

W A T S L I N E
REPORT

July 5 - July 11, 1965

Public Relations Dept.

C. O. R. E.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

BIENVILLE
PARISH

July 5, 1965

9:44 am

Will go to Voter Registration clinic today. Might go to Ringo to scout. The Voter Registration clinic will be held at Mr. Blankenship.

9:30 pm

Went to Lucky today and talked with Rev. Tobin concerning Voter Registration and possible housing for the workers in Lucky. Rev. Tobin says he can't find any housing for them there and also that Negroes there don't seem at all interested in any civil rights programs.

July 6, 1965

9:28 am

Today there is to be a Voter Registration clinic at Mr. Blankenship's house. Tonight there is a Voters' League meeting in Gibsland that we are going to attend.

July 7, 1965

9:30 am

Will have two meetings today; youth - 4:30pm, adults - 8 pm. Three ladies are ready to go to the registrar. Need money for gas. Need voter registration forms.

7:12 pm

Were to have meeting with students to form CORE group. Only three attended. Tonight we are going to a meeting at USO on community problems.

July 8, 1965

9:28 am

Quiet Night. We have moved in with Jonesboro. There were 15 people at a meeting in Shady Grove, an outlying area of Saline. More were expected but they failed to come because of fear. Negro cops were heavily patrolling the highway.

July 9, 1965

10:22 am

The three of us are going to Acadia and Simsboro to get support for the Jonesboro demonstration on Sunday.

July 10, 1965

9:50 am

Shirley Thompson: We will be living in Jonesboro indefinitely because housing rent is so high in Bienville, and Patsy is broke, and has not yet received

BIENVILLE, CONT'D.

her Field Fellowship.

We have been offered the American Legion Hall in Jonesboro to give a fund-raising dance (rental charge-\$5.00).

9:45pm

Patsy Boone: We went to the Community Conference and took six community people from the combined parishes of Jackson and Bienville.

Finished making preparations for the mass rally tomorrow. Passed out leaflets and put up posters. Those who did not go to the Conference, went to Hodge to a Minister's rally. They have not returned yet.

July 11, 1965

9:30am

Dorothy Banks: Going to churches this morning and then on to demonstration in Jonesboro. Herman Carter and Sears Buckley are on their way up to lead march.

CADDO
PARISH

July 5, 1965

12 noon

Dan Paik: Thursday night meeting.

July 7, 1965

2:55 pm

Dan Paik: All is quiet.

3:44 pm

Alive and well. Getting into touch with people for community conference. Trying to find House. Will not call back tonight unless something drastic happens.

July 8, 1965

10:30 am

We went to court on vagrancy charges this morning. Pleaded not guilty. Trial set for August 6th. While we were there Faith Seidenberg marshalled us around. We saw the mayor, integrated the courtroom. Mass meeting on community problems tonight, mostly concerning water.

July 9, 1965

10:09 am

Dan Paik: Last night we had a meeting on the Greenwood Acres water problems. It turned out better than expected considering the rain. Committees were formed to get deeper into the problem. There is another mass meeting scheduled next Thursday.

Claiborne cont'd

Bottom of letter:

Phoenix of Hartford Insurance Company
Conn. Fire Insurance Co.

Will complete field and mileage reports.

July 7, 1965

5:08pm

Talked to LCDC lawyers about insurance problem; there is no chance of renewal if the five year term expires. The term will expire on July 10th. We are submitting brief to state office of CORE about school problems.

Will start working outside the town of Homer tomorrow.

July 8, 1965

9:20am

P. Smith: Quiet night. Mass meeting scheduled on the school problem.

July 9, 1965

10:37am

P. Smith: Last night's meeting resulted in: (1) Decision to have mass meetings at regular intervals; (2) a demand to remove a few public officials - principal of school, superintendent, (3) all public restrooms closed to avoid integration must reopen, (4) more work to encourage Negroes to patronize Negro businesses, and for them (Negro businesses) to get a large supply of stock in anticipation of boycott, (5) retesting plan of public facilities, (6) a desire to meet with white leaders, and (7) seeing the community organization take shape.

July 10, 1965

9:30am

Pam Smith: Three carloads are on their way to represent Claiborne at the CORE Community Conference. Jerry Robinson and Richard Thompson went with them.

Last night there was a Headstart meeting with Fr. McKnight, Una Mae Hargrave, and Richard Dowdy (from Wash.) present. Headstart schools are overcrowded and there is a problem balancing the bus routes.

Thursdays and Sundays have been set as regular meeting nights. Harvey Mallory's trial date has been changed from the 12th to the 19th of July.

5:08

Pam Smith: The two other staff people have not yet returned from the Conference in Alexandria. I worked on field reports today. Want info on new voter reg. forms.

