

Sept. 28-Oct. 4, 1964

WEEKLY REPORT

OCTOBER 24-SEPTEMBER 2

A. BOCK

MONDAY:  
9/28/64

In at 8:15. Worked in Center until staff meeting. I am engaged at present in reading 'Mary Jans'--a procedure far more involving of duty and enjoyment than enjoyment. The book is tho a fine one for use in reading programs. I suspect that I shall make it compulsory reading with in the Freedom School program. Fairly involved discussions may be worked around it.

Attended staff meeting. Assigned information booth at rally, one sheet campaign folder for Johnson-Humphry (500) copies. With temporary adjournment of meeting helped to unload truck of welfare materials. Returned to meeting and at its close returned to Center. Assignment to write biographical sketches of Johnson is, of course, dull, more dull in fact than campaigning for him is hypocritical. Still it must be done by someone. Gathering material should prove quite interesting in itself. While I'm quite sure such material is in existence, I do rather doubt its availability within the week.

Center opened at 3:15.

A lifelong ambition fulfilled: I just learned how to shoot crap. When we closed down for dinner at 5:30 Joann and I went out to Fairview that she might see the building. After all this rain we found the floors completely dry. We decided not to talk to Mr. Kelly until after Sunday services, in order that we may determine better the timbre of the area and in order, also, that we may obtain better contacts. When we returned at 7:00 reopened the Center. Worked on cutting stencil of campaign billet (Only you know HOW LONG? Cast your vote election day for...) while supervising study period until 9:00, closed at 9:30, however unable to get kids to leave until 10:00--and then only thro Maryann (may the gods smile upon her). Obviously, somewhere I have made a mistake in my attitude toward them, but I'm not quite sure where it lies.

TUESDAY:  
9/29/64

In at 8:45. Ran off 300 copies of stencil. Community Center staff meeting at 10:30. It is beginning to appear that imaginative fill work is the only key to even a half page on Humphry.

At 1:30 took Mrs. Bell to the Freedom House for welfare and Mrs. Davine to the courthouse and then to visit a woman in the white community. worked on puzzle for Freedom School.

At 3:00 returned Mrs. Bell. Worked on crossword puzzle and in library until closing for dinner.

At 7:00 reopened for the first night of the Canton Freedom School. We worked from 'Raison in the Sun'. Number of students varied from three to eleven during the course of the evening. While it is impossible to judge at this point, I suspect that all went rather well.

Finished at 9:45.

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SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 2

A. BOCK

- WEDNESDAY:  
9/30/64 In at 8:45. Took Joann to postoffice. Worked on report. 11:00 Joann and I went to Cedar Grove-Flora to straighten the building for Freedom School. Found the building in wretched condition--papers all over floor, books dampened by recent and not so recent rains (there is no glass in the building at all). What Joann had estimated as a three hour job involved us late into the afternoon. Because of the condition of the roads we decided to return thru Flora. As we entered the negro section near the Gin, the clutch went out of the car. We encountered some of the workers and received their polite but cool permission to use the Mill's phone. However we found that no cars were available to pick us up. We returned to the car locked ourselves within it, and watched the police circle th rise and assorted others more frequently. Around 6:00 Tom came out, and two cars containing four whites each ceased circling us and stationed themselves below and above us on the highway. We decided that it would be impossible to ~~leave the~~ push or otherwise maneuver the car back into Canton that night, and decided to leave it at al local negro church, JONES' CHAPEL. As Tom began to push the car our 'friends' closed in, hesitated for a moment, and then finally moved off again. When we got the car to the church we found a carload of deacons awaiting us. Tom secured their permission to leave the car in their lot for the night--our first positive contact with these people. We then went to the ~~six~~ ~~eight~~ eighth (Phew, finally) precinct meeting at Mount Center. Attendance was quite poor, and certainly nonrepresentative of the people in the precinct., i.e. there was noone present who even passes thro the Gluckstadt area frequently. Mr. BALLARD was elected chairman, MR. MCCLINTOCK registrar. Ballard in the course of the evening proceeded to show himself both arrogant and ignorant. Returned at 10:30.
- THURSDAY:  
10/1/64 In at 8:30. Spent most of day trying to work out repair program for the car. As of this time it sits in the Supper Club's lot, the repairs necessary undetermined. Worked in Center. At 5:30 Joann and I prepared to leave for Gluckstadt to begin Freedom School. However we found Martha's and Jacque's cars totally inoperable, the staff car out. Scrounged around but were unable to locate a means of transportation of any description. As there are no telephones in the area we were left with no way in which to fulfill our commitment. Tried to learn a little bit about organization from Tom. Left early--around 8:00.
- FRIDAY:  
10/2/64 In at 8:30. Researched, wrote, and prepared stencil of Johnson's biography for rally tomorrow--a process which, off and on took the entire day.

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SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 7

A. BOOK

FRIDAY:  
10/2/64  
(cont.)

Went into Jackson to help raise bail for Theodus. While there took Tracy to the courthouse to file our petitions. Attempted but was unable to locate any material on Humphry at the FDP office. At 6:00 Joann and I left for Flora and opening day of Freedom School. Went fairly well, however I tended to lose younger kids as the discussion wore on. What we shall probably do in future is spend a few minutes each day discussing current events, perhaps half an hour working with homework, and the remainder of the time in 'general discussion'--predominately dealing with Mississippi, but also other unrelated material of a purely empirical nature as well. 23 youngsters present. Good spirit. All in all, very encouraging. Closed at 9:00, returned to Center and thence eventually home.

SATURDAY:  
10/3/64

In at 8:30. Discovered that my assignment for the duration of the rally had been changed to that of watchdog. The afternoon proved enjoyable--perhaps because of its very dullness. Late in the afternoon the Bouldin youngsters--Robert, Earnest, and BennyLou and Bee--stopped by the office on their return from the rally. They, combined with the October 3 issue of the National Guardian, shed considerable light on the situation in Gluckstadt. Holly attempted to take Earnest to confront his daughter over a charge of statutory rape (he claimed they waved at her on the street). Arthur fetched a gun and held Holly off with it. Since then they seem to have been struggling, not only against him, but possess as well, up until recently. They stopped in to find out if we were all right. Apologized profusely and promised to be out for them again this Thursday. In the middle of the afternoon a caravan of approximately ten cars pulled in from the lot from the rally. They evidently expected to see hordes of people swarming over the office patiently expecting rides to the rally--no one was here. In fact, I hadn't seen a soul, living or otherwise in better than an hour. That evening we finally had the opportunity to use the car. Joann and I went into Gluckstadt to make arrangements for continuing the 'School. We had time to visit Saddler's and Gibson's only. Found response favorable so we will try again this Thursday--the gods willing. Opened library until closing. Waited for George for a ride home.

SUNDAY:  
10/4/64

Remained at home the entire day because of the hurricane.