

WATS REPORTS *Wednesday, March 2, 1965*

ALABAMA--Note: The county referred to yesterday as Lyons Co., where a Freedom Day was held for the first time is really Lowndes Co.

Alabama
CAMDEN, WILCOX CO., ALA. Wilson Drown/Jeanne V.R. MARCH STOPPED
This morning at 11:30, approximately 100 Negro citizens assembled at the St. Francis Baptist Church, about five miles from Camden for a march to the courthouse to attempt to register. The group, of about 100-150, was led by John Lewis. As they started toward the courthouse, they were stopped by the sheriff, L. Jenkins, and Mayor Red Albritton. The mayor told them that they could not march to the courthouse today under any circumstances. They will have to get a permit from the city council, which does not meet for another two weeks. Approximately 200 whites formed when the group was on the street. The mayor told them to move to the other side of the street. The Negroes knelt in prayer, returned to the church, and then proceeded to sneak past police lines in ~~xxxxxxx~~ small groups, using a group of 15-20 high school kids as decoys. John Lewis entered the registration building and tried to help people register until he was discovered and made to leave.

McCOMB via Jackson: Huriel Tillinghast/Jeanne A reliable source from out of state reports that the Pike Co. KKK met last night in Magnolia and decided to meet the eleven staff people who were arrested yesterday, on their return from Jackson. (They were transferred from Pike Co. to the Hinds Co. jail for unknown reasons.)

from Lorne Cress 11 students and 5 adults were arrested this afternoon at the Pike Co. courthouse. They marched to the courthouse and were immediately arrested. They were loaded into an old school bus and taken to the County farm. The Highway Patrol had the road leading to the farm blocked. Lorne called the county jail to find out what the charges were. They said the people hadn't been charged yet, and there was no phone at the farm. The staff people in jail in Jackson are being interviewed by the FBI.

9:30 pm According to attorney Al Bronstein, Pike County officials will drop charges and set up a meeting with the registrar and the kids if they stop demonstrating. The meeting is planned for tomorrow, and the kids have called off all demonstrations, waiting for the outcome of the meeting. (Yesterday, when the Highway Patrol arrested the people, they had pieces of tape over their name tags, so their names could not be read.)

BAKERSFIELD, CALIF. midnight Marshall Ganz' mother received the following telegram today from US Senator Thomas Kuchel: "FBI and Civil Rights Division of Justice Department investigating situation in Magnolia and McComb. FBI learned 11 still under arrest moved back to Magnolia from Jackson. (Bab note: we are not sure that this is correct.) My staff in touch with National Council of Churches in New York City and Freedom Party in Washington, office. Have requested all possible assistance be rendered."

MAYERSVILLE, ISSAQUENA CO. via Jackson, Johnowitz/Jeanne On Saturday an election will be held to nominate people to the Board of Education. A Freedom Vote is also planned for the Bd of Ed election. There is a possibility that Negroes will be able to vote in both the regular election and the freedom vote.

Fred Kushner, 19 year old white volunteer from Chicago, went to the Negro-owned Big House Restaurant on Saturday, Feb. 22. When he left the restaurant, police stopped him and told him that whites weren't allowed in a Negro place. They threatened to arrest him if he went there again.

from Jackson School boycotts in Valley View and Moss Point still going strong. Issaquena-Sharkey Co, Indianola, and Pike Co. boycotts on the decline.

SELMA, ALA. Harriet Tansman/Bab

Two teenagers were suspended from Hazen-Harrell HS after passing out leaflets about Jimmie Lee Jackson's funeral. A memorial service for Jackson, who died as a result of wounds received the night state troopers broke up a night meeting in Marion on Friday, February 19, will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, at 11 a.m. in Selma and at 2 p.m. in Marion. Many adults and students from the local community are expected to attend, as well as representatives from New York, Chicago, and Detroit Friends of SNCC.

NEW YORK CITY Tomorrow, NY SNCC will hold a silent vigil at the Time-Life building. Eight vigilers, each carrying a sign for those who dies--Herbert Lee, Louis Allen, Wm. Moore, Medgar Evers, Michael Schwerner, Andrew Goodman, James Chaney, and Jimmie Lee Jackson--will take part. Leaflets explaining why they are there.

ALBANY, GA. Roy Shields/Bab

Joyce Barrett, Stu Goldberg, and Jim Parry are working on a massive transfer of Negro students from Negro schools to white schools, because the white schools are ~~located~~ more conveniently located with reference to the Negro neighborhood.

MOULTRIE via Albany Herman Kitchens is setting up a Freedom Library.

The students who led the recent school boycott are now conducting a letter-writing campaign to the US Department of Health, Education, and welfare, rejecting the Moultrie Board of Education's proposed integration plan on the grounds that it is grossly inadequate. The plan only allows for yearly integration of the first and twelfth grades, and the kids have figured out that at this rate, it would take 17 years for the entire school system to be desegregated.

CAMBRIDGE, MD. John Battiste/Bab INCIDENTS OF VIOLENCE

On Monday, March 1, 3 students, a Negro boy, a Negro girl, and a white boy were wounded by gunfire. Investigations are being conducted.

Today, a Negro girl from Cambridge ~~HS~~ HS (the same school the others attend) was beaten by a white boy. Her father, who works in a bank, is afraid to press charges for fear of losing his job.