

YORK COUNTY DETECTIVES  
UNIFORM SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

CRIME: murder	DATE REPORTED: 07-21-1969	LOCATION: Newberry and Gay	ORIGINAL JURISDICTION: York City
VICTIM'S NAME: Allen, Lillie Belle	VICTIM'S ADDRESS: 117 Horroy Street Aiken SC	VICTIM'S TELEPHONE:	

On 09-26-00 at 0915 hrs. Det. Williams and I interviewed Gerald Roberts at his home, 204 S. Ridge Road in Boiling Springs. Roberts is a retired PA State Police Officer and was on duty at the intersection of Philadelphia and Newberry Street the night that Lillie Allen was killed.

Roberts remembered that on the night that this occurred, he and Trp. Rendish were sent to the intersection of Newberry and Philadelphia Street by Sgt. Tappe of the PA State Police. They were sent there and told to stay there until they were relieved. They knew about the trouble that was going on in the city, however he does not remember getting any specific instructions, only to have their presence in the area. They were never told to keep the blacks out of and the whites in the neighborhood.

Roberts stated that when he and Rendish got to the intersection there were no barricades there. He remembers parking the marked police unit facing west on Philadelphia Street, west of Newberry Street. He and Rendish were at the Northwest corner of Philadelphia and Newberry Street. Another State Police trooper and a York City Police officer were also at the intersection from time to time, however Roberts remembered that they were on a roving patrol.

Shortly after arriving there, Roberts recalled that some one had shot up at them from the railroad tracks at Newberry and Gay. Roberts stated that it was a black male who ran down the right side of the railroad tracks. The two troopers took cover. Roberts stated that he could see that the shooter was black. He does not recall if any other additional units came there to check for the shooter.

A short time before Allen was shot, Roberts said that as he and Rendish were standing on the corner, a white male in his twenties came up to them and said that they could turn their backs and that everything would be okay. No one would shoot at them. Roberts said that he turned to Rendish and they both said to each other, "what have we gotten ourselves into".

Roberts recalled that at sometime after that conversation, Lillie Allen's car went past them heading north on Newberry Street. Roberts stated that there were a couple cars sitting in front of it at the stop light at Newberry and Philadelphia. They went straight and Allen's car turned onto Newberry Street. He noticed the car going up Newberry Street. He saw it turn and stop on the tracks and then all he heard was gunfire. He and Rendish took cover behind their car. The shooting lasted for a brief time. He thought that he remembered an ambulance or armored car going in and getting the woman but he is not sure.

Roberts said that after the shooting he remembered that Rendish was interviewed about stopping someone with a gun. When we asked him if it was the incident where they stopped the brother of a York City Police officer. He was in a car and was coming out of the area of the shooting. He had a shotgun in his car. Roberts then recalled that incident and said that it was the one he remembered.

 Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
[www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm](http://www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm)

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: R. George	RECORDING OFFICER: R. George	NO.: 1403	DATE: 10-30-00
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**YORK COUNTY DETECTIVES  
UNIFORM SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT**

CRIME: Homicide	DATE REPORTED: 07-21-1969	LOCATION: Newberry and Gay	ORIGINAL JURISDICTION: York City
VICTIM'S NAME: Allen, Lillie Belle	VICTIM'S ADDRESS: 117 Horroy Street Aiken SC	VICTIM'S TELEPHONE:	

On 02-21-01 at approximately 1000hrs. I interviewed Ronald Zeager in reference to the above stated homicide. (849-2275) Zeager was an officer with the York City Police Department back in 1969 and was stationed at the corner of Newberry Street and Philadelphia Street when Allen was killed.

Zeager remembered that during the riots, the city department was on 12-hour shifts. He stated that he remembered being on the corner of Philadelphia and Newberry Street on the night that this occurred. He was either working 7pm-7am or 6pm-6am. He was sure that he was with Tpr. William Linker of the PA State Police and thought that another Tpr. Cpl. Rick Dressler was there but he was not sure. Zeager does not remember any other troopers being stationed there.

Zeager stated that he was not given any particular instructions before being stationed there, only that it was a trouble spot and officers needed to be there in case any trouble occurred. He stated that there were no barricades up at the intersection at the time and that there was very light traffic going up Newberry Street.

