

Statement of BELORES MILDRED LEE, FC 23, residence, 1844 Manor, ph. 947-3778, occupation, waitress, Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry, ph. 325-6834, education, 12th grade, made at Central Police Headquarters on Monday, April 15, 1968 at 2:15 p.m. to Lt. J. B. Williams.

Questioned by: Lt. J. B. Williams.

Typed by: O. Mlennar

Relative to the SHOOTING of REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. that occurred on Thursday, April 4, 1968, at approximately 6:00 p.m., at the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry/

Q. Belores, are you employed by Mr. Walter Bailey at the Lorraine Motel?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you work on Thursday, April 4, 1968?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What hours did you work on that date?

A. I worked, it was 7:00 a.m. when I got there, and I was supposed to get off at 3:30, but sometimes I don't leave there until 4:30 or after.

Q. What time did you leave Lorraine Motel on Thursday, April 4, 1968?

A. About 15 minutes till 5:00 p.m.

Q. Then you were not at the Lorraine Motel or on the premises when Dr. King was shot?

A. No.

Q. Did you see Dr. King during the day of April 4, 1968?

A. Yes, I served him a fish dinner around 1:00 p.m. that afternoon, and when I took the dinner to his room, he told me to bring another dinner for Rev. Abernathy. I later went back to get the dishes around 3:00 p.m., and he and Rev. Abernathy and Moses Williams and Mr. James Bevel and Rev. Owens were all in the room and they were attending a meeting. Later when I got off, I saw Dr. King going to Rm. 309 and he stayed just a second and came back out and I hollered and told him I was leaving and he said, "I'll see you tomorrow."

Q. Did you hear some talk among some people staying at the motel as to a policeman being the one responsible for killing Dr. King?

A. Yeah, I heard some talk, just talk. Everybody was sayin what they want to say.

Q. Do you know any person by name that told you or you heard them say that it was a policeman responsible for the killing of Dr. King?

A. No.

Q. Did you tell anyone that you thought it was a policeman that had killed Dr. King?

A. Yes.

Q. Who was this person you told?

A. I really don't know the man by name. We was sittin up there one evening talking, a man drove up in the car and was askin about where the shot came from, and I pointed to the rooming house where it came from, but it happened like Calos said, about two policemen bein right there after the shot, and I told the man it looked like the policeman shot him.

Q. Is this the only person you told you ^{thought} a policeman should do it.

A. Yes, and I don't even know his name. He was really just a bystander.

Q. Do you think a policeman is responsible for killing Dr. King?

A. Do I think that? No, I don't really think that.

Q. Then you are basing what you told this man about a policeman being responsible solely on what Calos told you?

A. That's right, because I wasn't there.

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Q. Did Dr. King check in on Wednesday, April 3, 1968, while you were working?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. How long have you worked for the Lorraine Motel?

A. About four years.

Q. How many times has Dr. King stayed there since you have been working there?

A. Well, I don't know exactly how many times, but he stayed there every time but once, when he came to town, and that one time was at the Rivermont.

Q. On Wednesday, April 3, or Thursday, April 4, 1968, did you notice any suspicious white men in and around the motel?

A. Well, there was an old shaggy haired white fellow that was about in his thirties or late thirties, and he always seemed to be hangin round with Dr. King and his group, but when they'd have a meeting or when they'd go to eat, he never was included. He was real dirty lookin. I remember seein him on Wednesday, but I didn't see him on Thursday.

Q. On Thursday morning, did a male colored come in the Kitchen at the Lorraine Motel where you were working and make a comment about him belonging to the Invaders and that he was responsible for shooting two policemen?

A. That's what he said.

Q. State exactly what he told you about this matter.

A. He wanted a ham sandwich, and while I was fixin it, he told me that he belonged to the Invaders and that Dr. King wanted him to be a marshall, but Dr. King believed in non-violence, and that the Invaders believed in violence. He told me that he was the one that had shot two policemen when they had the last disturbance here.

Q. Do you know this particular male colored by name? If not, can you give us a description of him?

A. I don't know his name, but he is a small fellow and thin, and has a goatee, and he said he was the only one of the Invaders that was ever with Dr. King.

Belores Milbred Lee