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Research was done originally by Jack Minnis and published in the Congressional Record, April 4, 1963. Minnis has brought the record up to date for this publication.

A Chronology of

Violence and Intimidation

in Mississippi Since 1961



Negro citizens attempt to cast ballots in Greenwood, August 1963. Note helmeted policeman photographing each of them as they enter the courthouse. The photographs can later be used to intimidate them, and perhaps to force them from their jobs or homes because they tried to vote.

January 1, Greenville, Washington County: Two young white men rode a motorbike through a residential area and, according to the local police chief, fired a volley of shots into a group of Negroes. George Mayfield, 18, was seriously wounded in both legs; Percy Lee Simmons, 19, was shot in the right leg.

March 30, Jackson, Hinds County: Club-swinging police and 2 police dogs chased more than 100 Negroes from a courthouse where 9 Negro students were convicted for staging a sit-in demonstration. Several were struck by the clubs and at least one person was bitten by the dogs.

May 7, Jackson, Hinds County: Several white youths, riding in an open convertible, lassoed 9-year-old Negro Gloria Laverne Floyd with a wire and dragged her along the street. The girl suffered a deep gash in her head that required three stitches, cheek bruises, a laceration of her right shoulder, and burn marks on her neck. Police made arrests.

August 15, Amite County: Robert Moses, Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee—SNCC—registration worker, and three Negroes who had tried unsuccessfully to register in Liberty, were driving toward McComb when a county officer stopped them. He asked if Moses was the man "who's been trying to register our niggers." All were taken to court and Moses was arrested for "impeding an officer in the discharge of his duties," fined \$50 and spent 2 days in jail.

August 22, Amite County: Robert Moses went to Liberty with three Negroes, who made an unsuccessful attempt to register. A block from the courthouse, Moses was attacked and beaten by Billy Jack Caston, the sheriff's first cousin. Eight stitches were required to close a wound in Moses' head. Caston was acquitted of assault charges by an all-white jury before a justice of the peace.

August 26, McComb, Pike County: Hollis Watkins, 20, and Elmer Hayes, 20, SNCC workers, were arrested while staging a sit-in at the F. W. Woolworth store and charged with breach of the peace. They spent 36 days in jail.

August 27 and 29, McComb, Pike County: Five Negro students from a local high school were convicted of breach of the peace following a sit-in at a variety store and bus terminal. They were sen-

tenced to a \$400 fine each and 8 months in jail. One of these students, a girl of 15, was turned over to juvenile authorities, released, subsequently rearrested, and sentenced to 12 months in a State school for delinquents.

August 29, McComb, Pike County: Two Negro leaders were arrested in McComb as an aftermath of the sit-in protest march on city hall, charged with contributing to the delinquency of minors. They were Curtis C. Bryant, of McComb, an official of the NAACP, and Cordelle Reagan, of SNCC. Each arrest was made on an affidavit signed by Police Chief George Guy, who said he had information that the two "were behind some of this racial trouble."

August 30, McComb, Pike County: SNCC Workers Brenda Travis, 16, Robert Talbert, 19, and Isaac Lewis, 20, staged a sit-in in the McComb terminal of the Greyhound buslines. They were arrested on charges of breach of the peace and failure to obey a policeman's order to move on. They spent 30 days in jail.

September 5, Liberty, Amite County: Travis Britt, SNCC registration worker, was attacked and beaten by whites on the courthouse lawn. Britt was accompanied at the time by Robert Moses. Britt said one man hit him more than 20 times. The attackers drove away in a truck.

September 7, Tylertown, Walthall County: John Hardy, SNCC registration worker, took two Negroes to the county courthouse to register. The registrar told them he "wasn't registering voters" that day. When the three turned to leave, Registrar John Q. Wood took a pistol from his desk and struck Hardy over the head from behind. Hardy was arrested and charged with disturbing the peace.

September 13, Jackson, Hinds County: 15 Episcopal ministers—among them three Negroes—were arrested for asking to be served at the lunch counter of the Greyhound bus terminal. They were charged with inviting a breach of the peace. They were found not guilty of the charge on May 21, 1962, by County Judge Russell Moore.

September 25, Liberty, Amite County: Herbert Lee, a Negro who had been active in voter registration, was shot and killed by white State representative E. H. Hurst in downtown Liberty. No prosecution was undertaken, the authorities explaining that the representative had shot in

self-defense.

October 4, McComb, Pike County: The five students who were arrested as a result of the August 29 sit-in in McComb returned to school, but were refused admittance. At that, 116 students walked out and paraded downtown to the city hall in protest. Police arrested the entire crowd, but later released all but 19, all of whom were 18 years old or older. They were charged with breach of the peace and contributing to the delinquency of minors and allowed to go free on bail totaling \$3,700. At the trial on October 31, Judge Brumfield, finding the students guilty, and sentencing each to a \$500 fine and 6 months in jail, said:

Some of you are local residents, some of you are outsiders. Those of you who are local residents are like sheep being led to the slaughter. If you continue to follow the advice of outside agitators, you will be like sheep and be slaughtered.

October 5, McComb, Pike County: Charles Sherrod was arrested on the street, thrown into a police car, and charged with resisting arrest. Cordelle Reagan was also arrested and charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Both were fieldworkers for SNCC.

October 11, McComb, Pike County: Paul Potter of Philadelphia, a vice president of the National Student Association, and Tom Hayden of Atlanta, both white, were dragged from their car and beaten as they drove alongside a group of Negroes making an antisegregation march. When the two slowed their car for a traffic light, a heavy-set white man opened the door and dragged the driver out and hit him several times. He then walked around to the other side of the car, opened the door and knocked the second man to the street. The incident occurred in the business section of the city.

October 13, McComb, Pike County: Police Officer B. F. Elmore shot and killed a Negro motorist. Police Chief George Guy said that Elmore said he had stopped Eli Brumfield at 4 a.m. for speeding. Brumfield allegedly jumped from his car with a pocket knife in his hand and attacked Elmore. A coroner's jury ruled Elmore fired in self-defense.

October 22, Jackson, Hinds County: Dion Diamond, a SNCC worker, was arrested for "running a stop sign" after being followed all day. In court the next day, the arresting officer told the judge:

"He is a Freedom Rider. Throw the book

at him."

Diamond was refused legal counsel and fined \$168.

November 9, McComb, Pike County:

Jerome Smith, 22, Congress of Racial Equality—CORE—field man, and four companions, Dorothy Smith, 18; Alice Thompson, 22; Thomas Valentine, 23; and George Raymond, 18, were attacked by a mob of 30 to 40 whites when they sought service at the lunch counter of the Greyhound bus terminal in McComb. Smith, who suffered head injuries when he was slugged with brass knuckles during the attack, said FBI agents were present at the time of the attack, but did "nothing but take notes" while the mob kicked and beat his companions. The victims were rescued from the mob by a Negro truck driver and Negro cab drivers.