Zeager recalled an incident that occurred before the lady got shot. Someone put a package on one of the corners on Newberry and Philadelphia. They thought that it was possibly a bomb. He cautiously went over to check it out and Linker slammed the car door shut. Zeager said he must have jumped two feet in the air. That is something that he said he'll never forget.

At one point during the evening Zeager remembered vaguely some cars sitting at the traffic light heading west on Philadelphia at Newberry. One of those cars turned down Newberry Street and before he knew it the car was halfway down the block. A few minutes later, he heard shooting. They took cover behind their cruiser.

Zeager did not remember much else. He thought that a black male drove the car and there were passengers in the car. He only got a look at them from behind. Initially, he thought that a tow truck came into the area and towed the car out of there, but he is not sure now.

Zeager stated that the barricades were not up yet, the car that the woman who was killed in never crashed through the barricades and that no one called over the radio and stated that a Cadillac crashed through the barricades. (That was asserted by Charles Robertson in his interview of 05-09-2000). He said that he was not sure if they had portable radios in 1969.



Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
[www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm](http://www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm)

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: R. George	RECORDING OFFICER: R. George	NO.: 1403	DATE: 02-22-01
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# YORK COUNTY DETECTIVES UNIFORM SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm

CRIME: Homicide	DATE REPORTED: 07-21-1969	LOCATION: Newberry and Gay	ORIGINAL JURISDICTION: York City
VICTIM'S NAME: Allen, Lillie Belle	VICTIM'S ADDRESS: 117 Horroy Street Aiken SC		VICTIM'S TELEPHONE:

On 06-07-00 at 1733 hrs. Det. Williams and I interviewed James Frey AKA "Fireman Jim" in reference to this homicide. Frey stated that he was there on N. Newberry the night that Allen was killed.

Frey lived at 256 Cottage Hill Rd. in 1969. He was an outreach worker for the YMCA. Frey worked with gang members from the Newberry Street Boys and the Girarders. He was very familiar with both of the members of those gangs.

On the day before Allen was shot, Frey and his wife were driving back from NY. They drove down N. George Street and as they got to the intersection of Parkway and George, he noticed that the police had blocked the intersection and were not letting any cars through. He stopped at the barricades and spoke to three N. York officers. Frey knew Chief Guysler, but was not sure who the other two were. Frey asked Guysler what was going on and Guysler told him that there was trouble in the city with blacks and whites shooting and told him that there had been trouble in Frey's neighborhood. Frey was concerned and took his wife to Pleasureville and returned to the City. Frey asked Guysler to let him in to go to his neighborhood because he had to see what was going on. Guysler let him in.

Frey drove to his house and remembers arriving there at about 1:00 AM. He stated that there was not a lot going on at the time but he remembered sitting on his front porch for a long time. The next day around 11:00AM, Frey walked up to Robert Downey's house near the southwest corner of Newberry and Gay. Downey was Frey's brother-in-law. He talked there with Downey and Art Morris, who owned the cigar shop on the corner of Newberry and Gay. He was told about some of the troubles that were happening there with the blacks coming into the area and causing trouble. Many of the "kids" in area told him that there was talk of a group of black males were coming back to the area with guns. These kids took Frey up to the Messersmith's house. Frey stated that there were many people in and around the Messersmith house and that that seemed to be the center of the activity. He went into the house and went downstairs. Frey remembered both Artie and Bobby Messersmith being there as well as their father. Down in the basement, Frey said that there were kids there making Molotov Cocktails. They took these and hid them along the alleyway that was directly behind the Messersmith's house and marked them. Frey stated that everyone in the area there started getting worked up about these black guys coming into their area. Frey stated that he got scared and got caught up in it and went to his house and got a 12-gauge shotgun. He walked back to the Messersmith's house and went up on the back porch roof so he had a view of the alleyway behind Messersmith's house. He also had a view of his house. He stated that there were people everywhere with guns and were positioned so they could see anyone coming from every direction. Frey stated that he was behind a chimney and was shielded by a piece of slate. He remembered another guy on a roof a couple of doors down who was also facing the back alleyway. Frey stated that he did not see anything in the front of the Messersmith's house as they were supposed to shoot the Molotov cocktails if the car came up that alleyway.

