

WABS report: page 1,

July 16, early am
unofficial report
Nan Grogan

DREW Garman/Grogan

The Negroes are supposed to have been taken to the Morehouse county farm. Whites are supposed to be in Sunflower County Jail. This does not seem to be what has been done

Jackson 12:45 to Greenwood (Garman/Grogan)

Eric Morton, white summer volunteer, Steve Smith, white summer volunteer Robert Ellis and Melvin McDavia, both 15 and local Jackson kids The four were driving in a rented truck from Jackson to Grenwd carrying Freedom registration forms and pamphlets. As they were leaving Jackson, were stoppe d by Jackson city police. They continued on Highway 61, just past last bridge before Canton where they were stopped by Highway Patrol. Ultimately 4 highway patrol cars arrived. The two Negroes were ordered out of the truck by the H.P. and ordered to walk back to Jackson. They made it clear that they lived in Jackson. McDavia saw Steve Smith lain flat on the seat of a HP car. He was put down flat by the HP and then he d saw a HP hovering over Smith. The next time McDavia saw Smith, he had mussed-up hair (Smith usually has his hair plastered down) McDavia couldn't see Steve's face. McDavia's impression is that a beating may have taken place. The 2 Negroes started walking back toward Jackson after they had observed the arrests and hitched a ride to Jackson. Sherwin Caplin in Jackson office called Madison County jail in Canton and spoke with Mrs. Thompson, the jailer's wife who said that the two were in jail there. The charges are": Morton: interfering with a officer and resisting arrest; Smith: resisting arrest and refusing to show a driver's license. She said no bond had been set. They will be taken before a justice of the peace tomorrow. She knows nothing about the truck. Truck is missing. The J.F., Leroy Hawkins, was called and he said that they would appear before him around 9 or 10 am. The H.P. was called and claims to know nothing about the arrest. The FBI in Jackson was informed as was the Memphis FBI. The jail phone no. 859-2345.

DREW: Ed Rudd/Nan Grogan 2X8 2:45 am, July

Harris called the Sunflower C. jail at 9:45 and an unidentified jailer stated that two white girls were being detained. Male whites. At 11 pm Rudd called Sunflower C. jail and jailer said two FBI agents just left and any information would have to come from the agents. Rudd called Kirby Fudge at Memphis FBI sev. times between 11 and 12. Fudge said agents had been at the jail had that the agents would call the Greenwood SNCC office as soon as they reported in to the Memphis FBI. Agents have not yet called. Rudd called and found that there was no written report of what the two men had reported but they had been told to call Rudd, and hadn't. Off-hand account of what went on: agents were at the jail interviewing the occupants under Washington directive. They had interviewed two when they called in and were going to interview the other as soon as possible. Aid gave no. of agent from Greenwood: Murphy, staying in Drew.. Rudd called Murphy and he said: "I am sure that the whites are at the County Jail" U. was not the agent who had done the interviewing there.

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It was personal option as to whether the minors stayed or left. 3
stayed and 6 left. Muppy has no word as to how many are in the
county jail. Murphy said that all would be delivered back to Drew in
the morning. As it now stands, Greenwood has talked with noone who
has seen first-hand what is going on at the County jail. The only two
agents who are purported to have been at the county jail are unidenti-
fied and have not contacted Budd as Kirby Fudge of Memphis office had
instructed them to do.

JACKSON

A call to Jackson revealed the addresses of the white summer volun-
teers arrested in Canton: Steve Smith, age 19, 3095 12th Avenue,
Marion, Iowa, student at State University of Iowa. Eric Morton,
45 West 132nd Street, New York, New York

DREW: from Greenwood, Judy Richardson

Bond on the 22 arrested yesterday totals \$3980. Those arrested on first offense have bond set at \$110 (there are 18). ~~Mike~~ Gretchen Schwartz, James Dann and Mike Yarrow are on \$500 bond, and Charles MacLaurin is also on \$500 bond, but the charge of inciting to riot might be added for MacLaurin which would probably raise his bond.

Greenwood is working on raising the bond.

Clarification: the arrests yesterday in Drew were the second arrests in two days. Some of those arrested had just been released on Tuesday's arrests.

