

April 24, 1964

Hattiesburg

This morning ten people picketed the courthouse and this afternoon 4 picketed. None of the picketers were disturbed by police.

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███████:

█████

Enfield: Doug Harris

J.V. Henry was convicted in his case for sitting in the streets in Chapel Hill and was sentenced with one year in jail, probation (I'm not sure how long) and complete separation from the civil rights movement. J.V. Henry's original plea was nolo contendere which would mean that he could not appeal the sentence. He was advised to change his plea which he did in open court and there is a very good chance that he will now be able to appeal. Att. Kuntzler will be in Durham soon to handle the case. It will first be brought to the state's supreme court and then when it is turned down there Kuntzler will try to get J.V. out on a writ of habeas corpus to the 4th circuit court. SCRF is willing to support J.V.'s defense.

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Re Hattiesburg: Att. Ben Smith

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Re Milton Hancock Case:

Smith has sent for a copy of the indictment (affidavit) against Hancock. He is being accused of making the following errors in his voter registration form (thereby committing perjury):

- a) Question #15: neglecting to name felonies he had committed - they claim that on two instances he was convicted of forgery in Jackson
- b) Question #16: leaving out cases of felonies or misdemeanors other than traffic offenses.

Guyot seems to feel that all of Milton's cases are on appeal and if that is the case he is not legally convicted and Smith feels that we have a good case for him. He will also try to have Hancock's bond lowered and get him out of jail, but he thinks it will take a couple of weeks. Smith is trying to get ██████████ Crockett to come down and handle the case.

Jim

Re ██████████ Jones case:

Jones is being held in Hattiesburg on the charge of rape. The woman in question is a local prostitute and evidently is considering recanting on the original complaint-- Smith says that if she does she will be liable for a perjury charge, and he feels that the local police will push it since a voter registration worker is involved (Jones is a volunteer in the Hattiesburg office). Smith feels that we should not get directly involved with any sort of counsel to this woman, but that she should be forewarned of the possible consequences if she withdraws her complaint.

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Jackson: Jesse Morris

The planned Marshall county freedom day was only a "quasi-Freedom Day"- i.e. small scale, and the real one will be postponed because of insufficient preparation.