

TWO LOCAL WHITES CHASE COFO VOLUNTEERS / Mike Smith

159

July 3, 1964

Batesville, Mississippi

While Mike Smith and Tim Morrison were driving to the bus station to pick up Claude Weaver they noticed that they were being followed by a green and white '56 Chevy occupied by two white men. Its license number was 54-2065. It started following Mike and Tim in the Negro section and at all times stayed only a few feet behind. Once they realized that they were being followed, Mike and Tim changed their course and started out the highway. A couple of miles out they turned into a residential area hoping thereby to get back onto the highway heading towards town. Unfortunately they found themselves on a dead-end road. When they arrived at the end of the dead-end road they swung around the circle and the other car pulled out of the way and let them pass - thereupon pulling up behind and beginning to follow again. They were followed all the way back into town until they pulled up in front of the police station and made movements indicating that they intended to go inside. At this point the trailing car drove away. It pulled over across the way to the front of a store where other people rushed out to talk with the drivers. Mike and Tim did not go into the police station but got back into the car and drove on out to the bus station.