

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
6 Raymond Street, N.W.
Atlanta 14, Georgia
Tel: 688-0331

Lena Turner, being duly sworn deposes and says:

I was arrested July 19 with 42 other persons. Our group consisted of 18 young adults and the others were juveniles.

We were on our way to the city hall to protest the arrest of the 7 people that had been arrested while trying to purchase at the Martin Theater. As we were standing and singing, Chief Chambliss, Sheriff Chappell, three officers and a number of state troopers approached us. Chief Chambliss said, "Do you people have a permit to march." I told him that we were not marching. I told him that I was protesting the arrest of the other kids. Chief Chambliss told us that we were under arrest for resisting arrest and marching without a permit. He did not tell or ask us to disperse.

All of the others sat down except a boy who knelt and I, who was reading a Bible. Sheriff Chappell yelled, "Sit down, nigger, sit down. If you feel froggy, jump." This was repeated to the group sitting on the ground. The boy and I both sat down. Chambliss called for the paddy wagon and said, "I'm going to ask you orderly to get up and get on the truck." We got on the truck and was carried to the jail.

After we got to the jail, Chambliss called to me, "All right, Lena Turner, let's go." He took me inside to a cell. He yelled, "Damn it, get in. I'm going to put you in here where you'll really be punished." He squeezed my arms and shoved me into the cell. I was left alone in the cell.

The sink was clogged and filled with dirty water. The commode was clogged with waste. The mattresses were filthy and infested with bedbugs and roaches. The floors were littered with decayed paper. The bunks were without linen. The first three days I was given 2 hamburgers twice a day. Sometimes they were spoiled and were never well cooked. The remaining days I was given three meals a day, except Saturday, when I had two sandwiches.

One day I was sick and asked for a doctor. But the guard refused. He said, "The city doctor ain't got time to be bothered with you." He started in my cell with a stick. I told him my disease was contagious in order for him to leave. He stared at me and left. I stayed in this cell alone for 2½ days before I joined the others.

I spent 52 days and 53 nights in the city jail of Americus.
Sworn before me the 10th day of September, 1963.

sig.: Lois Barnum Holley
Notary Public Ga. State
at large; my
commission expires
Aug. 29, 1967

sig.: Lena Turner