

Hattiesburg: Terri Shaw

Peter Werner # 24, student at University of Michigan, was beaten at 2pm in downtown Hattiesburg yesterday. He is a Freedom School teacher and is white. Peter was standing in front of a drug store on Main Street with Susan Patterson, 26, white of Buffalo, ~~Nk~~ and New York City. William Jones, Negro, New York City, had gone into the store. A white man, Huston Hartfield, 48, of Hattiesburg, came up to Peter and hit him from behind, pumled him, and kicked him. Both Peter and Hartfield were arrested and charged with assault and battery. The judge heard Hartfield's case yesterday but will not give a decision until Thursday. Peter got a continuance until Thursday. Both are out on \$25 bond. At the trial Hartfield claimed that Peter had jostled him at the Post Office steps about 1/2 hour earlier. Peter denies this. Hartfield appeared drunk at the trial.

Holly Springs: from Mary King in Jackson

David Kendall, Sheridan, Texas, was arrested today at 1pm. Charges are not yet known/ charge: not having inspection sticker. bond is \$200. waiting for Memphis lawyer.

Clarksdale: from Mary King

Three 16 year old Clarksdale girls, Mary Brooks, Mary Dixon, and Irma Jean Miller were arrested for trespassing yesterday. They were arrested in a ~~KKK restaurant~~ restaurant in the Negro neighborhood. Bond is ~~\$51~~ \$51 for each and their trial is Thursday. They are not being turned over to juvenile authorities.

Laurel: Saturday evening

a nightclub was burned on Saturday night named the Orange Bowl or Cotton Bowl. Local newspapers blame the fire on faulty lighting but we do not believe that is the case.

A dynamite bomb was thrown into the Elks Hall at the same approximate time. The bomb was thrown out again before it could explode. Local people are unwilling to talk much about either incident. (Laurel cont'd below)

Natchez;

Chuck McDew and George Greene arrived in Natchez at 12:15pm today. Within 45 minutes they were picked up by police and charged with failure to stop at a stop sign. They paid the \$10 and were released. according to Chuck, the police chief were waiting for them when they got into town and new of their every move. He says that there are three cops following their car around town. They have gotten an office and have electricity and water but don't have a phone yet. Dorrie Ladner is with them now.

Laurel: Saturday night

A death threat was received by Dr. T.J. Barnes, a 70 year old Negro doctor in Laurel. At about 9:30pm a rock with a note was thrown through the back window of the medical office on 426 Front Street. The note was addressed to Barnes who has a downstairs office. It is believed that the threat was intended for B.E. Murph, a 45 year old dentist who is president of the local NAACP. The note read: the same thing will happen to you that happened to the boys in Philadelphia if you don't stop participating. The note was signed KKK.

McComb: Lee Garrett

Yesterday afternoon ~~xxxxxx~~ Mendy Samstein was beaten by ~~xxxx~~ a white man sometime between 4 and 4:30pm. He was driving alone in the south part of McComb going toward one of the Negro neighborhoods when he stopped at a Texaco station and ~~xxx~~ a '60 white Ford pulled up with two white men in it. When Mendy looked at them he ~~kk~~ realized they would probably mean trouble for him, so he left. A couple of hundred yards down the road he stopped at a red light. The other car pulled up and one of them men 'calmly got out of his car and calmly walked over' and ~~xxxxxxx~~ swung about four times at him. He beat Mendy on the side of the head, but his blows were weak because of his awkward position despite the fact that the man was strong.

He didn't say a word while hitting Mendy, but between his second and third blows he attempted to tear the radio microphone from the cars (this was one of the cars equipped with citizens band radios). After he was finished he walked back to his car and got in. All this happened while the light was still red, and when it had changed Mendy made a turn, followed by the Ford. The latter turned off into a shopping center however, and didn't follow him further. The man who hit Mendy was about 40 years old and wearing work clothes. The other was an elderly man wearing a straw hat. It is believed that the two work with the oil company or in the oil fields.

The radios have been useful in a couple of incidents already. In one case a car driven by a white minister was being followed by three cars of whites. A call was received from a white contact and one from the car radio, and another car was sent out to make sure there was no trouble. The second car was able to get the license of one of the cars following the minister.

Greenwood: ~~xxxxxx~~ 1:30pm

~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

At 9:15am Betty Garman and the lawyers, Larry Warren and Frank ~~McR~~ Pestano went to the county courthouse. U.S. Commissioner William G. Luckett was there. After a short conversation with Hardy Lott, the city attorney, Lott, Luckett and a U.S. Marshall from clarksdale went into a deputy clerk's office where they conferred for over 1½ hours. Gray Evans, city prosecutor also came in. George Johnson, a law student looked into the office where they were sitting. Luckett was on the phone talking rapidly, Lott sitting at his elbow, Marshall standing behind them.

