

Correspondence - Mendocillo Hill
Oxford, Mississippi

124-40-254

11, 801

Dear

11 of Tennessee
September 13, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: University of Mississippi

Today I called Dr. Duncan Gray, the Rector of the Episcopal Church in Oxford, at the suggestion of Professor Fortenberry. Dr. Gray had made the unsuccessful efforts to get students to come to see you. As I told you, the position of the students was that they could not do it without University approval, and that they could not get University approval.

I discussed the situation with Dr. Gray. I told him that we have an obligation to see that the University order was complied with and was effective. I asked him what he knew about the University's attitude.

After the discussion he agreed that he would tell Chancellor Williams that I had called and that I was anxious for it to be known that we wanted to discuss the problems facing the University with any University officials who were interested in discussing it with us.

Dr. Gray called back and said that he had talked to the Chancellor. The Chancellor did not want to talk to anyone here directly. However, he was willing for Dr. Gray to relay the following information.

The University has no plans for dealing with the situation. The Chancellor expects to open the University and, as far as the University management is concerned, to conduct classes in the regular manner with as little disturbances as possible.

On the other hand, the Chancellor recognizes that the University is not going to be permitted to accept Meredith as a regular student. He told Dr. Gray that this had been completely taken out of the hands of the University administration by the Board of Trustees, the Governor and the attorney general of the state. He told Dr. Gray that he did not know what this group planned.

As far as police matters are concerned, the Chancellor said that it was obvious that the campus police and local police were inadequate to deal with any situation that might arise. At the same time, the Chancellor said that he had been assured by the state that highway patrolmen would be on hand. Dr. Gray said that he did not know what the instructions given the state officers would be. The Chancellor has discussed the Meredith case with some student leaders. He has pointed out to them that their self-interest in their education and in the University would be best served by an absence of trouble. The Chancellor told Dr. Gray that the response to this kind of talk to the students was encouraging.

We have learned from Professor Fort^{berry} the following time schedule:

Orientation will start the 15th and continue through the 19th. This is not compulsory. Most new students, but not all transfer students, attend.

Registration for former students is on the 19th.

Registration for new students and transfer students is on the 20th. This is the day that Meredith would normally be expected to register.

The lawyers for Meredith have asked the University when he should report and have received no reply.

Burke Marshall
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Typed 9-20-62

SEP 21 1962

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

11,191
10,856

72-158-106
72-158-91
100-100-10-1

JOHN A. MARSHALL
ASSISTANT TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NAACP
20 WEST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

REURTEL TO PRESIDENT SEPTEMBER 14. JUSTICE DEPARTMENT TAKING APPROPRIATE
ACTION HEREWITH CASE AND OTHER MATTERS REFERRED TO YOUR TELEGRAM.

BERNARD MARSHALL
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

cc: Records
Civ. Div.
Mr. Marshall
V & E Sec.

To Block Meredith Again at Ole Miss



James Meredith (right) escorted by U. S. marshals.

Ole Miss Showdown Tests Constitution

By LOUIS CASSELS
United Press International

The showdown between federal and state power now impending in Mississippi is the gravest Constitutional crisis of its kind to confront the United States since the Civil War.

By openly defying U. S. courts, Gov. Ross Barnett has challenged the doctrine—supposedly established by the Civil War—that federal authority is supreme throughout the nation.

Not even the Little Rock crisis, which caused President Eisenhower to send paratroopers into the Arkansas capital five years ago this week, presented such a challenge to federal supremacy.

THE PARATROOPERS went into Little Rock after Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus had called out state militiamen to prevent Negro students from being enrolled in Central High School under a federal court order.

But Faubus stopped short of final showdown.

When the paratroopers descended on Little Rock he offered no further resistance to federal authority.

AND HE never got himself in the legal position of personally defying a federal court order.

Barnett, in contrast, has dramatized his personal defiance of the U. S. courts by physically blocking the path of the Negro student James H. Meredith with whose admission to the state university he had been forbidden by the courts to interfere.

The Mississippi governor also has ordered state police to resist federal marshals and if necessary to place them under arrest.

Justice Department officials in Washington have been clinging to the hope that some way might be found to avoid a blunt test of strength with the Governor.

REPUTEDLY GEN. Robert Kennedy has stated that it is his responsibility to see that federal court orders are obeyed, no matter what course ultimately necessary.

The Fifth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals has ordered Barnett to appear before it in New Orleans Friday to show cause



why he should not be cited for contempt.

If the governor spurns this summons the Federal Government will be faced with a choice between letting him get away with it or sending a sufficient federal force into Mississippi to take him into custody regardless of any resistance that state authorities may offer.

U. S. Marshal Tries To Break Through In Shuffling Match

OXFORD, Miss., Sept. 26 (UPI)—Negro James Meredith today made his third attempt to enroll at the University of Mississippi but was stopped outside the campus by Lt. Gov. Paul Johnson and turned away.

The confrontation started calmly but ended in a pushing-shoving contest.

Gov. Ross Barnett, who has twice turned away the 29-year-old Air Force veteran in his persistent attempt to break the color barrier at "Ole Miss," also flew to Oxford.

BY MEANS of Johnson to stop Meredith this time.

The Negro was turned aside as the nation in general, and the federal government in particular, watched a deliberate defiance of the federal government.

Meredith, who was refused admission by Barnett here last Thursday and at the State College Board offices in Jackson yesterday, flew here today from New Orleans.

He arrived in a car accompanied by deputy U. S. marshals.

HE WAS stopped by state troopers a few feet outside the campus entrance and Johnson, parked in an auto nearby, stepped out of his car.

"We want to take James Meredith on the direction of a Federal Court order and have him registered as a student at the university," U. S. Marshal James McShane told Johnson.

"We are not going to let him in," Johnson said. "You want to make a big show for the whole country to see," he said. "We have a duty to perform."

"I AM going to have to refuse on the same grounds the governor did," Johnson said.

Johnson said admitting the Negro at this time would possibly result in violence and said "I refuse because of imminent breach of peace."

John Dear, attorney for the U. S. Department of Justice, then stepped forward and reminded Johnson that Meredith's admission had been ordered by federal courts. Dear then attempted to serve on Johnson a contempt citation directed against Barnett.

Johnson refused it.

The meeting started out amicably with Johnson and McShane, but quickly turned into a test of wills.

McShane repeatedly tried to shove through the line of unarmed State Troopers but

made no headway. Meredith appeared glum and stayed behind McShane as he walked from one point to another in the line trying to find a hole.

McSHANE SAID "Governor, are these men (the State Troopers) acting under your authority?"

"They are here because of the possibility of danger to lives," said Johnson, a slender, man with sharp facial lines.

Finally, Dear said, "We want to call upon you for the last time to let this man in."

After about five minutes of pushing and shoving, the marshals and Meredith got in their cars and left the edge of the campus while a ripping of hand-clapping came from the plainclothesmen and state troopers.

Meredith's car drove away.

Barnett stood firm in his open defiance of the executive and judicial branches of the Federal Government despite an implied warning by the Administration that it would send troops, if necessary.

9/30

Missing from Bench

Sund... 1:03 PM approx

- ① Take on cage
- ② Prepare to leave by helicopter on way about when leaving ground - 15 mins
- ③ We don't want models to get heavy on way - with all their equipment

all the plane - as way so we must run

④ Some of them can land on cage -

* might be as coast at our feet

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a four message
unless no deferred char-
acter is indicated by the
proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, President

1201 (1-47)

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LT = International
Letter Telegram

The time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is LOCAL TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is LOCAL TIME at point of destination.