November 10, Jackson, Hinds County: Jessie Divens, 12-year-old, was arrested for refusing to move to the rear of a city bus. Judge Carl Guernsey released the girl to the custody of Rev. G. R. Horton, chaplain of Campbell College where she attended classes. Judge Guernsey continued the case until November 17:

With the understanding that the Reverend Mr. Horton and the child come back with a workable plan which would cause the child's mind to be concerned with education rather than social reformation.

November 18, McComb, Pike County: Persons unknown fired a shotgun blast into the bedroom of Dion Diamond and John Hardy at 702 Wall Street. Investigating officer Frank Williams found shotgun pellets embedded in the window frame.

December 1, McComb, Pike County: Four white men attacked three newsmen on the street, sending one crashing into a plate glass window of a store. The newsmen were Tom Uhrborck and Don Underwood, Life magazine, and Simmons Fentress, Time magazine.

December 2, McComb, Pike County: Police broke up an attempt by white attackers to drag three Freedom Riders from an automobile at the Greyhound bus terminal. Four men kicked at the locked car and beat upon the windows in an attempt to reach the young Negroes and their driver, Thomas Gaither, field secretary of CORE. The police, who were standing by when the riders arrived aboard a bus from Jackson, pulled the men away from the car, but made no arrests.



Jackson Police break up a demonstration, Feb. 3, 1964

December 26, Jackson, Hinds County: Rafford Johnson, Negro, was severely beaten by two law officers after being involved in a minor collision with a car driven by a white woman. Johnson underwent surgery for skull injuries.

1962

February 6, 1962, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Miss Bessie Turner, 19, a Negro, was walking with a young man down a Clarksdale street when Clarksdale police officers stopped them and accused Miss Turner of having been involved in a theft. Miss Turner said the officers took her to the jail, forced her to undress and to lie on her back. She said one of the policemen then beat her between the legs with his belt. A few minutes later, Miss Turner said, the other officer beat her across her naked breasts. Miss Turner filed Federal charges against the officers.

March 15, 1962, Shelby, Bolivar County: Aaron Henry, State president of the NAACP, was convicted in Justice of Peace court on charges of making perverse advances on a white teenage hitchhiker. Henry stated that the charges were a complete fabrication, and presented an alibi supported by sworn witnesses. The conviction has been appealed. When he later stated in a press conference that the prosecutor and the police chief, who figured in the trial, had conspired to frame him, Henry was sued by the two for defamation. A Mississippi white jury awarded the prosecutor \$25,000 and the police chief \$15,000.

April 12, 1962, Taylorsville, Smith County: Cpl. Roman Ducksworth, Jr., U.S. Army, a Negro, was shot and killed by Policeman Bill Kelly, when, according to an NAACP news release, Ducksworth "insisted on his right to sit where he chose on an interstate bus." Policeman Kelly claimed that Ducksworth was drunk and started fighting. No charges were brought against Kelly. Ducksworth was en route from Camp Ritchie, Md., to see his wife who was ill in a Laurel, Miss., hospital.

April 1962, Lucedale, George County: Mrs. Ernestine Denham Talbert, who lives in George County but teaches in Green County, was notified by the Green County School Board that her teaching contract would not be renewed. Mrs. Talbert had tried in January to register to vote but had been refused.

May 17, 1962, Rankin County: The Negro editor, of the Mississippi Free

Press, said he and a companion were beaten by Rankin County officers and a highway patrolman. Lawrence Hudson, Jr., of Jackson, said the beating occurred after he was stopped en route from Jackson to Forest to check on a rumor that a Negro man had been killed by a white man. He was jailed, refused permission to phone a lawyer, tried the next day on several charges and fined \$151.

June 21, 1962, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: A white lawyer from Jackson and four college students were jailed in Clarksdale for 20 hours without outside communication. One of the students was a Negro. William Higgs, the lawyer, and the students were jailed on a Sunday night by county officers and were released the following day, without charges being filed against them.

July 5, 1962, Jackson, Hinds County: Jesse Harris, 20, and Luvaghn Brown, 17, SNCC workers, charged that they were beaten and threatened with death while serving a 30-day sentence in the county jail for contempt of court. The young Negroes had refused to move from a court bench customarily occupied by whites while they were attending the trial of Mrs. Diane Nash Bevel. The young men said that, in the courthouse elevator, a deputy sheriff called Harris "a damned nigger" and beat him about the head with his fist. At the county farm, they were singled out as freedom riders and wore striped uniforms. Both were beaten by guards. Harris was beaten by a guard named Keith while other prisoners held him. Keith beat him across the back with a length of hose threatening:

Nigger, I'll kill you.

August 16, 1962, Greenwood, Leflore County: Samuel Block, 23, SNCC field secretary, said three white men accosted him in a parking lot and "started beating me with their fists." He said they threatened him and then beat him for about 5 minutes.

There is no use reporting it to local authorities—

He said.

August 17, 1962, Greenwood, Leflore County: SNCC workers Samuel Block, Luvaghn Brown, and Lawrence Guyot were forced to flee from the second story window of their voter registration office. They said armed white men invaded the premises intent upon doing them harm.

August 17, 1962, Ruleville, Sunflower County: Mayor Charles Durrrough asked Mr. Lenard Davis, a Negro employed by the city, what he knew about the registration school being conducted at a Negro church. Mr. Davis replied that he did not know anything at all about the school, and did not attend any of the classes. The mayor then told him that he, the mayor, knew what kind of school they were having. The mayor said he knew it—presumably, civil rights for the Negro—was coming, and he was not going to allow it to be forced on them. The mayor said that anyone attending the school would be given a one-way ticket out of town, and if that would not do it, they would use whatever they had available. See entry below for September 3, 1962.

August 1962, Greenwood, Leflore County: Welton McSwine, Jr., 14-year-old Negro, was arrested by police after a white woman's house had been broken into. When police got the youth to the station an officer said:

All right, nigger, you know why you are here, and we want to know who broke into that white woman's house.

McSwine told them he knew nothing of the incident, saying that he spent all his time in the cottonfield, and suggesting that his mother could corroborate this. McSwine said officers then took him to a cell and beat him, first hitting him in the head with a blackjack; then one of the policemen beat him in the face with his fist while another hit him in the stomach with his club; then the officers made him lie naked on the floor on his side while they beat him with a whip. McSwine was released after intercession of his father's white employer.

August 21, 1962, Liberty, Amite County: Sam Wells and Tommy Weathersby went to the courthouse to register. While they were waiting to get into the registrar's office, they stood on the front porch of the courthouse. Deputy Sheriff Daniel Jones told them:

Get your ——— off the front porch, and don't come back on.

