

WATS REPORT : JULY 10, 1964

unofficial report

Alabama

Bessemer/ from Ed Rudd, Greenwood: 110:25am : incident on Wednesday or Thursday

Two unidentified Negro boys went into a restaurant in Bessemer, Ala. An undetermined number of local white men and boys beat the boys with baseball bats. One of the Negro boys was beaten around the head and chest and has been admitted to one of two Bessemer hospitals in serious condition according to Mr. George Scott, local resident of Bessemer. These boys were barred from entering the restaurant by its owner. They were beaten while walking away from the restaurant. The other boy has been released from a doctors care. The beating took place either Wednesday or Thursday.

Mr. Scott says that the local young people want to test the ~~kkkk~~ cr bill but don't know just how. They need help, workshops, etc. and he wants Forman's help. The parents are evidently not trying to discourage the kids from demonstrating.

Forman told Scott to call the local FBI and Dr. Pitts in Birmingham (Miles College). Also told him to call Peter Hall in Birmingham, and Oliver at the Inter-citizens council (Birmingham)
(HA 8-9646 : George Scott

Washington: Mr. Norman: Justice Department : 11:55am

Rkk

Selma: Tom Brown 11:15am

Reynolds

A Miss Porter just came into the office and told Tom that Judge ~~kkk~~ said he was sending her ~~kkkk~~ Geraldine Mitchell to Mount Meigs juvenile school for one year for picketing. He evidently said that he would do it with all the juveniles--there are about 18 or 19 juveniles in jail (16 years and under)/ Miss Porter went to court because Mrs. Mitchell was too ill to go.

There are about 25 people down to register (only 12 are supposed to be there because only 12 have numbers). Negroes are ~~kkkkkk~~ out on the streets as though they are 'waiting for something to happen'.

Tom has called the jail repeatedly for Willie C. Robertson, who was arrested yesterday aftern on while at a grocery store, but both the city and county jails claim they don't have him.

Washington: : Justice Department, Mr. Norman: 11:30am

Informed JD of the above and ~~kkkkkkkkkk~~ he said that he was about to call Selma JD about it.

Birmingham: Att. Peter Hall

Re sentencing of juveniles, Reynolds is sentencing as delinquents all those who had earlier been convicted while participating in demonstrations and been put on probation. Reynolds is revoking their probation and sentencing them to a year. All the juveniles whose parents sign a retainer will be represented by Att. Hall. He is filing a writ of habeas corpus for those. He is unable to act for those juveniles who don't sign the retainer.

Selma: an injunction has been issued in Selma to prevent SNCC or others from demonstrating. Ostensibly to 'keep the streets safe for Selma citizens'-- received this information from the wire services. Have no more information yest. Rkk Neither Tom Brown, nor anyone else from SNCC had been served with injunction at lpm/ t Public meetings of more than 6 and testing of cr bill also prohibited in injunction.