Chronology events

6/15 Wed. Meridith March arrives in Grenada, in the afternoon. overwhelming response from the Negro Community. Power structure hire 4 Negro registrars and open books until 9:00. After rally on square (Dr. Green and Flag) 160 people register. Mass meeting with Dr. King, march to square with 200 people. Only 20 are able to register before books close.


6/17 V.R. By now 1300 have been registered

6/18 organizing

6/19 SUN \\
6/20 organizing and V.R.

6/22 V.R. It is decided at mass meeting to integrate theatre.

6/23 V.R. 7 try to go to theatre, 50 go down to watch. 7 refused tickets, sit down in front of movie, joined by 7 more. they went inside the lobby to try to get tickets, are arrested. Jim Bulloch arrested for "inciting to riot" when he refuses to asks the bystanders to disperse.

6/24 V.R. and bail raising

6/25 everyone out of jail. went to end of Meridith March

6/26 SUN Merith march

6/27 V.R.

6/28 \\
6/29 \\
7/1 \\
7/2 -

7/3 SUN -

7/4 Staff and local activists invited to party out in Sweetholme district. Arrested for trespass.

7/5 Sweetholme people being arrested on warrents total-27

7/6 Raise bail

7/7 People bailed out. Mass meeting at Vincent Chapel decided to have a protest march. Police arrest #2243 for violation of parade ordinance.

7/8 Raise bail, meetings etc.

7/9 Begin massive integration attempts. some service some not. some violence. This night there is attempted assassination of two civil rights lawyers and a community relation man. Car shot up with machin gun.

7/10 SUN attempt to integrat white churchs. (all refused) Demonstrat that afternoon at County Jail lawn (after we had been prevented from marching to the jail we "drifted" there). As meeting breaks up (in the nick of time) the troopers appear and then charge the crowd of bystanders (negroes) beating many with rifle butts. Most marchers escape.

7/11 Grenada Blackout announced. more integration 51 Demands presented.

7/12 more integration, parade ordinance declared unconstitutional first pickets downtown in support of boycott. demands refused

7/13 more integration. 45 pickets arrested mm downtown.

7/14
7/14  1st big day march led by Hosea (220). Prisoners from Parchmen prison (Negros) are used to "gaurd" the statue. Sheriff would not let people into the Court house to register except 3 at a time.

7/15  Afternoon march to the courthouse (250) to get slips for City registration (we had discovered that all of those people who had been registered during the Meridith March had been tricked by the registrar in that they had not been told to go to the City Hall and sign on the City registration books nor had they been given the slips to take to the City Hall). The Sheriff would only let people in 4 at a time. We refused to go along with that at of fear of harrassment. Integrated Grenada Lake. Meeting of Business & Professional people, they pledge 100% support. 1st Night March to the courthouse. Started with 250 went from Bellflowers to Courthouse, left before the troopers were ready, went to Union St. and held a rally about 600 marched back to the church were we sung "To much love"/

7/16  Day March (200), Night March

7/17 SUN  2nd attempt to integrate churches. Night March

7/18  48 Pickets arrested in front of Messinas Store. loaded into th bus by the Parchman prisoners. Night March.

7/19  integration. Night March

7/20  Court in Oxford, Nite March

7/21  Court in Oxford Nite march

7/22  Night March. Injunction Handed Down

7/23  Over 700 whites gathered on the square to attack our march. this was in reaction to the injunction. Included were 5 carloads from Philadelphia Miss brought in by the merchants. Troopers claimed to be caught by surprise and said they couldnt protect us. we didn't march. The whites then tried to attack the church. they were turned away by the troopers.

7/24 SUN  3rd attempt to integrate churches. Another mob on the square about 1,000, troopers agains advised us against marching. we marched anyway (200). We just walked by the courthouse without stopping catching the mob by surprise. They tried to attack the church. they were trund away.

7/25  Power structre starts campaign to keep white from downtown area on theory that if deprived of audience we would go away. there were aboot 500 on square. we circled the square and went back to the church. we had 220

7/26  Nite March to square (200) with rally. There were about 100 whites.

7/27  Nite March (190) few whites.

7/28  nite march 180

7/29  nite march. somewese during these days Grady Carroll constable of beat 1 plead guilty to contempt of Federal Corlyt charges fo attacking a C.R. lawyer who was serving him with a supena.