At about 11am Luckett came out of the office and said that they'd go and start getting people out. They went up to county courtroom where Betty signed over \$12,000 bail money (\$8000 raised by SMCC, \$4000 from Crockett). People from county jail were out and back at office by about 12:30pm. Lawyers then went to county farm where they went through same process with those 68 or so.

Re trials yesterday: at 1:45pm Frank Pestano called Gray Evans from Judge Clayton's office in Greenwood and told him that the removal petitions had been filed and were in order. Judge Clayton's clerk then got on the phone and verified Pestano's statements for Evans. Trials were then stopped for about ½ hour. Evan's comment to the phone call was 'that's all I need'- i.e. we won't go ahead. The trials were then resumed ½ hour later. When lawyers got to greenwood at about 7pm they called Evans and asked why the trials were resumed. He said that when he got back into the courtroom that the others felt that a phone call wasn't sufficient and that the papers had to be served on the people in person. ~~xxx~~ Our lawyers felt that this was not true.

Before the removal petition was tried on Friday a stay order was filed, prohibiting any further action being taken on the cases. The stay and the removal were signed. Even though Lott claimed there was an error in the removal petition, the stay was still in effect.

TOMORROW will be another Freedom Day, but arrests are not anticipated.

WATS REPORT: TUESDAY, JULY 21, 1964

unofficial report

Belzoni: Judy Richardson 6:45pm (taken at 3:30pm by her)
Willie Shaw called from Belzoni (9125) to say that there were 25 trucks ~~with~~
with two whites in each roaming the Negro community. Each truck had a rifle
in the back. After the call, Shaw intended to go down the street to a local
worker in case something should happen. Shaw has only been in Belzoni about
four days.

At 3:35 Memphis FBI was called. They promised to send an agent in. Also at
this time ~~Greenwood~~ Greenwood spoke with Sheriff Pervis who said when asked about
protection for the Negro community that he tended to the county.
Judy asked him specifically about the Negro residents and he gave the same reply.
He said, "I'll protect the residents of Humphrey and everyone in it." When asked
if he would protect Willie Shaw: he said, "as long as he obeys the laws of
Mississippi he will receive protection. As far as I know he has been obeying
the laws." ~~Ok~~

Greenwood then called Jackson FBI agent Cohen and related the above.

At 5pm Willie Shaw called from Belzoni 840 to say that there were now only two
or three trucks roaming the neighborhood, however the sheriff is now riding
around in his car with two local whites whom they feel to be trouble makers and
the chief of police is riding with three local whites.

When Willie first came into Belzoni, Chief of Police Nichols asked him why
he was in town and who had sent for him. Willie answered that 4,142 Negroes had
sent for ~~him~~ him. The sheriff said that he knew that ~~him~~ he and his wife
(thinking that ~~Annell~~ Kraft is his wife) and that they would both leave.

They have been taking pictures of the house where Willie lives, but the woman
who owns it is not frightened. Willie has no hope that the law enforcement
agency in Belzoni will make the slightest effort to protect him.

At 5:15pm Willie had no knowledge of FBI agent, so Judy called Agent Johnson
in Memphis who had no knowledge of case. Judy gave brief synopsis. She asked
what happened to the agent who was supposed to have been dispatched two hours
ago. He answered that they couldn't keep track of all of their agents all of
the time. She asked if they would dispatch any and he said they'd do what they
could.

Natchez:

Two lawyers have been missing in Natchez since 8:30am. They are from LCDC.

The FBI has been checking on them for five hours. The two lawyers are Prof.
Robert O'Connell, ~~and~~ Milwaukee, 35, and L. Thomas Brian, New York City, firm
of Sherman and Sterling.

They went to Natchez this morning and were supposed to call when they got there.
They were supposed to check with FBI agent Prospere in Natchez (442-0186 ~~Q~~) but
he said he didn't hear from them. He went out of town, but Prospere's wife
thinks he wasn't in town long enough to see them. Jack Pratt is trying to trace
them. He is at 355-3874

Holly Springs : Judy Richardson 7:15

Wayne Yancey was arrested at about 4pm on several traffic violations. He was
on the highway outside Holly Springs. His bond is \$250 and he is in the Marshall
County jail. Yancey is Negro from Paris, Tennessee.

Greenwood:

Young boy mentioned as missing in earlier has been found.