

AT HAYNEVILLE, ALABAMA

On November 21, 1957, Sheriff FRANK RYALS, Sheriff of Lowndes County, was contacted by SA ROBB and SA JOHN C. McCLUNEY, at which time he was requested to advise the results of his investigation into the shooting of ROGER HAMILTON.

Sheriff RYALS advised that upon learning of the shooting of ROGER HAMILTON, a colored male, on October 22, 1957, he realized that he and his staff had neither the training nor the ability to properly work such a case, therefore he called upon Chief of the State Investigation Division T. J. CARLISLE, now deceased, for assistance. He stated that OSCAR F. COLEY, a state investigator, was sent to Hayneville on October 23, 1957, and conducted an investigation into this shooting and thereafter made a report of the results of his investigation. Sheriff RYALS advised that this was the only investigation made into the shooting and that other than accepting any information that anyone might volunteer to his office his office does not intend to conduct any further investigation into the matter.

Sheriff RYALS exhibited to SA ROBB a letter dated November 1, 1957, addressed to him from Chief CARLISLE, which letter enclosed a report made by Investigator COLEY under date of October 25, 1957, reflecting the results of COLEY's investigation in this matter. Sheriff RYALS made available the report of COLEY, the details of which are being set forth below:

"DETAILS: The writer was contacted by Chief CARLISLE at 11:30 A.M. October 22, 1957 and advised to go to Hayneville, Lowndes County, Alabama the following morning to assist the Sheriff in the killing of a Negro male.

"The writer contacted Deputy Sheriff JOE JACKSON at Hayneville at 10:30 A.M. October 23, 1957 and started on the investigation of the killing of ROGER HAMILTON, C/M, age 18. Mr. GEORGE McCURLEY, the employer of the victim, was contacted and he stated that this Negro had worked for him on his farm all of his life, that he had never known of him being in any trouble, but that he knew very little about where he went