Weathersby and Wells got off the porch. A few moments later, rain began, and the two wanted to take shelter in the courthouse, but Deputy Sheriff Jones would not permit it.

August 21, Liberty, Amite County: Dewey Greene, Jr., Mississippi Free Press reporter, was taking pictures of Negroes

waiting to register at the courthouse. An unidentified young man working in the office down the hall from the registrar's office snatched Greene's camera away, and refused to return it. Greene was told to leave town by three white men, one of whom was flourishing a length of lead pipe. He left.

August 29, 1962, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Seven Negroes were arrested after attending a voter registration meeting. David Dennis, CORE field secretary, was charged with failure to yield right-of-way after a police officer had forced him to submit to a long harangue of threats and abuse. Samuel Block, John Hodges, J. L. Harris, Richard T. Gray, and Albert Garrar, SNCC field workers, and Dewey Greene, Jr., reporter for the Mississippi Free Press, were forced by Clarksdale police to alight from their car, and were charged with loitering in violation of the city curfew.

August 30, 1962, Indianola, Sunflower County: SNCC workers C. R. McLauren, Albert Garner, J. O. Hodges, Samuel Block, and Robert Moses were arrested by Indianola police on a charge of distributing literature without a permit. The registration workers had been taking leaflets announcing a registration mass meeting door-to-door in the Negro community. Lafayette Surney, 17, another SNCC worker, was arrested and then released to Rev. James Bevel, of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference—SCLC.

August 31, Indianola, Sunflower County: During the trial of Samuel Block on charges of distributing literature without a permit, the Municipal Judge informed Block that he could cross-examine the arresting officer. Block asked the officer:

Did you actually see me hand out a leaflet?

The judge turned to the officer and said:

He can ask you anything he wants to, but you don't have to answer.

The judge told Lafayette Surney if he was caught in Indianola agitating again, he would be sent to the penal farm.

September 3, 1962, Ruleville, Sunflower County: Because of registration activity, two Negro-owned dry cleaning establishments were closed—allegedly for violating city ordinances.

September 3, 1962, Ruleville, Sunflower County: Lenard Davis, 49, sanitation department worker, was told by Mayor



Greenwood, Mississippi, March, 1963.

Charles M. Durrrough:

We're going to let you go. Your wife's been attending that school.

He referred to a registration school conducted by SNCC workers in Ruleville.

September 3, 1962, Ruleville, Sunflower County: Fred Hicks, 40, who drove field-workers to the plantations, was told he could no longer use a bus without a commercial license. Hicks said the bus owner told him that, because Hicks' mother had registered to vote:

We gonna see how tight we can make it—gonna make it just as tight as we can. Gonna be rougher and rougher than you think it is.

September 3, 1962, Ruleville, Sunflower County: Moses and Amzie Moore, a local Negro leader, were walking down the street. A white man in a pickup truck drew up alongside and asked if they were the "folks getting the people to register." Moses and Moore answered yes, they were. The man asked if they could come out to his plantation to register people. The two answered, yes, they could come. The man said then:

I've got a shotgun waiting for you, double barrel.

September 3, Ruleville, Sunflower County: A letter from Mayor Durrrough notified the Williams Chapel Missionary Baptist Church that tax exemption and free water were being cut off because the property was being used for "purposes other than worship services." The church was a meeting place for voter registration workers.

September 10, Ruleville, Sunflower County: Marylene Burkes, 20, and Vivian Hillet, 19, were severely wounded when an unidentified assailant fired through the window of Miss Hillet's grandparents' home. The grandparents had been active in voter registration work.

October 3, Biloxi, Harrison County: A Negro frame residence and a gasoline station were targets for two "Molotov cocktails" which caused more than \$4,000 damage. One of the bombs struck the home of Dr. Gilbert Mason, a Negro physician, who is active in integration efforts. The other crashed through the window of a service station operated by Emmett Clark, a Negro.

October 5, Harmony, Leake County: Night riders fired shotguns into eight Negro homes and a Negro store. An elderly Negro said he was struck in the

knee by a squirrel shot while he and his 9-year-old grandson were sleeping. He said he was not seriously hurt. Harmony Negroes had recently petitioned authorities for school desegregation.

October 10, Columbus, Lowndes County: A "Molotov cocktail" was tossed from a speeding car into the home of Dr. James L. Allen of Columbus, vice chairman of the Mississippi Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

October 29, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Charles McLaurin, SNCC registration worker, was stopped by police as he was walking a group home from the courthouse. The group had tried to register to vote. The officer asked to see McLaurin's driver's license. McLaurin showed it. The officer asked McLaurin what he was doing there. McLaurin told him he worked in voter registration. Then, accompanied by obscene remarks, the officer said:

Nigger, do you know the way out of town?

McLaurin replied:

Yes.

The officer said, with more obscenity: Nigger. Can't you say "Yes, sir?"

The officer's partner asked the officer what charge should be put on the tickets.

The officer said:

Charge the ——— \$26 on both charges. Nigger, you got \$52?

McLaurin replied:

No.

The officer said:

Then you're going to jail.

At the jail, McLaurin learned that the officer was Clarksdale Police Chief Ben Collins. McLaurin was in jail a few minutes when his companions posted bond for him in the amount of \$103. They decided to forfeit bond rather than run the risk of a higher fine or incur the legal expense of an appeal.

October 31, Jackson, Hinds County: Thomas E. Johnson, a white minister, and a member of the Mississippi Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, saw a group of neighbors dumping garbage on his lawn. Johnson had just returned from taking his car to a safe place because of threats by neighbors to damage it. Johnson sought a peace bond against the man

whom he had observed leading the garbage-dumping operations of his neighbors. The man presented 11 witnesses who swore that he had been in their presence at all times on the evening in question. The justice of the peace accepted their testimony and refused the bond. Then the Hinds County Grand Jury indicted Johnson and his wife on perjury charges, because of their testimony at the peace bond hearing.

November 6, 1962, Greenville, Washington County: Two WAF's and two airmen—all white—from the Greenville Air Force Base were fined \$55 and given 30-day suspended sentences on charges of creating a disturbance by entering a restaurant and seeking service with two Negro voter registration workers.

December 26, 1962, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Ivanhoe Donaldson and Benjamin Taylor, students from Detroit, brought a truckload of food, clothing and medicines for distribution to the Delta's needy families who had been cut off from Federal surplus commodities. The medicines had been donated by a physician in Louisville, and were consigned to Aaron Henry, a licensed pharmacist. They were arrested by Clarksdale police and held for investigation. After police searched the truck on December 27, and found what they described as a drug used to ease the pain of middle-aged women, Donaldson and Taylor were charged with possession of narcotics and bond was set at \$15,000. Bond was later reduced to \$1,500.