He remembers being terrified about what was going on and after about an hour or so after he was up on the porch, he heard someone from out in front of the Messersmith's house yell, "they're coming". A short time later Frey heard one shot from down at his right, near Newberry and Gay. After the first shot he said that it sounded like a firing range. The shooting went on for about 10-15 seconds and it ended just as quickly as it started. Frey stated that he stayed on the porch for a while

because he was scared. When he got down, the car was off the tracks and he stated that all the kids were talking about what happened but he does not remember who was saying what.

Frey stated that he also remembered either shortly before or shortly after the Allen woman was shot that Officer Ruppert and two other officers came up to Newberry Street and were talking to the kids on the street in a way that troubled him. He does not remember his exact words but stated that Ruppert was telling the kids there that he approved of what they did. Frey stated that a short time after that the Messersmith's house got raided and guns were seized. He was not sure if Ruppert was telling the kids what he was telling them to get them to tell him where the guns were or because he was really behind them.



Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
[www.yarbird.com/thewrongcar.htm](http://www.yarbird.com/thewrongcar.htm)

INVESTIGATING OFFICER: George/Williams	RECORDING OFFICER: R. George	NO.: 1403	DATE: 06-08-00
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PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE  
SUPPLEMENT REPORTDocuments from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling

1. STATION

York

www.yarbird.com/thewrongcar.htm 217

2. INCIDENT NO.

H7-67357

3. OFFENSE: <b>MURDER</b>		4. NAME OF VICTIM: <b>Lillie Bell ALLEN</b>		5. DATE: <b>28 Aug 69</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> USED AS CONTINUATION SHEET OF CURRENT REPORT		7. TYPE REPORT CONTINUED OR SUPPLEMENTED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INITIAL CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> VEHICLE <input type="checkbox"/> ARREST			
8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USED TO REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION		9. NEW OFFENSE IF CHANGED:		10. VALUE RECOVERED PROP.: <b>5</b>	
11. STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> UNFOUNDED <input type="checkbox"/> CLEARED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT CLEARED		12. FURTHER ACTION & REPORT REQUIRED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		13. MULTIPLE CLEAR-UP?: (LIST OTHER INCIDENT NOS. IN NARRATIVE) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	
14. NARRATIVE: IN FOLLOW-UP USAGE, RECORD ALL DEVELOPMENTS SUBSEQUENT TO LAST REPORT. LIST ANY ACCUSED AND/OR SUSPECTS AS FIRST ITEM. INCLUDE ARREST REPORT NUMBERS OF PERSONS ARRESTED, VALUE AND DISPOSITION OF RECOVERED PROPERTY (ATTACH PROPERTY RECORD), AND EXPLAIN ANY CHANGE IN OFFENSE.					

## ACCUSED/SUSPECT

Thomas Paul SMITH, W-M-18, 161 Eastland Avenue, York, Penna. was interviewed at the York Sub-station on 27 Aug 69. He was informed that he was a suspect in this case and his constitutional rights were explained to him and signed a waiver form. SMITH stated that on Monday evening 21 Jul 69 he met at the Haysline school with Bob TRATTINO, Darrell KAUFMAN and Gary HOLTZAPFLE. He stated that he had TRATTINO's rifle but not the barrel portion of it. He stated TRATTINO brought the barrel and he, SMITH placed it behind the grille of his father's car and the other parts were placed in the backseat. There was a brown paper bag with ten rounds of ammunition for the rifle which someone brought to the school and it was placed in the glove compartment. The four of them then drove to Newberry street and arrived at about 1930 hrs. He stated they parked in front of the MESSERSMITH home and he assembled the rifle at this time. At this time he placed the bag with the ammunition into his jacket pocket. At this time one of the boys standing on the MESSERSMITH porch stated that all guns were to go into the home and at this time he handed the gun and the jacket to the boy on the porch. He stated he mingled with a large group of boys at this time and shortly after nine o'clock someone down the street shout "colored coming up". He was behind a parked car at this time and seen the grey Cadillac come up the hill and turn at the railroad track. He saw a woman get out of the left side of the car and one shot rang out. He stated he heard the woman scream and about 15 seconds later he heard a lot of shooting which he believes came from the MESSER SMITH or nearby. He stated he did not see anyone shooting nor did he see anyone with guns before or after the shooting. After the shooting he went into a home next to the MESSER SMITH's and observed several girls, two older women and a man. About 15 minutes after the the shooting he went to his car which he had moved just prior to the shooting. He does not remember who brought the rifle to the car, but he remembers saying he did not want to carry it. He stated that TRATTINO, KAUFMAN AND HOLTZAPFLE brought the gun to the car in sections. He does not recall how the ammunition got to the car, but remembers seeing it in the glove compartment, and he recalls getting his jacket back several days later. He stated he does not remember saying to anyone that he shot out the rear window of the car after the woman fell.

