Secret Burial Held for Tex. Mob Victim

HOU _STON, Tex. — Riddled with bullets from guns of a white mob—so thoroughly that not even his wife was permitted to see it—the body of Howard Wilpitz was buried secretly in Brookshire, Tex., recently, with no form of funeral rites.

News of the lynching, which occurred the afternoon of February 21, was carefully suppressed and was not mentioned in any of the daily papers in the section. Brookshire is thirty-five miles from Houston.

Fought With Constable

According to reports gathered through the veil of official secrecy, Wilpitz's lynchers gathered immediately after a pistol battle between the victim and Constable Fritz Abel, white, who allegedly ordered Wilpitz to leave town, then beat him over the head with his pistol when he remonstrated.

The constable, reports indicate, was joined by a white night watchman identified as Home Cooper, and when Wilpitz attempted to run, Abel shot him in the leg.

Wilpitz fired back, knocking the constable's pistol from his hand, and the two white men ran for help. A quickly assembled mob, armed with high-power rifles, surrounded Wilpitz in a toilet behind a lodge building and allegedly emptied their guns.

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Lifeless Body Riddled

More shots were said to have been fired into the victim's body after it fell, lifeless, to the ground.

Colored residents of the town are said to have been intimidated into silence concerning the lynching.

Wilpitz's common-law wife, Miss Olivia Jacobs, was informed of the killing by two white women.