

July 8

Wats Report from Jackson Bill Light 4:40 AM taken by Karen Haberman

MCCOMB Miss. time

3:20 Jackson recieved a call tha a house in McComb had been bombed, 702 Wall St. The entire front end of the was smashed in. Curtis Hayes was cut up by a smashed window. He had cuts all over his arms, face and body but he is not badly hurt. Police and fire dept. showed up 20 minytes later. Two quart oilcans were found facin the left front of the house. Before the blast, no one heard ~~xxxx~~ anything. The people in the house wer e: George Greene, Wendy Sampstene, Denis Sw eeney, Curtis Hayes, D. Macord, Sherry Everitt, Pat Walker, Freddy Greene, Clint Hopson, Jesse Harris. Sweeny had a couple of cuts but it is not serious. He had been sleeping in the same room as did C. Hayes.

After the blast about 100 Negroes ~~xxxxxx~~ gathered and were standing outside. Curtis tried to get a doctor but couldnt however he is all right, he says he was sort of knocked unconscious and didnt hear anything before that. George G reene said t at he heard three explosions second after ~~xxxxxxx~~ second. Said were like gunshots only was louder. Hayes is 21. a native of McComb. SNCC worker and Negro.

John Doar called 5:30 AM

- Geo Green 20 Gwood Miss SNCC
- Freddye Greene 19 sister of above SNCC
- Julius Samstein white 25 NYC SNCC
- Dennis Sweeney white 21 Portland Ore. summer vol. concussion from shock of bomb
- Curtis Hayes 22 McComb SNCC
- Don McCord white 26 Stafford Kansas NCC
- Sherry Everitt 19 Negro Pittsburg Shaw College
- Pat Walker NYC CORE
- Clinton Hopsen 26 Asbury Pk NJ law stu Howard
- Jesse Harris 22 Jackson SNCC

2:25 pm SELMA ALA.

16 arrested today / picking up off the street towed Tom Brown's car away; ransacked it - took his briefcase and are carrying it around

picketers on steps of fed bldg: Ernie McMillan 19 Dallas SNCC staff
Samuel Newal 13 Selma
Willie Talbert 20 Selma

continued picketing as palined if they can get the kids down to area co solicitor Blanchard McLeod has been making the arrests

2:35 called John Doar

Forman calling Fred Grey to get Lewis and Mitchell out

*file Mont. AP - collected
Bham AP - Atlanta*

WATS REPORT: WEDNESDAY JULY 8, 1964

unofficial report

Selma: Tom Brown: 9:30am (Atlanta time)

A press conference was held last night with ABC, UPI, AP, NBC, and New York Times. A meeting was held with adult steering committee. The decision was made to hold testing of public accommodations until Sunday (after the voter registration drive is over this week).

Today there will be picketing at the courthouse, the jail and the federal building. People will be sent out in teams of 5 or 6 each hour starting at 11:30am. They expect about 30 arrests today.

Tonight there will be a mass meeting (place not known yet). On Monday Sheriff Clark told Mr. Gildersleve of the Dallas County Voters League that he would break up all mass meetings from now on - that none would be allowed from now on. Therefore there may be trouble tonight.

Tomorrow there will be an all day mass meeting for students. Workshops will be held on all titles of the Civil Rights bill; there will be workshops on the history of songs of the movement. Students will be sent down to picket from the meeting.

BACKGROUND: Karen House was charged with trespassing and carrying a concealed weapon when arrested Saturday. The concealed weapon was a chain medallion - which she had in her pocketbook. The medallion was broken. Karen's bond is \$1000.

The Justice Department and the FBI have both been notified about plans to picket today.

McComb: 21 years old *Concussion - from shock of the bomb*
Dennis Sweeney / (who's name is not on parents list) is summer volunteer from Portland, Oregon. Parents: G.L and Carol Sweeney. 6811 N.E. Hancock, Portland. Sweeney is from Stanford University, ~~kkkkkkkk~~ has been there 3 years. History major.

