MISSISSIPPI FREE PRESS

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

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Jackson, Mississippi — Saturday, October 6, 1962

Meridian in College Doesn't Take 'Never'

Having trouble keeping track of events in Mississippi?

See "Directions" on page two...

On-The-Spot Report: Citizens Form Vote League in Ruleville

RULEVILLE, Miss. — While Mississippi blacked out the hour long television program "Mississippi

and the 15th Amendment," Negro citizens of Ruleville, who figure prominently in the CBS documentary on Negro voting difficulties, rallied at Williams Chapel in the face of recent shootings and continuned threats, to form the beginning of a Ruleville Voter's League.

Several area Negroes presented a letter to Rulesville Mayor, the local police, and the FBI.

FBI In Area

The FBI has been in the area for two weeks, investigating the shootings, the houses of vote registrants participation, and the wounding of two local Negro girls.

File Statements

Citizens of Ruleville have filed statements with the Justice Department complaining of economic reprisals, forcing tenants from their plantation, physical violence and unfair treatment at the registrar's office.

A request has been made for immediate federal intervention.

Events in Georgia attempting to register to vote.

Lawyers from the Justice Department were in Ruleville last Thursday. (Continued on Page 1)

Some Students On Campuses In South Support Integration

A couple of news stories from the South indicate that several independent student newspapers in the South, the FRIECE PRESS that many southern campuses students who demanded white arm bands to show their support for Meredith. The move was, the students, said, a move for solidarity. Some of the students also wore buttons that showed two hands clasped. One of the hands was Negro and the other White. Underwood was Meredith's name.

The student news reporters, who were on their way to the school in order to cover the situation, said students in Southern colleges and universities were in favor of Meredith's name. The move to demand Meredith's name was expected because there was no response to the call for lynchings of members to assemble and hold a council of war and no one showed.

KKK Disbands;
No Response To War Call

An Associated Press report following the crisis on the Oxford campus said that Walter A. Bailey, president of the Mississippi Ku Klux Klan, had announced his resignation. Bailey, who lives in Biloxi, Mississippi, said that 500 members of the Klan are now on their own and without obligation. The move to disband came when there was no response to the call for lynchings of members to assemble and hold a council of war and no one showed.

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Moderate Wins Georgia Election

The votes of 20,000 Atlanta Negroes defeated Georgia's Robert James Davis in his bid for renomination to the House of Representatives. The rest of the county unit vote system insured the nomination, and then election of moderate Charles Weitner by over 13,000 votes.

The Georgia legislature, controlled by rural interests, first sought to comply with the Supreme Court reapportionment ruling by altering the unit system more in form than content. The Federal District Court ruled the revision unconstitutional, and state Democrats organized the primary on a popular vote basis.

Events in Georgia parallel what well might happen in Jackson if an accurate reapportionment is made.

Violence Surrounds Close Of 18 Month Battle;
World Watches US Win Struggle With State

James Meredith finally became enrolled in the University of Miss-

issippi at 8:00 a.m. in the morning on the first day of the eighteenth month after he made his first attempt. As most of the world now knows, he was escorted onto the campus by United States Marshals the preceding evening and spent the night in a dormitory on campus. And as the world also knows, the night that followed was one of violence, tear gas and death.

Two men were fatally wounded during the rioting around the Lyceum Building which housed the marshals. The body of a news correspondent for a London newspaper was found sprawled near the riot area. The other dead man was an Oxford

student. The world was astonished that two men could meet such fates and over 75 others were injured on the law-

lege campus. Not until sometime after the tear gas used to eject the turmoil had cleared did the people know what the rioting was all about. It appeared that the rioting was over, but as the police moved in to clear the area the nomination continued.

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Colonial Bakers Get Contract Here
While Harts Workers Continue
To Picket For Their Recognition

Local 385 of the American Bakers' Union have settled their contract dispute with Colonial Bak-

ery. Paul Maclag, International representative of the union told the FREE PRESS that the company met the demands of the union before the workers had a chance to strike. There was some ques-

tion as to whether the company would force the employees to show their strength by not yielding the final penny that they demanded. The wage increase that was finally agreed upon was eight cents for the first year and six cents for the next two years.

Reject Seven Cents

Last week, by a vote of 78 to five the union men rejected the company's offer of seven, six and six-

cents raises. The union also in-

sisted upon getting a strike clause which would ensure any worker who walked on a picket line, he would not be fired or in any way discriminated against for his action.

