

February 5, 1964

Hattiesburg: Frank Smith

Yesterday Hattiesburg police were harrasing voter registration workers by trailing cars, parking outside of the office, following people. They followed one worker to his home and when he got out of his car they shined their light on him. At about 8pm they arrested Cliff Vaughns for driving without a license. He was bonded out for \$5 about 1 hour later and will not come to trial because the lawyer brought his license to the jail (it had been in his room).

At about midnight the police arrested Eddie Brown, Hattiesburg; Perry Todd, Hattiesburg; Sandy Leigh, Connecticut; and Milton Hancock, Greenwood. Eddie Brown was picked up outside of the SMOG office and charged with burglary. This morning the police said it was all a mistake and the charge was dropped. He is now being held on a charge of vagrancy.

Sandy Leigh and Perry Todd were arrested for not having selective service cards. Sandy was picked up outside the office; it is not known where Perry was picked up. This morning when the police called the FBI about these two cases the FBI said they weren't interested in cases of 'draft dodgers'-- Sandy's charge was then changed to vagrancy, and Terry was released since he is a Hattiesburg resident.

The bond for Sandy Leigh and Eddie Brown is \$10 each.

Milton Hancock was arrested inside the office and was charged with ridiculing an officer. His bond is \$40. Frank did not want to give too much information on this case over the phone and said he would send it by mail.

Trials for all three will be tomorrow afternoon. No decisions have been made yet concerning bonding the three out-- most likely they will remain in jail until their trial.

The office in Hattiesburg has contacted the Justice Department and the ministers and their lawyer are making contacts in New York and New Jersey. They would like us to telegram the justice dept. concerning the arrests and general harassment in Hattiesburg and would like us to reach any contacts Sandy might have and ask them both for bond money and to call Hattiesburg police and contact JD.

The Hattiesburg office is considering calling for massive demonstrations at tonight's mass meeting. They are also compiling all the facts of intimidation and harassment by police officers and sending them to the JD asking them to enjoin the police from intimidating Voter Registration workers.