

WATS REPORT
MAY 4, 1965

JACKSON: Marilyn Lowen/Jeanne 12:10. Bob Fletcher, SNCC photographer, was arrested this morning in Midnight, Mississippi (Humphrey County). Fletcher was enroute to Indianola. He swerved to avoid hitting a truck that was coming in the opposite direction and one of his tires on the car blew. Fletcher's car went over in a ditch. While waiting for a wrecker to come and pull the car out of the ditch, the driver of the truck called the police and had Fletcher arrested. He was charged with reckless driving. Bond was set at \$200. At 8:15 Fletcher is out of jail.

SELMA: Silas Norman/Jeanne. 20 people left this morning from Selma for Syracuse, New York. The group from Alabama will try to give inspiration to the Negroes in Syracuse. They will be stopping off in six cities before reaching Syracuse ABC has two news reporters on the bus.

Yesterday 28 people from Livingston, Alabama went to the court house to register. They were all allowed to take the test.

JACKSON Mike Hickson/Molly The omnibus suit to have all municipal elections in Mississippi put back to October will be filed on May 12. The suit will be to annul the primaries and to hold up the general election until October. An amended suit will be filed in Judge Clayton's court to remove the technicalities on which he ruled. Clayton did not rule against the constitutionality of the suit, but rather against its technical aspects. This is in reference to the Sunflower County case.

RANKIN COUNTY via Canton, Bill Forsythe. Martha Wright was arrested this afternoon in Brandon for illegal parking. She is in city jail intending to serve out a three day sentence rather than pay an \$8 fine.

VICKSBURG Eleanor Learner. Judge Cox signed a stay to prevent county court trial of three persons charged with trespassing in a sit-in until federal courts decide if they will accept the case.

INDIANOLA Fred Winn/Molly. 35 people passed the registration test today. About 50 took it. There were about 30 members of the Freedom Corps canvassing the whole county, about 10 NCC ministers, and about 30 representatives from projects throughout the state. For the first time all 8 municipalities and several rural areas were worked in one day. Two local Negroes overheard three white cops and several rednecks say that #they" were planning on bombing four more Negro establishments, either residences or businesses, in Indianola.

MOREHEAD via Jackson Jan/Ginny. 11:00 The freedom house in Morehead (near Indianola) is surrounded by white college students, presumably from Morehead Junior College. 12:00 The white students have begun to shoot into the freedom house. Some people from Sunflower County have gone to the house to protect the COFO workers. There are about 30 people inside the house. One policeman rides by occasionally.

(unconfirmed)