Re McComb: Danny Lyong

Congressman Edwards of California stayed at 702 Wall Street on Monday night, the night before the bombing. Edwards and Danny went to see the ~~kkkkkkkk~~ mayor of McComb yesterday afternoon asking for police patrol of the house because no police had been by at all. Edwards left McComb at about 3pm yesterday, only 12 hours before the bombing. Edwards will be contacted about the bombing by his son, Len.

Selma: Tom Brown: 12:15 noon
white

Last night a man came to the Freedom House at about 3am. He tried to break in and kicked the door, broke off the mail box and tore the signs off the door and said something about the fact that he was going to get the Freedom Fighters. His daughter had been hit by a brick at the Wilbey theatre on Sunday. She was in the hospital. Tom expects that he'll probably come back again until he catches one of the SNCC workers at the house. The incident was reported to sheriff Clark and will be to the FBI.

sidewalks

The ~~kkkkkk~~ are all blocked off by the courthouse. Only people going to register can by. They will still try to get picketers down there however, within the next 15 minutes.

SELMA: TOM BROWN BROWN: 2:45pm

16 people have just been arrested. Three were arrested while picketing on the steps of the federal building. They were:

Ernest MacMillan, 19, Dallas, SNCC staff

Samuel Newal, 13, Selma

Willie Talbert, 20, Selma

Approximately 13 others were picked up off the street. We don't know the charges on any of the 16. It has been reported that Blanchard McCleod, County Solicitor is doing the arresting.

They plan to continue picketing if they can get the picketers to the courthouse and federal building without getting arrested.

Tom Brown's car has been towed away and ransacked and ~~knocked~~ his brief case is being carried around by (we think) one of the police (MUST CHECK THIS)

The brief case contained SNCC materials.

Washington: John Deare: 2:35pm

called Deare's office and left the details of Selma's arrest with his secretary because he was on another line.

McComb (from Dotty Zellner in Greenwood)

Dennis Sweeney, Portland, Oregon received a slight concussion from last night's blast. Dr. Rht. Coles is in McComb now and says that ~~his~~ condition is OK.

COLUMBUS, MISS.

From Greenwood

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Three summer volunteers arrested here at 2:00 pm. They were canvassing for voter registration and when they came out of the lady's house, they were picked up -- apparently by city police. The lawyers went to see the them at the city jail (where they are being held) and couldn't get in to see them.

Joel Bernard, 18, white, New York City, junior at Cornell

Steven Fraser, 17, white, Great Neck, N.Y. soph at U of Wisconsin

Warren Galloway, 21, Negro, Detroit, stu at Virginia Union

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ASHLAND, MISS.

SNCC staff Olive Sellors arrested for reckless driving at 2:30 pm.

bond \$250. At Ashland city jail (phone: 2521) student at Howard U.

20 years old. They have the bond money and are trying to get him out. FBI

and JD called on this and Columbus. *Driving 2 white volunteers, Lee Gaven over of them*

Selma: Tom Brown: 5pm

Rev. F.D. Reese, President of the Dallas County Voters League was arrested at 3:15pm today while taking pictures of demonstrators downtown.

There have not been any other arrests since then. Since they have no transportation (both SNCC cars have been impounded by police) they have not been able to get students to the courthouse or federal building to picket.

The mass meeting for tonight is not yet definite because the minister whose church was to be used is not certain if he wants the meeting held.

Rulerville: taken from Judy Richardson, Greenwood: 5:40pm

at 9:45am this morning James Dann, 23, of Elk Vado, Calif., was thrown out of Sunflower County circuit clerk's office. He had accompanied Mrs. Maybell Campbell there to help her register to vote. When they entered four white men including the deputy registrar were there. The deputy told them "get out of my office." another white man grabbed him by the back of the neck and forcefully threw him out. Deputy told Mrs. Campbell, "you have no right to be coming down here with this white trash. You can register alone, but you can't come here with these scalawags. He's not a resident of Sunflower county and he has no right to be in the courthouse." All said in loud and threatening tones while waving a finger at Mrs. Campbell. She applied to register anyway. Dan complained to the sheriff's office. Sheriff W.I. Holowell agreed he had the right to be in the courthouse. The sheriff complained to Dan about John Harris harassing police yesterday (Harris is a SNCC worker).

