

## MORNING CALLS

Canton: County Convention - Wish Evan's place in city of Canton. Starts at 1:00- afternoon. Dave Dennis, Freedom Singers, Mrs. Divine. Will be electing permanent chairman. Approximately 150 delegates expected. The county is well organized -- East of Canton on Highway 16 to intersection of 16 and 17. Left for 5 miles on 17; then right for 1½ miles until Wish Evan's farm - Sulpher Springs. People will bring their own food. No previous security measures taken.

Carthage - their number is out of order. Call back in 20 minutes.

Atlanta: Nancy Stern reports that she received a 10 minute lecture from John Doar yesterday re-the Natchez affair yesterday. They were fully mobilized. ~~They~~ Doar remarked that our security system was supposed to be flawless and was angered by the fact that experienced workers such as George and Chuck were so lax in security.

Clarksdale: Last night a beer bottle thrown threw the windows of the office. Police are investigating.

Jim Forman on 28 July at our county convention. Starts at 8:00 in the eve. -- Who pays for transporting the delegates to the county and state conventions??

The cop were originally uninterested. Then called the FBI. The cops then showed some interest. Called back. Do not know for sure if are being held or arrested. -- One man involved. Will find out for sure. Name may be Lee Edwards.

Greenville: Freedom Registration Day. Setting up tables in different key areas around town. Two people man each table. Spur of the moment thing. Thought of last night. -- Requests for affidavits given for trial next week.

Tchula: Katy Newman at the Mt. Olive school - Aug. 8 - end of project want to stop the Mt. Olive school and start one in Tchula. A good idea or would Staughton like to use the ~~Mt. Olive~~ teachers from another project. - Would like to be called back at 4:00 p.m.

Columbus: <sup>See</sup> Gene Wheeler WE WANT, NEED, MUST HAVE A CAR. \$50.00 a week and 10¢ a mile = rates for rental in Columbus. Neil Ekland is in Jackson a could take money etc... See Casey . Jessie did you call Biloxi to check on a letter for Gene?

Meridian: 9:30 - Margie Henderson , have Wadell call.

Greenville: 9:40 - Charlie Cobb and Tom Harris about the Young Democrats. Too swamped now.

Canton: 9:45 - Wanted Joe White.

Hattiesburg:

Meridian: Bob Gore wants to talk with the personnel committee soon!

Hattiesburg: A bombing bet. 1-4. At 5:00 a man came and said his porch had been burned, and door. Broken whiskey bottle. Like a cocktail at house. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Temporary chairman of precinct of meetings today. Mrs. Boyd is the secretary, he is chairman. -- Door and screen and frame around the door burned. Mrs. Boyd will probably call the FBI. Sandy had to

edcide to do it.

The bus driver of incident yesterday has been changed to another route.

Mrs. Victoria Gray's husband was arrested last night for drunken disorderlyness. He was in a Club. The Lawyers, Jack Brien and Goerge Hinkley (ICDC) are representing him at 10:00 before a Peace Justice.

Gostin and Brock have left for Jackson. They are lawyers. These are Guild men.

The FBI is not investigating the attempt to run down the FS child. Terri has not heard from them, at least.

Dave Janowitz and John Polacheck passed through Hattiesburg

Have 7 FBI agents in Hattiesb now.

Had a big meeting of temporary chairmaen and secretaries yesterday.

Three Vr people were stopped by Kitchen in Palmers Crossing in town. Questioned at length. Bugged them.

Biloxi: For Jimmy Bolton - Call Moss Point and find out if Guyot get there is there. He was supposed ot have come to Biloxi and not here.

Moss Point: Guyot was on his way to Gulport. Left yesterday afternoon. For Gulfport.

Gulfport: Guyot is there. Asked about two studnets whom Bill Robinson looking for.

Sunday are having a first meeting of Gulfport Student Union. It will be formed at that meeting. It is growing out of those who canvass for us.

Still have not found a place for precinct meetings. No probelem for the county meeting.

Can we put Freedom Regis. Form in Paper? Yes, Jackson has up to \$25.00 for.

Have the Luther King tape. 5 times on one stationa and 3 times on another station. The stations , 2, were very civil. Worked very well. Running today tomorrwo and Monday.

Biloxi: Message delivered.

Greenwood: 10:45 - for Hunter

Batesville: Gross incurracies: p. 4 of Incident summaryk July 2.

Earl Hubbard; Hubbard arrested 2 whites who were harrassing persons who had been harrassing CR workers. One arrested for reckless driving.

