

Mississippi Sovereignty Commission Document

TITLE: Coahoma County

DATE OF INVESTIGATION: October 29-30, 1963

DATE OF REPORT: November 7, 1963

INVESTIGATED BY: Tom Scarbrough, Investigator

TYPED BY: Elizabeth Arnold

Agreeable to a directive from Director Johnston under date of October 25, 1963, to check in several counties with reference to Yale University white students' participation in Aaron Henry's mock election for governor, I journeyed to Clarksdale, Mississippi, on October 29, 1963.

Upon my arrival there I contacted Chief of Police Ben Collins and several other police officials. I was advised by Chief Collins that on October 23 about 2:00 A. M., he picked up four white males from Yale University and charged them under the loitering statute. The four persons were: Stephen N. Bingham, age 21, height 5' 11", weight 170 pounds, fair complexion, black hair, brown eyes, RFD #3, Salem, Connecticut, Yale University junior; John A. Spek, age 19, height 6', weight 170 pounds, black hair, gray eyes, 1954 Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut, Yale sophomore; Allard Kenneth Lowenstein, age 34, height 5' 10", weight 167 pounds, brown hair, brown eyes, 2018 Seallwood Drive, Raleigh, Wake County, North Carolina, attorney at North Carolina State University; Richard Day Van Hagenen, age 19, height 6' 1", weight 124 pounds, brown hair and eyes, 4224 Reno Road, N. W., Washington, D. C., Yale student. Then on October 29, Walter E. Wright was picked up about 5:00 P. M. on the offense of scattering literature without a permit. His age is 20, height 5' 1", weight 158 pounds, brown hair, hazel eyes, 1671 Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut. His home address is Berkley, California, Yale student. On October 30 about 9:30 A. M., Frank Osborne Heints, Yale student, was picked up for reckless driving on the streets of Clarksdale. He gave his age as 19, height 6' 1", weight 170 pounds, red hair, brown eyes, 5902 Barwick Road, Washington, D. C.

Chief Collins stated that the students from Yale began to arrive in Clarksdale on October 23 and of course he stated they made their headquarters at Aaron Henry's drug store and his campaign headquarters. He further stated that to his thinking, most of them shacked up with some Negro wench in Clarksdale during their stay there, except when they were in jail at night. They were handing out Aaron Henry's political propoganda, copies of which are attached to this report.

*The original copy  
to this report is in  
the Coahoma County file  
# 2-62-102.*

*1-16-57*

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