1963

January 17, Canton, Madison County: The castrated and mutilated body of Sylvester Maxwell, 24-year-old Negro, was found by his brother-in-law less than 500 yards from the home of a white family. Mississippi NAACP Field Secretary Medger Evers termed the slaying a "probable lynching."

February 2, Greenwood, Leflore County: Willie Peacock, SNCC registration worker, complained to the Justice Department that officials had refused to register him on two occasions, and had rejected his poll tax payment for this year.

February 20, Greenwood, Leflore County: Four Negro businesses on the same street as the SNCC voter registration office were burned to the ground. Mrs. Nancy Brand, a worker in the SNCC office, reported an anonymous telephone call in which a man's voice asked her if

she ever came to the office. When she said "yes", the voice said:

You won't be going down there anymore, that's been taken care of.

The burned businesses were Jackson's Garage, George's Cafe, Porter's Pressing Shop, and the Esquire Club. The pressing shop is next door to the SNCC office, and SNCC workers believed the businesses were burned by mistake. Sam Block, SNCC field secretary, was arrested 2 days later for suggesting there was some connection between the burnings and the registration efforts of SNCC. He was charged with circulating statements calculated to create a breach of the peace.

February 28, Greenwood, Leflore County: Three registration workers were attacked with gunfire on U.S. Highway 82 just outside Greenwood. The shots were fired from a 1962 white Buick. The car in which the workers were riding was punctured by 11 bullets. One worker, James Travis of SNCC, was wounded in the neck and shoulder.

March 4, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: The show windows in the Fourth Street drugstore were smashed, as they have been several times in the past. The proprietor of the store, Aaron Henry, found the damage when he returned from speaking at a mass meeting in Leflore County in connection with the voter registration drive there.

March 6, Greenwood, Leflore County: Samuel Block and three others were fired on from a station wagon which pulled up beside their car as they were parked in front of the SNCC voter registration office. Both front windows were shattered. Police later found the wadding from a shotgun shell buried in the headliner of Block's car, and several pellets in the wall of the building in front of which the car had been parked.

March 12, Greenwood, Leflore County: A 12-year-old Negro girl was attacked by an egg-throwing truckload of white teenaged boys. The girl suffered facial bruises.

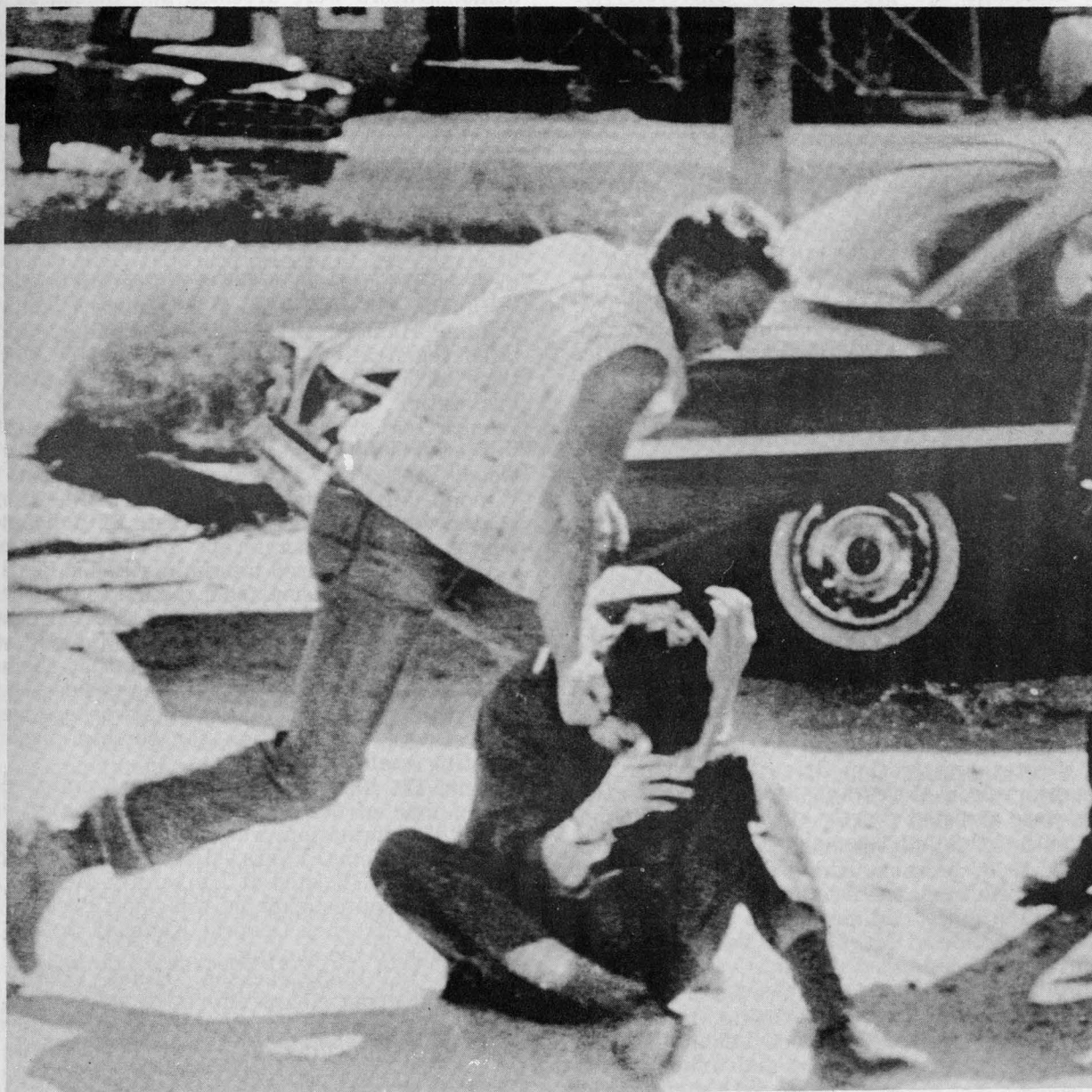
March 20, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Three shots were fired through the windshield of a car belonging to Mrs. Mattie Dennis while it was parked in front of the home of Mrs. Dennis' cousin, whom she was visiting. Mrs. Dennis is the wife of David Dennis, CORE field secretary for Mississippi. Both have been active in voter registration.

March 24, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Fire destroyed partially the interior of the voter registration office at 115 East McLaurin Street, making the office unusable and necessitating a search for new headquarters. Witnesses said they saw two white men fleeing the scene shortly before the fire was discovered.

March 26, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: A shotgun blast ripped into the home of Dewey Greene, Sr., father of the latest Negro applicant to the University of Mississippi. Another of Mr.

Greene's sons and a daughter have been active in the Leflore County registration project. Greenwood police said they were investigating.