(2) p. 5, Jul4 - On summary - reported as a rumor that were going to investiage Racist sluggs negro that leaves courthouse. Turned out to be untrue. Printed in the digest as having ahppened.

(3) WATS Digest of July 17 - two misspellings - Crenshaw, Douglas Sorenson: should be spelled. The incidnet not descirbed in full. He had been hit and knocked down.

ASK EMMY AND BOB WEIL WHAT HAPPENDED TO THE OCRRECT SHEET. The errors should not have appared in the summary again.

Investiagting a cross burning that occured in Crowder! Details later.

McComb: That AP news in McComb is not reconginizing the Freedom Democratic Party. Secretary of State Hubert Latner told Lee this.

Rose

25 July

p. 3

Ruleville

2

McComb: Lee Garret at radio station--AP blurb says he's not recognizing--says not legal political group.

The radio station is using argument that we're not legal party.

Meridian: 11:35 - Call Biloxi, Hotel Riveria Margie Henderson is busy in Meridian. Would like to stay in Meridian for good. Don't see any point in going to Biloxi. Rm. 301, Hotel Riveria.

Moss Point: 11:45 - 50 freedom forms signed; several 100 forms given to various Negro businesses. They send them in filled. Courthouse scene is limited because of FDP work. Justice Dtp. lawyers were there and collected matter on harassment, job losses and courthouse discriminations. Newspapers are still bugging about Eastland and general red baiting.

Forman called ... MSU is forming its structure and its goals. Preparing this for MSU meeting coming up in Jackson. All getting prepared for tomorrow's precinct meetings. Are having one general meeting and breaking down into precinct.

Submitted letter to radio station that this be submitted to the radio 2 days ago. Outlined the places and times of precinct meetings for the gulf. And also announced county, district and state. Manager of radio station said would have to have the procedure reviewed by lawyers. He explained to the station that... Dave Wolff will call back re-this on conference phone.

HATTIESBURG. Mr. Gray appeared before Justice of Peace Bradley in ~~Palmer's-Crossing~~. With Bryan and Hinkley, lawyers, they got a continuance until Monday. Charges, correction: (1) drunkenness (2) resisting arrest. The judge said he would fine him \$33.00 or let him out on \$100 property bond. They have not decided what to do yet. Mrs. Gray is calling

Bombing -- bombees made a complaint of the bombing. <sup>to the FBI.</sup> Sandy taking pictures. Local police still investigating.

Call Laurel to get affidavit from Larry Spears.

Ruleville: - 2 incidents (1) last night bet. 11:00 and 5 a rock was thrown smashing a portion of windshield, Mr. Joe Townsend, a local negro who is housing civil r. workers. The car was parked in his yard. No basis for anything further. (2) reported in some things on meeting yesterday - In Drew were trying to get them to sign statements that had not had any ~~with~~ dealing with the communists who had come here. Townsend also said that Congress Edwards had been Castro's secretary and that he was a communist. All the people who came to Drew are communist, he further said. (Len has a copy of affidavit filed with Legal. Communications should get a copy of it).

Shaw: Norris and Dave Prince talking.

Lexington: Steve Bigham at 9123 in Lexington. Busy.

Fessie ring Don White about cars. 11:00--Bigham wants to ~~no~~ know why no FBI have talked to him about being beaten--Bigham has talked to John Doar about this. Bigham has name of man who assailed him. Steve says the police won't let him fill out a warrant until he has the name; Steve has license # and where guy works--wants Hunter to check on whose name that license is listed for. Bill Robinson said may be able to fill out "information and belief" complaint. Thinks he knows name, though. He'll be back at Mileston number.

Natchez: They want a lawyer to come down to talk with city officials with them--Hunter will send one down and will call back and tell them when he is coming.

Tchula: 1:10--returning call, no answer

Canton: Tell Ruleville Bob Cohen and Jim Crockett arrived safely--going to county convention.

Clarksdale: Man across the street said saw car that had thrown bottle, gave license. police called when same people came by to "look things over" in the office--POLICE CAME BY AND ARRESTED ALL FOUR! They are currently in the jail, as far as we know.

Biloxi: Asked Ed Hamlitt if Margie Henderson could stay in Meridian as per her request--says expect her to return to Meridian but would very much like to have her on <sup>5/4</sup> workshop is as important for her as for the others--a bus leaves Meridian tonight 7:30 and arrives Jackson 10:00--Margie should call Mrs. Schuut, 955 Pecan Blvd., Jackson, and someone will pick her up--she can return to Meridian on Tues.--Trailways bus--

Meridian: message delivered.

