



Mobs Set Race Test Bus Afire

ANNISTON, Ala. (AP) — A group of angry white persons yesterday ambushed two buses carrying Negro and white "freedom riders" who are seeking to knock down bus station racial barriers.

A little later, 60 miles to the west, one of the buses ran into another angry mob of white men at a Birmingham bus station. The integrated group took a brief but bloody beating, and fled.

No serious injuries were reported.

Both buses were carrying members of the Congress of Racial Equality on a swing through Dixie testing segregated facilities in bus stations. They call themselves "freedom riders."

State Investigator Ell M. Cowling, acting on a tip of possible trouble, was aboard a Greyhound bus attacked near Anniston. He barred the bus door with his body when the crowd of white men tried to board the bus.

Two highway patrolmen fired their pistols into the air to quiet the crowd of about 200 which had followed the bus from Anniston.

Somebody threw a fire bomb through a bus window. Twelve persons were hospitalized, mostly for smoke inhalation. Ten of them later were released.

Still hospitalized at Anniston were Genevieve Hughes, 28, a white woman of Chevy Chase, Md., and Edward Blackenheim, 28, a white man of Tucson, Ariz., members of the Congress of Racial Equality.

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