

March 23, 1964

The following is information given to Emma Bell in Jackson on Saturday by Rev. Tobias and his daughter, Mkk from Liberty, Mississippi. Not all of this is in sequence or complete-- it is all Emma could get.

Jan. 29: Mrs. Pearl Lena Tobias (Route 5, Box 83, Liberty) mailed a \$2 money order to the sheriff to pay her poll tax. Mkk Her letter was returned with a note from E.L. Gaston (saying that she had to come in to get a receipt.

Feb. 26: Mrs. Tobias went to the sheriff's office for her receipt, but she was told that it was too late, and he wouldn't give her mkk the receipt.

The following reports mkk concern several people who have been run out of Liberty during the month:

The three who have left town are Mr. Jack White, March 7; Mr. Cleveland Walker, March 10, and Rev. James Gaston, March 12.

Mr. Walker worked at Railways grocery. He was working behind some canned goods, when he overheard a conversation between Sheriff Daniel Jones and several other white men. They were talking mkk about having killed Louis Allen and gotten away with it. They also said that if the three mentioned above didn't leave town, they too would be killed. (It was unclear to me what they were saying they had done the killing or if an anonymous 'some one' had gotten away with the killing).

When Jack White was leaving town the sheriff followed him, shot mkk at his car and White left the car and ran.

Others who have been threatened a re:

Rev. Knox, who got a letter saying that he had a certain number of days to get out of Liberty. Rev. Knox was involved in some way with the mkk beating of Bob Moses by Billy Jack Gaston in August, 1961.

Rev. Johnson: Mkk. He is from Meadville and was told that he had better not be caught back in Liberty and if he wanted to live in a peaceful way he had better get out of Meadville.

Rev. Marion Tobias: He is the pastor of the Liberty Baptist MD Church. On Thursday night, March 12, a white man was seen looking into a window of his church. He was told by a school boy, Hamilton Robinson, that a Negro man, Howard Mathews was walking around in Olester (Amite County) saying that Rev. Tobias had better be out of Liberty by March 14, 1964. Mkk

Rev. Roosevelt McGee is the person who saw the white man outside the church.

Rosa Robinsons/ Sheriff Daniel Mkk Jones came to the Parchman (or Parson Hill) Church and told them not to have any more night/ services unless they wanted to die. Rev. Willie Carroll is the pastor of the church.

Citizens Council: There was a recent Citizen's Council Meeting at which a "Law" was passed saying that no Negro was to be on the streets of Liberty after a given time at night. They also said that Mkk: kkk "they didn't want any white person to be talking to no nigger on the streets of Liberty."

Generally, the people of Liberty mkk and Amite County in general are afraid to be on the streets after 6pm. They are afraid they will be beaten or arrested.

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report from Emma Bell concerning Liberty, cont'd

The following concerns Louis Allen: information given by Rev. Tobias and Miss Tobias

Rev. Tobias:

Rev. Louis Allen was told by Sheriff Jones in November 1963 that he was to be out of town by January 1. Tobias said that there was to be a trial on March 1 relating to either the bad check charge levied against Allen in 1963 or the breaking of his jawbone ~~by Sheriff Jones~~ when he was arrested in '63.

Ek

Tues.

Allen told Mrs. Tobias that the evening before he was killed he heard his dogs barking and mules snorting. He went outside where he couldn't be seen, but he couldn't see anyone. He thought they planned to kill him that night.

Mrs. Tobias said that on the night Allen was killed there were two cars following him from Mr. Leonard King's house to his house. One was a clean tan Ford, 1961, with two men in it, the other a Black Ford, 1960, with one man. That same evening two cars came out of the road above Allen's house, drove into Liberty and parked at the courthouse.

Mrs. Etta Tappin, (Allen's mother in law) told the Tobiases that Mr. and Mrs. Ben Faust saw two cars parked in the road by Allen's house at about 10:00 P.M. They had the idea that the people in the cars were plotting a way to kill Allen

Miss Tobias also said that on Sat., Jan 25, 1964, she had noticed Sheriff Jones watching Louis Allen's son's car as it was coming into town on highway 24. She also said that on the following Monday she saw two white men at the courthouse. They went into the sheriff's office with a box about the size that might carry a pistol. They asked if they could deliver it to someone in the back of the office. The man they asked smiled and said yes. There were a few men and women around. One of the women was Mrs. Starckman, who runs the News Press, in Liberty.