

INCIDENT SUMMARY JANUARY 1

JACKSON: Houston Howard, local COFO worker, threatened with a gun by the Negro editor of the Jackson Advocate, a newspaper that opposes COFO work. COFO workers present say the incident was unprovoked and that the man said of Howard, "that boy looked at me."

JANUARY 2

GREENWOOD: Silas McGee, 22 year old local SNCC worker, and Barry Fleischer, 24 year old CMA volunteer from Stanford University, arrested by a plain clothed officer driving an unmarked car and charged with speeding, reckless driving and vagrancy. The two are fined \$150, one of the largest traffic fines against civil rights' workers in recent months.

JACKSON: The Committee of Concern, an inter-racial, inter-faith Mississippi group, has recently completed the rebuilding of burned out Negro churches at Brandon, Gluckstadt and Philadelphia.

HATTIESBURG: 38 Southern college students, mainly white, converted three old houses into Community Centers here and in Meridian. The students are affiliated with the Southern Student Organizing Committee.

STATE-WIDE: Over 400 Negro supporters of the Freedom Democratic Party's congressional challenge leave for Washington D.C. to demonstrate and talk to government officials to raise support for the challenge.

JANUARY 3

LAMBERT: Four whites throw firecrackers at COFO workers from their car.

WEST POINT: The registrar closes his office as a group of Negroes enter the courthouse to attempt to register to vote.

STATE-WIDE: At least nine counties plan Freedom Day voter registration attempts for tomorrow in conjunction with many of their neighbor's activities in Washington D.C. to support the FDP congressional challenge.

JANUARY 4

CARTHAGE: Dick Jewett and Jim Collier, members of the CORE task force, arrested on traffic charges.

JACKSON: Negro COFO worker threatened by police who stop him as he is walking to the COFO office. Officers ask him "How would you like to swim in the lake so the other niggers could fish you out?" and tell him he'd better leave town.

TALLAHATCHIE COUNTY: Fred Mangrum, a 22 year old volunteer from New York City, is clubbed and kicked by a deputy sheriff following his arrest for driving with "improper tags" and faulty tail-lights.

INDIANOLA: Over 30 Negroes wait about two hours for the registrar's office to open in today's Freedom Day activities. When the registrar refuses to take applicants, they leave the courthouse to join a picket line of some 70 people around the courthouse. Before the end of the day, the picket line swells to almost 300. At about 4:30 the group marches through the Negro section of town, singing Freedom songs. They dispersed at the COFO office. This was the first such Freedom Day in Indianola.

BELZONI: The registrar closes his office at noon after testing six Freedom Day participants. He refused the participants' request for a copy of the test and test results.

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results. A COFO observer was ordered from the office.

LXINGTON: About 20 Negroes are allowed to take the voter registration test, in groups of four.

COLUMBUS: Four Negroes were permitted to take the voter registration test.

ISSAQUENA COUNTY: About 13 Negroes attempt to take the voter registration test. One person finds he has passed the test to become the county's third registered Negro voter.

HATTIESBURG: Over 100 Negroes fill the courthouse to register and pay their taxes in Freedom Day here. Local students join adults in Freedom Day through three sit-in attempts. Negro groups are turned away from two cafes and later served at the Woolworth lunch counter.

NATCHEZ: Over 50 people go to the courthouse to register, and a small group of students maintain a picket line around the courthouse all day.

RANKIN COUNTY: About 20 Negroes are turned away from the county courthouse and told by the registrar that they cannot attempt to register for at least two weeks. That evening four participants are arrested in the home of a friend while watching television and charged with "possession of illegal liquor" and "public drunk." A wife of one of the arrested reports that as the deputy sheriff made the arrest he said, "You come to see us today, we come to see you tonight."

GRANDVILLE: Three Negro students denied admission to the segregated Paramount theatre.

GULFPORT: An integrated group denied service at a drug store lunch counter.

JANUARY 6

HOLLY SPRINGS: Four Negro students are suspended from for missing two days of classes while on tour with a COFO supported theater group.

WEST POINT: A Negro teen-ager, active in the civil rights movement, is arrested while passing the scene of a fight between two women. He is held without charge. Police tell inquirers, "He's the kind of nigger that should be in jail." That evening 10 students and a COFO worker are arrested after trying to investigate the earlier arrest. The police refuse them information on bond or charges and arrest the group as they are singing Freedom songs to the imprisoned worker.

OXFORD: Cephus Hughes, SNCC worker and COFO district director, arrested by highway patrol for driving without an inspection sticker.

JANUARY 8

STATE-WIDE: Twelve new volunteers will join civil rights workers in Mississippi and Selma, Alabama. Five of the volunteers are working with COFO as part of the Antioch College work study program.

CLARKSDALE: Dr. Aaron Henry, state president of the NAACP re-affirmed his support of the FDP and COFO. He said that he was not leaving the FDP, as reported by a Washington columnist, and called the differences between civil rights forces "a natural and healthy sign." "If we never disagreed about anything," Dr. Henry said, "then something would really be wrong."