

M King

July 22: Jackson: A Mississippi Summer Project volunteer was beaten at a major intersection in downtown Jackson this afternoon. Robert David Osman, a 19 year old Brooklyn New York student at the New School for Social Research was with another civil rights volunteer and a local Negro youth when a car with two white men pulled up in front of them. The men chased the volunteers, encircled Osman, and beat him with wooden billy clubs. The second volunteer, Mario Salvio, 21, a University of California at Berkeley student from Glendora, California called the police.

The Jackson police officer, Bill Watson, who answered the police call and returned the beaten volunteers to the Jackson COFO office, indicated that a complaint had been filled out and that a pick-up call had been issued for any cars matching the description given by the volunteers of the one in which their assailants rode.

The volunteers described the whites as being in their late 20's and dressed in "well-worn sports clothes."

Osman had just left Holmes County and was en route to McComb for voter registration work. Osman was quite bruised, cut, and scraped about the back arms, and legs.

McComb: Sheriff R.R. Warren of Pike County said that the Mount Vernon Missionary Baptist church, organized more than 80 years ago, was found burned last night about 10:30 p.m. according to UPI. Summer Project volunteers in McComb, who inspected the church site this morning, stated that the building was levelled, its tin roof now laying gnarled from the heat. The church was located about 6 miles east of Magnolia, Mississippi near the south entrance of Percy Quinn State Park, 4 miles from the Mt. Zion church, burned a few days ago.

When the McComb Project workers arrived at the site, the FBI, sheriff, and police were there. They uncovered no clues; the fire was officially listed as "of undetermined origin."

The Pastor, Rev. Harry McKnight of Liberty, is in no way affiliated with the civil rights movement nor is his church to the best knowledge of civil rights workers.

.. There are currently 80 McComb students attending a Freedom School held only 4 blocks from the site of the previously burned Mt. Zion Church.

Tchula: It has been reported that the driver of the car from which the man who attacked volunteer Robert Gorofolo yesterday came has been arrested. Tchula SNCC office spokesman said that the arrest came at approximately 12:30 last night. Jackson office unable to obtain further information from sheriff.

Natchez: A local Negro was taken into police custody today while walking along the street with SNCC Field Secretaries Chuck McDew and George Green. Greene had a scheduled meeting with the Natchez mayor this afternoon; details available later.

Greenville: A local Negro, 18, was arrested for forgery today while passing out voter registration leaflets with several other local Negro citizens. He was later released, after being questioned about civil rights activity, for lack of evidence on the forgery charge.

Natchez: According to SNCC Field Secretary George Greene, after a meeting with the Natchez mayor, the city official maintains most of the nationally publicized shipment of arms to white terrorist groups in this area has been done in Adams County, as opposed to the city. Police continued to follow the SNCC workers "every minute."