CONCORDIA
PARISH

July 5, 1965

7:45 pm

Mike Clurman: "Called from Natchez, Mississippi. Mrs. Martha Boyd, a local woman who has been working with them, was threatened by the Chief of Police. He said she might be in trouble if she continued to work with the CORE members and continued to allow them to use her phone. The policeman said he wasn't threatening himself, but simply conveying a message from the Klan. Mrs. Boyd says she believes it began with him. They tried to get a place for voter registration clinic. Mrs. Boyd is helping with this. They also canvassed: some people wouldn't talk at all. One man broke down and admitted fear for his job if he worked with them or talked with them very much. Most thought that a voter registration clinic was a good idea. People haven't been harassed when trying to register, perhaps because not many have tried.

July 6, 1965

3:05 pm

Last night Klan came by COFO in Natchez. Shot into the house. Today we canvassed in Ferriday. The Klan came by in a Chevy. They must have wired ahead to a truck. The truck came from behind us and ran into the back of our car. A few days ago we did see Negroes who beat us up get out of the sheriff's car a half block away. We might be able to use the Masonic Hall for a voter registration clinic.

July 7, 1965

4:58 pm

Canvassed on voter registration. Talked to FBI on incident.

July 8, 1965

12 noon

James Brown: Brown and Clurman were crowded out of the COFO house in Natchez and now plan to commute to Ferriday from Alexandria. When they were canvassing Ferriday yesterday, both workers got separate reports that there was a plot to knock them off. They stopped canvassing and told Rev. Thompson. Apparently the plan was to lure them to a deserted house. They would like another worker.

July 9, 1965

8:00 am

We are in Rapides and are leaving shortly to return to Ferriday.

1:16 pm

Have arrived safely in Ferriday. There are four of us now: Mike Clurman, James Peters, Mel Acheson, and Guillaume Boisen de Chazournes (Bill).

CONCORDIA cont'd

July 10, 1965

5:28 pm

Mike Clurman: We canvassed in Ferriday concerning the trade school which is all white. We would like lawyers to come from New Orleans to discuss the problem since there is no Negro trade school. We also talked about having a voter registration clinic. Mike Clurman and Mel Achenson went to the Community Conference.

July 11, 1965

11:30 pm

Spent the morning attending churches and Sunday school session. Attended four churches, gave three speeches; there was a warm reception at one of these, from about 75 people. Several contacts were made after services. The afternoon was spent looking for a Freedom House. One was found. The owner offered it to CORE for at least the end of the summer, rent-free. About six people can sleep there. CORE people will probably move in by the end of week. Some careful research turned up the fact that Ferriday is 60% Negro. Most of the contacts made during the day were with young people; a few were with "prominent" townspeople. We found a Negro teen-ager to work with the project on a full-time basis. His name is Sandy Bullion, nick-name "Bull". He was hi-jacked by Concordia workers. He is willing to work with the workers. We need legal advice sometime this week, probably Wednesday or Thursday for integrating the local trade school.

EAST & WEST FELICIANA
PARISHES

July 5, 1965

11:15 am

Mimi Feingold: Having regular weekly meeting tonight.

10:50 pm

Mimi Feingold: They had the regular weekly meeting tonight. They are calling a big public parish-wide meeting to discuss forming a CAP to challenge the present one set up by the white community. White and Negro would be invited to the new one. The workers would like suggestions for a speaker for July 19th who can explain the Poverty Program to people. Not necessarily the legalities, but how it can help the parish. The community is writing to someone in Washington, but the workers are running on the assumption that no one will be able to come and they want to be able to offer an alternate. Preferably someone not associated with CORE. Mimi has Father Thompson in mind, and also Father McKnight, but doesn't know what kind of speakers they are. Could someone here contact them and see if one of them could make it?

Also, they want a message sent to Judy Nusbaum reminding her that she still has the Newsletters (back issues) to send to the people in Clinton. They are waiting.

July 6, 1965

10:48 am

Last night there was a rally of the people in East Feliciana about the Community Fund. We are going to hold a public meeting on CAP July 19. The people have advertisements in local paper, Baton Rouge paper and on radio stations. We want a speaker who is not associated with CORE but who is connected with the Anti-Poverty Program so we have written to Sargent Shriver and Adam Clayton Powell. If we can't get them, we would like suggestions from B. R. CORE.

The two reporters, Julie Wells and Dick Gillam, are staying here but are leaving for Bogalusa around noon tomorrow.

We would like Farmer to come to Clinton. West Feliciana would Ronnie to visit a meeting on July 13, and wants Mike Lesser any time

6:35 pm

Spent the day talking to people on the Poverty Program. Will go over into West Feliciana parish for the weekly meeting.

July 7, 1965

10:56 am

JAMES FARMER - WANTED IN PARISH NIGHT OF JULY 26. In case Sargent Shriver does not make it for July 19 where there is to be a public meeting, would like a speaker for CAP non CORE. What age limit for people CAP committee (can people under 21 serve on the committee)? Is Champ Baker good or bad of B. R. (for getting Anti-Poverty money through)? Can Mike Lesser come to meeting Friday night West Feliciana?

EAST & WEST FELICIANA cont'd

Suggestions for West Feliciana Parish:

Testing; Filing charges against men who beat local CORE workers, Community people did it on their own (testing)

6:30 pm

Mimi Feingold: Spent today writing field report.

July 8, 1965

11:01 am

Champ Baker head of poverty program - what is he like? Want station wagon immediately. Had meeting on formation of CAP. Want Mike Lesser at 8:00 pm next Wednesday. We had a quiet night. Boys taking steps on direct action. We have background on testing.

2:20 pm

Mimi will go to New Orleans tomorrow to get the station wagon.

July 10, 1965

11:30 am

Marty Goldstein: Mike Lesser was here yesterday. Yesterday we went to New Orleans to pick up the station wagon. Went to CAP meeting last night. Chairman: George Noflin.

6:20 pm

Mimi Feingold: Henry Brown and four people from East Feliciana and at least 2 carloads from W. Feliciana went to the Community Conference.

Last night in W. Feliciana a group had a meeting on the Anti-Poverty Program. Mike Lesser spoke. Temporary committee was formed and another meeting was scheduled for next week. We tried to keep the discussion centered around how the program can be used in this parish.

July 11, 1965

Henry Brown: Quiet night. Rested after Community Conference. Going to church this morning to talk to people about the CAP.

IBERVILLE
PARISH

July 6, 1965
12:00 noon

Jack just got back in town. Kenny is still in Baton Rouge.

10:24 pm

Spent afternoon trying to locate a building for community meeting. Doctors will come over from Medical Center (committee). Went a round talking to people in community with the doctors.

July 7, 1965
12:45 pm

Trying to encourage people to attend the community conference.

9:25 pm

Talked to people in Dupont Annex about community conference. Most can't go on Saturday. Would like to spread into rural areas to talk about community conference but have no car. Community meeting either Thursday and Friday.

July 8, 1965
3:37 pm

Working on community conference. Quiet night.

10:50 pm

New volunteer, John Polacheck, arrived all right. Spent most of the day talking to people about coming to the community conference. Some are coming.

July 9, 1965
2:40 pm

Went to city hall and library to get material on annexation. Morrisonville has problems in water, sewage, and jobs. Going to Dawsonville to bring up awareness of problems.

July 10, 1965
11:30 am

Jack Fawcett-- Kenny and John went with community people to conference in Alexandria. Today I am running off leaflets for Thursday night's meeting. We will be meeting in Doctor Tyson's office with people from DuPont Annex.

Tuesday we will attend the City Council meeting (they are expected to make some statement on our twelve demands.).

Wednesday we meet with people from Dorseyville.

IBERVILLE CONT'D.

July 10, 1965

9:27 pm

Jack Fawcett: We got permission to use Dr. Tyson's place for a community meeting of Dupont Annex Thursday, July 15th. Typed out leaflet announcing community meeting. Also typed out statement for Willie Armstead who was refused service at AW Rootbeer stand yesterday. Kenny Johnson and John Polacheck went to the Community Conference with one person.

July ~~10~~ 11, 1965

10:00 am

Workers here in Baton Rouge. John and Jack went to Plymouth Rock Church this morning - Minister is Rev. Davis. They are all going to St. Gabriel to canvass this afternoon.

JACKSON PARISH

July 5, 1965

10:00 am

Kendra Harris: Quiet night. Please send all information you have on Title 7.

9:40 pm

Kendra Harris: Went to City Hall - requested to see the number of people registered to vote. They refused to show them on the pretext that they were busy and told them to call back tomorrow. They will go back then. We spoke with some local people about community problems that they can bring up at the regular Wednesday night meeting of the community.

July 6, 1965

9:38 am

Quiet night. We are going to see the mayor to ask for records of registered voters. We are also requesting the minutes of all Council meetings which are concerned with the incorporation or Annexation. We are spending the day canvassing Hodge about incorporation.

6:50 pm

Mass meeting tonight. Lawyers came down to investigate cases. They are planning to take Roy Lee Madison and his step father, C. O. Mark and Cowin case to court. They think that the charges might be dropped against Madison's step father. We went to see the mayor to discuss different problems; sewers and mail. No definite statement was given.

July 7, 1965

9:40 am

Dorothy Banks: Plan to canvass today. Meeting tonight. We are setting up a voter registration clinic.

7:35 pm

Canvassing on voter registration in Hodge, a hard place to crack. Intend to go into rural areas soon.

July 8, 1965

9:28 am

Meeting last night on different community problems.

July 9, 1965

10:16 am

Kendra Harris: Spent a lot of time yesterday making posters for the march on City Hall over police brutality Sunday. Got help from community in painting, putting up posters, etc.

JACKSON cont'd

July 9, 1965

10:50 pm

Dorothy Banks: Mass meeting Sunday at 3pm. March to City Hall on police brutality. Passed out leaflets about the meeting yesterday. We will attend a meeting with ministers in Hodge tonight.

July 10, 1965

10:13 pm

Kendra Harris: Annie and Kendra went to the Community Conference with two community people. We are working on the march for tomorrow. Community people will talk about the in church in the morning.

July 11, 1965

9:30 am

Dorothy Banks: We are going to visit different churches this morning. We will march this afternoon. Patsy was stopped by police yesterday and couldn't find her driver's license - still unable to locate it. Was arrested and charged with driving without a license. A Mrs. Mason, local woman, raised the \$50 bond. Would like money to pay her back. Would like money to pay her back. Would also like to know the best nursing school in area and what loans are available to parents of a girl who would like to go.

6:30pm

About 75-100 people marched to City Hall and the Jackson Parish Courthouse carrying signs protesting police brutality, open sewers, no mail delivery, etc. There was no police protection, but no major incidents. Whites watched and jeered from parked cars. The march was led by Coach Kirkpatrick and Rev Thomas. Rain started near the end. Thomas prayed at both buildings. We left without incident.

MADISON PARISH

July 5, 1965

10:03 am

Harold Ickes: Quiet night.

10:00pm

Harold Ickes: Has been working on ASCS all day - canvassing.
Alec and Tony went to local picnics.

July 6, 1965

9:58 am

We are working on ASC. Tonight we are having a meeting with men from the local mill.

8:40 pm

Tony Scott: Meeting with Mill workers. Today, meeting also with farmers on ASC, trying to develop leadership in the community. Tony has just returned from local church where they are having voter registration clinic conducted by the Voter League. No one attended. Typed up a news letter on voter registration and ASC and the community conference. Voter League nominated 5 people to go to community conference.

July

July 7, 1965

10:03am

Went to purchase materials for newsletter. Working on stencils for ASCS. We have a meeting scheduled this afternoon on school desegregation. Mass meeting tonight at 8:00pm

7:22pm

Talked to farmers today on the upcoming ASCS election. On our way to mass meeting.

July 8, 1965

10:20am

Quiet night. Found out registrar of voters has gone on vacation for a "reasonable length of time".

July 9, 1965

Alec VanSinderen: Scheduled march to registrar's office did not come off. She's still on vacation. We intend to go back Monday.

July 10, 1965

10:25am

Alec VanSinderen: Group of men from the Chicago Mill and Lumber Company are going to talk with the union. It now stands that if anyone is fired for testing public accommodations, they will all strike. Harold is in the country working on ASCS. There are eight kids ready to integrate the schools.

Madison cont'd

July 10, 1965

6:35pm

Harold Ickes: Tony Scott and four members of the Voters' League went to the Community Conference. Harold's worked in the office with farmers who came to talk about ASC and petitions for ASCS elections.

Tomorrow Harold will make rounds of Negro churches to speak informally.

The labor situation here is tense: especially among workers at the Lumber Mill. Last Thursday, we met with them. On Monday they will start testing discrimination in pay checks, rest rooms, and drinking fountains. One man claims to have been laid off for using the white fountain. Several are going to talk to the foreman to find out if that was the reason. We heard rumors that he had been reprimanded all week for loafing.

July 11, 1965

9:00am

H. Ickes: Quiet night. This afternoon is the meeting with mill workers who want to negotiate for better wages and conditions.

OUACHITA PARISH

July 5, 1965

11:00 pm

Rested today. Tonight a green and white ford seemed to be checking our home out to see if the car was there and if anyone was home. Last night Negroes circled the house with what seemed to be the same intentions.

July 6, 1965

9:50am

Quiet night. We are going to find information from local officials on ASC.

6:25 pm

We went to the courthouse to do legal research on arrests. Meeting tonight.

July 7, 1965

9:50 am

Last night we had a meeting with Local No. 805. 700 members (Negroes); 12 white men in charge. However, there were 40 Negroes present. They would like to do something about the 12 whites over them. Another meeting with them tomorrow night.

5:15 pm

Found out stuff on ASC from city finally. Took further steps in forming student CORE group.

July 8, 1965

9:52 am

Want to find someone very good for CPA. Were invited by farmers to go to ASC meeting in Caldwell Parish. Want information on the parish.

10:00 pm

Want information on the CPA.

July 9, 1965

Mike Robinson: Meeting last night with local hod carriers. Poor turn out (due to rain?). Started Freedom School methods on discussing constitution of union. Going to meet next week. Need CPA. Dan and Steve in Caldwell Parish talking about ASC. We might not make it to the Community Conference because we feel we must continue to canvass on ASC.

5:35 pm

Went to Caldwell to find out information on ASC (got it). We asked the Sheriff to give us direction. We did not know he was a sheriff, and he ordered us into the office and checked our ID. We told him we were from the Southern Regional Office on Federal Programs of the ASC. He said,

OUACHITA CONT'D.

"If anybody shoves some rights down my throat I will retaliate". Then we talked our way out. Did research today.

July 10, 1965

10:15 am

Mike Robinson: Last night we went to Grambling College. Spoke to students to get volunteers to canvass for ASC. Steve is on his way now to pick up a carload. No community people went to the Community Conference. We expect trouble today in Caldwell Parish because of sheriff's remarks yesterday. Steve Miller is going to Crown Zellerbach today.

5:12 pm

Mike Robinson: We did not go to the Community Conference because we were working on ASC in Caldwell. We were chased by a car while canvassing. We had been talking to a farmer and left to talk to another. We saw the first heading toward the big house and assumed he was about to tell the owner why we were there. We left immediately and spotted a car coming toward us. The car is a station wagon owned by the Rolland Bros.. It chased us at a speed up to 90 mph to Richmond where we picked up the other workers and returned to Monroe, still being chased. We consider this routing and did not notify the FBI. We are about to take the students from Grambling back who helped us work on ASC.
(Baton Rouge instructed Monroe to notify FBI immediately.)

July 11, 1965

Steve Miller: Worked on ASC plans today. We went to church and talked with a number of people.
We integrated a movie today also.

PT. COUPEE
PARISH

July 5, 1965

11:20 am

Billy Brooks: Two (2) ladies went down to National Food Store and American Chain Store to apply for a job. They were refused applications at both places. One of the girls has finished school in business. We are planning to write the store managers a letter today.

Went to talk to Sampton Jackson.

The girls are Delores Taylor and Mable Etienne.

July 6, 1965

9:25 am

Number is not in service.

3:18 pm

Meeting last night with ASC: Not as many farmers showed as expected. The man who was willing to run feels that we need to organize more first. Girls who went to apply at stores were told that owner would like to hire them but feel that store is too small for Negroes.

July 7, 1965

10:47 am

Billy sent out letter to food stores for hiring Negroes. Canvassing today. Meeting Monday night for farmers of New Roads. A. J. Robbin is going to Community Conference. He is planning to become an officer of the ASC. The name CORE frightens people away and if people plan to run for officers they must campaign for them selves.

July 8, 1965

11:30 am

Went to hospital last night with Leola Hood. Meeting last night on ASC. Received receipts for grocery store on unfair hiring. Gave us no consideration: said they can't hire Negroes until August. Picket line Saturday, 8:00 am - 6:00 pm at store. Unable to give details. Meeting today with community about store. Quiet night.

July 9, 1965

11:50 am

Kent Hudson: Picket line went up today at National Chain store. Man at American came to see us. Therefore, we did not picket his store today (maybe tomorrow). Picket started just after 10:00 am. We are also continuing to canvass today on ASC.

1:55 pm

Line is calm. We are getting a slight amount of harrassing (cussing).

PT. COUPEE cont'd

July 9, 1965

1:03 pm.

Will continue recontacting people on Community Conference.

5:00 pm

Picket line going fine. No incident, other than a Negro teacher Nora Mae Palmer crossed the picket line. We took her picture. Mrs. Palmer works with Operation Headstart. Her husband wanted to shoot Billy Brooks. He went to his house to get his pistol. He and Billy had exchanged a few words. The Chief of Police made a remark at Kent Hudson.

6:00 pm

Herman Brown: 21
Box 44 New Roads, La.

Arrived at National Food Store, Olinde Street to picket about 4:30 pm. Billy Brooks, George Crawford, Kent Hudson, Anthony Smith, Thomas, and Mathew Batists. Batists and Brooks picketed just - for about 30 minutes. A crowd gathered while they were picketing. About 50 people calling names. Crowd had been there about 10 minutes. The Sheriff deputy drove up (2 in car), the car was about 10 feet away. Billy asked the cop to come get the white boys because he didn't want any trouble. This white was about 27 or 28 years of age and was particularly verbally abusive to Billy. Cop said as long as you stay 20 feet apart with 2 pickets only I'll take the fellow away. Billy said, "thank you". When Billy talked to the cop he had walked to the car away from the store. After the talk with the cop, they (Billy and Herman) began walking back to store. Two whites in a telephone truck drove in front of them and tried to hit them. Billy and Herman jumped back. Herman said "watch where you're going". One white said I won't run over you, I'll run over your mama too. Herman said, "the same to you". Both whites jumped out of the truck and came toward them. The 18 year old boy had pliers and the older man had chains. Herman got hit with chains just across the head. The other hit Billy with the pliers. Both fell. Herman got up and hit the white boy in the face several times. He saw that he gave the guy at least 4 cuts in the face. Deputies came up and stopped the fight. Both were arrested and put in the car. They were taken to jail and charged with disturbing the peace. Release on bond \$100 each. Whites were told to come to jail. They were charged and paid cash bail and were released.

While at the jail house a deputy told Herman that because he was picketing they were going to put him where he belongs.

July 10, 1965

7:35 pm

Herman Brown, approved by Billy Brooks: all was fine on the picket line at National chain store. A white came along with a sign saying: "Hire niggers and kick them off the Welfare". He kept bumping into Negro picketers but stopped after police

RAPIDES PARISH

July 5, 1965

10:29 am

Archie Hunter: Will write letters and reports. Will visit Samtown today to talk with people in the community.

6:45 pm

Meeting tonight with Pineville Help Planners Groups. Will discuss Headstart, school board wants to take away schools promised for Headstart. Parents have indicated they are willing to demonstrate if this happens. The tentative plan is that they will leave children to play in a nearby park and parents will go to the school board office to demonstrate their selves. Will need affidavits for Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. They will be concerned til Wednesday with Headstart; then will begin testing public facilities. A Mrs. Chenevant has a list of places to be tested.

Report sent in today, also sent in names and addresses of 2 or three people who want copies of the News Letter. Archie is working in Samtown still. Seems optimistic, according to Paul, who reported.

July 6, 1965

10:20 am

Archie is speaking in Samtown today and will take people from there to Ormeal Quarters so they can get together on general complaints (roads, sewers, Headstart, etc.). The city promised to put a fence around a park a long time ago and has not come through.

Paul will be working to co-ordinate a demonstration if the School Board (which is convening now) reverses its promise on the Headstart location. In that case, classes will be held in the park.

7:20 pm

Project Headstart: School board decided to give the school (9- to -8 decision). Archie working in Samtown. Went out to Samtown together with Judy Rollins. Trying to get intouch with people who are to integrate the schools.

July 7, 1965

1:05 pm

Talked with Lawyer Berry's Assistant concerning job problems.

5:25 pm

Got hold of Mrs. Brico on Pinecrest School. Would be cooperative, sent in complaints. Rev. Madison to be seen tonight on Pinecrest. Touvine Baptist Church went too. Will announce community conference tonight.

July 9, 1965

8:00 am

Quiet night. Concordia workers are leaving here for Ferriday.

RAPIDES cont'd

July 10, 1965

10:35 am

Archie Hunter: 30 people at meeting in Oil Mill Quarters.

Good meeting.

Dance scheduled for Friday at Community Center (free). Will spend day at Community Conference. Mike Clurman, Jim Peters, Mel Atchison are still looking for housing in Ferriday. Until they find it, they will commute every day from Alexandria.

3:00 pm

Very exciting meeting. Many questions raised. Louisiana people doing all the talking. The three workshops will be conducted by Mrs. Hines (Alexandria), Coach Kirkpatrick (Jonesboro), and Harris (Plaquemine).

July 11, 1965

10:50 am

Paul Trainor: We are going to Pineville for rally today. Will be discussing job bureau, Headstart, and Voter Registration.

We are going to church tonight.

11:30 pm

Spoke in Oil Mill Quarters today to about 30 people; also, obtained permission to use a center for future meetings. Spoke to several teen-agers in Samtown; some organization in starting there, apparently under the leadership of five teen-age girls. One of them is a student at Southern U. another will enroll there in September. Spoke to five preachers, suggested that the preachers form an organization to deal exclusively with the problems of Samtown. They seemed receptive. The project is annoyed that an Alexandria teen-ager who was working with them was taken away by the Concordia Parish workers.

ST. HELENA PARISH

July 5, 1965

8:30am

Ronnie Kaibel: Quiet night

6:25pm

R. Kaibel: Talked with farmers about upcoming Community Conference. Mr. Ellis Howard gave names of several new families to talk to about sending their children to the white school in the fall. The first grade will be integrated in addition to the high school and many parents are reluctant to send their children unless they know many others are going.

July 6, 1965

8:30am

Quiet night

July 7, 1965

8:35 am

Quiet night

6:09pm

Trying to get people to community conference and to send kids to integrated first grades in fall.

July 9, 1965

10:01am

Members of the project just left for Baton Rouge

July 10, 1965

8:50am

Ronnie Kaibel: St Helena Parish is represented at the Community Conference today by two adults and three young people. We spent time talking to people about ASCS and co-ops.

One incident last night: someone threw a rock at the home of Charlie Hall (the son of the woman with whom we live); the rock landed on the roof. Otherwise a quiet night.

6:30pm

Ronnie Kaibel: People here to talk about ASCS. We had discussion with two school teachers, John Mathews and Dr. Walker, about a CAP. Dr. Short-head (white) been in area talking about retraining problem.

ST. LANDRY PARISH

July 5, 1965

11:50 am

John Zippert: Everything is quiet.

11:05 pm

There was a community meeting in Eunice last night and 150 people were present and seemed enthusiastic. They talked a good deal for three hours - and decided to break up into five committees which will meet again on Thursday at 8 pm. The committees are: (1) recreational facilities, (2) schools, (3) rates of pay for domestic help, (4) jobs in general, and (5) doctors and hospitals. They would like a doctor to be present on Thursday night for the medical committee meeting. They would also like to know about books on Negro History.

