WATTS LINE DIGEST  JULY 18

U.N.OFFICIAL

Pulaski: All the people have been bonded out of jail, from the Drew arrests. Conditions on the Moorehead County Farm were very bad; there were a snake and a rat in the Negro male cell. Case has been removed to the Federal District Court.

McComb: Dennis Sweeney and Rev. Don McCord had dinner at the home of a local white family. While there two phone calls came in concerning Sweeney. It appears that, L. C. only possible way anybody in McComb would have known his whereabouts is from an out-of-town telephone call to the white family, in which Dennis' name was mentioned. Sweeney and McCord were followed by five cars which dispersed by the time they reached the Freedom House. Later the Police chief came by in his pages to tell us that one of the whites who had followed them had told him they were trying to protect Sweeney and McCord.

Meridian: David Kozl and Jonathan Else were arrested in Lauderdale, Miss., charged with willful trespass. They payed a bond of $50 and were released. Still don't know where it was they were "trespassing."

Hattiesburg: Kilmer Estus Keyes, a white man from Collins, Miss., arrested in connection with beating of Rabbi and two workers last week. Charged with assault with intent. He turned himself in. Out now on $2500 property bond.

Petersburg: 8 People detained for hour and a half by sheriff. Who was "trying to see if there is a state ordinance against the passing out of leaflets." Sheriff could find no statute, released them into a crowd of whites standing around.

Echolsville: A local volunteer was hit on the jaw by one of the white men. Finally the sheriff escorted them back to the office.

Chay: The local Negro who reported being offered $400 to burn the Freedom house last week has lost his job and has moved to another city.

Greenwood: All the people in jail were supposed to have been bonded out today, but the case was held up till Monday, because the petition was improperly titled, "State of Mississippi," rather than "Greenwood vs. Stokely Carmichael, et al."

Clarke'sdale: The mother of a local student working with the Movement was arrested for fighting. Police Chief Ben Collins told her if her son continued working he would "put a bullet through his eyes," and if he caught the boy passing out leaflets he would arrest him for vagrancy.

Columbus: Warren Galloway and Bob Lavelle harrassed by cops in Aberdeen, Miss.. Taken to station, not arrested, held for several hours. Finally released. Steven Frerer and Ronald Bridgeforth were working in Starkville, harrassed by police chief Thomas Josey. Three times, Josey came to where they were speaking to local people, gave big speech to crowd, insultrd local workers and trying to intimidate locals. Chief was very angry, tried to get local cafe owner to kick them out, local man refused. Eventually got out of town ok, but followed by 25 men as three HP cars all the way back. Stopped and detained by HP for 2 hours. Previously the chief said he would kill them all.

Tupelo: Don while investigating poverty-stricken area of Tupelo, found 24 poor people living in a shack. The Federal Govt. provided 2 million for low rent housing, but only about 120 units have been built.

Pilori: Caliss Johnson, a local Negro was arrested for trespass and disturbing the peace when he went to back door of cafe to visit Mend. Not directly in Movement, but had been in our office, and has registered to vote.