Canton: wanted radio people

Canton: George Raymond: 350-400 convention people. ~~16-er-ef-Canton in-the-16-and-17-etc.~~ Will elect 8 delegates to the convention. Mrs. Divine describing the political program. Delegates from 15 precinct delegates. 120-150 delegates. Business will start in half an hour. Witnesses are the rest of the people, and family. Freedom Singers are there. (3:00 pm)

✓ Shaw: Paul Cowan call Jeff Cowan.

Holly Springs: Ivanhoe for Moses and Forman

Tupelo: Stu says that if we do not have a car are supposed to have a precinct meeting on Wed. set up an office etc. and if don't have. -- Ivanhoe said that he would ask for about \$50.00 more dollars and then take them to Memphis to buy a car. CHECK WITH IVANHOE ABOUT BUYING A CAR. LEAVE NOTE FOR JESSIE.

Columbus: report from Mike phoned in earlier on other WATS: Yesterday, 24 July the first of the 19-minute, minute radio spots announcing the dates and places of precinct meetings, was announced. Appear together with the Martin L. King tape. The radio plugs will play through Monday. There was no ~~difference~~ difficulty at all in getting radio stations to accept the announcements. -- Today the stations are putting out 5 spots plugging tonight's rally at the Freedom House. -- FBI agent Savard advised that Columbus police be informed of the rally. Savard stopped in the office Friday to find out how many people expected at the rally. Savard intimated, but did not anticipate trouble. -- Nine people attended the north Columbus precinct meeting of the FDP yesterday. A Permanent Secretary and Chairman were elected and 5 delegates and 1 alternate nominated for the county and district meeting. Meeting in the south

of Colubuswill take place tomorrow, 26 July.

Meridian: Mike Wadell -

Canton: She

Clarksdale: Had a very successful day in Jones town. In 2 hours freedom registered 55. --

Breaker

Tchula: Catherine Newman for S. Lynd. Call between 9:00-9:30AM.

Greenwood: Betty Garmon- John Longstaff, summer volunteer, is now in Hollysprings and will leave for Jackson tomorrow by bus for orientation.

For Bob Moses from Ivanhoe- Precinct meeting in Hollysprings begins at 6:30pm. Will pick Moses up at the airport if this is the way he is traveling.

Watches: Chuck McDue- Workers have left the office for the night. Can be reached at 445-5531.

Canton: Morty Shiff-- If Norris McNamara calls -n have him call Canton for Morty. Very important.

McComb-- People from Jackson arrived.

Green wood- Everyone down on Johnson street getting people to sign the freedom registration. Around 4:30 Eli Zeretsky was approached by 3 whites who took his clip board, threw it on the ground and tore up the registration forms. Eli made complaint to Chief Larry, Asst. Commissioner Murphy and another policeman with his assailant, standing right there. Police said that they couldn't do anything unless Eli knew their names and filed a complaint against them with a judge.

10 minutes later, Adam Kline, white summer volunteer, was jumped from behind by a white guy who hit him on the head. He reported this to the police and was also refused help.

William Hodes was threatened by local whites in the presence of police: they refused to make an arrest and refused to give the people names so that a complaint could be made. Last call that groups of whites gathered on the street.

Johnson is a very congested area, where rural Negroes gather every Sat. Called the FBI, local police and the Justice Department. Is an FBI man in Greenwood?. Complained about the FBI to the Justice Department.

VR workers are on about three or four blocks of the Negro business district. This district runs into the white area. People are standing in front of the department stores. 10-15 people there. A local minister is there talking to the local people "join the freedom train". Some VR workers are in a barber shop. Many people are stopping. There are whites standing in the doorways. Many Negroes are standing around looking also. Two large groups watching each other.

Greenwood: Judy Richardson- Jesse Harrison and Fred Mangrum won't be coming to Jackson tonight. They will leave for Jackson tomorrow morning at 5AM.

7:30pm Canton: Margaret Cunningham- James Dennis, local volunteer was arrested ~~###~~ yesterday in Lexington. He and another guy had gone fishing. He was charged with having a license that had expired and a number of other things. The fine was \$15. He paid the fine. Was in jail from about 2pm yesterday until 4PM today.

While in jail Dennis witnessed a white man being severely beaten by the local police. This was the Lexington city jail. The man was K.C. Riley. He was arrested at 3PM and the police took him away about 3:30. As he was being beaten, the man continued to say that he didn't do it and the police said that he did. Canton wants someone to call the FBI about this.