He said, "we're not going to let it happen again today."

Ten persons ~~had~~ attempted to register from Rulerville, Indianola and Drew yesterday and today. We have two reports of Indianola police telling local Negroes to have nothing to do with white agitators. There is a third report of an employer threatening to fire two Negroes if they had anything to do with vr people.

Jackson:

NACP board members were sworn at and spat upon by local citizens on the steps of the capital building in front of TV cameras today.

COLUMBUS, MISS. - details on arrests From Sayer / Gwood

Bernard, Joel) charge: trespass

Galloway, Warren) bond: \$500

Fraser, Steven - Charge: trespass
and public profanity \$1,000 b.

The three summer workers had gone into a white gas station to get a coke in the midst of doing voter registration canvassing. They had their cokes (apparently inside the station) with no difficulty and then proceeded to canvass. About 15 minutes later a police car drove up, questioned Fraser and drove around the block. The police then arrested Fraser, put him in the car and drove around the block again. Then the city police arrested Bernard at which time a white man came over to the police car and said, "There's the other nigger," pointing to Galloway who was seeking refuge in a woman's house. Galloway came out (apparently not wanting to involve the local woman) and was also arrested.

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Sayer says William Fitts Ryan should get daily reports of some kind.

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WASHINGTON, D.C. From Willow ROUNDUP ON STATE RESOLUTIONS RE FDP
Massachusetts state convention, June 19 passed resolution
California state executive committee, June 27 (prior to that the Calif.
Democratic Council passed resolution in February)

New York state executive committee, June 15

Minnesota state convention, June 28

Wisconsin state convention, June 19-20

Michigan state convention, June 12-13 (with help of Ann Arbor, Lansing
and Detroit Friends groups)

Oregon state convention, June 27

Colorado - two resolutions adopted by the two largest counties in the
state which will be carried to state convention July 18

District of Columbia district executive committee, July 6

Note: These resolutions vary from requesting seating of FDP delegates
(Michigan) to requesting credentials committees to accept only
those delegates whose state parties are pledged to the national, etc.

Press conference went off well, Willow said. Miss Baker was held up
due to weather interference with her flight. Mrs. Hamer and Sherrod
were there.

There will be another press conference in DC for the FDP July 22, with
congressional people from various states.

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Selma: Tom Brown: 8:10pm

They had to cancel their mass meeting because all the ministers he's contacted
say they've been getting threats and they don't want their churches used.

All the juveniles arrested today have been put in solitary (nine juveniles--most are
14 and 15; one 13 year old)--7 men arrested together arrested the 13 year old).

They have changed bond requirements again the Tom doesn't know what they are.

16 posemen came to Tom's mother-in-law's house (537 D George Washington Carver
Project) and searched the house, ostensibly for Terry Shaw, local Negro who works
with the movement.

Re report of brief case being taken bydd from car: Dep. Sheriff Crockett was the
man who was carrying it.

They are still trying to have the mass meeting for students tomorrow/ they might
have to use the Catholic church but are trying to get another church.

Picketing will continue and work for Freedom Day on Friday will also continue.

Every night this week a group of white citizens from Dallas County have met/ out
on highway 80. There are no specific reports as to what they have met about, but
it is believed that the meetings are directly connected with demonstrations, etc.

A fresh crew of state troopers (ton cars) were moved into Selma today. There are
other law officers with uniforms that are unknown in the area. On TV it was
announced that 5 prisoners from one camp and 3 from another escaped today. Risk
The report connected the escapes with the movement of so many law officers to
Selma and the lack of them elsewhere.

LAUREL, MISS. 7pm Miss. Time from Greenwood M King McKinnie missing
Gwen Robinson tried at city, county and workhouse in Laurel tonight to
find McKinnie. Jail officials claim he is the jurisdiction of the other
and say they do not know whereabouts. He was known to have been in the
workhouse yesterday when local people reported he was there alone (and
accessible to townspeople) He was arrested Sunday in connection with 62
sit-in charge on grounds that he had lost the appeal at the county level.
FBI agent in Laurel's name is Robert E. Lee.

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