DX21 PD=SAN DIEGO CALIF VIA JACKSON MISS 1=

COMMANDING OFFICER= DRZ=

HUMBLE SUGGESTION REMOVE NEGRO TROOPS SEE LESS RIOTING=

JAMES J SMITH 2346 29TH ST= 400P=

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

MEMORANDUM

October 2, 1962

TO: Mr. Katzenbach

J. Edgar Hoover
FROM: Mr. Yeasley

SUBJECT: Detention, Interview and Release of Subjects

I think you should know some of the results of the interviews of the 74-odd subjects at the Compound at the Department of Agriculture Building at the Airport today. In the course of the interviews conducted by 5 lawyers and a rather large number of FBI agents it developed that we had a much greater number of obviously disgruntled prisoners than was the case the day before. They had spent the night on a very dirty concrete slab recessed in a building such as a place where two or three trucks might park, open on two sides. Some of them said that they were forced to sit with their knees up, their hands around their knees and their chins up. A few said that when their chins dropped they were prodded in the back. A few said they were not allowed or were unable to get any sleep. In any event, they were a sadder looking and much more nervous group. The Military Police apparently had immediate custody during the night. Before leaving I examined the place they were detained last night and arranged with the local head of the Department of Agriculture for the prisoners tonight to be housed in a conference room on the second floor of the building. There will be no cots or blankets but perhaps they will at least have a choice of the floor or a ~~bed~~. I would suggest that we ask the United States Attorney and the local Marshall re the advisability of transferring the subjects who have been charged to the customary detention facilities in this district, at Aberdeen, New Albany and Clarksdale, Mississippi.

I find they are mostly fails.

All of the lawyers interviewing commented early in the proceedings that a great number of the subjects appeared to have been detained by the military for little or no reason whatever. This, however, appears to have ended since only one new prisoner was brought in during the last couple of hours.

Unsigned written statements were taken of each subject. All of them came from some miles away from Oxford. All were fingerprinted and eventually released. One of them, James Lee Jones, the one with the dislocated jaw, had come from California after hearing General Walker's talk. He admits to at least one past criminal record and we hope his fingerprints will indicate he is wanted elsewhere.

The men at the blockades are apparently confiscating all weapons found in cars even though there is no ammunition and usually the occupants are detained. Most all of the recent detainees had nothing whatever to do with the rioting Sunday. In practically every case in the last two days we have been unable to identify the arresting officer or to obtain his statement of what really happened. Of course the mere voluntary statement of admissions of the defendants — without corroboration — is insufficient upon which to seek a conviction. It would appear that we will not make cases against future detainees unless specific acts can be definitely attributed to them. This is not to say that the temporary detention at least of some people will not be necessary.

I asked the marshalls and the Bureau of Prisons men to please let us know here at any time they get new detainees.

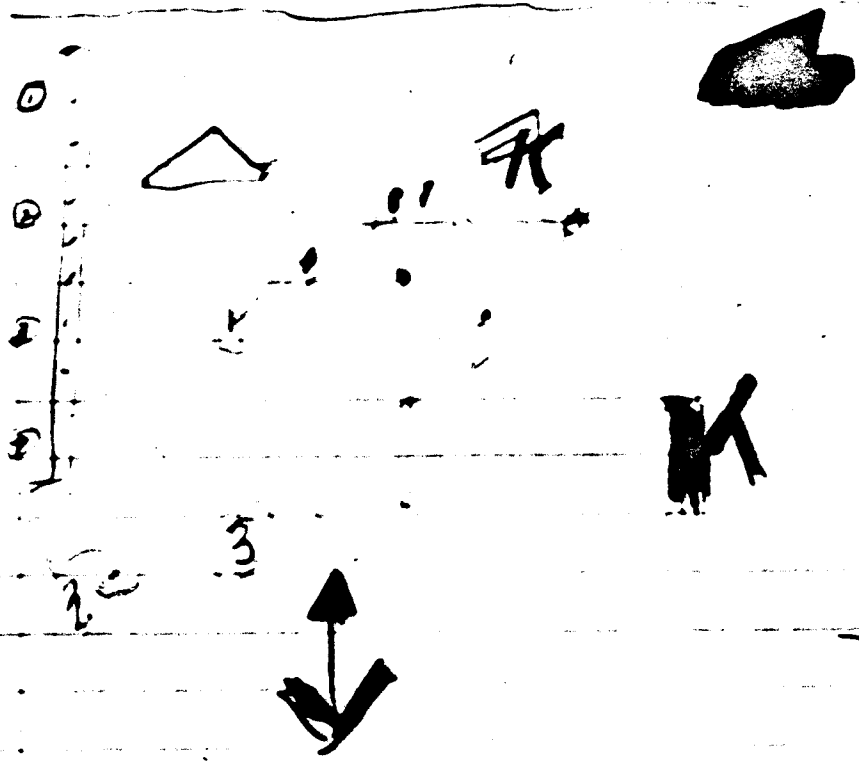
CC

10/3/62

32

PHONE CALLS BY STATES DEPT
CREDIT CARD NO 150 1535 11 32

- 1 Thomas O. Donnan - ...
- 2 Thomas Donnell, Sr - ...
- 3 PAUL H. THORNBURY - DC Marshal's office -
- 4 CARL A. Ryan - So. Dist of Indiana -
- 5 L. T. TURNER - MASS -
- 6 George F. Allin - Mass
- 7 Jesse Dale Jordan - So. Dist of Indiana



MEMORANDUM

October 3, 1962

TO: Carl Wisley, FBI

FROM: Dean Markham

If you have not been contacted on this matter this is to advise that we would like to have an inventory as soon as possible of all weapons confiscated and impounded to you.

This does not have to be too specific. It is merely to get a running total number of rifles, pistols, knives, ammunition, and possibly item by item breakdowns of other weapons such as spear, machete, club, etc. We understand there will be a more complete inventory forthcoming at a later date. We would like your rough total as soon as possible.

cc: Mr. Katzenbach

10/3/62

Dep. AttyGen. N. Katzenbach

Why does the Attorney General's office not
comply with the law — the court ruling —
on Commies. There can be only one reason,
—since it is otherwise such a strong-arm
organization!!!

Samuel L. Lewis

LEONARD T. COLEMAN

1815 BIRCHWOOD DR.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 2, 1962

President John F. Kennedy
The White House
Washington D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Re: Unlawful retention of students in classrooms

If report on C.B.S. News at 6:45 P.M. today is true, this form of Police-state brute force and federal moonshining is a scathing re-orientation on your Administration — even though it was put into effect by questionable counts of and great help of the Negro vote. (And let me state that I respect every man, as an individual, but I will NOT be forced to sit by nor socialize with those except of my own choosing.) You are not afraid of a State; why afraid of communists?

The behavior of several personnel in Mississippi is a travesty on civilized society. This trouble all came about, and the bloodshed and the terrific physical expense, because of the ruling by the Warren (nee Verrier) Court, which threw out previous rulings on the same subject, and which did an unheard-of thing in the history of legal rulings: consulted books on social behavior, psychology, and supported findings of people under conditions of listening, finally adopting the main thesis of a book by a Communist Socialist, W. W. Dal, as a precedent has for asking a ruling that would so upset America. (Such usings would have been laughed out of any county Superior Court of any of the then 48 states!) (but then what could the country — and Mr. Eisenhower — expect from one who was blind and brought up by one of the close associates of Eugene O'Connell, who four times ran for president on the Socialist ticket?) And it is that year states under Marxist-Socialist H. J. Laski, of London School, inspired you for just this? As you do or should know, the Negro in the U.S.A. is usually respected for himself, for his individual accomplishments — further, his income real and personal property owned exceeds that of the average Italian, Britisher, and others, of the other countries.

You know, of course, that the only person — certainly in the misaligned bottom half of the U.S.A. — that would ever vote for you again would be one of the minority groups — hence we know how desperate you are. Do you know how many hundreds of applicants were turned away from the U. of Mississippi? Then, by naked force — mainly upon meddling by the National Assn. of Colored People (of whose founders one an Atheist Intercollegiate Socialist; the other Mr. Laski, with as many comae- "front" affiliations that it would take over a page to list them) this "test" operation — to see just how much can be put over on the public and to scare the more timid — before the final surrender of this country into the One World, Soviet-type Control, under absolute totalitarian authority, and occupied by international "security" troops — just as 2,000 colored troops have just landed in Cuba, to take over the countries of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Your CP's & Socialists have deserted America.

Leonard T. Coleman

Open -- 100 Copies

(From above)

FOUR MARSHALS ARRESTED IN HOLLY SPRINGS AREA

HOLLY SPRINGS (UPI) — Four U. S. marshals on the Oxford detail were arrested for drunkenness here Wednesday night.

