

In Key

JULY 17: McComb: Mount Zion Hill Baptist Church in Pike County bombed or burned to ground. Pastor of this church had let Project use his McComb Church, St. Mary's.

Philadelphia: Columbia law student and a writer beaten with chain by two middle-aged white men in early afternoon.

Greenwood: 15 staff and volunteers on hunger strike until let out of jail after being brought in during massive freedom-day arrests.

Yazoo: Three Negro men, late teens or early twenties, arrested for looking at a white girl.

Greenwood: Greenwood and Drew cases have been removed to Federal court and bonds reduced to \$200 out of state, \$100 for residents.

Greenshaw: White summer volunteer harassed by three white men while putting up voter registration poster.

July 18: Lauderdale: Two summer volunteers arrested for wilful trespass while discussing voter registration on front porch of two Negro women; no complaint made by women.

Hattiesburg: Kilmer Estus Keyes, white, of Collins, Miss. turned self in to police in connection with beating of Rabbi and two workers last week. Charged with assault; out on \$2500 property bond.

Batesville: 8 people detained one-and-a-half-hours by sheriff who was "trying to see if there is a state ordinance against the passing out of leaflets." Statute not found; released into crowd of whites standing around. Local volunteer hit hard in jaw by white man.

Starkville: Police Chief followed two volunteers to various stops in Negro cafes, delivered lengthy "anti-agitator" speeches directed at local Negroes talking to volunteers. Lengthy verbal abuse by police chief, directed to the voter-registration workers.

July 19: Columbus: Two voter registration workers detained in jail in Aberdeen for 4 hours after being picked up as suspicious strangers and refusing to be driven out of town and left on highway by police.

Greenwood: Mass arrest victims are both at city jail and county farm; no visiting privileges at farm--among those there is a 70 year old man who is in need of medicing which no one has been permitted to bring to him.

Oxford: An Ol' Miss student who has contacts at Rust College (Negro) had his seat covers slashed while car parked outside faculty home; threatening note left. He has had much harassment before, but cannot get administration to act.

Biloxi: 1) Voter registration worker chased, threatened by two men in pick-up truck; 2) White Community Project worker arrested for trespass in white restaurant where he had worked for one day until

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(Biloxi, cont.) owner discovered he was a civil rights worker. Owner turned him into police when he went back to restaurant.

Batesville: Town marshal threatened volunteers at mass meeting in Crowder (13-15 miles away). Said "lucky I have no gun in here... wish I didn't have my badge on...."

July 20: Greenville: 9 shots fired at car workers went to mass meeting in. 2) Two workers threatened that white mob would form at place where they were staying.

Hattiesburg: White volunteer beaten downtown as left bank with two other Freedom school teachers. Assailant hit from behind--no words exchanged. Volunteer and attacker charged with assault.

Ruleville: Two workers ordered out of cafe. Doors locked, people inside; told to come around and get key--whites given keys--asked to leave when SNCC button noticed. Owner doesn't care he is violating civil rights act.

Greenwood: 1) Both barrels of shotgun fired at worker's car as he drove--hit tires. 2) Trial of mass arrest victims held despite referral petitions filed. Defendants remained mute on basis of violation of legal rights, are being convicted of violation of picket law--30 days, 100 dollar fine. Was thought that they were now all under Federal custody and jurisdiction.

Clarksdale: Three members (girls) of newly organized Clarksdale Youth Action Group arrested for trespass outside local Cafe in Negro section.

McComb: SNCC Field Secretary hit on side of head by white man as both stopped their cars for red light at intersection of two state and a federal highway.

NOTE: The purpose of this running summary of incidents is merely to indicate the pattern that greets Freedom School and Community Center workers and voter registration volunteers in Mississippi. Details on any individual incidents should be checked with GCPD to assure accuracy.

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(More to come later)

M King

July 21: Lexington: Robert Garofolo, 19, white of East Haven Connecticut assaulted by white man who hit him in face and body with fists as Garofolo waited outside courthouse to take part in voter registration campaign.

Laurel: Rights workers believe the second cluster of summer project workers from a rented office here this summer is due to "intimidation" of local Negro realtors by white persons opposed to the Project.

Clarksdale: Les Johnson, 20, white volunteer from Glendora California arrested for running red light; paid fine.

Holly Springs: \$200 bond levied on summer volunteer David Kendall, 20, Indiana, for failure to have an inspection sticker; arrested.

McComb: A total of 75 students are enrolled in the Freedom School in this "hard core" area.

Greenwood: Windows of three Negro cafes broken. Windows of car belonging to summer volunteer also broken.

Natchez: Within 45 minutes after 3 SNCC workers arrived in this second Northwest Project area to set up a Summer Project office, Chuck McDew, former SNCC Chairman arrested for failure to stop at stop sign, stated police chief told him Natchez police knew of their movements "every minute of the day." Continual following by police.

Hoodleville: Three Negro youths in company of white summer volunteer picked up and held for "investigation" at Club 400 by police. The volunteer, John Bundy, 22, Seattle, Washington, later arrested for "improper tags." Negro youths released on bond; amount not known.

Clarksdale: Two precinct meetings of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party attracted 160 persons here.

IMPORTANT: WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND THE PRESS THAT THE HEARING FOR THE OMNIBUS SUIT FILED AGAINST THE KU KLUX KLAN, SHERIFF RAINY, DEP. SHERIFF PRICE, THE WHITE CITIZENS COUNCIL AND OTHERS WILL BEGIN AT 10:00 a.m. tomorrow morning at the U.S. District Court, POST OFFICE BUILDING, MEMPHIS. (THE SUIT ATTEMPTS TO ENJOIN ACTS OF VIOLENCE ON THE PART OF THE DEFENDENTS AND THE CLASS OF OFFICIALS AND CITIZENS THEY REPRESENT.) SINCE BOTH RAINY AND PRICE ARE DEFENDANTS, IT IS ALMOST CERTAIN THAT THEY WILL APPEAR ON THE STAND, IN ADDITION TO OTHER CITIZENS OF MISSISSIPPI WHO CAN THROW LIGHT ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF VIOLENCE AND TERROR IN THE STATE. WE WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT THE HEARING WILL BE THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN MISSISSIPPI, AND MAY PROVE TO BE A MAJOR STEP IN THE HISTORY OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE.