

March 23, 1964

Gadsden, Ala.: Eric Rainey

Eric is now working with Benet Duchamp and Bevel. Last week they had a Freedom School with about 700 people. There will be another on Saturday. They are now working in North East Alabama and will be in Anniston holding workshops with students. They are working under a program called GROW (Get Rid of Wallace).

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Greenwood: James Jones

On Saturday evening after the mass meeting Willie Shaw was arrested for reckless driving. His trial was this afternoon and he was fined \$50. His bond is also \$50 if they wish to appeal, but they will probably pay the fine when they get the money.

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McComb: George Greene

Stephan told George today that they're planning to have a voter registration drive in the Mid County which will begin on April 15. They plan on having 40 people at the courthouse on that day.

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Canton: Scott Smith (CORE) taken by Judy last night

The following rewards have been posted in Canton - it is not known by whom:  
\$7500 for the death of James Collier  
\$5000 for the death of C.O. Chinn  
\$2500 for the death of Scott Smith

Smith says that there is a desperate need for Carole Merritt to come back to Canton and that the power structure is claiming that they scared her out of town. Economic reprisals are increasing ~~kkk~~ and the people need food and clothing.

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Jackson: Wendy (taken by Judy, 2:30a on Monday)

The following were arrested at about midnight last night: Donald White, Montague Fortner, and two girls, Georgie and Johnnie Martin. Don was driving with the others from Jackson to Hattiesburg. They were stopped by police and Don was told to get out and show ~~kk~~ his license. He was then told to get back in the car and follow ~~kkk~~ to the police station. Don left the others in the car outside the station and was taken upstairs and charged with speeding (45 in a 30mph zone). The charge was false. Fortner ~~kk~~ called the Jackson office and explained the situation. Wendy borrowed \$17 to get Don out and sent it over with Flukie (Mateo Suarez, CORE). When he got to the station he found that the other three had been arrested and charged with drunkenness (there was no liquor anywhere and they hadn't been drinking). ~~kkk~~ Attorney Conyer, who is in from Detroit to handle the Hattiesburg cases from Saturday, ~~kkkk~~ called the police station but they refused to allow him to see the four. He was told that there was a longstanding policy that no one could see a person who is charged with drunkenness until 5 hours after the arrest. The lawyer called chief of police Rayfield who referred him to Captain Lowry who restated the "long-standing" policy. Wendy mentioned that if they had been charged with murder they would have been able to see a lawyer. Bonds of \$15 each ~~kkk~~ have been put up. They are still in jail however.