

[Gluckstadt]

[August 11, 1964]

Three weeks ago, two weeks after the founding of the Freedom School in Gluckstadt, I visit@d the school while Virginia Chute and Margaret Gunn were teaching there. During the course of the morning I found on the sill of one of the back windows a coke bottle filled with an alchohol based fluid and with a peice of newspaper jammed into the top. There had been no attempt to light the paper and the condition of the bottle would suggest that it had ~~be~~ been there for several days.

The following week a member of the white community, Mrs. Sharp, visited the teachers to "see their Communitis leterature" (at the school). A discussioj insued during which time she suggested that the church might be burned or bombe@d. A Negro woman, Thelma Saddler, 37, suggested that she might have been sent by the local Constable, Earl Holly, to "see what was going on." Mrs. Bouldin, another local Negro, voiced rather deep concern over the "threat."

The Monday I began teaching school the students were extremely nervous. Each sudden noise upset them, every passing car was watched from the doorway. Their excitement diminished on ~~Thursday~~ ^{Tuesday} and on Wednesday was not noticably above the norm.

The following Wenesday our electricity was cut on and off repea@dly. Thusday the road running past the school was regrad@d. The white supervisor stationed himself directly above the school and divided his attention between his equipment and our outdoor class.

This morning we approached the schoo@d at around 8:30. As we approached the school we noticed Ho@ly in the lot across the street leaning on his car. Because of this, Jim Ohls, who was driving, pulled to the side of the road rather than into the lot. Because the church is partially obscured from the highway, it was not until this time that we were able to see the building. The church was levelled, with smoke still coming from the rubble. Jim turned the car auound in the lot, and we proceeded back to Canton. As we passed the truck cut off two sherxiffs' cars pulled out in back of us, and follwed us until we turned off the highway and gave Jim Ohls a ticket for reckless driving that he allegedly committed at the sight of the turning. The remaining two blocks to the Freedom House passed without event.

[Arlene Bock]