An anonymous phone call from Memphis to Marshall County sheriff Charles Cot resulted in the arrest of the four at a road block near Holly Springs.

Marshals arrested were Albert J. Pugh, Arthur Hollishead, Angus Orr, all of Laredo, Tex. — and Edwin Dennis, Sr. of the Senior Border Patrol. Cot said the men were released and turned over to their commanding officer, John Cappick at Oxford.

Jackson, Mississippi
October 4, 1962

Mr. Nicholas Katzensbach
Federal Building
Oxford, Mississippi

Dear Sir:

Is this the type of United States Marshals that was rushed in to preserve law and order? Do you think they could have been intoxicated and fired the first gas shells into the backs of our Patrolmen and students and into the girls dormitory. Please investigate this matter.

A Good Mississippian

Oct. 4

Nick

Here is info on a 12-hr-- 15 hour period
on Oct. 3 which I think is useful.

In re Ole Miss Students

out of 27 persons picked up for having ammo of
one kind or another - usually shot gun shells -
23 were students.

There were 2 switchblades - students.

one Hunting knife - student

1 set of steel arrow heads - student

1 hand axe student.

6 guns - two being pistols owned by students.

These students - all of them - were released.

This info shows

their materials held for examination

The point is if the Univ. - another students themselves

knew about this one day's take - they would recognize the
inconvenience to themselves and us caused by carrying
around the stuff - the Univ. could make this known to
the students. We could release to the Press - for
more broad understanding of the amount of stuff
around - and the concern it gives us. All this
stuff - though innocently carried about - is subject
to being illegally used and could get owners in trouble.

you advise: 1. tell Street - and see if will
make "announcement?"

or 2. Tell press

or 3. both.

Jus

MEMORANDUM

October 4, 1962

4:20 p.m.

TO: Mr. Katzenbach

FROM: Mr. Tynington

RE: Areas of Prisons Personnel

Mr. Ulrich called. He said there were 27 officers and men and no prisoners. He wondered if they could return to their bases and turn over the prisoner operation to the FBI and the U.S. Marshal's office in Oxford. I would think this would be satisfactory and your approval is requested.

J.N.S.

MEMO TO ALL MILITARY OFFICERS

SUBJECT: PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW REGARDING INDIVIDUALS ATTEMPTING
TO BRING FIREARMS ONTO CAMPUS.

FROM: DEAN MARKHAM, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

CONFIRMING CONVERSATION AT 12:15 WITH MR. KATZBACH AND
MR. OSWALD OF THE CAMPUS POLICE, WE ARE TO FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE.
AT THE UNIVERSITY'S REQUEST ANY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE NOT
ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY ARE TO BE DENIED ENTRANCE TO
THE CAMPUS UNTIL THEY HAVE DISPOSED OF THE FIREARMS BEING
CARRIED. POLICY WITH STUDENTS AND UNIVERSITY PERSONNEL IS TO
TAKE THE FIREARMS AND THE INDIVIDUAL'S NAME, T/D, DATE, AND
LOCATION AND THEN DELIVER THE WEAPON TO THE CAMPUS POLICE IN
THE BASEMENT OF THE LICKUM. THEY WILL HAVE SOMEONE ON DUTY AROUND
THE CLOCK TO RECEIVE AND HOLD THE FIREARM UNTIL THEY CONSIDER
IT APPROPRIATE TO RETURN TO OWNER.

• • • • •

ANY REQUEST FOR U. S. MARSHAL SHOULD BE MADE BY TELEPHONE
TO UNITED STATES MARSHAL PHILLIPS AT THE FEDERAL BUILDING IN
BIRM, TELEPHONE 234-6661 OR 234-3725.

Mr. Thornton Caine

Booneville, Route 4

Arrived here 11:30 A.M.

Left Booneville abt 9:30 A.M.

Came to see Bobby Nokes

Known abt 4 yrs.

Age 28. Studying to be Doctor

Father Bill

Staying in back cottage where Meredith
is.

Saw Bill Nokes this AM

Told him he was coming to see Bobby

On grounds to U 10:45

10-5-62

Received from Gordon Vance
Hamilton of Oxford, Miss, one
(1) Winchester 22 Rifle Model 77
Semi-automatic with clip.

By: J. B. [Signature]
DUSM

10/5/62

Received from United States Marshal
Oxford, Miss one (1) Winchester 22 Cal
Rifle Model 77 Semi-automatic w/clip

[Signature]
Hamilton

MR YEAGLEY 234318

Handwritten scribble

Handwritten scribble

Handwritten scribble

Nick -

0

Spun on 31.0.10 -
John D.L., Bayer all party
would like to meet Hixon -
and take a CONVERSATION
with him to ANSWER
FRIENDLY QUESTIONS OTHERS
in the COMM. HAVE ?

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay Goldin
Civil Rights Division

DATE: October 5, 1962

FROM: Norbert A. Schlei
Office of Legal Counsel

SUBJECT: Matters pending in Oxford, Mississippi

Until further notice, you are in charge of the investigation and interviews of witnesses which are in progress in Oxford. The attorneys or counsel to assist you will be Bray, Anderson, Donlan, Stern, Dwyer and Sather (the latter will be taking Coor's place and will not always be available).

Roethal will also be here, but he will be handling public information and should be asked for help only in an emergency and to the extent that he feels he can do it.

The Deputy Attorney General will be in Mississippi, but not necessarily in Oxford at all times.

Jean Markham, a friend of the Attorney General's who is on the President's Committee on Physical Fitness and has helped in a number of emergency situations, will be arriving late this afternoon. He was in the Lyceum Sunday night with us but went back with Artman on Tuesday. Probably he will work primarily with Roethal. He should be interviewed. The Border Patrol plane will pick him up in Atlanta at 2 p.m. and bring him here. Be sure he is met by someone at the airport who can get him to your base.

You are, of course, familiar with the card file as to witnesses. Please maintain it as well as any additional records you think necessary.

Copies of interviews and other documents already typed are attached for your information.

Please stay in contact with Al Worston, Assistant United States Attorney, on the matter of arrest warrants on the four Border Patrol men. Keep Mr. Katzenbach informed of any developments in this regard.

Advise the FBI in Dallas, 234-5364, Oxford, or the FBI in Washington of any letters you think would be of interest and of the names of witnesses not out of town who should be interviewed by the Bureau.

Please have the student manager at Baxter Dormitory interviewed. He reportedly states that last Sunday the State police told the students there were credit cards and told them to "go get 'em."

Do not hesitate to call me in Washington at any time. You can reach the Attorney General's office on the Mainline in Mr. Katzenbach's office. If you need to call me at home, my number is 303-3679. The area code in Washington is 202.

I promised that he would be the Chief Clerk, of the Campus Police, a copy of his interview when it had been transcribed. I think it should be read and edited by Harold Reis before being forwarded. I suggest you interview as soon as possible the policemen as mentioned as having arrested Ott, one of the three who have been charged. The policemen are Robert S. Jackson, C. W. Connor and Henry Petty (lives in Clarkdale).

Good luck.

cc: Mr. Katzenbach

CLASS OF SERVICE
This is a fast message unless no deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, President

1301 (4-48)

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LT = International Letter Telegram

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NSA010 BAO36

B BIA006 PD=BURLINGTON VT 5 90CA EDT= 1962 OCT 5 AM 8 45
NICHOLAS KATZENBACH DEPUTY=
US ATTORNEY GENERAL OXFORD MISS=
SUGGEST THAT RECONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO MR MEREDITHS
VISIT TO JACKSON THIS WEEKEND WITH THE GAME THERE. RATHER,
DEVELOP NORMAL SITUATION AS A SERIOUS STUDENT BY HAVING
HIM REMAIN AT WORK AND AVOID POSSIBLE PUBLIC TENSIONS
INCLUDING RETURN TO CAMPUS AFTER ABSENCE=
RETIRED PROFESSOR BENJAMIN R ANDREWS.

