

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

6 Raymond Street, N.W.

Atlanta 14, Georgia

Tel: 688-0331

James Williams, being duly sworn deposes and says:

On Friday night, Aug. 9, I went from a fish fry in Brooklyn Heights to a barber shop at the corner of Lee and Ashby Streets, in Americus, Ga. The barber shop was closed and Gene Mann and I started across the street to the cafe. A policeman shouted, "Halt!" and we were scared and stopped. Then Gene Mann ran away. I talked with the policeman on Lee Street facing Ashby. Then a panel truck with two state patrolmen made a big knot on my head behind my left ear with his billy club. He didn't say anything to me before he did it. I fell down and the two state patrolmen started hitting me up the side of the head they hit me with something like a baseball bat. I can't describe the pain. But my whole head felt swollen and the blood was gushing down my face. I told them I couldn't get up. The state patrolman had asked me and then the policemen with them said, "Let me have him," and he stomped me on the leg. They kept asking me to get up. Then the state patrolmen pulled out a "hot shot," a long silver looking stick run by batteries and burned me in the right rib section. I still have a bid old blue looking spot there. After they got through doing that they got Gene Mann back and some other fellow and had them put me in the truck. And then they took me to jail. Then they laid me down by one of the cells and went out. And a lot of the guys already in there crowded around me. About a half hour later they took me outside on the concrete steps. The boys had been yelling that they broke my leg and should take me to the hospital. When they got me out on the steps they said, "Who do you work for, boy?" I told them I worked for the same man they did, the mayor. I cut steel for the nail plant that Mayor Griffin Walker's wife manages. He's a salesman for the plant. Then they said, "We better carry this son of a bitch to the car and get him to the hospital."

During the week of Aug. 12 I talked with men from the FBI. I was in the hospital at the time. They asked me what happened and I told them. I explained that my leg was broken by the patrolmen and they asked me about my head.

Sworn to before me this 10th day of September, 1963

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

sig.: James Williams