He was taken to the Newberry street area and pointed out the MESSERSMITH home at 229 North Newberry street as the home in which the rifle and the ammunition went and 231 North Newberry street as the home he went into after the shooting.

TRATTINO was brought to the York Sub-station and confronted with SMITH. TRATTINO stated that SMITH mentioned in the car on the way home that he, SMITH shot one shot. TRATTINO then corroborated SMITH's story as to what happened on North Newberry street and stated after the shooting he carried the butt of the rifle to SMITH's car. He added that he does not recall who handed him the butt.

On 27 Aug 69, Joseph KLUYBER who was interviewed at an earlier date appeared at the York Sub-station and upon reviewing the seriousness of the case retracted his statement of seeing Greg KEFF in the area. He stated that he heard KEFF was in the area but did not see him.

CONTINUED: *Donald L. Weikner*

15. PAGE NO. <b>2</b>	16. REPORTING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: <b>Cpl. Donald L. WEIKNER</b>	BADGE NO.: <b>698</b>	17. DATE OF INCIDENT: <b>21 Jul 69</b>	18. SUPV. INITIALS: <i>ea</i>
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## STATEMENT



Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
[www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm](http://www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm)

MADE BY: Gabriel Mark BARR ( 958 Richwell Dr., York, Pa. (Fireside)

ADDRESS: AB- Co Chanute AFB , Box 438, Illinois

TIME: 1603 DATE: 3 Sept. 69 PLACE: Chanute AFB, Illinois

I am Det. Arthur R. CROFT - Sgt. John CREAVEY of the Pennsylvania State Police. In  
the presence of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_, I want to warn you that you have an

absolute right to remain silent and that anything you do say can and will be used against you in a court of law. You also have the right to speak to an attorney before questioning and you may have an attorney present during the questioning. If you cannot afford to hire an attorney, one will be appointed to represent you without charge before any questioning if you so desire.

If you do decide to answer any questions, with or without an attorney present, you may at anytime during the questioning, stop answering and you cannot be forced to continue. There will be no promises made to you, nor will you be threatened in any manner.

Q. Do you understand your rights as I have explained them to you?

A. Yes

Q. With these rights in mind, do you now wish to make a statement?

A. Yes

Q. Can you read and write the English Language?

A. Yes

Q. How far did you go in school ?

A. I graduated from William Penn Senior High, York, Pennsylvania.

Q. Are you or have you been a member of the Newberry Street Boys ?

A. Yes.

Q. Will you tell us in your own words and to the best of your knowledge what happened on North Newberry Street, York, Pa on the evening of 21 July 69 Monday at or about 2115 hours?

A. I went to the MESSERSMITH house at about 1700 hours. I believe it is 229 N. Newberry St I seen BOB in the cellar and he said that the colored people were coming up N. Newberry Street and burn it out. I brought my father's .22 rifle with me. During the early evening I was out on the street there were a lot of boys there. Right before dark I went to the roof of the MESSERSMITH home, along with Donald ATLANT. I was on the lower roof at the back of the house. I heard someone yell "Theyre' Black" and someone else yelled "Gettur MEET". At this point I heard one shot and seconds later I heard a barrage of shots. I went up to the front roof to see what was happening and I could see the back of a light Cadillac broadside on the railroad tracks. I could see the tail lights and part of the trunk. I didn't see any shots hit the car. The firing lasted about one minute.

