WATS Report; July 9, 9:30 pm
Hattiesburg, July 7, 7:30 pm (From Greenwood; Rudd/Grigan)

Rev. Robert Beach, Nation- Council of Churches, was arrested in Hattiesburg this afternoon at 4:15 pm. He is now being held on a $25000 U.S. cash bond in Forrest County Jail, on a charge of false pretenses. Charge based on a check deposited by Beach and not honored by the First National Bank in Hattiesburg. He had allegedly overdrawn his account by $70. This amount has been covered by checks which have not yet cleared the bank. Beach is on permanent assignment in Hattiesburg from the Nat'l Council of Churches. He formally had a parish in Hebron, Illinois. No one as yet has been able to see him. The NCC will provide bail. However, Jackson has not been able to contact them yet.

LAUREL, MISS: From Forman/Grigan and Atlanta AP

MCKINNIE LOCATED. McKinnie is reported by Forman as having said he was worried because he was kept in the city jail last night and he feels that the county jail is the safest place. He told them today he did not want to work on the workgang and they let him stay inside. Robert Cox petition filed today in Federal district court by Melvin Zeir. The case will be heard next Wed., July 15. The sheriff is reported to have told McKinnie's lawyer, Hal Walet, that he was aware of his obligation to take proper care of him. The sheriff told the AP man in Jones Co., that he is being held in the county jail but is a city prisoner. "City prisoners are usually regarded to the county," the sheriff said.

Ruby Doris Smith: A group in Miami, Florida wants SNCC to help them.

Booker T. McKinnie wants to be called back. (305) CK 1-4520 or NE 2-6655.

To report that evidence has been discovered at this place.

LAMARK COUNTY - In the name of a man named to contain a youth.

WATTS Report; July 9, 9:30 pm (From Greenwood via Mandy) (Grogan)

M C O R N B: Man. Through Garman via Mandy

Within an hour after the bombing there were between one and two hundred people at the Freedom House. The SNCC workers organized the people into a group and they were addressed by Jesse Harris. He said, essentially, that it was an attempt to scare us but we're not scared. We will stay. Even if they kill all ten of us, there will be ten more to take our place. Early in the am they found a church in which they could hold a mass meeting and they left the trees all day long. At 5pm there was a youth meeting of 30 kids at the Freedom House at which there was talk and singing. At meeting's end they marched around the bombed site. This occurred after the local police who were there observing. At the mass meeting tonight, there were about 150 people. The church was overflowing. Curtis Hayes spoke and explained that "We will not be turned around." He explained the developing organization of the state. He introduced Rev. McCoy from National Council of Churches, who introduced Art Thomas of NCC. Thomas talked about the type of support the NCC would lend to the movement in McComb. Jack Pratt, lawyer for NCC, spoke, followed by Bob Cole, the psychiatrist. Both Pratt and Cole apologized for their respective professions and pledged their support. Courtland Cox spoke. His speech can be summarized by his quote from Mrs. Barnett: "People at Mange, hurry and tired of being sick and tired," "Now is the time to move." David Doris spoke about the convention challenge and freedom registration. Curtis explained the Freedom Schools and the Community Center program. The meeting then ended.

Several things should be noted: 1) Mandy feels there was a breakthrough with respect to federal involvement. The FBI dispatched over 15 agents. They're all over the place driving around in their plymouths. At the mass meeting, there were cars all around (FBI cars) in addition to City and County Police cars. There were at least 3 Mississippi police cars (2 County and 1 City car). In addition to the FBI agents, there are two Justice Dept. men who are with the Criminal Division.

After the mass meeting, the staff went to the cafe. Someone came in and reported that there had been a shooting. A car with four white males in fixed on the only Negro police officer in the town. The same car had circled the Freedom House.
Dennis Sweeney was taken to EXX Jackson for further medical treatment. He complained of a ringing sound in his ears.

Earlier today Bob Coles said that it might be a slight concussion and that is being looked into in Jackson.

From Rob McWilliam:

David Allen said local SS members were in the area.

He claims the SS men filled a truck with women during the night and then paid $200 to get them out of the area. They say.