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

MEMORANDUM

TO: Jay Goldin
Civil Rights Division

DATE: October 5, 1962

FROM: Herbert A. Tschel
Office of Legal Counsel

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Please have the state manager at Baxter territory interviewed. He reportedly states that last Sunday the state police told the state its share credit was and told them to "get it."

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Good luck.

cc: Mr. Katzenbach

October 6, 1962

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Katzenbach

FROM: Harrison J. Goldin

On Friday, 5 October, 1962, I spoke with Mr. Wash, the man in charge of men's residences on the campus, about obtaining for the suite occupied by Mr. Meredith services ordinarily provided by the University in on-campus residence halls. I specifically asked Mr. Wash about the following items:

Linens changing, towels, covering for the floor, soap, shower curtain, toilet, desk, lamp, chair, mop, cleaning service and pail.

Mr. Wash stated that if rent for fewer than eight occupants is paid for the Meredith suite, the space will be considered an "apartment" and no furniture or janitorial services will be provided.

He told me, however, that pending a determination by the University Comptroller as to whether or not the suite would be regarded as an apartment or a dormitory room, he would arrange for ordinary dormitory services to be provided.

On Saturday morning, 6th October, 1962, a desk and a lamp were installed in the room, and a shower curtain was installed in the washroom.

I have spoken to the Captain in charge of the guard detail at Baxter Hall, and again with Mr. Wash of the dormitory office, to arrange for the army security detail to be supplied with a list of the names of the janitors who will be cleaning the lavatory in the Baxter suite. These janitors will also be provided with some form of identification and will be able to clean these facilities on a regular basis.

144-2111

Mississippi

FREE PRESS

"The Truth Shall Make You Free"

Vol. 1, No. 43

Jackson, Mississippi — Saturday, October 6, 1962

10c Per C

Meredith In College; Doesn't Take 'Never'

Violence Surrounds Close Of 18 Month Battle, World Watches US Win Struggle With State

James Meredith finally became enrolled in the University of Mississippi at 8:30 in the morning on the first day of October, nearly eighteen months after he made his first attempt. As most of the world now knows, he was escorted onto the campus by United States Marshals the preceding evening and spent the night in a dormitory on campus. And as the world also knows, the night that followed was one of violence, tear gas, and death.

Two men were fatally injured during the rioting around the Lyceum Building which housed the marshals. The loss of a news correspondent for a London newspaper was also reported near the riot area. The other dead man was an Oxford resident. The world was astonished that two men could meet such fates and over 75 others be injured while on a college campus. Not until sometime after the tear gas was used to quell the turmoil had clear and the people responsible for the rioting were identified. It would begin to be able to see what had caused the nightmarish scene of the enrollment of James Meredith.

Not Student

Nearly all of the people arrested were not students at the university. Many of those taken into the custody of the federal marshals were not even residents of Mississippi, but people who had travelled great distances in order to support the state leaders who insisted upon standing firm against the court order to admit the student.

Patrol Withdrawn

State officials have said that the rioting began when a crowd of people gathered in front of the state highway patrol building. The crowd was caused by the crowd to retreat. Robert Kennedy, Attorney General of the United States, told a nationwide audience, however, that tear gas was used only when the crowd began to seriously threaten the marshals.

The Attorney General maintained that the marshals would not have had to resort to the anti-riot tactics if the state highway patrol had not been removed. Robert Kennedy expressed grave concern that Gov. Barnett did not keep his word to insure the peace. Kennedy held Barnett responsible for the patrol being withdrawn prior to the arrival of the U.S. troops.

Miss Editor

The editor of the newspaper at the University of Mississippi, the Mississippiian, called for peace and obeying the law in the regular issue that came out onto the hot street campus. The front page editorial asked that students refrain from demonstrating.

(Continued on Page 2)

Having trouble keeping track of events in Mississippi?

See "Directions" on page two . . .

On-The-Spot Report: Citizens Form Vote League In Ruleville

RULEVILLE, Miss. — While Mississippi blacked out the hour-long CBS program, "Mississippi and the 15th Amendment," Negro citizens of Ruleville, who figure prominently in the CBS documentary on Negro voting difficulties, rallied at Williams Chapel in the face of recent shootings and continued threats to form the beginning of a Ruleville Voter's League.

Several adult Negroes present volunteered to participate actively in the organization and operation of a council to promote voting rights and better communication between Negro and White citizens.

Insurance Cancelled

Even as they met the cancellation of the fire insurance policy on Williams Chapel became effective. And at least one participant wondered aloud as the meeting broke up, "I guess they're going to burn it down now." The city has already cut off the church's fire water, and has stated in a letter to the Board of Deacons its plans to cancel the tax exempt status of the church.

Frased Off

The Mayor of Ruleville has said, "All of you (Negro citizens of Ruleville) might as well go down and register, cause you all got to suffer anyway before this thing is over." Among the 36 persons from Sunflower County who have attempted to register in the past five weeks, their friends and their relatives, 3 have been forced off their plantations, 5 have lost their jobs, 7 Negro cleaners remain closed, all Negro business is closed on Sunday. Threat and harassment have become a part of daily living for many citizens.

The meeting progressed under the watchful eyes of the

Mayor, the local police, and the FBI.

FBI In Area

The FBI has been in the area for two weeks, investigating the shootings into the houses of voter registration participants, and the wounding of two local Negro girls.

File Statements

Citizens of Ruleville have filed statements with the Justice Department complaining of economic reprisals, forcing tenants from their plantations, physical violence and unfair treatment at the hands of the police. They have requested immediate Federal intervention on behalf of Negroes attempting to register to vote.

Lawyers from the Justice Department were in Ruleville last

(Continued on Page 2)

Moderate Wins Georgia Election

The voters of 20th Atlanta Negroes defeated Georgia Governor James Davis in his bid for re-nomination to the House of Representatives. The end of the county unit vote system insured the nomination and thus election of racial moderate Charles Whitner by over 13,000 votes.

The Georgia legislature controlled by rural interests, frustrated by rivalry with the Supreme Court, re-appointment ruling by altering the unit system more in form than content. The Federal District Court ruled the revision unconstitutional and state Democratic leaders organized the primary on a popular vote basis.

Events in Georgia parallel what will happen in Jackson if an accurate reapportionment is made.

Some Students On Campuses In South Support Integration

A couple of news reporters from the Daily Texan, a large independent student newspaper, told the FREE PRESS that on many southern campuses students had downed white arm bands to show their support for Meredith. This move was the students' and a move for self-identity. Some of the students also wore buttons that showed two hands clasped. One of the hands was Negro and the other White. Underneath was Meredith's name.

The student news reporters who were on their way to Oxford in order to cover the site also there stated that many students in Southern colleges and universities were in favor of Meredith's enrolling. The reporters also said that with very few exceptions, all students believed in obeying the laws and the courts.

KKK Disbands; No Response To War Call

An Associated Press report following the crisis on the Oxford campus said that Walter A. Bailey, president of the Mississippi Ku Klux Klan, had announced his resignation. Bailey, who lives in Biloxi, Mississippi, said over 500 members of the Klan are now on their own and without obligation. The move to disband came when there was no response to the call he issued upon the members to assemble and hold a council of war and no one showed.

Colonial Bakers Get Contract Here While Harts Workers Continue To Picket For Their Recognition

The 195 of the American Bakers' Association here last week rejected the company of seven, six and six cents raises. The union also in closed upon getting a strike clause which would insure any worker that walked on a picket line he would not be fired or in any way discriminated against for his action.

This wage increase means that the employees at the Colonial Baking Company are now making 57 cents more than some of the Harts bakery work some of an equal position. The

Reject Seven Cents

Last week, by a vote of 19 to 1, the union men rejected the company of seven, six and six cents raises. The union also in closed upon getting a strike clause which would insure any worker that walked on a picket line he would not be fired or in any way discriminated against for his action.

This wage increase means that the employees at the Colonial Baking Company are now making 57 cents more than some of the Harts bakery work some of an equal position. The

(Continued on Page 2)

Editorial Page

The Siege

During the last few weeks, particularly, the state of Mississippi has been under a strange sort of siege. The result, a leaderless mob mad with rage, attacked United States Federal Marshals. That same mob accounted for the death of two men. How could this come about? What strange powers exist to account for such a happening in our nation in this century?