March 27, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: James Forman, executive secretary of SNCC, Bob Moses, and about 10 other registration workers were arrested and taken from a group en route to the courthouse to register after the police dispersed a group of more than 100 Negroes with the use of police dogs.



McComb, Mississippi-- October 11, 1961

March 29, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: John A. Goulet, Roswell F. Donaldson and Donald P. Flachart, white University of Iowa students, were arrested on charges of running a red light and failing to give a turn signal as they left town after delivering a truckload of food and clothing to needy Negroes.

April 2, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Police arrested SNCC field secretary Landy McNair and escorted comedian Dick Gregory from the courthouse lawn as the two were encouraging Negroes to register to vote.

April 2, 1963, Washington, D.C.: Senators James O. Eastland and John Stennis (Dems., Miss.) stated on the floor of the Senate that Negroes have not been denied the right to register and vote in Leflore County, or anywhere else in Mississippi.

April 9, 1963, Oxford, Lafayette County: G. Ray Kerciu, assistant art professor at University of Mississippi, was arrested on charges of exhibiting obscene and indecent pictures and desecrating the Confederate flag. Kerciu's paintings depicted his impressions of the desegregation riot that swirled over the campus in the fall of 1962. The paintings had been on display at a campus exhibit.

April 12, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Two Clarksdale whites threw a gasoline-filled "Molotov cocktail" through a window of the home of Aaron Henry, NAACP state president. U.S. Representative Charles C. Diggs (Dem., Mich.) was visiting in the home at the time of the attack.

April 25, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Vera Pigea, secretary of the Coahoma County chapter of the NAACP, was beaten by a white service station attendant because she tried to use the service station rest room. Shortly after the beating, Police Chief Ben Collins arrested Mrs. Pigea on a charge of disturbing the peace.

April 30, 1963, Oxford, Lafayette County: A bomb exploded near the dormitory occupied by James Meredith on the campus of University of Mississippi.

May 4, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: An explosion ripped a hole in the roof of a drugstore owned by Aaron Henry, civil rights leader. Police suspected lightning may have struck.

May 8, 1963, Mileston, Holmes County: White men threw "Molotov cocktail" fire bombs into the rural home of Hartman Turnbow, the first Negro to apply for registration as a voter in Holmes County during a voter registration drive there. Turnbow, field secretary Bob Moses and 3 other registration workers were arrested shortly afterward by Holmes County authorities on "suspicion of arson."

May 15, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: A church building at 4300 Gano Avenue was extensively damaged by fire. It had been sold May 6 to the Negro congregation of Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church.

May 17, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Milton Hancock, SNCC worker, was being held under technical arrest at the Greenwood Leflore Hospital on a charge of resisting arrest and driving without a license after he was struck with a nightstick by a city officer.

May 28, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Several white youths knocked Memphis Norman, sit-inner,

off his stool at a lunch counter, and kicked him repeatedly as he lay on the floor. One of the two Negro women taking part in the sit-in, Pearl Lewis, also was dumped off her stool and kicked.

May 30, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Police arrested 96-year-old Negro John Wright for picketing in protest against denial of use of the city library to Negroes.

May 30, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: The state highway patrol halted a bus carrying 31 Negroes en route to Jackson to a voter registration conference sponsored by SNCC at Tougaloo College. The bus driver was charged with driving with an improper tag and with being overloaded.

May 31, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Jackson police clubbed Willie Ludden, NAACP official, to the street as he led a group of demonstrators out of a Parish Street church. Four hundred-twenty-one demonstrators were arrested and placed in an improvised detention center at the Hinds County fairgrounds.

June 2, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Police arrested three Negro women as they picketed in front of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company office. The women were protesting discriminatory hiring practices of the Bell company.

June 8, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Three bullets were fired from a passing car into the home of Aaron Henry. One bullet was fired into the home of Mrs. Vera Pigea. Both are NAACP officials who have been active in voter registration work.

June 9, 1963, Winona, Montgomery County: Mrs. Fannie Hamer, Miss Annelle Ponder, and four other registration workers were arrested when they tried to obtain service at the lunch counter in the bus station. They were traveling by Trailways Bus from a registration workshop in Charleston, S.C., to the registration headquarters of COFO in Greenwood, Miss. The six workers were held in the Winona jail four days during which time they were beaten with night sticks and fists by policemen and whipped with leather straps by two Negro trustees who had been ordered to administer the beatings by white officers. Later a federal jury found the police not guilty of any violation of federal law. The federal judge admonished the jury, as it was retiring to deliberate, not to forget that the accused were local men whose duty it was to keep the peace in Winona, while the civil rights workers were outsiders with a reputation for sowing discord and creating racial incidents.

June 12, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Medgar Evers, one of the leaders of a campaign against racial discrimination, was shot to death in the driveway of his home. Evers, Mississippi field secretary for the NAACP, died at University Medical Center about 50 minutes after he was shot. President Kennedy and Attorney General Kennedy voiced strong opposition to the slaying.

June 12, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: City police thwarted Negro efforts to stage a mourning march for Medgar Evers and arrested 146 demonstrators in pinching off another march two hours later. They were arrested on charges of parading without a permit.

June 18, 1963, Itta Bena, Leflore County: Forty-five Negroes were arrested on charges of disturbance and breach of the peace. They were walking

to the home of the town marshall to ask for protection after a gas bomb was thrown into the church where they were attending a voter registration meeting. On June 20 the 45 Negroes were sentenced to 6 months on the Leflore County penal farm by Itta Bena Justice of the Peace Joe Rustici. The women were fined \$200 and the men \$500 in addition to the jail sentences.

June 23, 1963, Biloxi, Harrison County: Dr. Gilbert Mason, militant Negro civil rights leader, and 71 other Negroes were arrested as they participated in a wade-in at the public beach. They were charged with trespassing. A white crowd set fire to Dr. Mason's car which was left behind when city police hauled him and the others away in police vans.

June 24, 1963, Canton, Madison County: A shotgun blast wounded five Negroes as they walked home from a voter registration meeting. City Attorney Robert L. Goza said there was no clue to the identity of the gunman.

June 25, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Three Negro registration workers, Ida Holland, Ruby Wright and Milton Hancock, were arrested by Chief of Police Curtis Lary 2 blocks from the county courthouse. They were charged by City Prosecuting Attorney Gray Evans with parading without a permit. On June 27 they were tried by city court Judge O. L. Kimbrough, found guilty, and sentenced to four months in jail and fines of \$200 each.

June 25, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Nine Negro registration workers, Mary Lane, George Green, Willie Lee Wilson, Donald White, Fred Harris, Eliza Vassar, Minnie Thurman, Jessie Glover and John Handy, were arrested in the county courthouse and charged with creating a disturbance in a public place. Green and Miss Lane had brought two elderly Negro women in to register to vote. The nine were tried by Judge C. C. Williamson, found guilty, and sentenced to fines of \$200 each and four months in jail.