Q. Did you actually see anyone shoot?

A. No.

Q. Do you know of anyone that actually shot ?

A. Yes, I heard this shot and I turned around and I seen DONNIE ALTLAND holding a rifle in the direction of the car. I think it was a 30-30. By that time they stopped shooting and we both came down off the high part of the roof. I asked DONNIE did he shoot and he said "Yes, once". Then he told me that he couldn't see very good but he thought he hit the back of the car.

Q. Who owned the rifle that DONNIE ALTLAND had ?

A. Bob MESSERSMITH, I think.

Q. Did anyone use your rifle that you had brought over to the MESSERSMITH'S ?

A. No, not as far as I know.

Q. Who else was up on a roof that night ?

A. Dick WALES, who is now in the Army, "Fireman JIM" and "DAVE" I don't know his last name.

Q. Did any of these person you named do any shooting from the roof ?

A. Yes, Donald ALTLAND and I am not sure that "Fireman Jim" did any shooting or not.

Q. How long did you stay on the roof after the shooting ?

A. About five minutes until after they drove the car up the street ( Cadillac)

Q. Then what did you do and what did you see ?

A. I came off the roof into the second floor of the MESSERSMITH house from the balcony. I seen people in the front window of the second floor. Some of them were sitting and laying on the beds. There were guns ( rifles, and shotguns) by the front windows. The rifles were .22's. There were fellows at the window in the front bedroom but I don't remember who they were. I then went downstairs and looked into the kitchen Bob or Mike MESSERSMITH was sitting at the kitchen table. In the living room I seen Greg NEFF, Rick KNOUSE, Dick WALES and "DAVE". There were others there who I can't remember at this time. There were some rifles and shotguns propped up against the walls downstairs.

Q. What did you do next ?

A. I walked down to the tracks where the car had been to see if there was any blood. I saw the blood and then I came back up to MESSERSMITH'S. I went back up on the roof with Donnie ALTLAND and Fireman Jim was up there too. I stayed up there until Jim MESSERSMITH came home. Then I came down when Jim came home. He and Jim walked across the street to see the guy with the two way radio to see if anything happened to the lady who was shot. We started to walk back across the street when the guy said the lady died. After that me and Jim went back up on the roof. We were up there talking and Jim was mad about the people running in and out of his house. We were up there for about an hour and then they came down. I layed on the couch and fell asleep.

Q. Mark, Do you know who fired the first shot ?

A. I don't know, but I heard it was Bob Messersmith or Greg NEFF.

Q. Do you know of your own knowledge who did any of the shooting?

A. I didn't see anyone else shoot other than Donnie ALTLAND. I just heard the shot.

Q. When you heard Donald ALTLAND shoot, where was he situated and where was the rifle pointing ?

A. He was situated on the north side of a chimney of 225 N. Newberry with the rifle aimed south in the direction of the car, the Cadillac on the tracks.

WITNESSES:

Signature

Philip M. Bass

Philip M. Bass

John Creamer





SP-7-005 (6-67)		Documents from The Wrong Car by William Keisling York <a href="http://www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm">www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm</a> 217		2. INCIDENT NO.  E7-67357
PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE SUPPLEMENT REPORT		1. STATION York		
3. OFFENSE: <b>MURDER</b>	4. NAME OF VICTIM: <b>Illie Bell ALLEN</b>		5. DATE: <b>4 Sep 69</b>	
6. <input type="checkbox"/> USED AS CONTINUATION SHEET OF CURRENT REPORT	7. TYPE REPORT CONTINUED OR SUPPLEMENTED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INITIAL CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> VEHICLE <input type="checkbox"/> ARREST			
8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USED TO REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION —	9. NEW OFFENSE IF CHANGED:		10. VALUE RECOVERED PROP.: <b>5</b>	
11. STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> UNFOUNDED <input type="checkbox"/> CLEARED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT CLEARED	12. FURTHER ACTION & REPORT REQUIRED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		13. MULTIPLE CLEAR-UP?: (LIST OTHER INCIDENT YES NOS. IN NARRATIVE) <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
14. NARRATIVE: IN FOLLOW-UP USAGE, RECORD ALL DEVELOPMENTS SUBSEQUENT TO LAST REPORT. LIST ANY ACCUSED AND/OR SUSPECTS AS FIRST ITEM. INCLUDE ARREST REPORT NUMBERS OF PERSONS ARRESTED, VALUE AND DISPOSITION OF RECOVERED PROPERTY (ATTACH PROPERTY RECORD), AND EXPLAIN ANY CHANGE IN OFFENSE.				