July 6, 1965

5:30 pm

John Zippert: Went to Opelousas; parish ASC board. Talked about conference. Got all information that we needed. convinced parents of a girl who attends Southern U. for fellowship (the girl seems to be very interested) two meetings tonight: NAACP in Opelousas and farmer ASC in Belview. Talked to doctor to come to St. Landry (Eunice) concerning segregated offices and hospitals. Joel wants to go to Bogalusa. Meeting in Eunice to follow up meeting of last meeting.

July 7, 1965

7:05 pm

Distributed notice for community meeting for Thursday night. Going to meeting at Elkton on community meeting.

July 8, 1965

10:48 am

Joel Rubenstein: Went to Elkton for NAACP meeting. Going to integrated churches Catholic Church with NAACP. Community meeting tonight canvassing for it today.

10:20 pm

Still waiting 10,000 pounds of carroway seeds. Meeting went well tonight.

July 9, 1965

12:20 pm

Jack Watlington: Had a community meeting last night. We broke up into four sub-committees: (1) Job - sent out about 10 people to apply for jobs under Title VII (2) Maids and cooks - considering a boycott (3) Hospitals and doctors - investigating desegregation of hospital facilities (4) Recreation and schools - will talk to the recreation department.

WASHINGTON PARISH

July 5, 1965

10:30pm

Donnie Lee: Last night the whole group was stopped outside of Covington on their way to New Orleans. They were being escorted by a Deacon, Mr. Sims, who noticed that they were being followed by Bertrice Adams, a policeman, Mike Jones testified against in New Orleans. Mr. Sims motioned for Mike to get ahead of him leaving Mr. Sims between Mike and Adams. They got up to 90 mph and got out of Adam's territory, when they were stopped by a roadblock put up by the state police they presumed that Adams had called ahead. Both cars were stopped and searched and identification gotten. Mr. Sims had his gun fight out on the seat. They were all taken to the state police office - charge of speeding. Fine was \$112 for Mike and \$65 for Mr. Sims. They were able to raise the money right then and went on to New Orleans. Police attitude was very bad.

July 6, 1965

9:10 am

Quiet night. People are beginning to arrive for marches.

6:15pm

Picketed a downtown store. We were asked to leave because we were on private property. Cannot picket there anymore.

July 7, 1965

10:35am

March today: 2:30pm. There are two people here from the West Germany TV, BBC. Several kids are down from Berkeley CORE. Most people are over at Union Hall now.

3:10pm

THE MARCH IS NOW IN PROGRESS

Mike Jones: All is fine. At city hall now; no incidents. They will be coming back soon. States Rights meeting of City Council Friday and Saturday. Will be passing out leaflets. The workers are expecting trouble.

3:40pm

They are now returning from march on City Hall. No incidents. Everything and body, all right.

5:03pm

We are hearing rumors on road not to think it will be this quiet all night.

5:55pm

City and State both sent dogs. Troopers sent in. CORE saw about 2 cars with dogs immediately behind march. States Rights people have a rally scheduled Friday and Saturday or Sat. and Sunday.

Washington Parish cont'd

July 8, 1965

10:12am

Ike Reynolds: Quiet night.

4:00pm

Ike Reynolds: March to City Hall. As they were leaving, two Deacons shot a white man, Alton Crowe of Pearl River. There is no report of his condition. The Deacons were in A.Z. Young's car; one report is that Young was involved, another is that Young was not in the car but has now gone to jail to see about those who were arrested. The other names (Deacons) that we have at the moment are Henry Austin and Milton Johnson. Members of the Medical Committee have gone to jail to see about those arrested.

Ike was leading the march as they were leaving city hall. He heard the shots but kept the march moving. At this point, we know only that much verbal harrassment and horn-blowing led up to the incident. Meeting tonight may be called off.

4:40pm

Mike Jones: A girl who was in the march was hit on the head with a rock. The nurse (apparently this means Lynn Tiedman from MCHR) tried to get her into the car to administer first aid. The attackers tried to interfere and blocked the way to the car. The nurse headed with the girl to A.Z. Young's car. The attackers started fighting everyone and tried to pull the people out of the car. At that point, Henry Austin shot Crowe. Dr. Lossy (MCHR) examined Crowe; he was shot in the lower left chest and is not expected to live.

A.Z. Young was not in his car. The car has been impounded; Young has not been arrested. Henry Austin and Milton Johnson (the other occupant of the car) have been arrested.

5:05pm

June Finer (MCHR): Dr. Lossy and Dr. Finer were marching directly behind the line of march because they could not follow closely enough in cars. A girl marching directly in front of them was hit in front of the ear with a rock. She was bleeding profusely, and Dr. Lossy took her to Lynn Tiedman's car to administer aid. When he had managed to stop the bleeding somewhat, it was decided to transfer the girl to A.Z. Young's car. As Lynn approached Young's car with the girl, she was grabbed by a white man who held Lynn. A shot was fired; a Deacon returned (?) a (?) shot and hit a white. Dr. Lossy examined the white and determined that hospitalization and surgery would be needed immediately. He offered the MCHR ambulance and his services to the police. No response; Dr. Lossy left the scene.

cont'd

Washington Parish cont'd

Dr. Lossy and Lynn Tiedeman went to city hall to try to report what they had seen. MCHR phone calls to the police and to the mayor revealed:

1. Austin and Johnson are not being held at the city jail, but in a "place of safety".
2. They have not yet been able to get to see Austin and Johnson.

