

AMERICUS, GEORGIA

From Robert Mants
Several Negroes (maybe about 8 to 12) were in the Martin Theater. At 9:00pm the manager reported there was a bomb threat and emptied the theater. A mob outside of about 200-300 whites had gathered. About 100 Negroes assembled, in the same vicinity. Mants called the Americus police and FBI agent Cheek in Albany. Mants, Willie Ricks and Sammy Mahone saw people running and heard shots. The police had fired shots into the air, but in the direction of the Negroes. Firemen had a truck out with hoses loose. The hoses were not used. Ricks and Mahone turned the Negroes in toward an impromptu mass meeting. During the mass meeting the mob was still throwing bricks and sticks at passing Negroes and cars driven by Negroes. Two police at the desk didn't even look up, Mants said, when a man reported his back window had been broken.

Apparently the police department sent out a dispatch ordering businesses to close and the streets to clear - at least Negro businesses received such notice.

Mants: "The situation could well have developed into a riot. If the SNCC workers hadn't come on the scene, there's no telling what might have happened. And there's no way of knowing what's likely to happen next." #

LAUREL, MISS.

From Garman

Two white summer volunteers were picked up and questioned by police, one SNCC worker, and one local Negro Negro detained in connection. At about 7pm Thomas Watts, 35, Berkeley, California and Marcia Ann Moore, 21, Fort Dodge, Iowa were picked up. SNCC worker Gwen Robinson, 19, Negro, Memphis, Tennessee, went to the jail to bring Moore's identification and was held for a short time. Charles Spinks, 14, Negro, Laurel, was detained for about an hour in connection with the two volunteers. Watts was released. Moore was charged with vagrancy, will be arraigned tomorrow at 3:00. #

ALBANY, GA.

Trial for the 13 will be at either 9:00am or 1:30pm.

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