

WATS REPORT: Sunday, July 5, 1964

unofficial report

Selma: John Love 10:30am

There was more violence through the night in Selma. More students went into the downtown area last night and were beaten. People in the Negro commercial sections were also attacked. One man coming out of a Negro restaurant on broad street was beaten by 6-12 policemen who converged on him and beat him back into the restaurant. At about 11pm a rally of whites was held at the A&P downtown, and during the evening a cross was burnt on highway 41 about 1 mile from the heart of town.

There will be a mass meeting tonight at the Green Street Hall at 7pm.

Selma: John Love: 6:15pm

Benny Tucker was arrested in the downtown area of Selma at about 5pm Selma time. He was driving a SNCC car and was stopped and arrested on the corner of Franklin and Alabama. ~~He and~~ He and John Love had gone downtown to pick up leaflets for the mass meeting and voter registration. The police took the car when they arrested Tucker. The car had a Calif. license on the front, a Georgia on the back and the registration in the glove compartment.

At about 5:15pm Joseph Chapman, a local Selma resident, 27, was arrested. The charges are unknown in both cases.

John reports that a great many whites are milling around downtown, particularly near the Wilby Theatre. Very few Negroes are downtown.

John Doar was called about the arrests and about Freedom Day at 6:25pm.

ALBANY, GEORGIA, taken from Peter Delissovoy, at 6:30 pm.

Donald Harris, Randy Battle, Roy Shields, and Dale Smith and nine others were arrested for loitering after they tried to enter all-white Tift Park Pool (formerly a public pool) in Albany. Two white SNCCs had gone to the pool first, entered, and reported back by telephone that white men, armed with ball peen hammers, sticks clubs and that life guards had baseball bats. An integrated group of 25 went (including the arrestees) and tried to get in. The ticket seller - after a lot of discussion - admitted the pool was private for white people, and that Negroes were not admitted. The group split, half retired, and 13 were arrested for loitering and are being held on \$102 bail. C. B. King will defend. New Albany number is: HE5-9811.

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LAUREL, FROM DOTTIE ZELLNER IN GREENWOOD.

Lester McKinnie was arrested in Laurel at 2:00 pm. McKinnie was arrested there in 1962 at the bus station. He was released while his lawyer appealed the case to municipal and county courts, and was rearrested today on the old charge, and told he would have to spend four to six months in jail and pay a fine. Apparently the deadline for appeal has passed - his lawyer was Jess Brown - and Jackson lawyers are working on the case. This is NOT FOR RELEASE.

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