

WATS REPORT

July 19, Sunday, early am

UNOFFICIAL REPORT

ITTA BENA: 4:14 (S. House/N. Grogan)

The mother of Clinton Loggins, who was arrested on Friday, July 17, went down to the county jail and was not admitted to see her son. No one has been able to see Clinton since he was placed under arrest and there is no official confirmation that he is in the county jail.

Stu House has tried to phone the Sheriff and the Deputy Sheriff, Weber, who performed the arrest, but has been told that neither is at home when he calls.

GREENWOOD (Stu House/Ean Grogan) 4:30, July 19

A 1954 red and white Buick, sporting a Confederate flag, has circled the Greenwood office two times between 2:30 and 3:30 am (Mississippi time).

BILOXI, MISS. from Jackson (E. Schrader/N. Grogan) 4:45 am, July 19
A Negro man was arrested Sat. night when trying to eat in a white restaurant. There is no further information at the present moment.

Canton, Miss.- Dotty Zelner to Arlene Wilgoren 2:30PM. (Atlanta time). At 3AM Jackson time, the Christian Union Baptist Church in Canton, Miss., was burned to the ground. (minister: Rev. R. L. Lockett). The church is located 20 minutes from Tugaloo between Ridgeland and Madison east of Highway 51. A mass meeting had been held at a church three miles from the above church on Thursday evening, but no meetings have been held at the burnt church. The Sheriff of Madison county drove up to the church and when he saw ~~phot~~/~~of~~ a COFO worker taking pictures, he said that he thought the NAACP had burnt the church, otherwise how would the worker know about it so quickly. The sheriff then asked the worker if he was going over to the other church. When he asked what other one, the sheriff replied that he would find out soon enough. The people in the house $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the church, the only house in the area, said that they had been awakened at 3 AM by an automobile and when they turned their lights on, the car left. They could give no information about the car.

Greenwood, Miss. Jesse Harrison to Brenda Travis 10:pm Atlanta time. Jesse Harrison reported from Greenwood that ten to fifteen cars have been circling the Greenwood office all day, and are still circling. Harrison said that the cops stopped two of the cars and told the drivers to get out of that area; but they haven't left as of yet. The Greenwood staff are putting more people on watch tonight, because they expect trouble.

BATESVILLE July 20, 12:15 am (E. Schrader/N. Grogan)

Geoff Cowan was walking down the main Negro street with Deacon Robertson, age 78, and a local citizen named Crowder. They were going to the Oak Grove Church about 7:05 pm, scene of the mass meeting. About half way there a red chevrolet with 4 whites pulled alongside. They shouted "Nigger, what cha doing with that white man?" The two men got to the church. The car pulled up behind them again. Someone said, "Boy, you'd better take your hands out of your pockets if you know what's god for you." Marshall Ricco came and felt Colan's pocket. He said "Lucky you don't have a gun with you." (Apparently the marshall had been in the car and Cowan had not recognized him as a "law enforcement official".

BATESVILLE CONT'd.

Cowan apologized and said "I didn't know you were an officer. The cop says "get out of here," shoved him and said "I wish I weren't a law enforcement officer. I would beat you up." Ricco got in the car and drove away. Then the Deacon, being intimidated, decided he didn't want to have the mass meeting. People had not started to come yet so he wanted to call the meeting off because of the incident. Other local people pressured him to have the meeting. They had the meeting and Sheriff Hubbard of Panola C. and a few deputies arrived as the COFO people had called them for protection at the meeting because there was a group of white people standing nearby. The Sheriff stayed til the meeting was over and said he would "give the guy a talking to who made the threat.

BILOXI: Steve Bloom via S.House/K.Haberman , July 20

Palmer Bruce Maxwell, Jr., of Corsicana, Texas, student at Univ. of Texas, was arrested at Barney's Restaurant on July 19. He is working with the white community project. He had held job at Barney's one day and was fired when it was discovered that he was working with civil rights. Barney had told him not to come back. He went back and Barney arrested him for trespassing.

Sherwin Caplan of Jackson called Biloxi City Jail at 11:53 and talked to the captain on duty, Veckowitz, who said there was \$100 cash bail. Trial is set for 6 am July 20.

12:15 Soren Sorenson called from the Riviera Theatre in Biloxi and had received a call from Bruce Maxwell saying he had been arrested for trespassing. Soren called Jackson and gave the above info. Ed Hamlet was at jail at 12:15. Bruce Maxwell was bonded out by Steve Bloom at 3:45.