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Greenwood: Betty Garman 11:55am

At 10:30am Greenwood time 35 people were arrested while picketing at the Greenwood courthouse. Among those arrested were:

Ray Rohrbough, Pinellas Park, Florida

Margaret Aley, 19, Milpetos, California

Paul Klein, 22, Palisades Park, N.J.

Linda Wetmore, 19, Hanover, Mass.

Sally Belfrage, 27, New York City

Richard Miller, 20, Tonowanda, New York

About 70 - 80 people are lined up at the courthouse waiting to register, and more are coming all the time. They're only ~~taking~~ taking one person at a time to take the test. Police are not interfering with people on line, but are just arresting picketers as soon as they begin walking. We believe the arrests are being made in connection with the anti-picket law. Those arrested were being put in a black police bus and taken to the jail four blocks away from the courthouse.

At 10:45am 5 more arrested. One, Monroe Sharp, Negro from Chicago Friends of SNCC, went limp and was dragged half way to the bus. There are about 30 police standing around the courthouse.

At about 11:45 31 more ~~people~~ were arrested. When Monroe Sharp went limp in the earlier group three police were standing over him and looked very mad, but didn't beat him. In the above group of five, one woman who was pregnant either bent down to pick up her pocketbook or went limp. When she did, ~~the~~ the police grappled her and she started screaming. The cops then got rough with her, and her sister, who was waiting in line to register ran over to the police and began shouting at them to leave her sister alone. She began to struggle with one of the police and he held his billy club as though to hit her, though he didn't. ~~He~~ He did drag her around however.

During those arrests ~~the~~ a group of people with picket signs standing at the end of the registration line began to sing. The police went over to them and told them that ~~if~~ they had two minutes to put down their signs. They then began to arrest them. ~~Richard~~ Cortland Cox, 22, New York City, Howard U., program dir. for SNCC and Stokely Carmichael, 23, NYC, Howard U., Dir. of second congr. district were both arrested at this time because they were directing the picketing. Chuck Nehlett, 23, Carbondale, Illinois, a Freedom Singer, was also arrested and taken to the courthouse and we believe, placed in a squad car. Willie Earl and Mrs. Anna May King of Greenwood were taken off the school bus and were put in squad car #4 at about 11:45am.

There are about 4 FBI men at the courthouse including Bill Murphy, a new agent. ~~*****~~

Re two women arrested in the second group, ~~when~~ when the police tried to put them on the bus they plocked the door and the police started swinging billy clubs at them, hitting them in sensitive places of their bodies. When on the bus Cortland and Stokely called out that prods were being used, but this has not been confirmed, for ~~when~~ no one could see the prods.

MONDAY JULY 16, 1964

unofficial report

Selma: John Love

Charles Johnson, # 17, of Selma, was kicked by Sheriff Clark this afternoon. During the time that he was waiting to be bonded out of jail Johnson took a drink of water from the drinking fountain. Clark kicked him in the rear and then in the testicles saying, "what are you drinking out of our fountain". Although there was only one water fountain, Negroes are expected to drink out of paper cups. Johnson was taken to the doctor who said that there has been no serious damage though there has been slight swelling. Johnson has been to the FBI and they have pictures of him.

BBK Justice Department was called and Mr. Norman was told of the incident.

Selma: Willie O. Robertson: 5pm

Just after Alvery Williams was released from jail this afternoon, he was picked up by state highway patrolmen and taken to the Montgomery County jail. I called the jail at 5:10pm and was told that he is being held for failure to stop at a stop sign, \$32.50 and violation of bond \$30.50. I was told that he had been tried on both of these charges, though I am not certain of when.

Charles Jones: Inc Fund: the reason they picked up Alvery is that he had mentioned that he had a trial in Montgomery and they must have checked and got a hold order on him.

Greenwood: Danny Lyon 5:40

This afternoon at about 3:30pm Silas McGee, Greenwood, about 20 years old, was beaten. He was walking to the SNCC office when a car with three whites stopped and forced him into the car at gunpoint. In the car they beat him with a 2x4. He has been treated at the hospital and is now at the office. He is very badly bruised and bloody but his condition seems to be OK.

Enfield: J.V. Henry

The judge in Henderson, N.C. has indicted a white man for starting the riot on Sunday at the truck stop. J.V. thinks this is the first time such action has been taken.
