

Charlotte 44-39

7. In light of the evidence as presented and the apparent indifferent attitude taken by the civil authorities, it is the opinion of the investigating Officer that T/5th Grade Davis was unjustifiably shot and killed. Chief of Police Bohannan's own sworn statement reveals that the man was not disorderly drunk, however, he believes that the soldier had had a drink. The Chief made no attempt to arrest this man as shown by his statement and due to the size of the Chief, in comparison to that of the soldier, it is the opinion of the Investigating Officer that the Chief could have made an arrest if he had so desired without killing the man as he stated the soldier had stopped running when he shot him. As the Chief had a white civilian present with him at the time the Investigating Officer is of the opinion that the soldier could easily have been overpowered had it been necessary. The soldier at no time had any weapon in his hand with which to attack the Chief. A knife with a broken handle and very dull was removed from the pants pocket of the deceased. At no time did the deceased have the knife out nor was it used as a weapon.

*Where  
is the  
knife?*

S/s Ralph B. Willis  
1st Lt., Cavalry  
Investigating Officer

7 Incls.

- 1 - Autopsy Protocol Report.
- 2 - Statement of Chief of Police Bohannan.
- 3 - Statement of Willie Murl Brown.
- 4 - Ltr. fr. Sheriff P. L. Youmans.
- 5 - Coroners inquest.
- 6 - Statement of Jonathan Stokes.
- 7 - Statement of Joe Ellis."

INCLOSURE Number 1

"STATION HOSPITAL  
CAMP GORDON, GEORGIA

A U T O P S Y P R O T O C O L

NAME: Davis, Willie L      ASN: 34059054      STATUS: T/5th Gr.  
AGE: 26      SEX: Male      RACE: Colored      NATIVITY: Georgia  
DIED: July 3, 1943 at approximately 11:55 P. M.      ACC NO: A-43-29  
AUTOPSIED: July 6, 1943 1:00 P. M. at Pughsley Funeral Home, Swainsboro, Ga.