

# Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

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{STATE OF MISSISSIPPI  
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James Baker 51  
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Part time minister and auto mechanic

On the night of January 25, 1964, at approximately 9:05 p.m. a cross was burned in the front yard of my residence in rural Pike County. While it was burning, I attempted to contact the Sheriff of Pike County and was told by his wife that he was not at home. I then called the McComb City Police and was told that crosses were being burnt all over town. No law enforcement officers ever investigated the incident.

One day in the first half of April while I was working as an auto mechanic at the Dennis Concrete Company on Magnolia Street in McComb, I got a phone call on the office phone. The man on the other end of the line asked my age and address. I gave him the information and asked him who he was. He then asked me for my N.A.A.C.P. card number. I told him I didn't have one, and he asked me whether I just didn't have my card with me. I told him I didn't have one and hung up on him. I am not a member of the N.A.A.C.P. It was my experience that people had accused me before the cross burning of being a member of the N.A.A.C.P. It is my understanding that a man can be fired for belonging to organizations like the N.A.A.C.P.

On the morning of September 9, 1964, I was in McComb Infirmary, recovering from an accident I suffered on my job. That morning a bomb was thrown into the front yard of my residence; at about 12:30 a.m. That afternoon, at about 1:00 p.m., a Mr. Butler from the Mississippi Highway Patrol came to talk with me at the hospital. He asked if I had been participating with C.O.F.O. I told him I hadn't. The F.B.I. came to visit me at about 8:00 a.m. on September 10.

I have been a registered voter for about eleven years.

*"One Man, One Vote*