ACCUSED/SUSPECT

John Stephen DUKE, W-M-18, 239 Heistard Road, York, Penna. presently in the United States Army stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey was interviewed on 3 Sep 69 at Fort Dix. He stated that on 21 Jul 69 he went to the North Newberry street area with a Doug LEBER from East Prospect, Penna. in LEBER's car, a 1963 or 1964 White Chevrolet. They arrived in the area at about 1900 hrs. and LEBER parked the car in the area of Farquhar park and he and LEBER went to the MESSERSMITH home. He stated he was on MESSERSMITH's front porch for about two hours. He stated he seen the Cadillac come up the street and someone yelled, everyone off the street who doesn't have guns. He stated he does not know who shouted this warning, but it sounded as if it came from the area of the corner near the railroad tracks. He stated he ran from the MESSERSMITH porch into a passageway between the MESSERSMITH home and an adjacent home into the MESSERSMITH home's back yard and laid down. He stated that he heard four or five quick shots as he was in the passageway and while he was laying down he heard about twelve more shots. He further stated after the shooting he got up went to the front porch of the MESSERSMITH house and seen several boys with long barralled guns among them Bob MESSERSMITH, Greg NEFF, and further stated that he believes BOB MESSERSMITH had some type of a shotgun. He stated that when he got to the front of the MESSERSMITH home the Cadillac was gone from the scene. He stated he hung around the MESSERSMITH home the rest of the evening until the following morning and left with Doug LEBER and Mary NOBLEUS, both members of the Yorklyn gang. He also added that when he emerged from the MESSERSMITH back yard to the front of the home he seen a Joe DIACZUN and Artie MESSERSMITH and another boy with guns in the second floor windows of the MESSERSMITH home. He also stated that he heard four or five other boys say that Bob MESSERSMITH fired the first shot at the car, and heard Bob MESSERSMITH state well we got one. He stated that while he spent the evening in the MESSERSMITH home, the entire group of about fifteen boys talked about the riots and very little about the shooting. He stated that the three MESSERSMITH's were there including Bob, Artie and Mike, Greg NEFF who left about 0100 hrs. the morning of the 22nd July, Joe DIACZUN and several other whom he does not know. He stated that when most of the boys left they took their guns with them. He also stated that he seen a Tom SMITH, a member of the Yorklyn gang with a gun on Newberry Street before the shooting with a 30 calibre rifle, but when he came from the back yard after the shooting he seen SMITH, but with no rifle at this time. At this time SMITH told DUKE that he fired at the body of the car. DUKE also stated that although some of the boys who left the MESSERSMITH home took their guns with them, their were several of them who left their guns in the MESSERSMITH home so that they would not have to carry them into the area the next night. He also stated he seen a Rick KNOUSE, a member of the Girarder gang, with a gun after the shooting was over and also stated that as he recalls when he came from the back yard into the street he seen Joe DIACZUN at the middle window of the second floor of the MESSERSMITH home and Artie MESSERSMITH at the end window nearer to the railroad tracks and the other window was occupied by a boy he does not know. DUKE further stated that although he was in the area he did not have a gun and he did not shoot at any time.

