

Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

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(STATE OF MISSISSIPPI (COUNTY OF PIKE

Robert McGee Berglund 24

I. Robert McGee, went to the Courthouse at Magnolia Mississippi to register to vote. When I arrived at about 3:30 p.m., about 17 patrolmen stopped us. They said, "What are you looking for," to the minister who went with me. The minister said he came to help these people register to vote. The patrolman said, "The Judge told you they are having court; come back another day." The minister said, "We refuse to leave." The patrolman said, "all ofyou are under arrest." They carried us to jail and questioned the minister first. They questioned the others. Then they came to me. He said, "What's your name, boy?" I told him. Then he said, "Take your hat off, boy." I did this. He asked for identific ation. I gave it to him. He asked if I lived here and I told him for 24 years. He said, "You's a nigger and you let these people encourage and push you down here to register and go to jail." I told him I came on my own free will. He asked if I had ever been did wrong by any of t ese white people and I told him yes. They wouldn't let me register to vote before, and they beat me out of money. He said, "Where do you work?" I told him at Wynn Dixie. He asked how long and I told him since they opened since September. He asked what time I went to work and I told him I go at different times. He asked, "What are you doing off now?" I told him so I could register. He said, "Nigger, what did I say to you all outside?" I said I don't remember exactly what you said, something like come back another day. He said, "If you niggers had remembered you wouldn't be in here now." Then he told the jailer, "Lock this nigger up ."

I was bonded out at 5:30.