

POLICE HARASSMENT - TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

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Sunday, June 28, 1964

Batesville, Mississippi

@ 2:15 P.M.

Mr. R.J. Miles, Secretary of the ^{Panola County} ~~Batesville~~ Voters League, received a traffic ticket from Sheriff Earl Hubbard for allegedly running a stop sign. Mr. Miles was returning with six voter registration workers from a church service at the Mt. Zion church in Sardis. When the panel wagon

which was carrying the group reached the railroad station in the center of Batesville, the sheriff riding in his car with Deputy Brewer, saw the group, made a U-turn and began to follow the wagon. The sheriff followed Mr. Miles for about a mile, staying ~~about~~ from one to two hundred yards behind him. Immediately after Mr. Miles came to the stop sign, slowed down, stopped briefly, shifted into first gear, and started on again, the sheriff began to tail him very closely. This went on for about a half a mile until the group noticed that the sheriff's red light was on and heard a siren. Mr. Miles stopped immediately, so suddenly, as a matter of fact, that the sheriff, who had been only two or three feet behind him for the last half a mile or so, almost hit the wagon. The sheriff then got out of the car and wrote out a ticket.

Sitting in the front of the wagon, next to the driver's seat was Claude Weaver. Pamela Jones, Kathie Amatniek, Eugene Erickson, John Strand, and Carl Pomerance were in the back. All witnessed the entire *incident*, from when the sheriff began to follow the wagon at the railroad station to the halt at the stop sign and the writing of the ticket.