7/30  Night March. durn the day 4 were arrested during picketing. 2 for blocking a driveway and 2 for trying to find out what hap
7/31 SUN  4th attempt to integrate church. Nite march. 4 arrested for being in intersection when light changes to yellow.

8/1  E. B. Cottenreader arrested for touching a lady while picketing. Nite march "BOYCOTT OVER" LEAFLETS APPEAR

8/2  Nite march

8/3  "

8/4  "

8/5  Nite march, At a fund raising party out in Tie Plant the sheriff and the trooper throw tear gas into the building and then arrest about 50 people on various charges.

8/6  Nite march 220

8/7 SUN  5th attempt to integrate churches Nite march

8/8  This was the first day that the Federal Registrars were working in the Negro Community. They had had an office in the basement of the Post Office downtown but because of the aura of fear around the downtown area only 22 people were in to register in about two weeks. TUESDAY today they registered about 300 (this included people who were registering for the City) At about 3:30 we started a voter registration rally outside the Chat & Chew Cafe they had their offices. After a while the police came up and told us to clear the street which we did. A little while later the trooper and police began to shoot tear gas into the crowd. About 20 canister were thrown then they started to beat white people with their clubs. About 20 people were injured.

8/9  Tonight we had another rally in front of the Chat & Chew. A large mob of white were on the corner of Union and Commerce When we started our march to the square they attacked the front of the line. They then broke away and headed up town. When we arrived at the square we had about 250- there were 500-1,000 in the area and over 400 on the square itself. We managed to get onto the north side of the square but were eventually driven off and reformed on the far north sidewalk. All this time we were being pelted with rocks, bottles, pipes, cherry bombs, etc. While we were on the north sidewalk some one threw a tear gas bob at us and we had to walk through the gas as we retreated from the square. During this time there were numbers of state troopers and police standing at the sideline but they did absolutely nothing to stop the attacks. When we got back, to the corner of Union and Commerce we were again attacked. There were at least 40 injured.

8/10  We marched again tonight. This was a very significant march as it was composed almost entirely of adult men. Marking the first time that they had really shown up to demonstrate. The mood was obviously one of "Women and Children stay home, I'm going downtown tonight" we had about 250. They were determined to have the demonstraton and not be driven back although there was very little feeling of advocacy of counter-violence. As we started to hold or rally in front of Chat & Chew the mob at the corner becage to shoot at us with heavy slingshots.
loaded with opened chain links and fishing sinkers and cherry bombs." When we got uptown the troopers and game wardens began to clear the square area after the first cherry bombs. we began to get on the square th but the troopers ordered us off. Willy Bolden (who had come up from the convention to lead the march) decided that they were forming a trap and led the march back to the church. There were about 4 or 5 people injur by the sling shots.

8/11 The city council passed an ordinance forbidding anyone to go on the square. We had a afternoon picked-march (80) that got on the square. But the nite march (250) was not allowed to get on the square.

8/12 We decided to test the ordinance and get on the square. 18 volunteers were to try to climb onto the square. When they did they were repeatedly shoved off. eventually 7 were arrested. Just as we began to leave the square the line of troopers charged us and began to hit people with their rifle butts. There were about 4 or 5 injured. the worst was Emma Cunningham a 13 year old crippled girl.

8/13 nite march

8/14 SUN 20 people were arrested for trying to integrate the Lst Baptist church. They were arrested for "Disturbing Devine Worship". nite march

8/15 Nite March

8/16 "

8/17 "

8/18 "

8/19 "

8/20 " Jim Bullochs car fire bombed.

8/21 SUN last attempt to integrate churches. after refusal, pickets the baptist and presbyterian church. Nite march.

8/22 nite march

8/23 "

8/24 nite march. After the march 7 people were arrested on warrants for "Disturbing the Peace" from Monday march. (They claim that we started singi to soon). Over the next two weeks another 10 or so were arrested. Court in oxford to hold Suggs etc. contemp

8/25 Nite march. continue case in Oxford. case continued until later

8/26 "

8/27 "

8/28 SUN "

8/29 In the morning we marched 300 students and parents over to Carrie Dotson to pick up Freedom of Choice transfer forms (about 80 parents and 220 students). Only the parents were allowed on the campus. A cherry bomb was thrown at the march on the way back. nite march, increase in heckling.

