

April 9, 1964

Greenwood: Attorney Ben Smith

Attorney Smith met with Judge Claude Clayton today concerning his petition for a writ of Habeas Corpus for the 17 arrested in Greenwood at the last Freedom Day. He requested transferring Ekke then from county to federal jurisdiction. He also requested that bond be lowered from the \$500 originally set. Earlier Smith had been told that the city attorney of Greenwood had filed a motion to send the cases back to the state courts. Today Judge Clayton signed Smith's writ, and set the bond at \$200 for the two out of states, Dick Frey and Tony Ganslen, \$100 for those who were from Mississippi, and said that the juveniles would be released if their parents were present and vouched that their children would appear at trial. All will be released tomorrow from Greenville if we are able to make the bonds.

Greenwood: Freedom Day II

About 60 people picketed this morning. Very few went down to the courthouse to register however. James Jones reported that there was a crowd of about 200 whites watching the picketing. In the morning 46 of the picketers were arrested (see earlier WATS report). All but 17 were released later in the afternoon. Among those who were retained were the eight ministers, Mary Land, and Ida Holland. Charges are: Refusing to obey a police order and Unlawful picketing. The trial will be at 1:15pm tomorrow. Bond has not yet been set.

Sam Block was told this afternoon that the city commissioners were meeting to decide whether to have him arrested on charges of contributing to the delinquency of minors. Earlier in the day two policemen had come by the office and told Sam that Chief Larry wanted him to come down to the station. Sam refused to come, went into the office, called Chief Larry and asked him if he really did want to see him. Larry said he knew nothing about the matter.

Tomorrow there will be more picketing though there was none this afternoon after the arrests.

THE 17 THAT WERE RETAINED WERE ALSO RELEASED THIS AFTERNOON. The only people who remain in jail now are the 14 arrested on the first Freedom Day.