Accompanied by Tpr. D le E. ALLEN, "H", York, Penna. on this portion of the investigation

15. PAGE NO. <b>1</b>	16. REPORTING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: <i>Donald L. Weeksner</i> <b>Cpl. Donald L. WEEKSNER</b>	BADGE NO.: <b>698</b>	17. DATE OF INCIDENT: <b>21 Jul 69</b>	18. SUPV. INITIALS: <b>J</b>
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SP-7-305 (2-67)		PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE SUPPLEMENT REPORT		2. INCIDENT NO. H7-67357	
1. STATION YORK		CODE 217			
3. OFFENSE: MURDER		4. NAME OF VICTIM: Lillie Ball ALLEN		5. DATE: 11 August 69	
6. <input type="checkbox"/> USED AS CONTINUATION SHEET OF CURRENT REPORT		7. TYPE REPORT CONTINUED OR SUPPLEMENTED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INITIAL CRIME <input type="checkbox"/> VEHICLE <input type="checkbox"/> ARREST			
8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> USED TO REPORT SUPPLEMENTAL INVESTIGATION		9. NEW OFFENSE IF CHANGED:		10. VALUE RECOVERED PROP.: 5	
11. STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> UNFOUNDED <input type="checkbox"/> CLEARED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NOT CLEARED		12. FURTHER ACTION & REPORT REQUIRED: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		13. MULTIPLE CLEAR-UPS: (LIST OTHER INCIDENT YES NOS. IN NARRATIVE) <input type="checkbox"/> NO	
14. NARRATIVE: IN FOLLOW-UP USAGE, RECORD ALL DEVELOPMENTS SUBSEQUENT TO LAST REPORT. LIST ANY ACCUSED AND/OR SUSPECTS AS FIRST ITEM. INCLUDE ARREST REPORT NUMBERS OF PERSONS ARRESTED, VALUE AND DISPOSITION OF RECOVERED PROPERTY (ATTACH PROPERTY RECORD), AND EXPLAIN ANY CHANGE IN OFFENSE.					

ACCUSED-SUSPECT

William Frank BOYER W-M age 70, 1639 Linden Road, York, Pa. (Plumbing business at 300 rear Seyser St. York, Pa.) related that he was standing in the doorway of his shop (rear) which faces N. Newberry St., west side. It was between 8:30 and 9 PM. I saw the whole thing. I saw the car coming up Newberry St. The car made a turn. U turn. She got over too far and the front wheels were off the pavement and on the tracks. (RR tracks). Whoever was driving choked the car and it stopped. I think the driver was confused. There were about seventy-51 kids over there on the corner (Northeast corner N. Newberry) kids 17-18 years old running around with guns in broad daylight. Soon as the car stopped they started shooting. Nobody in that car fired at all. Nobody down the street fired, all the shooting came from across the street from where I was. Its hard to tell how many were shooting. There must have been fifteen guns floating around over there. I saw someone fall out of the car on the left side driver's side. To tell you the truth, I didn't see any people in that car. They all ducked down. Mr. CONNERS across the street, saw me standing in the doorway. I don't think he saw the shooting. The shooting came from up the street farther. I don't know how the kids saw who was in the car. I couldn't see who was in the car. I don't know why the Police didn't chase them kids off the street.

This subject was interviewed by Det. Sgt. CHITMAN and the writer at his place of business and at the PSP York Barracks. This subject's property was searched on 24 July 69 by City & State Police for weapons. The result of the search was negative.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUED.



Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm

SEP 3 1969

15. PAGE NO. 1	16. REPORTING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: Sgt. John Greavey	BADGE NO.:	17. DATE OF INCIDENT: 21 July 69	18. SUPV. INITIALS
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STATEMENT OF : BEATRICE MOSLEY  
117 Horroy Street  
Aiken, South Carolina

TAKEN : York Hospital, York, Pennsylvania  
July 22, 1969

Documents from  
The Wrong Car by William Keisling  
[www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm](http://www.yardbird.com/thewrongcar.htm)

IN RE: Shooting which occurred in City of York during  
Disorders on 7/21/69

Shot : Lillie Bell Allen (later died at York Hospital)  
27 years of age, 117 Horroy Street, Aiken, S.C.