June 26, 1963, Gulfport, Harrison County: An explosion damaged the waiting room of the medical office of Dr. Peliz H. Dunn, President of the Gulfport chapter, NAACP. The shell casing of an aerial flash was found nearby. A similar explosion occurred the night of June 24 at Dr. Dennis' office-residence.

June 30, 1963, Tchula, Holmes County: Willie Joel Lovett, 20, was shot and killed near his home about 6:30 p.m. A complaint filed with the U.S. Justice Department said that Lovett was killed by a local law enforcement officer. Town Marshall W. O. Moore declined to say who fired the fatal shot.

July 1, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: An explosion collapsed a two-family Negro home. Four men escaped serious injury. Charles Evers, NAACP, attributed the blast to a bomb. He said "the blast was just another device they're using to frighten us." Jackson police suspected no foul play.

July 1, 1963, Greenville, Washington County: Two field secretaries of SNCC were arrested as they spoke to a group of Negroes on the steps of the city jail. They were charged with "resisting arrest" and "creating a disturbance" as they spoke to some 200 Negroes who were protesting the arrest of six persons who had tried to obtain service at a Walgreen's drug store. The two, Charles McLaurin and Charles

Cobb, were later given \$100 fines and 90-day jail sentences.

July 7, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: A tear gas grenade was hurled at a Negro restaurant from a car containing four white youths. Police said the restaurant would have to be ventilated and a health department inspection made before it could reopen. The four whites were charged with disorderly conduct, fined \$100 each, and sentenced to 30 days in jail. The jail sentence was suspended for all but one of the whites.

July 20, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Four members of the Clarksdale NAACP Youth Council along with two field secretaries for CORE and SNCC respectively were arrested for violating a recently enacted anti-littering ordinance. They were passing out leaflets protesting segregation.

July 30, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Aaron Henry, NAACP state president, and 51 others were arrested as they picketed in protest of city officials' refusal to form a bi-racial committee.

July 31, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: fifteen Negroes were arrested on charges of parading without a permit. They were protesting segregated lunch counters at a Woolworth Store.

August 1, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Fourteen Negroes were arrested carrying anti-discrimination signs on a downtown street near a variety store and a bank.

August 2, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Police arrested 5 Negroes during a lunch counter sit-in. Officers picked up the three women and two men when they took seats and tried to desegregate a lunch counter for whites in a Walgreen drug store.

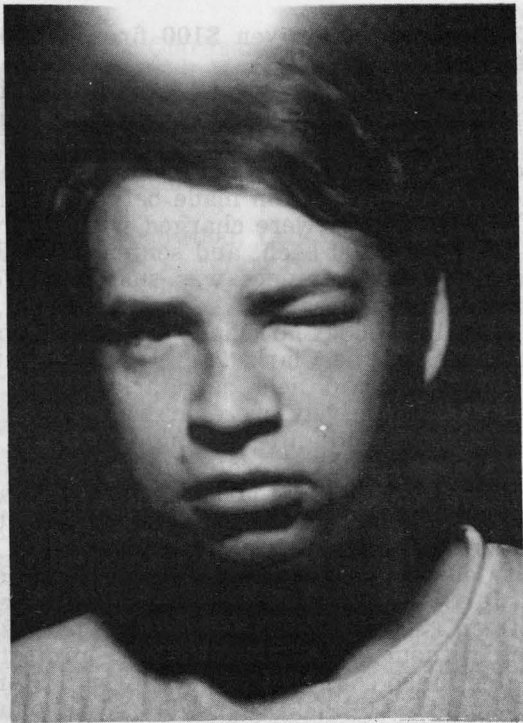
August 29, 1963, Meridian, Lauderdale County: White youths attacked Negroes returning from the Washington March when the Negroes attempted to use white facilities in the Meridian bus station. Meridian police intervened and sent the Negroes on their way.

August 29, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Percy Lee Atkins was arrested by city police and charged with parading without a permit. He had been walking down a street in the Negro section of town wearing a shirt with "Freedom Now" printed across the back. Atkins was beaten by police at the jail and was charged with resisting arrest when he refused to say "Sir" to a policeman. Bond was set at \$400.

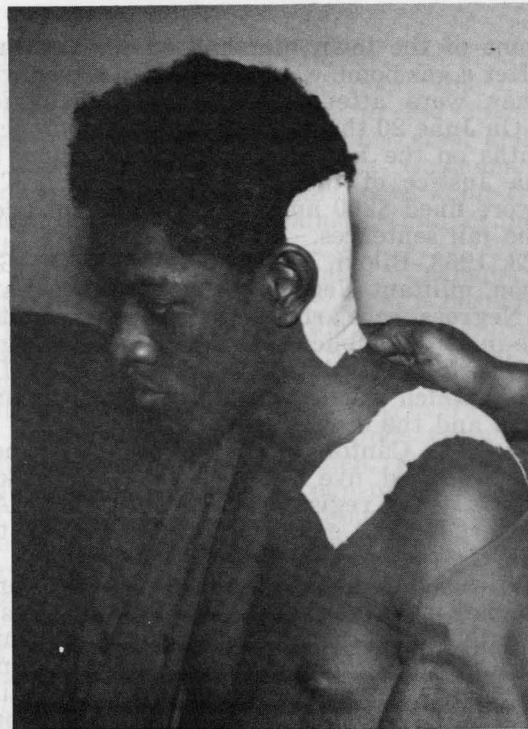
August 29, 1963, Columbus, Lowndes County: The fatal shooting of a Negro woman near the Columbus Air Force Base was ruled accidental by a corner's jury. Tech. Sgt. Rotha R. Ayers told authorities he was shooting at a stray dog that had been bothering the neighborhood and the bullet apparently ricocheted, hitting the woman in the chest.

September 11, 1963, Goodman, Holmes County: The body of an unidentified Negro man was discovered in the Bib Black River by four fishermen. The body was in a sack weighted down by about one hundred pounds of rocks. It had apparently been thrown off a highway bridge. The body was found just a few miles from where Emmett Till's body was found in 1956.

September 23, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: A coroner's jury ruled the shooting of 21-year-old Ernest Jells, Negro, by police, was justifiable homicide. Jells had been involved with a white man in



Oscar Chase, Hattiesburg
Jan. 22, 1964



Jimmy Travis, Greenwood
Feb. 28, 1963



Hattiesburg police on their way to form a cordon around the
Forrest County Courthouse, January 22, 1964.

an argument over some bananas. Police said Jells pointed a rifle at them.

October 22, 1963, Indianaola, Sunflower County: Fourteen registration workers, working on the mock election freedom vote campaign of Aaron Henry for governor, were arrested for distributing leaflets without a license.

