SUBURB VICTIM HIT BY LOCAL WHITE
(2nd Copy)

Tuesday, June 23, 1964
10:45 A.M.

Batesville, Mississippi
Broadway, Park View Subdivision

Mr. Joseph Murphy, age thirty-nine, a high school teacher and a
summer voter registration worker, was baited and hit by a middle-aged
white man (later identified as J. J. Seals) as he was walking down
Broadway in search of the Highway Patrol (Murphy had lost his way).

Seals, who was standing on the edge of his lawn, saw Murphy and
called him a Northerner and "nigger lover." Seals motioned as if he had
a gun and warned that he'd shoot Murphy. As Murphy walked on,
Seals hit him in the lower cheek (leaving no mark).

About fifteen minutes later, as Murphy was walking down Route 51
toward the highway, Seals came by in a black pick-up truck, saw Murphy,
and aimed the truck towards him, forcing Murphy to stop into the ditch
by the side of the road.

Seals is a member of a family well-known in Batesville for harassing
Negroes. One of the Seals badly beat a twelve year old Negro girl (niece
of R. J. Miles, secretary of the Panola County Voter's League) when he had
thought (mistakenly) she had stolen candy from a dime store. According
to local rumor, three of the four Seal brothers have each killed at least
one Negro.