

Affidavit dated Feb. 17

Henry Lee Chinn Saturday Feb. 15, 1964

changing tire on friend's car went home to 325 Ownes St. Canton c. 6:30 pm
felt tires were loose on own car (?) and went to ~~the~~ Lion gas station
operated by George Sims after picking up several people
as was leaving the station saw policeman John Chance follow him, checked
speed and was going between 10 and 15 mph. Chance stopped him and asked
to see driver's license. He did not have them because he had misplaced
them. Chance asked (he doesn't remember just what question) did he know ~~if~~
that he had been speeding or did he know what the speed limit was. Asked if
he could find his driver's license and said no and was then told that he
was under arrest and was taken to the jail.
after in the jail took him inside and asked him something about the arrest.
Then another policeman came in, doesn't know his name 5'7" about 180 and
between 27 and 32 years old. This one asked ~~why~~ what they had him for.
Chance replied no drivers license and speeding. (The girl who had been
with him at the time of arrest went home). The unidentified officer
called him a "big, lard-ass son of a bitch" and then picked up a police
club and began to beat him on the head. He can't remember how many times
he was hit. Was dressed in plain clothes. Then Chance hit him with his
open hand, can't remember how many times. Unidentified man said that he lied
before on him (?) and began to hit him some more with the club on the head.
Hit 3-4 times and stopped and said he could call Bob Kennedy and some other
things about Kennedy that he doesn't remember. Then began to hit him on and
off with open hands on and off and then Chance hit him on the other side
with open hands, they continued this for a while and then stopped. sometimes
had been hitting him with fist. Unidentified officer said "You remember when
you and that group of niggers was following me when I was minding my own
business." HLC said nothing and he said "You followed me out to where I
turned off and you didn't think I saw you." Athenhe began to hit him in
the face with his open hand and fist and then Chance came up and began

hitting him on both shoulders with a police club at the same time the other officer was hitting him in the face. This went on for 2-3 minutes and then they began to talk to him some more. After a few minutes one of the officers began hitting in stomach with stick and other hitting him in the face. Unknown officer told him to stand up beside the wall so he could take ~~his~~ picture and put it all over Mississippi. Camera was out of order and one officer said "We'll let Charlie Snodgrass take his picture." Then unknown officer left the room and other officer began questioning about his age, the girl he had been with, whether she was in civil rights and how long he had been in civil rights. Said that he didn't know about the girl but that he had been helping answering the phone and relate information. Was told he was lying and then asked him the the plans for the movement in Canton were. Told he was lying when he said he didn't know. Told he was lying when he said he didn't know where father was. Asked if he thought the police were crazy and said no sir. Was asked more about his father's whereabouts and then told him his father was in Hattiesburg. Asked if his father was getting checks and how much and replied tht his father didn't tell him any of his business. Asked how fast he could get out of town. Said he was planning to leave because he couldn't find a job. Policeman then asked didn't he know that he wasn't going to find a job and answered "Yes sir."

Then policeman told him that everything he had said was a lie. Judge Sander came in the office and picked up a boke and wrote something and said something to another white person who came in with him and left. Then Charlie Snodgrass came in the office and asked something about the nickname the police have given ~~the~~ Chinn. I don't remember what it was. Chance said he was going to let Snodgrass talk with him. Snodgrass questioned for general information and said it would be easier if he told the other officer what they wanted to know. Then they left him alone in the office, told him to put all his things on the desk and looked thru them and questioned him about the place that he works. After that they put him in a cell.