8/30 continued effort to get parents to sign transfer forms. nite march. whites increasing heckling.

8/31 registration day at school of choice. 300 go to white school to register. nite march, heckling
2nd registration day. 100 more go to register. nite march lots of whites downtown.

This was supposed to be the 1st day of school but it was post-
one until Sept. 12. The white high school played it's
1st football game. some of the Negroes went, they were beaten
and had the car windows smashed. no march.

nite march.

E.B. and Robert Johnson arrested after swearing out a warrent
on a white man that attacked them at Bloodworths. He swore
out a counter warrent on them. Robert bailed out. Was then att
attacked by another white man. Nite march.

Bruce Hartford attacked by white man. Willie Bolden arrested
on the old march warrents when he went out to talk to the
police. Robert Johnson arrested on warrent swore out by the
the man who attacked him yesterday. Afternoon march and
a night march.

Afternoon march and evening march.

Morning march (160), and afternoon march (140) when the after-
noon march reached the square they found the whites were alrea
marching around the square, as we usually do. Our march fell
in behind theirs neatly filling the square. The night march (200)
would not fit onto the square as they had about 100
strung out around the square. We marched on the outside of
them march. there was a great deal of heckling. One man hit
Alphonso and another hit Mick Bibler.

Nite march with whites again on the square. We had about
200. Cottonreader beaten by several white. Lula Williamson
hit by lady with an umbrella.

The 1st day of school. A mob of whites was spread around the
area of the school on all the streets approaching the white
school. Most of the Negro children who were driven to school
managed to reach the campus. But those who tried to walk to
school (the majority of the Negroes) were attacked by roving
bands of club wielding whites who were vectored to the Negro
children by radio equiped pic-up trucks. (Approximately half of
the 400 who had originally intended to transfer had been
re-entered in the Negro school as a result of massive pressure
on the parents from the white community, threatening loss of
jobs etc.) Initially about 100 made it to the school in cars
and another 100 were beaten back by whites. Those who the
beaten back (the all the ones who tried to walk to school)
gathered at the church. They made another attempt to reach the
school about 9:00 and were again beaten back by the whites.
(the worst heart was Emma Cunningham who was hit with an iron
bar, kicked, beaten, and had a gun shoved up against her head
and was threatened with being killed). R.B. and a crop of
pickets went downtown. They were attacked by a truck load
of club wielding whites. Two of the pickets were hospitalized, as was Emma Cunningham. At noon the school let out. The principle called all the white girls to the "office" and then dismissed the white boys and the Negroes. Those who tried to make it home were attacked by the white mob that was surrounding the school. 2 or 3 were hospitalized. As the night march began Lula Williamson was arrested on an assault charge (from when the lady hit her with an umbrella) and put on $1,000 bail.

The march was called off when the troopers promised that if we didn't march that night that they would guarantee protection of the students tomorrow. Total was injured for the day—about 45.

About 100 students try to go to school (all in cars) 4 or 5 of the cars are attacked by a white mob surrounding the school the trooper deliberately turn their back on the mob as do the police. About 10 were injured. Major Wright (SCLC staff) was arrested for "trespass" when he went to see what was going on. (only person arrested that day) A Civil Rights lawyer was beaten by a mob called by Grady Carroll who he was trying to talk to.

At 3:00 (when school was to let out) we went from the church towards the school to try to protect the students as they left. We were stopped by troopers at College and Margin who told us that they had set up a perimeter of 2 block around the school and that no one but parents and students would be allowed within it and that they would see to the safety of the children. We return to the church. The children were protected on the way back.

The night march had about 170. When we got to the square we were attacked by about 500 whites who threw stones, shot slingshots etc. There were NO police or troopers on the square (contrary to custom). After pelting us with stones etc. the mob charged. After a number of the march was injured the troopers moved in from the side street where they were hiding and stopped the mob. There were 4 seriously injured. City manager ousted.

86 children were marched to school (march stopped at Margin and College in what became the tradition). Nite March 170 all well protected.

9/13

9/14
86 children were marched to school (march stopped at Margin and College in what became the tradition). Nite March 170 all well protected.

9/15
Court held in Oxford. No school. Grady Carrol given 4 month sentence from old contempt case (way back in July) Nite March 270.