This wage increase means that the employees at the Co-


dounar Baking Company are making 25 cents more than some of the Harts bakery workers of an equal position. (Continued on Page 8)

(Continued on Page 8)
Editorial Page

The Siege

During the last few weeks, particularly, the state of Mississippi has been under a strange sort of siege. The result, a leaderless mob mad with rage, attacked United States Presidio Marshall. That same mob accounted for the death of two men. How could this come about? What strange power exist to account for such a happening in our nation in this century?

The siege has been upon the minds of the people of Mississippi and the South, Constantly swamping its existence. The truth, rage for responsibility, and anger for decency. But if the mob is leaderless, where does the siege come from? From the one word that is as descriptive of Mississippi as cotton—which is the word fear.

The people on both sides of the segregation wall are dominated by terrific fear. Fear of the unknown. On the one side, the side that has considered itself in command, the fear takes the form of reprisal; on the other side, the fear takes the form of submission. In both cases the best means of keeping off the unknown.

The entrance of James Meredith, however, brings to mind a new set of fears. He is proud, he is brave, and determined. What about this new man? What about the new questions he asks? What about his claim to equality. What? Why? How? And the siege grows.

There is more, though. Men know how to whip the siege into a coordinated reprisal and systematized horror. Men know the effect of the mass media—radio, television, the newspapers—which set in front of the mass every day, much of the day. If the same thing, in different ways is said over and over, and the heat of the siege can be greatly magnified and put into action. But the siege still controls, there is no leader to the mob.

Although everyone was made well aware by the mass media that Meredith would come to the Woolfolk State Office Building in his attempt to enroll with the college board a week ago, it was not the radio or television or newspaper that told the people to shout evil until they fiercely shook with rage. The people over and over again said the same thing that has been repeated over and over again by the mass media. But all by themselves, the people said the words. All by themselves they climbed to a porch on a domino and shout people with a rifle. All by themselves they killed the two men.

Even though a responsible radio, television, press would be most gratefully received by this newspaper, we understand that it can not be expected. We hope to make clear the advantage the mass media does take of the Mississippi siege. But recognize that even this is not siege itself. The siege itself is fear. We must not fear the man who stands proud, brave, and determined. We must not fear either to claim equality nor the man who claims equality.

We are proud of those few men of the press and those increasing number of business men, who are standing up to the siege themselves, and are paying the way for the rest of us. We must first recognize the siege and then rout it.

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Editor — Charles L. Butts

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I want to tell you how much the Free Press means to me and my family. The Jackson newspapers stand for segregation 100% and print lies about James Meredith to arouse the people against us. I am anxious to receive your newspaper in the mail every week so that I can read about what is happening.

Everyone in my family is very, very happy and proud that Mr. Meredith is going to Ole Miss. He is a brave man and we have prayed for him. Now my little boy wants to go to Ole Miss too.

We all have to get the voice of the people, and we have tried for him. Now my little boy wants to go to Ole Miss, too.

I showed your paper to my only next door and she is reading in money to get the Free Press in the mail like I do.

We had decided at the Mon-

day night meeting that our

work would be much easier if we

could enroll the support of profes-
sional people such as ministers and teachers; for

they are the ones usually look-

ing to leadership in a commu-

nity like Ruleville. That

Monday morning, I went to see

the principal of the local Negro High School. He reacted to me and what we were trying to do, pretty much as all teachers in Mississippi do. He thought that what we were trying to do was fine, but that he could not get involved, and suggested that we go out into the community and work out our support. This attitude, indicating that we wish to be apart from the Ne-

gro community, is fairly com-

mon among Negroes and profes-
sional class (north and south).

Having achieved a cert

ain amount of security and po-

sition, they are not inclined to

risk it, even if it means los-

sing what they know to be right. There is also among them the tendency to su-

stitute the white people as much as possible. They do not like to be reminded that there are Negroes.

Coming back, with a local student, from talking with the principal, we met two of our staff coming up the road with some local students. While we were talking, some

one noticed a police car coming
down the street, heading toward us. The car wasn't

cruising, but coming after someone. Pulling up in front of us, the, driver, who sat at that time, we thought was the Sheriff, called us over. Volunteer work

ers Charles McNair and Law-

ry McNair had voter registra-

tion material under their arms

on clipboards. Seeing this, the

driver asked to look at what

we had and then showed as-

sing of the material, he told Mc-

fair and McNair to get out of

the car. When McNair asked if

they were under arrest, he was

 told yes.