October 22, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Bob Moses, SNCC, and Steve Bingham, Yale student, were arrested on charges of running a stop sign. They were working in the freedom vote campaign.

October 23, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Yale student freedom vote workers Steve Bingham and John Spes were arrested on a charge of loitering. Richard Van Wagenen, also from Yale, was arrested for distributing freedom vote leaflets without a license.

October 24, 1963, Yazoo City, Yazoo County: Yale student freedom vote worker Nelson Soltman, and two other workers, were told by police to leave the town, and were escorted out.

October 25, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: The sheriff's department placed 10 Negroes under arrest at noon today on the steps of the courthouse. The Negroes were waiting for the voter registrar's office to reopen, the registrar having gone out to lunch. They had been waiting in line to register since early morning.

October 28, 1963, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Four Yale students helping in the freedom vote campaign, Hugh M. Levick, Kenneth K. Klotz, Richard N. Andrews and Jonathan Middlebrook, were ordered out of their beds early in the morning and taken to the jail by police. They were fingerprinted and interrogated. Later in the day they were released.

October 28, 1963, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Divinity student John F. Else, freedom voter worker, was arrested on a charge of illegal parking. At the time of the arrest the police searched the car. Upon his inquiry if the police had a search warrant, Else was also charged with "interfering with an officer." Later the charge "possibility of car theft" was lodged against him.

October 28, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Vote worker Frank Heintz was threatened by the chief of police with legal action if he slept in the Negro section of town. Heintz was accosted by the police chief as he was canvassing the Negro section in connection with the freedom vote campaign.

October 29, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Janie Stembridge, SNCC worker, was fined \$50 on a charge of running a stop sign and \$50 on a charge of operating a vehicle with a defective brake light.

October 30, 1963, Clarksdale, Coahoma County: Freedom vote worker Frank Heintz was arrested by police chief Ben Collins on a charge of reckless driving. Heintz said Collins slugged him, breaking his glasses, as he was being taken to jail.

October 30, 1963, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Yale freedom vote workers Kenneth E. Klotz and Richard N. Andrews were assaulted by a white taxi driver upon their arrival to participate in the mock election campaign. The driver forced them out of the cab, made them stand against the wall of a nearby building, and began punching Klotz. Later

he assaulted Andrews as well. Klotz and Andrews were arrested on charges of assault and battery.

October 31, 1963, Natchez, Adams County: Nicholas Bosanquet (English student studying at Yale) was arrested by Natchez police after having gone to a radio station to propose a debate on segregation between civil rights workers and local people. Police, said Bosanquet, subjected him to verbal abuse and then released him without charge after about half an hour in jail. Bosanquet was participating in the freedom vote campaign.

October 31, 1963, Natchez, Adams County: Bruce Payne, Yale freedom vote worker, was attacked and beaten by four white youths as he was transporting two Negro vote workers through the Negro section of town. The white youths trailed Payne's car until he stopped at a service station, at which time the assault took place.

October 31, 1963, Biloxi, Harrison County: Police stood and watched, according to Negro leaders, while a white crowd stoned a church building where an integrated banquet sponsored by the NAACP was being held.

November 1, 1963, Natchez, Adams County: Bruce Payne stopped to buy gas. A car with four white men pulled in behind him. They told him to come with them. He jumped back into his car and began to drive away. In the course of his flight, three shots were fired at him by the four whites. Two of the four men had also been among those who beat Payne up the previous day.

November 2, 1963, Greenwood, Leflore County: Five freedom vote workers were arrested on a charge of obstructing the sidewalk after they set up a freedom vote polling place and were singing freedom songs to attract prospective voters.

November 2, 1963, Rankin County: Four freedom vote workers were interrogated for more than an hour by Rankin County police in a Billups service station. One officer rapped one of them, Ivanhoe Donaldson, on the knuckles with a gun twice and placed a pistol at Donaldson's head, threatening to kill him.

November 2, 1963, Tate County: Hugh Smith, Stanford student helping in the freedom vote campaign, had two shots fired over his head and one toward him as he drove away from a freedom vote poll site.

November 2, 1963, Belzoni, Humphreys County: Three Negro youths, soliciting votes in the freedom vote campaign, were intimidated by police and other white with dogs and guns. One of the workers was arrested for having parked, allegedly, too near a fire hydrant. The freedom ballot box and the car were taken into custody by the police.

November 2, 1963, Natchez, Adams County: Two Negro freedom vote workers told of being run off the road five times and shot at three times on the highway between Natchez and Lafayette.

November 5, 1963, Yazoo City, Yazoo County: Lenora Thurman, Negro freedom vote worker, was arrested while soliciting freedom votes. She was later released on bond.

November 9, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Four cross burnings were reported to city police. The burnings took place at four different intersections, in or adjacent to Negro residential areas.

November 11, 1963, Copiah County: Five tall,

burlap-draped, kerosene-soaked crosses were set afire in Gallman, Wesson, Georgetown, Crystal Springs and Hazlehurst.

November 18, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Two white teenagers set fire to a South Jackson restaurant because the operator hired Negroes as car hops and waitresses.

December 10, 1963, Jackson, Hinds County: Lois Chafee, 24-year-old white student at Tougaloo College, pleaded innocent in Hinds County Circuit Court to a charge of perjury and bond was set at \$5,000. Miss Chafee allegedly perjured herself when she accused police of brutally beating Negro children when she testified in a court case. She said police used night sticks on children who participated in racial demonstrations.

December 28, 1963, Greenville, Washington County: Three white youths attacked two Negroes in front of a business house. One of the Negroes was treated at General Hospital for a shoulder injury.

December 30, 1963, Tupelo, Lee County: Calvin Deaton, white, shot and killed Romie Harris, Negro. Deaton said he fired in self-defense.

January 3, 1964, Jackson, Hinds County: A Negro vocational agricultural teacher testified Sheriff Andrew Smith of Holmes County told him to "get the hell out of his office" when he tried to pay his poll tax.

January 5, 1964, Canton, Madison County: David Dennis, CORE field secretary, reported the arrest and beating of a Negro registration worker, George Raymond. Dennis protested the incident in a telegram to the Justice Department.

January 10, 1964, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Peter Stoner, SNCC registration worker, was arrested and convicted of unlawful parking and obstructing traffic. He elected to serve time rather than pay a fine, as a protest against what he considered a prostitution of justice.

January 14, 1964, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Oscar Chase, SNCC lawyer and registration worker, was jailed for entering a bus terminal waiting room designated for Negroes. He was charged with breach of the peace and vagrancy.

January 15 and 16, 1964, McComb, Pike County: Four white men, firing from a car, shot into a Negro cafe, two grocery stores, a shoe repair shop and two Negro homes. A Negro youth in one of the homes was wounded in the leg. One of the same homes had been fired into on January 8.