The siege has been upon the minds of the people of Mississippi and the South. Constantly swapping distortions for truth, rage for responsibility, and anger for decency. But if the mob is leaderless, where does the siege come from? From the one word that is as descriptive of Mississippi as cotton—which is the word fear.

The people on both sides of the segregation wall are dominated by terrific fear. Fear of the unknown. On the one side, the side that has considered itself in command, the fear takes the form of reprisal, on the other side, the fear takes the form of submission. In both cases the best means of keeping off the unknown.

The entrance of James Meredith, however, brings to mind a new set of fears. He is proud, brave, and determined. What about this new man? What about the new questions he asks? What about his claim to equality? What? Why? How? And the siege grows.

There is more, though. Men know how to whip the siege into a coordinated reprisal and systematized horror. Men know the effect of the mass media—radio, television, the newspapers—which set in front of the mass every day, much of the day. If the same thing, in different ways is said over and over the heat of the siege can be greatly magnified and put into action. But the siege still controls, there still is no leader to the mob.

Although everyone was made well aware by the mass media that Meredith would come to the Woodfolk State Office Building in his attempt to enroll with the college board a week ago, it was not the radio or television or newspaper that told the people to shout evil until they fairly shook with rage. The people over and over again said the same thing that has been repeated over and over again by the mass media. But all by themselves, the people said the words. All by themselves they climbed to a perch on a dromedary and shot people with a rifle. All by themselves they killed the two men.

Even though a responsible radio, television, press would be most gratefully received by this newspaper, we understand that it can not be expected. We hope to make clear the advantage the mass media does take of the Mississippi siege. But recognize that even this is not siege itself. The siege itself is fear. We must not fear the man who stands proud, brave, and determined. We must not fear either to claim equality nor the man who claims equality.

We are proud of those few men of the press and those increasing number of business men, who are standing up to the siege themselves, and are paying the way for the rest of us. We must first recognize the siege and then rout it.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

I want to tell you how much the Free Press means to me and my family. The Jackson newspapers stand for segregation 100% and print lies about James Meredith to arouse the people against us. I am anxious to receive your newspaper in the mail every week so that I can read the truth about what is happening.

Everyone in my family is very, very happy and proud that Mr. Meredith is going to Ole Miss. He is a brave man and we have prayed for him. Now my little boy wants to go to Ole Miss too.

We all have to get the vote so we can get rid of men like Ross Barnett. I am a registered voter and I tell my friends to register too.

I showed your paper to a lady next door and she is sending in money to get the Free Press in the mail like I do.

Voter Registration: Close Up

We Meet The Mayor

The series, "Citizen Education Workshop," is being temporarily discontinued. There has been a great deal of publicity about the young people who have been active throughout the state in voter registration campaigns. In most Mississippi newspapers, they have been considered as agitators.

The FREE PRESS has given one of the students of Professor Librus, an opportunity to tell through his personal experiences. The student is Charles Cobb who has spent several weeks in the Mississippi Delta.

Third of a series

By Charles Cobb

We had decided at the Monday night meeting that our work would be much easier if we could enlist the support of professional people such as ministers and teachers; for they are the ones usually looked to for leadership in a community like Huleville. That Tuesday morning, I went to see the principal of the local Negro High School. He reacted to me and what we were trying to do, pretty much as all teachers in Mississippi do. He thought that what we were trying to do was fine, but that he could not get involved, and suggested that we go out into the community and work on our project.

This attitude, indicating a wish to be apart from the Negro community, is fairly common among Negroes of the professional class (both north and south). Having achieved a certain amount of security and position, they are not inclined to risk it, even if it means denying what they know to be right. There is also a strong desire to simulate the white people as much as possible. They do not like to be reminded that they are Negroes.

Coming back with a local student, I began talking with the principal, we met two of our staff coming up the road with some more local students. While we were talking, someone noticed a police car coming down the street, headed toward us. The car wasn't coming, but coming after someone. Pulling up in front of us, the driver, who at that time we thought was the Sheriff, called us over. Volunteer workers Charles McLaurin and Landry McNair had voter registration material under their arms on clipboards. Seeing this, the driver asked to look at what we were carrying. After looking at the material, he told McNair and McLaurin to get in the car. When McLaurin asked if they were under arrest, he was told yes.

As the car pulled in front of city hall, they were informed by the driver that he was the Mayor. Inside city hall, McLaurin commented that it was unusual to be picked up and arrested by the Mayor of a town, especially so when they were not told what the charge was. The Mayor's answer to

this was that this was an unusual town.

Not so unusual, though!

What happened to McLaurin and McNair, happens in almost every Mississippi town in which there is a voter registration project. As soon as the local authorities discover that there are voter registration workers ("agitators") in town, an attempt is made to frighten them by arresting them on some trumped up charge. In the case of McLaurin and McNair it was to check and see if they were violating an anti-solicitation ordinance. When they find out that the vote workers are not going to be intimidated, they begin pressuring the Negro community as a whole.

The Mayor told McLaurin and McNair that he was just checking to see that they weren't trying to sell anything, then released them.

More than a little responsible for the quick release of McLaurin and McNair was the fact that they made it known to the Mayor that they knew what their rights as American citizens were, and that if they were under arrest, to prefer charges and place them in jail. If he was not going to prefer charges, release them or prepare to suffer the consequences.

This was a new type of Negro to the Mayor; a type that was not docile; and I don't believe he knew quite what to do with them. The way in which McLaurin and McNair handled themselves with the Mayor is applicable to many situations in which the Negro finds himself in conflict with the white. If he stands up and demands to be treated justly and with respect, most of the time he will be treated justly, or at least with care.

Next week: HOT DAYS AND DUSTY ROADS

CORRECTION

In last week's FREE PRESS (September 29) the byline Charles Butts appeared under the article "Union Democracy in Action" on page two. The byline belonged with the "personal view" feature article that appeared under the head, "Meredith in Jackson."

DIRECTIONS

In	Out
Ole Miss	→
Meredith	→
Ole Miss	→
NAACP Attorneys	→
District Court	→
US 5th Circuit	→
Cameron	→
US 5th Circuit	→
Cameron	→
Black	→
Barnett	→
US District Court	→
State Legislature	→
US 5th Circuit	→
Barnett	→
Barnett	→
Johnson	→
Crowd	→
US Marshals	→

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INTIMIDATION OF VOTERS SEEN ON NATIONAL TELEVISION SHOW

While the rest of the nation watched an hour-long CBS documentary of the problems that face Negroes who attempt to register to vote in Mississippi, the people of this state had to see a rerun. The television special entitled "Mississippi and the 15th Amendment" was blocked out of all stations that reach into Mississippi. It was thought that the reason for the no show was that much of the film was concerned with the voting procedures of Theron C. Lynd of Hattiesburg. Lynd, Hattiesburg clerk-registrar, is the principal figure in a contempt case now being considered by three judges of the United States 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. The decision on that case is not expected until sometime in November.

No Meredith Case

The program also included scenes from the clash between the federal government and the segregationist state officials. It was clearly pointed out by David Schaubrun, CBS Washington Commentator who was moderator, that such an incident would not take place if Negroes were voting and exerting their political influence on elected officials. Time and again, however, the TV camera caught Mississippi registrars systematically refusing to register Negro citizens. On several occasions the cameras were hidden in order to get the "escape."

The film also had an interview with Mrs. Nixon, into whose home a passing shot-

gunner fired a few weeks ago. Mrs. Nixon in her Huleyville home, pointed out, before the nationwide audience, where the pellets came through the window fan and lodged in the wall on the other side of the room. Again the moderator pointed out that such brutal actions could not happen if the Negro was able to vote and elect law enforcement officers who would assure prosecution of anyone who committed such acts. The bullets shot into the Nixon's home seriously injured two girls; shots were also fired into two other nearby homes. The shootings were all directly attributed to citizens' participation in the local voter registration activity.