As the car pulled in front

of city hall, they were informed by the driver that he was the

Mayor. Inside city hall, Mc-

Fair commented that it was un-

usual to be picked up and ar-

rested by the Mayor of a town: especially when they were not told what the charges are. The Mayor's answer to

this was that this was an unus-

ual town.

Not so unusual, though.

What happened to McNair and McNair, happens in almost every Mississippi town in which there is a voter registration project. As soon as the local au-

thorities discover that there are voter registration workers ("agitators") in town, an at-

tempt is made to frighten them by arresting them on some trumped up charge. In the case of McNair and McNair it was...
Meredith In Oxford

This is an exclusive report written by one who was on the Ole Miss campus from Sunday afternoon through Monday afternoon during the height of the violence.

The story which early afternoon Sunday, the campus was relatively quiet. The weather was nice. Little activity was in evidence. It was midday and noon. A light breeze was blowing. It was thought that the reason for the lack of activity was that much of the film was concerned with the voting procedures of Tifton, Ga. The campus was busy with a number of activities. The administration was also busy with the registration of Negro students.

Jackson Clergy Send Letters

A group of Jackson ministers sent letters to the governor, the mayor of Jackson, and the sheriff of Hinds County calling for reason, law, and order. The letters stated that Americans must be "united in maintaining the principles upon which our great nation is founded.

The day ended with a peaceful and relatively quiet campus. The students were happy and the administration was pleased. The day ended with a calm and quiet atmosphere.

Colonial Bakers

(Continued from Page 1)

Tea gas then began to go off.

Then guns and other dangerous weapons such as Molotov cocktails began to appear on the campus. The police and the administration were aware of the situation, but they did not take action.

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MOB VIOLENCE OPPOSED BY MISS. BUSINESSMEN

In a night attack on the Jackson Daily News and other ele-
dents of our state’s racial print medium, 135 Missis-
iippi professionals and business leaders called for the publication of inflammatory statements.

Local newspapers have continued to print letters and re-
ports urging violent resistance to James Meredith’s entry into the University of Missis-
ippi. Jackson radio stations 3 weeks later falsely announced that federal forces were about to arrest Barnett and urged people to form a human blockade around the gover-
nor’s mansion.

Fear Business Loss
The businessmen are ap-
parently concerned about eco-
nomic injuries caused by the anti-Meredith agitation. When Meredith was refused admis-
sion to the State Office Build-
ing in a registration attempt, some ineligible businessmen, with appointments to discuss state prospects with state officials were forced to pass their way through the hostile crowd. Most businessmen are not enthusiastic about settling up plants in a “war zone.”

The declaration, signed by a former Jackson mayor, several bank presidents and other in-
fluential big business and profes-
sional men, attacked the 1963 Supreme Court desegregation decision as immoral and illegal, but asserted that mob rule and violence should not be allowed to reoccur.

Urged Arrest Agitators
Public officials were urged to immediately investigate the main-
tenance of law and order and to investigate, arrest and prose-
cutive individuals who had incite-
rioted against Meredith’s registra-
tion at Ole Miss.

The statement urged students to return to the University and appeal for restraint to save the state’s institutions of higher learning.

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Legislature Reapportionment State: Bill Probably Will Not Pass Court

By a vote of 68-37 the Missis-
iippi House of Representatives voted to accept a Senate pro-
posal that would repopulate the legislature to consist of 136 sen-
ators and 136 representatives. This action is the reason why the lawmakers were called to the special session. The decision was a close one, as the House had previously passed a bill to continue the 1963 reapportionment. Although the state for the special session was for a long period of time indefinite, when it became clear that James Meredith might attempt to enroll in the University of Mississippi on the 19th of September, the date for the legislature was conveniently called on the 18th.

Pass New Law
The legislature, before it got down to the business of reap-
portioning, did pass new laws which were aimed at keeping Meredith from being able to en-
rroll. One local paper even used the headline describing the law as “Black Meredith” with floors and starts, and although the general assembly voted to work on redistricting the state, the bill was passed in the House.

Given Until Nov. 1
The lawmakers will have the first of next month in order to determine the number of legis-
lators each county will have. The plan must meet the approval of the courts. Judge Horton of Hinds county has expressed purposes for which would go into effect if the proposal of the special session does not get the necessary approval. One local paper even had submitted a proposal of Constitutional adoption in 1890, does not have a legislature that has

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