained.

~~Indianola: 8:45PM: John Catlett in contact with Jackson - MATS report to him.~~

~~MSKINNY KNOB MOUNTAIN, NEAR Vicksburg~~

Greenwood: 8:30PM: cursory report from Grn\*wd: will get details later. Silas McGee, local.

Greenwood: 9:00 Shot in left cheek bone, ~~in~~ at restaurant Lulu's, Ave. H. Will be okay - just got word - now in Leflore County hosp. Sitting in car outside of Lulu's, apparently resting or sleeping, bullet came through window - one low caliber bullet - rushed to hospital. He was alone in car when shot. White stationwagon, with at least one white guy - 64 with long antenna. Were refused (Bob Zellner and Mark Winter) admittance because didn't have shirts on - they had used them to stop blood. Rushed to emergency room. Report from Dr. Jackson, local Negro doctor, who SNCC asked to go down. Inside hospital, Officer Logan of city force was heard to say: "Well, they finally got that nigger Silas. Isn't that wonderful." Things tense around there. Community very worked up. As Silas fell out of car reported to have said: "Well they got me at last". Car going direction of Broad on Avenue H. Car went by very slowly and dimmed lights and stopped about a few feet from Silas, facing same way. Shot and drove off very quickly. Must have known he was there. Driver was heavy set white man, with ~~long~~ bushy hair, wearing T-shirt. Man sitting next to him do not have description on - obviously the guy 8 who actually did shooting. Only two in car - both in early twenties. 7:35 shot.

19, 3095 12<sup>th</sup> Ave, Marion Iowa - State U. of Iowa

Jackson: Steve Smith and four other people (local) all Negro were riding in automobile on Longano Drive between West Capitol and West Maple - shot at about 8-10 times by a late model Olds, license T 1506. Contained two big fellows about 25 years old, white, driver crew cut about 6 feet, two hundred pounds, passenger darker hair and longer and was thinner, maybe 175 pounds. Olds had tan or dark beige top. About 8:45 pm. proceeded to house at 867 Powell Dr. - 354 1026 - when got there there was a Jackson City cop car right there - white with green cross (accident prevention sign) on side - COFO talked to the police and told sorry, and told Olds still following - Olds appeared and policeman said: "we got some colored people who say some niggers were shooting at them."

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page 8 He said this over radio to station. Steve said this indicates (both presence  
of car) and attitude of cop) and fact that cop car drove off right away when Olds  
Aug. 15 appeared, indicates possible collusion. COFO car was hit, probably in oil filter  
and fan and rest of shots in back. Called agent Long (Hunter called) in Jackson,  
and he didn't seem too interested till Hunter got hot and read Title 18, USC  
section 3052 - which provides FBI with power to arrest for any felony they  
have reasonable grounds to believe person committed. Agent Long said would  
send man out, but only under pressure. AFTER ~~XXX~~ called local police and (Hunter called)  
then Captain Ray - FBI had not called Steve (at least 15 minutes had elapsed)  
Sargent Underwood at Jackson Police didn't want to take story and  
referred to detective bureau - didn't get detective guy's name but  
took story and said would send car right away. Called Captain Ray -  
he took story - seemed concerned - wanted to know which detective and  
said would check into it. COFO has not sent car over. Called back  
Steve and no car or call had come. In back of house. He feels that  
he could definitely identify the car and probably people, but afraid  
that cops carefully planned the thing in way not to get a real case,  
by planting false story in record. Police car left and no one around.  
Hunter calling Steve - he is outside apparently talking to police  
detectives. FBI has not called. Police probably acting OK. Olds  
has come around one more time since Hunter last talked to them. Not  
sure if safe - would be good to have car from here? Don't know.  
Hunter talking to Gwen Brittian - apparently police didn't show identify  
themselves, but radio seems to be tied up with police stateion. Hunter  
called Agent Long, he says called Police and they said they are out there -  
he doesn't seem to be doing anything themselves. Wants us to inform him  
if our people move from that address.

Bob Weil  
Hunter  
Wadell

Greenwood: Heidi called - there now - went first to Mileston then on -  
will be back tomorrow: Peter Orris and Heidi in accident - there car flipped  
over in a rain storm landed on its back - neither were hurt because of  
seat belts. Now in Greenwood, the car near there.

