

Atlanta, Georgia

STATEMENT OF: Andrew J. Young, Male Colored, age 35, residence, 1688 Veltre Circle, S. W., ph. 753-8320, bus. ph. 522-1420, occupation, Minister, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, taken at 11:00 P. M., Thursday, April 4, 1968.

Questioned by: Det. R.R. Davis

Typed by: Margaret Kenley

Witnessed by Agent Joseph Brew, FBI.
Relative to the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Thursday, April 4, 1968, at approximately 6:00 P. M., Lorraine Motel, 405 Mulberry.

- Q. Reverend Young, were you present at the Lorraine Motel at 405 Mulberry at approximately 6:00 P. M., April 4, 1968, when the shooting of Dr. Martin Luther, King, Jr., occurred?
- A. Yes, I was.
- Q. How were you associated with Dr. King?
- A. I was the Executive Vice President of Dr. King's organization.
- Q. Were you nearby him at the time the shot was fired?
- A. He was on the second floor balcony of the motel. I was down in the court yard just below.
- Q. Tell in your own words exactly what happened prior to this shooting at the Lorraine Motel on Mulberry.
- A. Dr. King was living in Rm. 306. I was living in Rm. 209 and we were going to dinner together with other members of our staff. Dr. King came out on the balcony and told Reverend Jones to start the car. Reverend Jones said, "I think you need a coat," and just then one of our staff members drove up and I turned away and then a shot was fired. I thought it was a fire cracker, but when I looked up, I saw that Dr. King was on his back. I ran up the stairs and saw that he was very seriously wounded. As I looked across the street and saw police officers coming from up in the area where I thought the shot may have come from, but I saw no one else. Then the police officers sent for the Fire Department ambulance and we covered Dr. King with blankets, but he was losing blood rapidly. Everybody was pretty calm, but stunned, and when the ambulance came we took him to St. Joseph Hospital. I checked his pulse and it was very strong. This was just before the ambulance arrived, but already there was almost a pint of blood beside his body which was streaming from the wound in his neck on the right side.
- Q. You mentioned in your above statement the area from which the shot appeared to come from. What area are you speaking of?
- A. There is a large clump of bushes directly opposite Dr. King's room, Rm. 306, across the street on the west side of Mulberry.
- Q. Were you standing on the ground in front of Dr. King when this shot was fired?
- A. Yes, I was.
- Q. Immediately after this shot, did you observe the area from which you thought the shot came? And if so, did you notice anyone who appeared to be leaving the area hurriedly?
- A. I ran up the steps to Dr. King first and then looked across the street and I saw no one. There were no cars going by at that time. Nothing but the policemen.
- Q. Were you facing Dr. King at the time this shot was fired?
- A. No, I had turned to talk to members of our staff who had just gotten out of the car. I was looking south.
- Q. Were you looking at an angle that it would have been possible for you to detect a flash from a gun being fired from the west side of Mulberry?
- A. No, the swimming pool well would have blocked my view of that area.
- Q. In other words you saw no car leave the scene in a hurry or saw no individual of whom you believe could have been responsible for this shooting?
- A. No.