Citizens of the United States saw actual films of the barriers that obstruct the rights of citizens of Mississippi. Several civil rights leaders in the state have expressed their hope that by this revelation of the situation, public sentiment will force legislation to remove some of the barriers.

Meredith In College . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

onstrations and return the university to normal. The editor, a creed, had previously chastized the Jackson Daily News for its distortions and for its consistent appeal to emotionalism. It seems that the students either obeyed or, more likely, already agreed with the policies of the paper. The students, for the great part, did not participate in the demonstrations before or after Meredith's appearance.

Reports from Oxford reveal that although many students left the campus for their own protection, those remaining were willing to go to classes including those that Meredith attended.

Personal View

Meredith In Oxford

This is an exclusive report written by one who was on the Ole Miss campus from Sunday afternoon through Monday afternoon during the height of the violence.

In the early afternoon Sunday, the campus was relatively quiet. Few people were around, the weather was nice. Little activity was in evidence, and it was, all in all, a calm, peaceful Sunday afternoon.

Then, word came around 2 o'clock that highway patrolmen had sealed off all entrances to the campus. In about another

hour, planes began to appear overhead. One could see large transports beginning to arrive and unload their human cargo at the Oxford airport, while several jet planes constantly buzzed the area. It was then clearly apparent that the attempt to register Meredith and to bring him onto the Ole Miss campus was going to be made that afternoon instead of the next day as had been earlier expected. Tension at this point rose rapidly. Highway patrol cars began to pour onto the campus.

Meredith, with his escort, arrived around 6:30 at the Lyceum Building on the campus. It was then evident that an agreement had been worked out between the State Highway Patrol and the federal government. It was announced that Meredith would not be registered that night because it was Sunday, but that he would be registered the next morning, which did occur at 8:30, 14 violent hours later.

Meredith was taken to Baxter dormitory, a three story brick structure located on the highest point in the area. Unfortunately, the highway patrol appears to have made no attempt to either prevent outside agitators with dangerous weapons from getting into Oxford or onto the Ole Miss campus. As a result, a crowd began to gather around the Lyceum Building, and bottles, rocks and other missiles were thrown at the marshals protecting the structure.

Tear gas then began to go off.

Jackson Clergy Send Letters To 3 Officials

A group of Jackson ministers sent letters to the governor, the mayor of Jackson, and the sheriff of Hinds County "calling for reason, law, and order." The ministers pointed out that Americans must be united in maintaining the principles upon which our Democracy is founded.

The letter reads as follows: "We, the undersigned ministers, being deeply concerned with the peace, prosperity, and progress of all the people of the state of Mississippi, lift our voices in calling for reason, law, and order. We feel that the future of our state depends entirely upon this. There cannot be peace, prosperity, and progress without law and order."

"We plead for the understanding, the cooperation, and the protection of all citizens in this hour of great crisis."

"We cannot push back the tides of communism, unless we are united in maintaining the principles upon which our Democracy is founded. We commend all officials who have helped maintain law and order at the University of Mississippi and throughout the state. And we hereby pledge our support and our prayers to all efforts to bring peace, prosperity, and progress to our beloved state. We call upon all who believe in the Bible to join in earnest prayer for Divine Guidance."

This letter was signed by P. E. Tait, H. D. Hushong, L. L. Williams, R. L. T. Smith, and S. L. Whitney. All five men are pastors.

Colonial Bakers . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

Harts bakers are presently striking in order to gain recognition as a union so that they may have a voice in deciding the amount their talents are worth.

Naive Living Standards. Hagler said, "The settlement at Colonial demonstrates the influence a union can have on raising the standard of living in this state." Hagler had earlier said in connection with the Harts strike that the reason why the men were so interested in having a union in the plant was not only to raise their own living standards but to help set a pattern for the whole state to pay its workers more for their services.

Then guns and other dangerous weapons such as Molotov cocktails began to appear in a crowd, apparently brought by the outside agitators and by the Ole Miss students. Interspersed between the firing tear gas canisters, one could hear rifle and gun fire through out the night. Every five minutes or so a high roar would up from thousands of voices of a championship football game were being played. About 11:12 at night, the word came that people were actually being killed and seriously injured, a that federal reinforcements were on the way.

In the early hours of the morning, federal force began arrive, and about 4 o'clock began to rout the rioters a the hard core of the agitators. About 6 in the morning the campus was declared secure. The area was heavily populated with patrolling troops. Well in the day mop up operations were going on in the city of Oxford.

As more troops poured in, the city was completely sealed off and mass arrests were made. Persons were interrogated first at a time in the Lyceum Building.

So ended a night of fear a tragedy, with two dead, many injured and the state government of Mississippi apparently waiting for the next battle with the world watches.

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MOB VIOLENCE OPPOSED Legislature Reapportions State; BY MISS. BUSINESSMEN Bill Probably Will Not Pass Court

In a subtle attack on the Jackson Daily News and other elements of our state's racial press, 125 Mississippi professional and business leaders called on the news media to refrain from the publication of inflammatory statements.

Local newspapers have continued to print letters and reports urging violent resistance to James Meredith's entrance into the University of Mississippi. Jackson radio stations last week loudly announced that federal marshals were about to arrest Barnett and urged people to form a human barricade around the governor's mansion.

Fear Business Loss
The businessmen are apparently concerned about economic injuries caused by the anti-Meredith agitation. When Meredith was refused admission to the State Office Building in a registration attempt...

...in a registration attempt before out-of-state businessmen with appointments to discuss Mississippi prospects with state officials were forced to push their way through the hostile crowd. Most businessmen are not enthusiastic about setting up plants in a "war zone."

The declaration, signed by a former Jackson mayor, several bank presidents and other influential big business and professional men, attacked the 1954 Supreme Court desegregation decision as immoral and illegal, but asserted that mob rule and violence should not be allowed to recur.

Urge Arrest Agitators
Public officials were urged to immediately advocate the maintenance of law and order and to investigate, arrest and prosecute individuals who had incited riots against Meredith's registration at Ole Miss.

The statement urged students to return to the University and appealed for restraint to save the state's institutions of higher learning.

By a vote of 96-37 the Mississippi House of Representatives voted to accept a Senate proposal that would reapportion the legislature to consist of 82 senators and 133 representatives. This action is the reason why the lawmakers were called to the special session by the governor. Prior to the session, Governor Barnett had said that reapportionment was the sole purpose for calling the legislature. Although the date for the special session was for a long period of time indefinite, when it became clear that James Meredith might attempt to enroll in the University of Mississippi on the 10th of September, the date for the legislature was conveniently called on the 18th.

Pass New Law
The legislature, before it got down to the business of reapportioning did pass new laws which were aimed at keeping Meredith from being able to enroll. One local paper even used the headline describing the legislation as "Block Meredith's Laws With His and Starts, However, the congressmen began to work on restricting the state."

Given Until Nov. 1
The lawmakers have until the first of next month in order to determine the number of legislators each area may elect. The plan must meet the approval of the courts. Judge Horton of Hinds county has submitted a plan that would go into effect if the proposal of the special session does not get the court's acceptance. The state, which has not been reapportioned since the Mississippi Constitution was adopted in 1890, does not have a legislature that has its membership in proportion to the population.

Reason For Reapportionment
The reason that reapportionment has been required in Mississippi is that there is such a great representation of the rural areas as compared to the urban areas.

The few cities which contain large parts of the state's population have only a small percent of the vote at the capital. For instance, under the system that Mississippi is presently using, Hinds County, which according to the 1960 census had 187,045, had three and one-half votes in the House, while Yazoo with only 31,653 has an equal vote. Benton county, with a population of only 7,724, or about 1 per cent of Hinds county, has one and one-half votes. To further the confusion, Jones county, although it has a population of 50,562, more than seven times as large as Benton, has less vote with only 1 vote.

New Proposal
The Senate, which was distracted somewhat according to population under the old style is guided solely by geography in the present proposal. Each county would receive two senators. In this instance, Benton's 7,000 would have the same voice as Hinds 187,000. The proposal also allows one representative from each county, regardless of population. Because the new resolution cuts the number of representatives from 139 to 133, there would be only 51 seats to divide among the more populated regions, instead of the 58 under the present method.

