

July 6

Selma: There are at least 7 people in jail, and a 10:00 pm curfew has been set. To register, people have to pass thru a posse, into an alley, where they are given a number, to which they must answer or lose their place.

Vicksburg: Some local white high-school kids came to the Freedom House; they became embroiled in a heated discussion, which after 45 minutes so overwhelmed them, that they were scared away.

Laurel: Marcia Moore was taken to the police station for questioning. She was told that if she took an early trial and pleaded not guilty, she would be found not guilty. But when she went for trial, she was found guilty; and given ten days suspended sentence. This device deprived her of a lawyer's assistance.

Clarksdale: CR bill was tested at two hotels, a theatre and the public library by local people. Service was refused in all but the library, where three Negro students were given application cards.

Greenwood: James Brown was arrested in Itta Bena on a charge for which he had been previously arrested on June 20. There were calls all night long between Jackson and Greenwood as they were very worried about Brown's whereabouts. The FBI was notified. He was finally located in the Webster County jail, although the Sheriff had claimed he had never heard of Brown. The sheriff's wife later admitted that the phones at the jail had purposely been left off the hook all night. The authorities claimed that he had missed trial on 26 or 27 June for tickets had had gotten on June 20. As the case had been removed to Federal court, however, his lawyer did not have to appear. Brown was released the next day, after Atty Larry Warren went up to get him.

Jackson: Tom Stribling was returning from lunch with three friends when quite near the office, a car stopped and a young fellow about 20 jumped out and hit Stribling on the left cheek. He jumped back into the car and drove away.

Moss Point: A young Negro girl, Jessie Mae Stallworth, was shot in the chest whilst attending a voter registration rally at the K.P. Hall. The shots were fired from a passing car containing four white youths. She was taken to the Singing River Hospital where her condition was stated to be 'good'. Two Negro cars pursued the car they thought had been involved; when it stopped, E.J. Wiggins found a shotgun aimed at him. He backed away, but found the police taking his car away. He was charged with attempted assault and profane language. (The whites were not questioned.) The two passengers and Wiggins later released on bail.

Hattiesburg: 15 - 20 kids tried to integrate the By-pass inn. The owners wife pulled a pistol on them and they ran. The police picked them up, and at the station three of them were roughed up; the juveniles were sent home, and the one non-juvenile was released on \$100 property.

July 7

Columbus: Segregated court rooms were tested. Negro volunteers tried to sit on the white side; they were belligerently told to sit on the opposite side.

Ruleville: A white man called Kent was arrested for talking to CR workers. Kent told sheriff that he had been in a fight with a COFO worker. This was untrue, and seems to have been an attempt by Kent to avoid any association with COFO. He had had a friendly conversation with workers.

Selma: Six students picketed the jailhouse with signs reading, "Stop Police Brutality" and "One Man-- X One Vote". They were all arrested, together with three other students who were ~~walking~~ walking down the street

Clarksdale: NAACP and CORE tested the theatre and the library. Only the library stayed open. Mrs. Pigeo was arrested on a traffic charge after testing the theatre. Seven people were taken to the courthouse today as part of an extensive freedom registration campaign.

Laurel: Lester McKanney was left alone in the city jail workhouse without any other prisoners or any guards. It looked like a set-up. After pressure from the FBI, the city agreed to move him to the jail overnight.

July 8

McComb: Curtis Hayes and Dennis Sweeney were hurt when a bomb extensively damaged the Freedom House. The bomb was powerful enough to break windows in two houses across the street. There were 10 people asleep in the Freedom House at the time. There are said to be 15 FBI men in McComb.

Ruleville: James White, a VR worker was thrown out of Sunflower County circuit clerk's office when he took Mrs. Maybelle Campbell to register. She was warned not to have anything to do with 'this white trash.'

Clarksdale: Police Chief going to every Negro cafe warning them not to serve COFO workers or be closed by the Sanitation Dept.

McComb: 200 people at a mass meeting.² Talks were given on the Convention Challenge and Freedom Registration. The meeting went well, and all adults signed Freedom Registration forms.

Moss Point: An average of 30 attended Freedom Schools. About 70 people are signed up to attempt to register over the week-end. A mass meeting last night was attended by over 500 people.

July 9:

Flora: Deputy Sheriff Benny Williams told Jim Ohls, Doug Baty, Grace Hawthorne, and Hattie Palmer to get out of town, that the local Negroes did not want them. Williams earlier knocked a drink out of Baty's hand. The four are going back today.

Hattiesburg: Rev. Bob Beech was arrested yesterday on a charge of false pretences, after he allegedly overdrew his ~~xx~~ checking account by \$70. Bond was set at \$2500. Case will go to grand jury July 13.

Columbus: Three workers were canvassing and stopped at a service station to have a coke. They had a friendly conversation with the attendant. Later while canvassing again, they ~~x~~ were picked up on a trespassing complaint signed by the attendant. Released today (arrest was July 8) on a total of \$2000 bond sent by parents group in New York

COMMUNICATIONS PEOPLE: PLEASE CALL ALL YOUR ~~WEEK~~ LOCAL RADIO STATIONS AND CHECK ON THE FOLLOWING:

Free spot announcements on community announcement time (or public service or good will announcements, ~~xx~~ etc.)

See whether a short blurb announcing your precinct or county meetings of the FDP (Be very clear that this is what it would be, and get their reactions) would qualify as one of these free community announcements. Stress that meetings are open to all people of either race over 21, who live in the designated area. This makes it a public matter.

If a station refuses, try to see if they give time to the Demo. Party. If they refuse, see if the announcement could be worded as a news item, especially if outside observers with big names are coming to the meeting. Let Jackson know of the results of the inquiry.