Jackson: Steve Smith calling Hunter. Steve forgot to mention in earlier report  
that the Olds had thrown a pop bottle and a brick at our car. The brick was  
the one, apparently, which hit the windshield, cracking it all along its width.  
The plainclothesmen found three bullet ~~xxxx~~ holes so far: 1) one foot behind  
the left rear tire, 2) went through center of license plate and they found it,  
a piece of copper, evidently a pellet or a 22 shot. The plainclothesmen took  
it with them. 3) another shown by a dent on the bumper guard just to the right of  
the license plate. At ~~mid~~ about 8:35 the police left. Steve said that "You  
know damn well that the police aren't going to protect us since they  
evidently put ~~xxxx~~ them on us." (Time of report on this WATS ~~XXXXXXPM~~)X9:35PM)

Jackson: 10:05PM: There was a beating outside the COFO office here of Phil Hucker,  
The car the assailants were in may have been the same that earlier this evening shot  
at COFO workers Steve Smith, et al. Details later.

Greenwood: 10:20PM: We reported to Grn\*wd. the incident outside the COFO office.  
Judy Richardson reports:

Silas McGee is being moved to Jackson for emergency treatment. The bullet entered  
through the left side of his face near the temple and went down to the left side of  
his throat where it is lodged. Condition critical, Dr. wants him moved to Jackson  
stat.

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Jackson: 10:35PM: Three doctors have just arrived to take care of Phil Hecker, who has a large gash on his head. Apparently beaten with a base-ball bat. Police are here too--both of whom took about 40 min. to get here. Descr. of the beating makes it seem likely that the beaters in this incident ~~max~~ are the same that Steve met with. Plates--Rankin Co.

Greenwood: 10:50PM: We report to Grn\*wd that there was apparently a third incident: maybe the same car (brown and gold chromey pontiac--) Shot at a boy at a place here on Lynch St. up by Jackson College. Jackson COFO is trying to track this down. Jackson got this report from Ted Seever.

JACKSON: 11:00PM: There is a cross burning at corner of Lynch and Terry junction. People from here going down to look right now.

Jackson: Steve Smith will call back about 11:30 for further instructions - would like car to pick them up, so they don't have to go in car that was shot at. ~~THE CROSS IS BURNING IN THE JUNCTION~~ 11:10PM: report taken -----The cross has been ~~taken away~~ extinguished. One Squad car and one fire-engine were there.

Jackson: The Negro boy shot in Jackson tonight was Willie Gynes, about 18. He is presently in the emergency ward of University Hospital. Medical Committee has been asked to go over and check on his condition and insure good treatment - secretary said "we probably won't send anyone over, just call" - though advised that the necessary information would not be given over the phone. They will call back "shortly". (report typed 11:20PM)

Greenwood: 11:45PM: The FBI showed up at the Grn\*wd office. They say that COFO can't move the car that is still parked at Lulu\*s, although in the interim there has been a bomb threat on this car. The FBI don't seem to be acting materially in the interests of the plaintiffs.

Jackson: Cross burned in front of main administration building of Milsaps College tonight and 16 crosses burned ~~in~~ in SE La. - all at 11:00 pm - according to UPI. FBI agent in Jackson office reported a cross burned in front of Sun and Sand.

Meridian: 12:05AM: Rudy Lombard was stopped twice in the last half hour by Mer. police and asked what kind of <sup>radio</sup> we had in the Plymouth. Asked type of receiver it had and asked to see ~~their~~ license . On the way from the office and on the way to, the license--both times they asked to see the drivers license. This indicated that there will probably be harrassment of radio installers for COFO all over the state (esp. Meridian). The FCC should be notified. They looked in the trunk the first time he was stopped. Local ordinance in Mer which prohibits the reception of police communications--

Spoke to Jesse Morrid about buses to Atlantic City. Call Meridian about situation with staff and volunteers going to Convention.

Laurel: 12:25AM: Check back in the WATS line about a beating report.

Jackson 12:20/ Hunter/ FBI agent Tom Collins seems the most friendly and "movement sympathetic. 5 agents showed up to cover all the incidents in Jackson.

Dchula: 12:35AM: Casey called and asked us to call Grn\*wd to have Judy call her back. Casey said buses were leaving for ~~Metantic~~ Atlantic City from the office at 1:00PM on Thursday. Call Ruleville and Meridian and tell them this. This is for staff and delegates, first.