



Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee

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I, along with seven other people, went to the courthouse, in Magnolia Mississippi, to attempt to register to vote. As I was standing in the parking lot in front of the courthouse, a man dressed in a black jacket and black trousers came up to me and asked me my age. I told him that I was 21; then, he said, "You are under arrest." Then, he got behind me and started to push me toward the jail. I said, "Stop pushing me, I can walk by myself." Then he said, "No, you are going just like this." He then pushed me really hard all the way into the jailhouse. One of the policemen pulled my jacket off me and searched it. Then he threw it on the table. He said to me to take everything out of my purse. I replied that all my personal business was in my purse and I didn't have to take it out. He then said that if I didn't, he would.

He said, "Where are you from?" I said I was from Pike County and then he said, "Don't try to be smart, nigger; I mean what town are you from?" I said I was from Summit Mississippi and the second man, that took my finger prints said, "Nigger, what is your name?" I just stood there for a moment. The man taking notes said, "Don't you hear the man talking to you? Say something." When they finished, the jailer put me back in the cell and I started singing Freedom Songs. The jailer said to me to keep singing, "you are going to get freedom, goddamit." Then I said to the policeman, "I want my jacket," and he said, "Nigger, if you stick your nose out of that window, I am going to cut it off." I was singing, "We shall overcome", and one of the policemen came to the window and threw some hot water on me. a few minutes later the jailer told one of the people that was with me, that I had a phone call. She said, "The jailer is saying something to you." He opened the cell door and I walked out. Then he said, "Nigger, you ain't got no fuckin' sense."

"One Man, One Vote