

160

WHITE CITIZEN HARASSMENT

Monday, June 29, 1964

Batesville, Mississippi

John Hardy, age 16 (Negro ), of Batesville and Joseph Murphy, age 39 (White), of Buffalo, New York, both volunteer voter registration workers, were trailed while canvassing this afternoon, by two white men in a blue and white 1956 ford (license plate 54-31880)

Hardy and Murphy were walking down Route 3, between armstrong street and Patton Lane, when the car passed them, turned around, and began to tag them slowly. The men in the car seemed to be in their late twenties or early thirties. The driver had dark brown hair.

Mrs. Clara Bell Lawson of Batesville, driving by in her truck, picked up Hardy and Murphy when she saw what the situation was. After the voter registration workers got in, the car followed the truck until it pulled into Mrs. Robertson's driveway on Patton Lane.