Dennis also reports that a Negro ~~for~~ some crime who had been in an auto accident. He had both legs broken and both arms broken. He also had open wounds on his legs. The police refused to let him have visitors or go to the hospital. The mattress was wet with blood.

Dennis said that at first the police treated him roughly, but after they say his FFS button, they began to treat him better. They also treated the other prisoner better.

Lexington is half way between Jackson and Canton.

Shaw: for Tom Wahman

Ruleville: Dale Gronomeier- 8:30. At about 8:15 tonight a Ruleville city police, Samuel Coleman, told a white couple talking with Rabbi Levine that they had better not talk with him.

Levine was sitting in the couple's car. The policeman said that the mayor told them they were having trouble with those people (cr workers) and they shouldn't talk with them.

This is the second time that the police has broken up a conversation between cr workers and local whites.

West Point: 9:20--trying to schedule precinct meetings--one church turned down on tonight, other has conflicting revival--chance for a hall will know tomorrow. Hope t--terrible static on WATS--had to hang up--think have church for 2nd August district meeting ok. About 60 Freedom reg. today. No trouble.

Greenwood: 9:00--Silas McGee--house shot at at 8:30--he was not home when shooting took place--mother and several brothers and sisters very shook up--another child was outside getting water at well, and someone came by and shot at hose--pick-up truck--no description--one shot, kept on going--FBI was called--this kid beaten at movie theatre twice--incident involving first arrests under cr act. House in Crowning--2 miles outside Greenwood--where church burned July 6.

Greenwood

2

Background on McGee events:

from Greenwood office

July 5 - McGee, 21, worker for SNCC local project 3 years, beaten by 15 whites in the Leflore Theater. Manager refused to let him use the phone, finally agreed to go to police station with him. Lacerations of scalp and face.

July 8 - Brother Jake McGee, 24, beaten in same theater by six whites who dispersed when police finally arrived. Bruises and busted lip.

July 16 - Silas McGee left a voter registration line at the courthouse to go to FBI office to report he had just seen one of the 15 who beat him on the 5th.

At intersection of Brewer and Carrollton was stopped by three whites in late model white over green chevy 3/4 ton pickup truck. Forced into truck at gunpoint, taken to place described as "shop" in which a truck was being repaired. In small back room was asked: "You the nigger been going to the movie?" Answered that he'd been there. Asked: "Last night?" Answered yes. Whites said: "You live in the South, ain't you been taught better than that?" No reply. One man grabbed while two others beat him -- one using ~~ixia~~ pipe, the other a board. He escaped and ran to FBI office, where agents took him to Leflore Co hospital - treated for contusions and lacerations of scalp. McGee had tried four times to integrate theater.

Willie Amond Belk, 47; Jimmy Allen Belk, 19 (son); Sam Allen Schaffer, Jr., 40 arrested by FBI in connection with one of the above beatings - not sure which.

McCOMB - <sup>re radio</sup> took money in and had contract assigned, etc. brought up point not a legal party and not required to give time on air. If there's legal way they should get time, Lee Garrett thinks he'll give it - but man is afraid. Needs proof he's legally bound. pct mtgs are Monday; tapes could be used for co. mtg but needs advice. Garrett told him what Casey told him to tell; had hour discussion.

Canton - George Raymond, etc. got here OK

Greenville - People travelling there got in OK

Holly Springs 10:30pm Hunter calling Carl Young. 15 staff at Benton County meeting. Last night one ~~un~~confirmed shooting, two unconfirmed. Local drunk Negro shot by cops when tried to flee. Also a local Negro beaten in jail this morning. Elwood Berry saw it. Berry was released today after being arrested yesterday at llam during the Freedom day. \$500 bond. John Graybeal and Macenteir of JD there today. Took info. Wayne Yancey fined \$20 plus court fees of \$24 - had been arrested Thurs for ruzning stop sign, crossing yellow line, improper tags and license. Summer volunteer. Didn't fight it. Bob Shulmen, Memphis LCDC.

Tupelo: 11:30 Stu Ewen - Had a meeting tonight. 20 people cnavassed today and about 40 Freedom Dorms filled out for the day 20 at the meeting.

There is a young Negro here who is very interested in the work here. He would like to become a full time staff worker. He hs finished high school, but does not go to school now. Would like to know how to apply for staff position.

Next Wed. hav a precinct meeting. Elks voted tonight on whether or not we can have their vuilding for the meeting. Young Elks with us, but the Uncle Tom Elks may have out voted them. Uncle Toms are dminate here in the community.