9/16
60 children march to school. 25 sent back because of minor technicalities in transfer forms. Court still in session. Nite March 190

9/17
Nite March 170

9/18
13 whites arrested by F.B.I. on conspiracy charges for beatings. Nite March 240

9/19
162 marched to school, 32 turned around. Mass meeting with Dr. King and Joan Baez who had been here since Fri. about 800-900 attend. Nite March 670!

9/20
170 students march to school, 30 turned back. 120 nite march.
9/21 morning march to school. statement calling for end to violence published by 300 local whites. 160nite march.
9/22 mor. march. nite march 150
9/23 " 160
9/24 Grady Carroll starts serving sentence. nite march 100
9/25 SUN no march cause of church confusion at 1st baptist. nite march 160
9/27 " 140
9/28 " 100
9/29 Pak n Sak sues for $960,000 because of boycott and gets injunction. nite march 180
9/30 no mass meeting because of confusion of time and football game and rain.
10/1 nite march 100
10/2 SUN " 170
10/3 n no march, football game
10/4 nite march 170
10/5 " 100 (Lester arrested Drunk driving)
10/6 Nite march 170 -this was our 100th march in Grenada- there was a short gathering at the courthouse. When the police brought up the bus we left. McEachin rehired as city manager. nite march 100
10/7 nite march 100
10/8 no march not enough people at mass meeting
10/9 SUN nite march 102
10/10 " 90
10/11 " 80
10/12 " 100
10/13 " 75
10/14 no march not enough people.
10/15 nite march 90 (Jim leaves because of rape business)
10/16 nite march 90
10/17 no march not enough people.
10/18 no march. instead we had a meeting about what to do about the harrassment the children were undergoing at Lizzie Horn and John Rundle. Almost half of the children who had originally gotten in (about 140) had withdrawn because of 1-economic pressure 2-physical harrassment from white students 3-harrassment from Mr teachers and principles and 40 because of being expelled (when ever a Negro child and a white get in trouble the Negro is expelled). Typical cases of harrassment-1-Negro boy sits down in cafeteria with same table as white boys. principle orders him to move. he refuses. the principle yanks him from his seat tearing part of his jacket. 2-A white boy attackes Dorothy Allen (high school girl) (he slaps her) she fights back. Both taken to principle. Dorothy told to bring her Mother to school next day, nothing as far as known done to white boy. The meeting decided to send a delegation of parents to see the principle to request a Parents Teachers meeting. there was about 150 at the meeting.
Parents delegation call on school principle to request meeting he refuses to set up a meeting, says he will meet individually with any parent with a problem. At mass meeting it is decided to stage a protest walkout the next day. Nite march 2220

Another attempt by parents to talk to principle. No success. Nite march 189 Grady Carroll is released from jail after serving only less then 30 days of his 4 month sentence.

At 10:00 A.M. 55 students walk out of Rundle, 34 out of Lizzie Horn, 37 out of Willa Wilson, 102 out of Carrie Dotson, and 7 out of Tie Plant. Later 11:00 A.M. a delegation of parents goes to see the principle superintendent. They are not allowed to go the campus, by state troopers. A smaller group of 3 or 4 (Tehe were 20 in the 1st group) then try. They also are turned around. Afternoon march to square 280 nite march 200

Parents of children who walked out get letter saying that their children suspended until Nov. 1 nite march 160

Parents march of 214 which tried to march on the White school. They are all arrested at R College and Margin. Earlier 20 parents had gone to the school to picket, they were told by Wallick-principle of Lizzie Horn- the he didn't want to talk to no niggers. The troopers then made the parents leave. About 700 of those arrested taken to Parchman Prison then 25 brought back. Most of those under 12 who were arrested are released (about 25 of them) the rest are under bail of $125.

