

Statement of CHARLES ELVIN STONE, MW, age 24, residence 384 Orchard, phone 358-3571
Occupation, Fireman City of Memphis, made at Central Police Headquarters at 7:35AM
to Lt. W. S. Schultz, Thursday, April 11, 1968.

Questioned by Lt. W. S. Schultz.

Typed by. Lt. S. T. McCahron

Relative to the Fatal Shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King, ME, on Thursday April
4, 1968 at the Lorraine Motel at 406 S. Main.

- Q. Charles what is your regular assignment with the Fire Department?
- A. No 2, at No. 1's engine house, 474 S. Main on B. Shift.
- Q. Were you on duty at this location on April 4, 1968?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. At approximately 6PM on that date did you witness the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King?
- A. Yes Sir.
- Q. /I will ask you to state in your own words everything that you saw and heard at that time?
- A. There was 4 or 5 of us back there looking out the back windows, that the police had been using for an observation point, over some lockers, He, King, came outside and stood about 2 or 3 minutes and we heard the shot and he fell and that was it. We run back outside and told the tact unit that was there.
- Q. Who was with you in that observation place at the rear of the fire station?
- A. The colored detective Lt. Sam Loomis, W. S. King.
- Q. Did you hear the shot?
- A. I thought that it was the lockers that popped under me, for I had just jumped up on them.
- Q. How many people were with King at the time he was shot?
- A. There was one colored man up on the balcony with him, and a gang of them down on the first floor, he was talking to some of them down there.
- Q. How far away from King was the other man and can you describe him?
- A. He was standing on his left, shoulder to shoulder with him, I think he had a suit on, he ran when the shot went off, to the north and then got down on his hands and knees and crawled back to King. I don't know what he did to King, I was gone by the time he got back, I had gone to tell the tact unit that some one had shot him.
- Q. What was King doing at the time he was shot?
- A. He was facing straight out and looked like he was talking to the people out below.
- Q. When King was shot, would you tell in what direction he fell?
- A. I looked like he fell straight back against the wall.
- Q. While you were in the observation post with the officers, did you notice any suspicious white persons in the vicinity of the Lorraine Motel?
- A. I didn't see but one white man, over there all evening, and I think he had a room in the motel.
- Q. While on duty at the fire station have you notice a white mustang hanging around the fire station?
- A. No Sir.
- Q. Do you know whether or not there was any other fire department personnel on the outside at the time of the shooting?
- A. I don't know if there was they were out front?
- Q. What did the officer do at the time of the shooting and did he make any remarks?

Page 2 Statement of CHARLES ELVIN STONE, W 24.

A. It looked to me it kinda stunned him, and he didn't do anything for just a second and I went out and told the officers and it looked like they didn't want to believe me and that he came on out there and that's their reality was all.

Q. Did you the officers out front know about the shooting when you got out there?

A. No I was the first one to tell them.

Q. When you came out to tell the rest unit about the shooting did you notice any civilians on the sidewalk coming from the direction from shooting?

A. The police men were inside the house and not out front, and we all went out the north door.

Q. When you got to the officers, or to where you could see them did you see any weapons in any of their hands?

A. No.

Charles E. Stone