Expected To Be Used
Because the reapportionment is supposed to bring the people more in line with the number in each county, it is that the recently passed plan will be acceptable to the courts.

If the courts refuse the plan of the Mississippi legislature, then the plan by Judge Horton will be effect. As Horton is by Hinds County vote not surprising that his particularly favorable more heavily populated House speaker, Walter, fearful that the legislature would not pass the bill and one favoring the somewhat more substantial...

Ruleville
Continued from Page 3
week end gathering all from workers and citizens in the voter registration campaign. In addition, citizens of Ruleville sent letters direct to President Kennedy demanding special help.

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• Plus Diary of a Korean Exchange Student
• Academic Freedom and Political Education
• Catholic Students and Political Involvement
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Mr Katzenbach

Sat Dec 6

Mr. Rea, the local U.S. Atty called at 8:30 P.M. He has a request from Mr. John M. Poag, Gen. Mgr of Chromcraft Mfg. Co. in Seutobia, Miss. (Phon 562-8454 or 562 8203) to obtain the release from duty with the Natl. Guard of SP 5 Milton S. Johnson, K troop 3d Squadron, 108th Armored Cavalry. Johnson is the Chief Mechanical and Production engineer at Chromcraft and Chromcraft is about to begin production on a large Govt. contract and is in dire need of Johnson's services.

Mr. Rea would appreciate your exploring the possibility of getting Johnson emergency leave. By way of statistics, Mr. Poag states that 42 of Chromcraft's 400 employees are on duty here with the Guard.

Mr. Rea can be reached at home.
(234-5907)

John M. Bray
Tax Division

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Typed: 10/3/62

SM:JRH:jvm
144-100-40-1
09782

Burke Marshall, Assistant Attorney General
Civil Rights Division

Trip to Mississippi by members of Quaker faith.

The following is sent to you for information purposes only and confirms a telephone report made by attorney Jerome K. Neilbron of this Division to SA Trainer of your office on October 3, 1962.

At approximately 10:00 a.m., APT, Mr. Neilbron received a telephone call from Mr. Harold Fleming, Potomac Institute, Washington, D. C., conveying the following information.

The following five, white, male persons, all members of the Quaker faith, plan on going to Mississippi on October 4, 1962, on a "mission of conscience":

Frank Leecher
Lewis Neekins
Tartt Bell
Mike Yarow
Burns Chalmers

At the present time these persons are in Atlanta, Georgia, and can be reached at this phone number: SA. 3-7900.

The above named persons do not plan on engaging in any type of overt demonstration but do plan on contacting various persons of authority in Mississippi with reference to the current difficulties arising out of the admission of James Meredith to Mississippi University. At this time their itinerary is not known.

cc: Records
Chrono
Mr. Marshall
Mr. Murphy
Mr. Neilbron
Mr. Barrett
Trial File (Rm. 1140) ✓
SAA, Oxford, Mississippi

Translation of telegram.

(Text as published in L'Essor, October 3, 1962)

To: His Excellency
John F. Kennedy,
President of United States of America,
Washington.

People and Government of Mali and myself salute and are following with special interest your personal efforts and those of Federal Government with a view to suppressing intolerable racial segregation.

We are convinced success which will crown your efforts will contribute to speeding up process of political liquidation of apartheid in South Africa.

Highest consideration

(signed) Modibo Keita

persons seemed to have understanding of the complicated legal and social problems involved and were thus in a better position to appreciate the enormous significance of the steps taken and of their effect on the American body politic. On the other hand, those who were less educated, including, if one can use the term, the average man on the Malian street, were inclined to see the event as just another instance of discrimination against the American Negro and of the real difficulty the American Negro encounters in seeking his rights as a citizen. There is no doubt that the entire affair was brought to the attention of all Malians who have access to the mass media, particularly those who - and there are a large number of them - either have their own radios or who habitually listen to those of their friends or relatives.

It is also clear that the Government of Mali hopes that its moderate and balanced coverage of the Meredith affair will be favorably received by American representatives in Bamako. I had a clear indication of this from Abdoul Papa Sy, Directeur de Cabinet of Mali's information ministry. At a recent reception on the occasion of the independence of Guinea, he took me aside and asked me, with a smile, whether I had noticed that the Mali Government's coverage of Meredith had been carried straight and factually. I told him that I had indeed noticed that this was so. He then proceeded to tell me that this was no accident and that it is a very definite policy on the part of the Government to refrain from commentary and to carry the story simply on its news basis. He went on to say that since the news showed the determination of the federal government to protect the rights of Meredith, ~~the~~ the story could not but improve understanding of the United States in Mali.

For the past few days, the Meredith case has virtually disappeared from Mali's media, thus reflecting the Government's policy position on the matter. I have also had the impression that the Ministry of Information, which reportedly came under considerable criticism at the recent Party Congress for its pro-Soviet bias, was pleased to have been given an opportunity to demonstrate its impartiality on an issue which normally they would have treated in cold war terms. I do not believe too much should be read into this particular incident, but at the same time I am prepared to recognize it as another effort, small though it may be, on the part of Mali officialdom in recent days to take a more "neutral" position on events involving the United States.

William J. Handley
William J. Handley

WJH
Encl. copy of telegram

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Deputy Attorney General.....	
Solicitor General	
Executive Assistant to the Attorney General	
Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust	
Assistant Attorney General, Tax	
Assistant Attorney General, Civil	
Assistant Attorney General, Lands	
Assistant Attorney General, Criminal.....	
Assistant Attorney General, Legal Counsel.....	
Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security.....	
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights	✓
Administrative Assistant Attorney General.....	
Director, FBI.....	
Director, Bureau of Prisons.....	
Director, Office of Alien Property.....	
Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization...	
Pardon Attorney	
Parole Board	
Board of Immigration Appeals	
Special Assistant for Public Information	
Records Administration Office	
For the attention of _____	

REMARKS:

John Doe

The Augusta Chronicle

The South's Oldest - Established 1785

An Independent Newspaper

4

Tuesday, October 9, 1962

Marshals assume odd role

The Justice Dept. has succeeded in gaining admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi and ought now to make a reappraisal of the role its marshals are being called upon to play in this ignoble incident.

Its jurisdiction in the Meredith affair, so far as we have been able to ascertain, is virtually at an end. It supported, with force, the ruling of the federal courts and installed a Negro student in an institution where he was not welcomed. Nevertheless, we held the Justice Dept. to be acting within the scope of its jurisdiction in the course it pursued.

The Chronicle, in spite of its traditional stand against forced race mixing, contended that Mississippi officials and civilian agitators were in the wrong in their anarchistic defiance of the courts, no matter how unpopular or repugnant the judicial edicts may have been.

Now, however, this newspaper rejects as completely unwarranted and illegal the plan that the Department of Justice reportedly proposes to implement in behalf of Meredith. As reported in an Associated Press dispatch from Oxford, Miss., representatives of the Justice Dept. will begin working for "stu-

dent acceptance" of the Negro, seeking to effect their plan by enlisting support from student leaders.

There is nothing in law or tradition that cloaks a government agency with either the authority or the necessity for playing wet-nurse to a college student or as champion of his social aspirations.

James Meredith supposedly is attending the University of Mississippi because he has been unable to obtain the education he desires to receive from a Negro college within his state. Now that he has been enrolled, the progress he makes as a student is not a governmental affair, but rather a completely personal one.

★ ★ ★
In the absence of state protection, we concede that the physical presence of U.S. marshals may be required to prevent harm befalling Meredith. But to argue that it is the government's job to see that Meredith is popular with his fellow-students is to contend that individual likes and dislikes are subject to federal control.

It is a phony assumption of responsibility, no less than if the Justice Dept. were to contend that its marshals must see that Meredith studies assiduously and obtains good grades.