Get information that Robert Johnson, Lester Hankerson, Major Wright, Herman Dozier, Bill Harris were beaten by trooper after being arrested and put in jail. In the noon time 46 pickets go to picket the white school. They are turned around. Later 31 pickets try again and are arrested when they refuse to move. (according to the press they sat down n the sidewalk at street as apparently yesterdays march did). Nite march of 90 '(65 adults). Those arrested today taken taken to Greenville Jail. Those in the County and City Jail taken to Batesville and Oxford Jails.
10/26 Parents protest march to the square 30. The neely twins were shot at near the ice house on the east side. Marchers in Parchman (16 plus) Greenville (15s) City and County (12 and 13s) Batesville and Watervalely (teusdays)
10/27 Morning parents march 30. Noon 26 pickets go to school. 9 of the youngest sent back by police. Other 17 arrested. Nite mare 100, Clayton refuses habeous corpus request (with understanding that a deal will be worked out)
10/28 Police release all under 18 on o.r. Also all those over 18 who are in school. Bail on most of the remainder reduced to $54. Staff not included in deal. About 15 still in jail. Nite march 140
10/29 Preparation of court cases. J.T. and Robert shot at after mass meeting. Nite march 160
10/30 SUN No march cause hosen spoke to long.
10/31 Court in Oxford on school. Superintendant gives boycott fig. 23 walkout-235; Mon. 1250; Tue. 1500; Wed 1810; Thru. 1900; Fri. 2200. No march cause of halloween. School boycott called off.
11/1 Court in Oxford still. Kids go back to school. No march court; in Grenada about pak n sak. A.G. Allen owner of Pak n Sak testifies that 1-he know only 3 or 4 of those named in the suit. 2-he don't know of any of the allegation. 3-he's never read the suit. 4-he don't know who wrote it.
11/3 Court in Oxford and Grenada. Lester collapses and is taken to hospital from beating.
11/4 Court in Oxford. Nite march 105
11/5 Tommy green given 5 years in reform school by judge Cofer for arrest on march and because he was on some sort of probation.
11/6 SUN Early mass meeting no march
11/7 Clayton hands down order. 1-injoining parents and students from demonstrating at school. 2-inj9ing them from organizing boycotts. 3-ordering every one treated equal. 4-ordering meetings set up with parents, teachers etc. motions made to injoin SCLC hearing not set. 5 also set up procedure channel for complaints i.e. homeroom, principle, superintenedant, court.
11/8 Election day. 1300 votes for negro candidate Clifton Whitley. 3000 for eastland. 800 for walker. Negroes were threatened in oxberry and the plant. 16 brought in complain of not being able to vote.
11/9  Organizing for Mrs. Kings Concert. Total of 16
        voter complaints turned into to Fed. Reg.
11/10  ?
11/11  ?
11/12  Court for Juveniles postponed until thursdays. Staff
        leaves for retreat in Frogmore S.C. Leaving Major Wright
        and Jim Bulloch.
11/13 SUN  Mrs. King fund raising "Freedom Concert". About 1,000
        attend. About 1,000$ raised (guess)
11/14  Municipale election for city councilman to fill term o f
        J.D. BOone who resigned as a result of the school
        crise (II)
        we think. The movement supported Tower (tolliver?) but
        we didn't do any work on it. Tower-500, James 400, Br
        Brown-300. Run-off scheduled for 11/29
11/15  N.M. 60(?)
11/16  n.m. 100 (?)
11/17  Court for juveniles. All those under 13 yrs old had their
        charges dropped and were released to their
        parents.
        All those under 51 over 13 plead "NOT GUILTY" We entered
        a motion for individual trials which (performe) was
        granted. No date was set for any of the trials.
11/18  Staf z returns to Grenada. n.m. 125
11/19  Some pickets (it is very hard to get pickets now on any
        given day we may or may not have pickets).
        Grenada Advocate, introductory sheet
11/20 SUN  Early mass meeting
11/21q  6:30 A.M. pickets
11/22  
11/23  "  Judge Cofer rules on inj. says we failed to prove that he
        should lift inj.
11/24  Thanksgiving
11/25  first issue of Grenada Advocate.
11/26  
11/27  
11/28 SUN  first meeting of poor peoples committee about 25
11/29  n.m. 70. Class on welfare law begins (p.p.c.)
11/30  n.m. 70
12/1  We received word that Alphonso Harris (former project
        director) was shot and killed in Albany. There was great
        grief in the community. Candle light march through
        the community 200
12/2  Mass meeting in several churches for blackout. We
        had decided in an earlier staff meeting to have one meeting
        a night in several diferant churches and then a march
        through that community. When J.T. left to go to Albany because
        of Alphonso he left Bob Johnson in temporary charge
        on the spur of the moment changed the plan and
        announced mass meeting in sever al churches at once. Each
        meeting was very poorly attended and there was no march.
        2nd PFC meeting
12/3  usual Sat. crowd. no march
12/4  4:00P.M. memorial service for Alphonso. 60 in candlelight
        march. 3rd PFC meeting.