MCHR physicians will try on throughout the night to see Austin and Johnson - with a police escort.

11:40pm

Mass meeting tonight. Continue direct action tomorrow.

July 9, 1965

11:12am

Joan Grieco: Do not know if march is cancelled or not. Have not heard, so I assume its still on. Wounded man reportedly still alive.

July 10, 1965

11:20am

Dinny Lee: We are waiting to hear from Mr. Young in New Orleans. Whether we march today or not depends entirely on the injunction. We expect a call from him about 1pm.

2:45pm

Ike Reynolds: March in Bogalusa called off because the permit did not have today's date on it. Farmer told Ike they plan to march tomorrow (7-11).

The injunction of the city of Bogalusa against a march was thrown out; the injunction against the city police was signed.

7:30pm

Mike Jones: Violence on picket line. Charlie and John Hamilton hit. FBI notified.

Farmer just called in all others to arrive within 48 hours. Couple of Negroes threw bricks through white car windows. Would not give further details.

July 11, 1965

4:00pm

Ike Reynolds: One white man arrested in Bogalusa possessing a piece of iron. Another white man threw a fire cracker, but it isn't known if he was arrested.

The march was stopped short of city hall and turned around and led back to Union Hall.

A plot to shoot Farmer was rumored, but nothing happened this afternoon. The two arrested July 8th are in the City jail and Louis Lomax is with them. Rally tonight at 7:30. McKissick expected today. All incoming traffic is being kept out of Bogalusa.

WEBSTER
PARISH

July 5, 1965

9:30 am
Peaceful night.

July 6, 1965

10:10 am
Had a meeting of about 400 people last night. Mr. Coleman, president of Voters League is not in agreement with what we had planned to come out of the meeting. We handed out slips of paper, (name, address, etc.) and broke people into sub-committees: 1. Anti-Poverty, 2. Discrimination in youth groups and 3. Job opportunities. Coleman's objection: No emphasis on voter registration. Each Friday will be Voter Registration--Freedom Day. Every Thursday we will hold clinic on voter registration. Sub-committees will meet on different evenings. Will start testing public accommodations this week if people are ready. We feel that people are ready but Coleman is not. Other members of Voters League executive committee are not in agreement with Coleman.

July 7, 1965

9:10 am
Meeting with youth group yesterday afternoon - very good discussion. The youths decided to meet again today and make specific plans and set a date for testing public accommodations, sometimes early next week. Today, we will have meeting of job opportunity committee, wages committee and Anti-poverty committee. Expect specific details to come out of these meetings.

6:17 pm
Meeting with youths on segregated accommodations and the forming of a youth group. Meeting on Anti-poverty and job opportunities at St. Rest Church.

July 8, 1965

9:12 pm
Had exciting meeting last night. 100 people, discussed Anti-poverty program and came up with working plan. Committees elected to study each aspect of program. Will report at next mass meeting (Wednesday) to report recommendations. Maids decided to organize and will meet tomorrow. Youth group selected chairman and will begin testing public accommodations Monday after 2 clinics Saturday. Freedom day Friday. Taking group down to registrar. Had nothing to do with it.

WEBSTER cont'd

July 8, 1965

10:02 am

Had a meeting with city employees who presented a 3 page list of demands they want to see enacted immediately. They decided to see to the mayor and ask that he act on the demands. The main demand is equal pay for Negro employees of the city. If he refuses to comply, they want to march every day until something is done. Since the president of the Voters League is opposed to immediate action, we may come into open conflict with him. Should we break with him or risk stifling action?

July 9, 1965

6:45 pm

Bill Madden: Demands will be presented at mass meeting Wednesday night; the demands accepted at this meeting will be presented to the Mayor by members of the community. There will be a special meeting of the City Council and Mayor requesting a composed report back within 24 hours. We are demanding that the city officials have a meeting with Negroes to work out a long range program and to decide immediate action that should be taken. If the Mayor refuses to reply, the people here have indicated the desire to take direct action. Mr. Coleman, president of the Better Citizens' Voters' League, has opposed any communication with power structure. The Community is not ready to act; we are approaching a direct split.

July 10, 1965

9:15 am

Terry Poe: Quiet night. Had meeting last evening. The phone is tapped and Terry doesn't want to reveal too much information; has sent a detailed written report to Ronnie.

6:12 pm

Willie Mellion: Having a non-violence clinic with youths in preparation for testing public facilities in Minden on Monday. Bill Madden and two community people went to Community Conference.

July 11, 1965

9:25 am

Willie Mellion: Going to church and resting today. We really need money. Non-violence clinic last night went very well. Quiet evening after that.