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Nicholas de B. Katzenbach
Deputy Attorney General

DATE: October 9, 1962

FROM : Joseph F. Dolan, Assistant Deputy Attorney General for
Legal Administration

SUBJECT:

On Monday evening, October 8, 1962, one of the Marshals on guard at Baxter Hall, University of Mississippi Campus, informed me that he had observed one John C. Hill, 761 Arlington, Jackson, Mississippi, white male, blue eyes, brown hair, 160 pounds, 6' 1" tall, born November 1, 1941, transmitting a Citizens' Band Radio from a red convertible sports car, Registration Number Mississippi B 25 1445. Hill stated that he resided in Baxter Hall and was transmitting to Manley Stewart, 113 Ardmore Street, Shreveport, Louisiana, a student housed in Room 209. In addition, on the same evening an unidentified member of the Military Guard at Baxter was reported to have stated that he had heard Hill transmitting information concerning the number and disposition of the guard at Baxter Hall.

In this connection you may be interested in the following excerpts from the statement made by Curtis Wilkie, University of Mississippi student on October 7, 1962:

Q Curtis, would you please state your name for the record, spell it, and tell how old you are, what year you are in school and what you are majoring in, please?

A Curtis Wilkie, I am a senior graduating this semester. I am 22, majoring in Journalism.

Q Did you see any two-way radios being used while you were wandering about the campus?

A Yes, sir. I saw one in operation. The first time I saw the fellow he was over by one of the girl's dorms, and he was talking to someone else so he was trying to verify whether someone had been shot, and that was the first I had known of any shooting. Now, the next time we saw him it was in front of the engineering building and he was talking -- there were obviously several of them stationed around the campus and I don't know who he was. I remembered his code name was Black Jack, and on the radio several people would talk several times, and one

October 9, 1962

person kept saying, "we're sending some help." and they said, "this is great -- not the fellow that had our radio. He was just trying to find out what was happening, but we could hear on the radio that one person said, "we need help here" and another one said, "well, we just saw 12 car loads of people from Alabama with 'A-Marshals from Alabama' written on -- coming to Ole Miss -- written on their cars" and another person said, "wonderful, wonderful." And they were asking for help, whoever they were. It sounded like they were in town. There was one woman -- then and we found out from her over the radio that the police were out here at the western entrance to the campus, all of the highway patrolmen had gone out there, and I heard probably four or five people over the walkie-talkie, or whatever it was.

Q. Do you remember that night, anything else?

A. No, not really, it was unorganized. Nobody knew what was happening. They were trying to find out who had been shot and who they were the car that had been shot. "I" we were over across the road from them and I had stayed around the car and the fellow on the walkie-talkie got the fellow across the street who was stationed over there to tell me what was happening and he just simply said that the crowd had gotten around the car and said, "we thought it was one of the cars taking one of the marshals to the hospital" and to let the car go through because the fellow was supposed to be critically injured.

Q. Can you describe in best you can possibly remember what this fellow with the walkie-talkie looked like?

A. He was tall. Probably 6'1". He had light hair and wore glasses, slender, around 35.

Q. How was he dressed?

A. He might have had a coat and tie on, or he might have been casual, I just don't know, I really don't.

Q. Could you describe his radio?

A. Well, it looked like a regular walkie-talkie. It was perhaps a foot and a half long and had an aerial or antenna from the top about two or three feet high.

MEMORANDUM TO MR. KATZEBACH

October 9, 1962

Page 3

Stewart was interviewed by Justice Department Attorney Egan, probably on October 8, and the transcript of record of that interview has been sent to Washington for transcription.

John Charles Hill was interviewed October 3, by Harold Reis, Justice Department Attorney. Hill stated that he was associated with CBS news working under the direction of Dan Rather and that on September 30, he worked under the direction of Neil Stronger, CBS news and that he recorded crowd noises on a radio tape recorder. Later he walked with General Walker to within seventy feet of the Lyceum where they were repulsed by tear gas. In his statement he related several self-incriminating remarks made by General Walker.

JVD/abt

cc: Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
CRIMINAL DIVISION

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Memphis, Tennessee



U.S. INFORMATION AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25 D C

Release No. 51

Office of Public Information
Dudley 3-2747 or 3-2743

IMMEDIATE RELEASE, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 19 6 2

ATTORNEY GENERAL DISCUSSES MEREDITH CASE ON VOA

Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy broadcast the following statement today over the Voice of America, radio arm of the U. S. Information Agency:

"I would like to talk to you about the case of the University of Mississippi and James Meredith. It represents one aspect of our largest and most important domestic problem -- the problem of assuring the civil rights of all. We are moving toward solution of that problem.

"Those who are unfriendly toward the United States rejoiced over the conflict in Mississippi. But most people rejoiced over James Meredith's entry into the University, and over the protection of his basic rights by the courts and by the Federal Government.

"The drama in Mississippi was another step in carrying out the 1954 decision of the United States Supreme Court, which held that racial segregation in public education is a violation of the American Constitution. Before the Meredith case, Negro students had entered many other colleges and universities in the South where segregation had been practiced. What provided some of the special tensions in the University of Mississippi case was that Mississippi was one of three states in the country which had not yet taken steps to conform to the 1954 Supreme Court ruling. And there were in the state a number of men committed to resist that court ruling and the other rulings which followed.

"James Meredith sued in the courts to be admitted to the University of Mississippi. The courts ruled in his favor. The college board was called upon to enroll him. His enrollment was prevented by the direct intervention of the Governor. The Governor held that local traditions and state laws had priority over the national Constitution and the courts.

"This was an open challenge to the law of the land. It was in support of law, and in pursuance of peaceable enforcement of law, that the United States Government placed federal peace officers and troops in the town of Oxford, site of the University of Mississippi, to protect James Meredith while he enrolled and attended classes.

(more)

"What the world saw in Mississippi was a democratic nation putting its house in order. It was proof of our intent to live not by rule of men, but by rule of law.

"We do not pretend that we are perfect. We do not pretend that everyone in America is always in agreement. Segregation remains a problem in America, but we are striving hard to solve it -- and we are making progress.

"Every day this fall, in communities which once practiced segregation, thousands of Negro and white children attended school side by side. More schools abandon discrimination every year. Segregation in other areas, like employment, voting and transportation is fast disappearing. Where it still persists -- as in the Meredith case -- we are determined to bring racism to an end. We are determined to uphold and protect equal rights for all of our citizens."

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

THE UNITED STATES

FOUNDED 1899



DOUCET-AUCOIN POST NO 8971

POST OFFICE BOX 492
EUNICE, LOUISIANA

October 11, 1962

The Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General

At our regular meeting of October 11, 1962, we adopted by unanimous vote, the following resolution:

WHEREAS, The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has accepted the definition of Americanism as "an unflinching love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity", and which was promulgated by the Commanders-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, United Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the National Commanders of the American Legion, and the Disabled American Veterans of the World War at a conference held in Washington, in February, 1927, and

WHEREAS, Included in the objects of this association are those to foster true patriotism; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its Constitution and laws; to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to preserve and defend the United States of America from all her enemies, whomsoever, and

WHEREAS, The patriotism of the people of the State of Mississippi is certain to fail as a result of past and present actions of the Federal forces there, and

WHEREAS, We believe that true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America calls for an unflinching and complete adherence to our Constitution, part of which we find in the Tenth Amendment, stating, "The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people", and

WHEREAS, We believe that fidelity to the Constitution and laws, and the maintenance and extension of the institutions of American freedom call for positive action in such direction when necessary, and

WHEREAS, We believe that the actions of the highest officials in our United States Government are becoming their own enemies by the aforesaid actions, we feel obligated to come to the defense of our country at this time in order to preserve the rights of all the States of our glorious United States, now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By DOUCET-AUCOIN POST 8971, V.F.W. of the United States, that we go on record as being absolutely opposed to any further infringement upon the rights of free people in any one of our fifty States, by any similar dictatorial action in the future, and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to:
Louisiana Congressmen (State and U.S.) - Attorney General - Governor
Mississippi Governor - Attorney General - Congressmen (State and U.S.)
President of the United States
Attorney General of the United States

THIS DONE AND SIGNED THIS DAY OF OCTOBER 11th, 1962, AT EUNICE, LA.

Jack H. Wilson, Jr.
Jack H. Wilson, Jr.
Post Commander