

STATEMENT OF: Grace Kaye Stephens, FW, 51, residence, 433 1/2 S. Main (rear room), phone unknown, unemployed, taken at Central Police Headquarters, 9:30 P.M., April 4, 1968.

Questioned by: Lt. J. B. Macis and Agent C. F. Beach      Typed by: Margaret Kenley

Relative to the shooting of Martin Luther King, Jr., male colored, that occurred on Thursday, April 4, 1968, at approximately 6:15 P.M. at 406 Mulberry, the Lorraine Motel-Hotel.

- Q. Grace, were you at home the afternoon of Thursday, April 4, 1968?
- A. Yes, sir, I been home all day long.
- Q. Did you see or hear any anything unusual that day?
- A. No, sir, you know those railroad firecrackers that go off all day, that's the only think I heard.
- Q. How many of those railroad firecrackers did you hear?
- A. I believe there was about five of them.
- Q. Did any of the railroad firecrackers sound any different from the others?
- A. No, it didn't. Just sounded like it was fixing to come through the bedroom, is all
- Q. Do you remember the times that you heard these railroad firecrackers?
- A. No, sir, I don't. I was having trouble sleeping anyway.
- Q. Was anyone else in the room with you?
- A. My husband, Charlie Q. Stephens.
- Q. Did he hear the railroad firecrackers?
- A. Yes, he told me once to try to go to sleep, it was just a railroad over there.
- Q. Do you know how many rooms are up in that group where you live?
- A. I believe there are nine on the side where you come up from Main St. and I believe there is the same number on the other side.
- Q. How long have you been living there?
- A. Since I got out of the hospital last Monday.
- Q. Did you see or hear anyone moving outside of your room during the day?
- A. Yes, sir, I heard people going to the bathroom and I heard the commode flush. One time I heard someone go to the bathroom, but didn't hear the commode flush and right after that I heard what I thought was a railroad firecracker. Then I heard a bunch of screaming coming from the motel over across the street, I don't know the name of the street. The next thing I heard was some sirens.
- Q. Do you recall what time it was approximately that you heard someone go to the bathroom and you heard this railroad firecracker?
- A. I just don't know.
- Q. Could you tell by sound if the party that went to the bathroom that last time that you were talking about was a man or woman?
- A. It was a man by the way the feet sounded. He wasn't too heavy from the way it sounded, but he did have hard heeled shoes because I could hear the heels and couldn't hear the rest of his shoe shoes.
- Q. Have you left your room at any time during the day?
- A. Charlie helped me to the bathroom one time. It was about 2 o'clock this afternoon.

*Grace H. Stephens*