

Savannah, Georgia
August 20, 1965

POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE
MAJOR URBAN AREAS

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

VII. OBJECTIVES SOUGHT BY MINORITY COMMUNITY
AND POSSIBLE POINTS OF CONTENTION

On August 12, 1965, Chief of Police Leo B. Ryan, Savannah, Georgia, advised the Summer Community Organization for Political Education (SCOPE), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) sponsored a "procession" from the Metropolitan Church at 37th and West Broad Streets, Savannah, to the Kayton Homes Community Center on West Gwinnett Street, all within the Negro residential area. This "procession" was held apparently for the purpose of arousing Negro interest in voter registration. Only about 30 individuals started the march and only about 53 were in the "procession" at the time it arrived at the Community Center.

Also on August 12, 1965, this group sponsored a "procession" from the SCLC Headquarters at Park Avenue and West Broad Street to the Eastside Theater at 732 East Broad Street beginning at 7:30 PM. About 50 Negro youths started in the march from the headquarters and about 40 more joined the "procession" en route.

After a short rally the Negroes departed from the Eastside Theater about 9:00 PM and returned to West Broad Street and Park Avenue where they disbanded.

No incidents occurred during either "procession". Another "procession" scheduled for August 14, 1965 was cancelled, apparently due to lack of interest.

8 - Bureau
2 - Savannah (1 - 157-618)
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