

Freedom Vote for Governor
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Statement on Events in Jackson, Miss. -- November 1 and 2, 1963

November 1. Nicolas Bosanquet, Claire Fellow at Yale University, Graduate of Cambridge University in England, and a British subject, along with Robert Honeysucker, a Negro senior music major at Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Miss. were arrested when they attempted to enter a public auditorium in Jackson to hear a concert given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra of London, England. They were told that the concert performance was open only to members of the Jackson Music Association: The two had bought tickets on public sale.

The next day, November 2, the two were released on \$500 bond apiece. They are to appear ^f for trial on Monday, on charges of disturbing the peace.

November 2. (app. 12:30 a.m.) While driving to the airport to pick up some rented cars and to see Bob Moses, Campaign manager for the Freedom Vote Campaign, off to Memphis, Tenn., four SNCC workers were stopped by Rankin County police in three patrol cars. After questioning and releasing Moses, the police told the four Negro campaign workers to leave. The four were: Charlie Cobb of Springfield, Mass., Langston Mitchell of New Orleans, La., Jesse Harris of Jackson, Miss., and Ivanhoe Donaldson of New York. When the SNCC workers told the police that they were waiting for some rental papers that had been left in Jackson (necessary to rent the cars), the police told them they could either go to jail or leave.

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David Dennis, 23-year-old CORE Field Secretary in Jackson, and Michael Sayer, a 22-year-old SNCC worker were bringing the papers out to the airport. They were stopped by the airport police, interrogated for about 20 minutes and threatened with 72 hours in the Brandon jail with charges of trespassing. "The federal government doesn't have any jurisdiction over this airport," the police said. On the way back to Jackson, Dennis and Sayer spotted the other four SNCC workers in a Billups gas station. Cobb and Mitchell and Harris were being forced by police to stand outside the car with their hands on the car for 1 hour and 15 minutes while the police interrogated, harassed and threatened Ivanhoe Donaldson. Donaldson was asked if whites were better than Negroes, and when he replied "no", the interrogating officer took out his pistol and rapped him on the knuckles with the butt of the gun. On answering another question, he was again rapped. Finally the officer placed the muzzle of the pistol against Donaldson's temple, cocked it, and said, "Nigger, I think I'm going to kill you right now." At this point another officer interrupted and said "No, you can't kill that nigger now; it's not time." The four were finally released after threats and "warnings."

Returning from Memphis at 4:30 a.m. Bob Moses attempted to call campaign headquarters on four different pay telephones, hearing in the background all four times: "you'd better not call that number again." His return to town was otherwise without incident.