January 18, 1964, Picayune, Pearl River County: Steven Pittman, 14, was wounded by a shotgun blast fired by a white teen-ager from a passing car. Pittman is Negro. This incident was described by Mississippi newspapers as a "prank."

January 21, 1964, Canton, Madison County: The Canton City Council passed a law making it a crime to distribute literature without a permit from the Mayor and the Chief of Police. Two constables and a new police cruiser were added to law enforcement agencies in Canton.

January 22, 1964, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Bob Moses, SNCC program director for Mississippi, was arrested by police while trying to escort would-be registrants through a police cordon around the courthouse. He was charged with breach of the peace. John Lewis, SNCC chairman, protested to

local FBI agents, but they said they could take no action.

January 22, 1964, Canton, Madison County: George Washington, 50, a prominent citizen and Treasurer of the Madison County (civil rights) Movement was arrested. He was charged with "burning trash without a permit." He posted \$250 bond and was released.

January 22, 1964, Hattiesburg, Forrest County: Oscar Chase, SNCC lawyer, was arrested on a charge of leaving the scene of an accident. While in jail he was severely beaten by a fellow-inmate while a jailer looked on.

January 23, 1964, Canton, Madison County: Police entered the community center-voter registration office and seized a list of names taken from a recently circulated petition. Two persons were arrested for violation of the city building code. They were making repairs on the registration office without having obtained a building permit. Bond was set at \$350 each on the charge for Clarence Chinn and James Collier. Theotus Hewitt was arrested and charged with disturbing the peace and intimidating an officer. Bond was set at \$500. Between 4:45 and 6:00 p.m. ten voter registration workers were arrested. Nine were charged with "distributing leaflets without a permit." They were all arrested while in the vicinity of the voter registration office. The leaflets encouraged Negroes to pay poll tax. Bond was set at \$800 each.

January 24, 1964, Canton, Madison County: Carole Merritt, SNCC worker from Cincinnati, Ohio and Vassar graduate, was arrested for contributing to the delinquency of a minor by causing a minor to distribute material of a "libelous nature." Bond was set at \$500.

January 25, 1964, Canton, Madison County: Canton police began to stop all incoming and outgoing cars at the Canton city limits.

January 28, 1964, Canton, Madison County: 30 to 40 Negroes went to the courthouse to try to register to vote. Only five were admitted. Sylvester Lee Palmer, registration worker, was arrested on a disturbing the peace charge.

January 30, 1964, Canton, Madison County: Police halted operation of all Negro taxicabs, claiming their permits were faulty. The gas pumps of a filling station owned by George Washington (see above) were removed by the AMOCO representative. SNCC workers interpret this act as "further reprisal against Mr. Washington's civil rights activities."

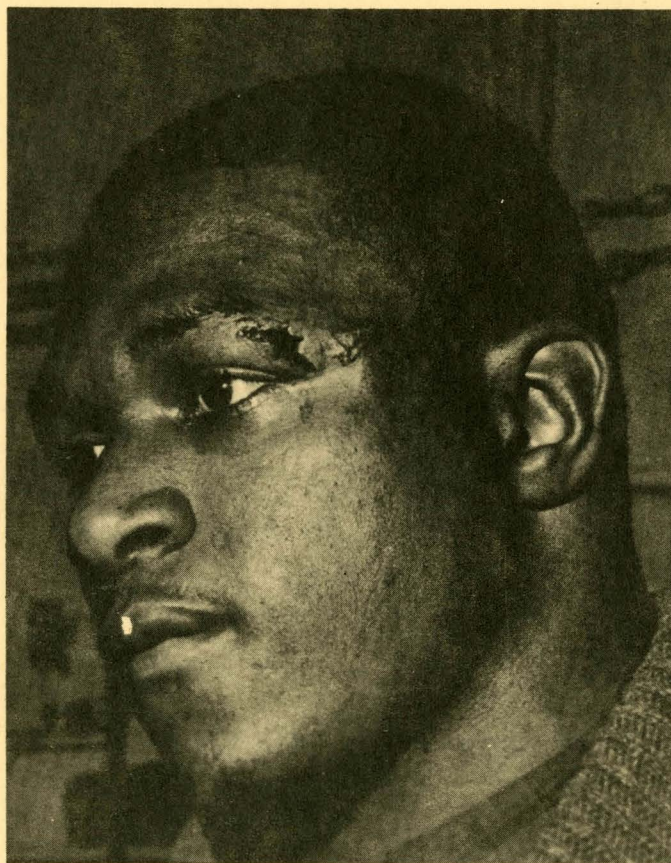
Henry Cooper, 45, owner of the Tolliver Cafe—where voter registration workers sometimes congregate—was arrested. The nature of the charges could not be obtained from Canton police. Two SNCC workers were in the restaurant at the time of the arrest.

January 31, 1964, Liberty, Amite County: Louis Allen, Route 5, Liberty, was found dead in his front yard. He had been shot three times with a shotgun. Allen was a witness to the killing of Herbert Lee by Mississippi Legislator E. H. Hurst in 1961 (see above). A week ago Allen's son's car and a Liberty grocery store that employed Negroes had been fired upon. In February, 1963, Allen told a worker of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee he saw Hurst shoot Lee without provocation. He said he

had lied at the coroner's inquest that cleared Hurst under threat of death to himself and family. In August, 1962, Allen had been arrested by a Liberty police officer who beat him with a flashlight, breaking his jaw.

February 3, 1964, Jackson, Hinds County: Two SNCC workers, Jesse Morris and George Greene, were shot by police during a demonstration. Two other Negro men were shot. Herman Frazile and William Ware. Students of Jackson State College were protesting the injury of a coed by a white driver at a busy intersection near the college. The city has repeatedly refused to install a traffic light at the intersection. Morris was wounded in the arm. Greene's eyeglasses case deflected a bullet, preventing serious injury. Frazile was wounded in the head.

February 7, 1964, Jackson, Hinds County: Byron De La Beckwith, accused murderer of Medgar Evers (see above), will get a new trial, presumably, as a result of the jury's failure to agree on a verdict in the trial which ended today. The prosecutor for the State of Mississippi had told the jury "I don't know whether I would vote the death penalty or not. I haven't had a chance to think about it." This was the tenth day of the trial. Beckwith has been in custody of Jackson officials, charged with the murder, since June 22. Mr. Waller had been preparing the prosecution, and, presumably, thinking about the case, since that time. Former Mississippi Governor Ross Barnett visited Beckwith in the courtroom today and shook hands and chatted with him. One of Beckwith's attorneys is a member of Barnett's law firm.



Hernan Frazile, Jackson,
Feb. 3, 1964