WATS REPORTS
Monday, August 23, 1965

YORK, SUMTER CO. ALA. Donald Hughes/Jeanno Breaker
Alvery Williams and Jim Wood went to court today. They each paid fines for
some of their charges, and had their trials continued until they could get a lawyer for
another charge each. Wood is still in jail for driving while intoxicated, and
possession of a fire arm. His bail is $500. The sheriff will only take property
bond, and the local people are afraid to put it up.

The FBI came to investigate the Saturday night chase and arrests. A local
white man also came out to talk to Donald and Alvery. He wanted to tell them he
had no part in the harassments. He was afraid he would be implicated to the FBI,
because his partner owns one of the places that was used as a base for Klan
activity Saturday night. (About 10-12 men in 6 radio cars from Green and
Choctaw Counties have been in town since Saturday. It seems logical to assume
they are Klan cars.)

Somebody stabbed Don's horse, and it is pretty badly hurt.

LOWNDES CO. ALA. Cynthia Washington/Babanne
Approximately 100 people attended the mass meeting last night. A white guy with
a gun in his truck drove up to the church, drove around, then left.

JACKSON, MISS. Jessie McGee/Bab
Last night, Rev. Donald Thompson, the minister of the Unitarian Church on Ellis
Avenue in Jackson, which is the only white church in the city that welcomes
Negrom worshippers, was shot as he was entering the back door of his apartment.
He was shot 12 times, and was at first in critical condition. When the FDP called
about him this morning, they said his condition was "satisfactory." The police
have no suspects as of yet.

WASHINGTON DC FDP--DATES OF CHALLENGE TRIP CHANGED
The Challenge Trip and Lobby will now begin on Sept. 16.

GREENWOOD, MISS. Silas McGhee/Jon Steinberg
Close to 10,000 people have been registered in Leflore Co. since the beginning of
August. 276 people were registered before the federal registrars came, two weeks
ago.

SHAW, MISS. Pat Keen/Bab
There was no Union Workshop this Saturday, because not enough people came.

NORTHAMPTON CO, N.C. Buddy Tieger/Bab
In Bertie Co, there are 13 ASCS communities, which means that there are 39 voting
positions coming up for election this fall. (A community ASCS committee has 5
posts altogether: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Member, all of whom vote, and two
alternates, who do not vote.) The Movement has 30 Negroes running so far for
those 39 positions. As a result of the Dept. of Agriculture ruling last spring, the
present committees in every county are supposed to place Negroes on the
ballot for community committees proportionate to the number of Negroes eligible
to take part in the ASCS elections. (Anyone is eligible who has something to do
with production of the crop in question—which in this case is tobacco.) Several
more Negroes should be placed in the running. In Northampton Co., out of 54
voting positions, the Movement is sponsoring 30 candidates.

As a result of complaints to the Justice Department and an investigation,
the Mylecraft Manufacturing Plant is going to hire three Negro supervisors.

Last week in Bertie Co., several crosses were burned. Six whites were later
picked up for it. Three of them were found to be employees of Mylecraft, and they
were fired. This wouldn't have happened before the complaints began.
ALBANY, GA. Dot Plummer/Bab 4:20 pm
Fifteen minutes ago, as a group of picketers were returning from Belk's Dept Store, after picketing, George Boss was arrested by a Negro city policeman for having his shirttail hanging out. He then called some more white cops to the scene, and they told three more SNCC workers—Ernie McMillan, Bill Harris, and Eddie Brown, to get in the police car. They were later all charged with disorderly conduct, ﬁnes of $22 each.

YORK, SUMTER CO., ALA. Donald Hughes/Carolyn Smith and Bab
Robert Cooky who was in the car with Don on Saturday night when he was chased down the highway and then given a ticket, was fired from his job at the Royal Crown Cola Co. in York. His boss said he had been associating with the wrong people. Also a Mrs. Finch was fired from her job at the McGraw (McGrory?) printing company because she was out of work the day of the demonstrations. (She was ill.)

JIM Wood is now out of jail.

The 6 assumed Klan cars have been here since the weekend. Last week, a Klan meeting was held at the farm of Walter (?) Green, owner of the Sumter Co. Cleaners. They have also been holding meetings at the Allison Pulpwood Co. and the Mayo Gas Station, both in York.

Since Saturday night, the Highway Patrol has been making regular rounds of the Negro community.

Don got the description of the car that tried to run them down Saturday night. It is a green '58 Pontiac, license # 60208.

Local people are now getting afraid to take part in the Movement because of recent intimidation, ﬁring, etc.

HOLLY SPRINGS, MISS.* * * VR REPORT* * Rita Walker/Bab
The registrar is still using the 18-question Justice Dept test which was instituted under a federal court injunction. Also, people who go to register are being asked a lot of questions like "Who did you buy your house from?"

Today a local worker, James Bates, was arrested by a deputy sheriff while he was carrying people to the courthouse to register. He was charged with obtaining a license under false pretenses, which he was arrested for last year. Lawyers thought the case had closed last year.

Also white volunteer Mark Schapiro from Detroit was arrested today for a third time on the charges of public drunkenness and profanity. He was arrested by a deputy sheriff on a road 9 miles out of town, and his bail is $350.

ALBANY, GA. Jim Parry/Bab

Last night and tonight, about 45-50 people (mostly kids) have staged night marches to the courthouse to protest police brutality at Belk's. They have been given police and there have been no incidents.

Wednesday, August 25, 1965

GREENWOOD, MISS. Silas McGhee/John Perdew 2pm * * VR REPORT * Silas was out near Money, a small town in Leflore Co., picking up people who wanted to go to Greenwood to register to vote. A white man, Homer Hawkins, the agent on the Wildwood Plantation, tried to flag Silas down, but Silas passed him. Hawkins then passed Silas in his truck, a white Ford, license # 61122, and blocked the road as Silas stopped to pick up a woman. Hawkins motioned Silas to get out of the truck, which he did, and then told Silas that if he came back there again, Hawkins would kill him. Silas tried to contact the FBI in Greenwood, but found no one in the office. Atlanta spoke to John Doar, Atlanta FBI and Jackson FBI.

BAKER COUNTY, GA. via Albany, Jim Parry/Carolyn Smith
Emory Harris was arrested today for driving without proper brake lights (false). His bond is $100.