

Statement of B. L. REEVES, MM, Age, 74, Residence, 422 1/2 S. Main, No Phone, Occupation, Retired, made at Central Police Headquarters, on Thursday, April 4, 1968, at 8:55 p.m., to Det. R. R. Davis.

TYPED BY: WILLIE PEARL TYLER

QUESTIONED BY: DET. R. R. DAVIS

Relative to the SHOOTING of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., MC, that occurred at approx. 6:15 p.m., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, at 406 Mulberry.

Q. Mr. Reeves, on this date, April 4, 1968, in the hours after 2:30 p.m., were you at your home at 422 1/2 S. Main Street?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. At approximately this time, or shortly afterwards, did you notice a stranger in this apartment building?

A. Well, I couldn't say just what time, but I know it was after 3:00 p.m., but yes, sir, I seen a man standing in the doorway.

Q. Was this a white man?

A. A white man, yes.

Q. Had you ever seen this man there before?

A. No, sir, and never seen but one side of his face this time.

Q. Will you describe this man?

A. Well, I guess he was a lot close to six feet tall, dark hair, dark suit on, a dress suit, and the pants looked like they matched, he was bare headed with dark hair, it looked like it was medium cut to me.

Q. Approximately how old would you say this man was?

A. I'd say between 25 and thirty years old, judging from the side of his face.

Q. Describe this man as far as his physical abilities go?

A. Well, he looked like he was medium built to me, looking from the side of him, he looked fairly well built to me.

Q. Did you notice any scars?

A. No, sir, I didn't notice any scars.

Q. Was this man wearing glasses?

A. No, sir, he wasn't wearing glasses.

Q. Do you remember which side of this person's profile you saw?

A. His right side.

Q. Did you ever get a look straight into his face?

A. No, sir, just one side is all I seen of him.

Q. Approximately how far away from this man were you when you saw him?

A. I would guess about six to eight feet, I'd say six feet.

Q. What caused you to notice this male white that you have described?

A. I don't know, when I looked up, he was standing there and I hadn't seen him before, and I don't believe I heard him say a word.

Q. At the time you observed him, was he near the ladies room that rents the rooms at this apartment?

A. He was at her door.

Q. Did you observe anything in particular, the way this man walked or carried himself?

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A. No, I didn't notice anything.

Q. Were you present the rest of the afternoon at your room?

A. Yes, sir, in the hallway and the room too.

Q. Did you observe this man at any time after the time you first saw him near your room?

A. No, sir, I did not.

Q. Later in the afternoon, on this date, did you hear what sounded like a shot/ being fired at this location?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Mr. Reeves, will you tell in your own words the best you can exactly what you remember from the time just prior to seeing this strange male white at this apartment up to the time the police arrived at this location?

A. I seen him at the door of the landlady's room, and when he moved away from her door, I just seen his back and one side of his face. He went into the other little hallway and that's the last I seen of him. That's just all there is to this as I know it. He had dark hair, and dark clothes, he was bare headed.

Q. Did you observe this male white anymore after the shot was fired?

A. No, sir, I never did see him anymore, but the shot sounded reasonably close and some other people came out to see what was going on.

Q. Did you ever hear this male white speak?

A. No, sir, I never did hear him say anything.

Q. Could you identify this man should you ever see him again?

A. No, sir, I couldn't, I just seen one side of him, I couldn't identify him.

Q. In observing only his profile, what did you notice about him that would cause you to believe he was between the ages of 25 and 30?

A. I'm just judging from that side, he was clean shaven and he looked to be about 25 to 30, his complexion I would judge to be medium colored from what I seen.

Q. At the time you noticed this male white, did he seem nervous or fidgety?

A. No, I didn't notice anything nervous about him, he seemed very calm.

B L Reeves