

WATS REPORT: Wednesday, July 1, 1964

unofficial report

Chicago: Bernard Lafayette

Last night a rally was held on the corner of 47th and S. Park. Police had ~~black~~ Negro informers circulating through the crowd to let them know who leaders were. They then arrested leaders. Larry Landry, Stanley Branch, Marion Barry, Jerry McWater (chairman of action for Chic. SNCC) and eight others were arrested. After the arrests people gathered in greater numbers and marched to the jail where those arrested were being held. They sat in the streets and more were arrested, bringing the number to 100. All were released on \$25 bond. Trial will be this morning. ~~Charges~~ Charges on all are disorderly conduct.

Mass rally is planned for Thursday ~~late~~ late afternoon. Mrs. Hamer will be speaking.

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Jackson: Bob Byers 5:10 pm

Clarksdale : last night

Mr. Samuel Houston, a Freedom Democratic Party candidate for congress, was arrested last night for drunken driving, carrying a concealed weapon (a pistol) and improper license. He is in jail now. Bail has been set at \$170, trial is set for tomorrow at 9am.

Tchula: 3pm Bob Berger (summer volunteer)

Highway patrolmen B.C. Glenn, Greenwood Highway Patrol was looking for Steve Bingham again today. He said "We're going to give him protection whether he wants it or not because of calls from Washington." The highway patrolmen were not in uniform. The belief is that if they find Steve they'll stick to him.

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Chicago:

The trial of the 100 arrested today was continued until August 11.

Trial of Marion Barry: trial was held at the Federal court, Northern District of Illinois, Chief Justice Campbell presiding. Marion's lawyers were Charles Markel and Frank Anglin. The lawyers filed a denial of charges and included history of SNCC and Marion's role in SNCC. All that pertained to SNCC was stricken from the records. When the judge asked how Marion pled Anglin said guilty. Marion was surprised and upset and ~~talked~~ during a ten minute recess discussed the plea with Anglin and Markel who was also upset. Anglin inferred that if Marion would plead guilty that the judge would let the case go. The judge also inferred this when they got back into court. Marion pled not guilty, however and asked for a jury trial which had earlier been waved. The judge suggested that he ~~would~~ would be available if Marion wanted to discuss his plea. Marion feels that if he has trouble with the lawyers on his plea that he will try to get different ones. His trial will be in October.

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New York and Jackson:

Today's New York Journal American carried a front page story about a new party being started by Malcolm X, the Organization of African American Unity. Amongst the alleged supporters of this group are John Lewis, Gloria Richardson, Larry Landry, and Jesse Gray. John was questioned about the article which was written by Martin Arundel, a syndicated columnist, and John said that he had heard nothing about the whole thing before we mentioned it to him. He is going to make a statement ~~repudiating~~ repudiating the column and stating his position.

NOT FOR RELEASE

Reported by M King to John Dear 6:01 pm 7/1/64

Reported two rumors:

1. From Ed King. Negro woman at Tougaloo was told by her sister-in-law from Vicksburg who was told by her husband who was told by a white man in Vicksburg who belongs to a labor union there, that at the last meeting of the union, (last Thurs or Fri), some of the union members who are also Klan members, were talking about Phila. Some of them said the three had been killed and their bodies had been chained together. The bodies were then dropped in the new Ross Barnett reservoir on the Pearl River, probably on the closed section of the Natchez Trace south of the highway 16 cutoff to Canton in Madison Co.

2. From a white contact in Phila. A Negro woman, the contact in Phila. that the Meridian people were using as their contact to get the Mt Zion church turned into a community center, had a bottle thrown through her window on the night the three disappeared, 6/21, at 6:00 pm, with a note reading, "you are next, nigger."

*Agent Gesic came to see me in Jackson Aug. 12  
about rumor #2. No contact before then;  
said things got fouled up in checking this out.*

Re Vicksburg body:

Dear said they needed more information. The Vicksburg police say the man was having trouble with the husband of a woman he was last seen riding around with. The report is that he had been missing a week; that his body was badly decomposed; but he was last seen riding around with this married woman. Dear said they're open to more info though.