c o p y

October 17, 1942

EXECUTIVE ORDER

WHEREAS, the Sheriff of Jones County, Mississippi and the Circuit Judge of that Judicial District, has called upon the Governor of the State of Mississippi for State Guard Troops for the purpose of assisting the Sheriff of Jones County, Mississippi and the Civil Authorities in investigating and suppressing mob violence in connection with the lynching of a negro prisoner at Laurel, Mississippi, this date; and for the further purpose of restoring order and for the protection of property and life, said request having been made under the provisions of and in accordance with Section 5540, Code of Mississippi 1930.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Paul B. Johnson, Governor of the State of Mississippi, do hereby order Major James L. Davis, Adjutant General of the State of Mississippi, and such troops of the Mississippi State Guard as he may deem necessary out for the purpose of carrying out the above stated request. The troops ordered out will be under the direction and direct command of the Adjutant General and will report to the Sheriff of Jones County, Mississippi, not later than 7:00 o'clock A.M. this date and will cooperate with the Civil Authorities to the fullest extent, but the tactical direction of the troops will rest entirely with the military command. The troops ordered out will use such force of arms as may be found necessary to accomplish the mission of the troops.

The pay and expenses of the troops ordered out will be paid as provided in Section 5549, Code of Mississippi, 1930.

The Officers and men ordered out will remain on duty until relieved by orders from the Adjutant General of Mississippi.

/s/ Paul B. Johnson
GOVERNOR OF MISSISSIPPI

ATTEST:

/s/ Walker Wood
Secretary of State

I hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of executive order of the Governor of the State of Mississippi on file in the Office of the Adjutant General of the State of Mississippi.

This the 19th day of April, 1943.

[redacted]
Major, Mis[redacted]pi State Guard
Acting As[redacted]tant General