PRESENT : Detective Sgt. Harold McIlvain  
Detective William Harro  
Officer S. Pauline Musser

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Questions by Detectives McIlvain & Harro

Q. State your name and address?

A. Beatrice Mosley, 117 Horroy Street, Aiken, South Carolina.

Q. Will you tell what you know about this shooting?

A. We had been fishing and we decided to go out to Fields Department Store to get some food, and we were going up Newberry Street and Hattie Dickson, my daughter, was driving the car, and we saw some people sitting on a porch, on the right hand, and as we came up to the railroad there looked like a trooper standing there, and Hattie said "Oh Lord, they are going to shoot" and Lillie told her not to stop, and she said she was going to turn around and go back, and Lillie told her to keep going, and there was a cement pole there and Lillie told her to be careful because she was going to hit it, and Hattie said she wasn't going to hit it, and Hattie was sorta excited, and then Lillie said she would drive, and Lillie jumped out of the car and started to the front of the car, and that's when the shooting started and Lillie dropped to the ground, and then I opened the door and looked out to see if she was just laying down to keep out of the gunfire, and then I saw the blood and I said "Oh Lord, Lillie's been shot" and then I closed the door and got down in the seat and they just kept on shooting and shooting, and then a police officer finally came up and wanted to know if anyone else was hurt and we said no, and he said to keep down, and then the big truck came and the ambulance and we came to the hospital.

Q. As you were going up to the railroad who all did you see?

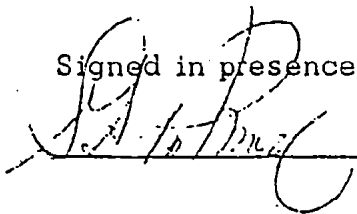
A. There were some people on a porch and a trooper there too.

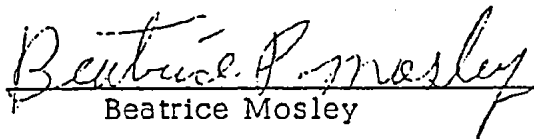
Q. Did you see anyone fire any shots?

A. I didn't see nobody fire a shot, but they just kept firing and firing, but I had my head down in the car and I didn't see nobody.

- Q. Where were you sitting in the car?  
A. I was in the middle, in the back seat, and my husband was on the right side and Lillie was on the left side in the back with me.
- Q. Lillie was sitting right behind the driver?  
A. Yes.
- Q. You were right on the railroad tracks when the shooting started?  
A. Yes.
- Q. Is there anything else you can think of?  
A. No, not right now.
- Q. Now, this trooper you saw, was this a police officer?  
A. It was a man with a gun standing there, and there was a bunch of them down by the railroad too.
- Q. You aren't saying that this trooper was the one that did the shooting - or are you saying this?  
A. Oh no, I don't know who did the shooting, I didn't see anyone shoot.
- Q. Is this statement true and correct to the best of your knowledge?  
A. Yes.

Signed in presence of :

  
\_\_\_\_\_

  
Beatrice Mosley

I hereby certify that the foregoing statement was taken and typed by me. Completed  
7/22/69 at 4:00 AM

  
Officer S. Pauline Musser





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

December 1, 1969

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
JAMES PINKNEY;  
BEATRICE MOSLEY;  
HATTIE DICKSON;  
MURRAY DICKSON;  
LILLIE BELLE ALLEN (deceased) -  
VICTIM

The following is the result of a limited investigation:

Sergeant Thomas Chatman, York Police Department, York, Pa., was advised on December 1, 1969, that investigation in this matter was at the specific request of Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice.

Sergeant Chatman advised that his department in conjunction with the Pennsylvania State Police, York, Pa., was still conducting investigation of the incident in which Lillie Belle Allen was shot during the summer of 1969 racial disturbances at York, Pa. He stated that to date, the identity of the person or persons who shot her have not been determined. He stated that he would advise of any breaks in this matter as soon as they might occur. 0

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

February 2, 1970

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
JAMES PINKNEY;  
BEATRICE MOSLEY;  
HATTIE DICKSON;  
LILLIE BELLE ALLEN (DECEASED) -  
VICTIMS

The following is the result of a limited investigation.

Captain Russell Schaad, Chief of Detectives, York Police Department, York, Pa., was advised on February 2, 1970, that investigation in this matter was at the specific request of Jerris Leonard, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U. S. Department of Justice.

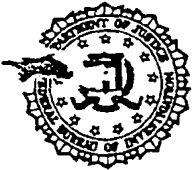
Captain Schaad stated that his department was still investigating the incident in which Lillie Belle Allen was shot during racial violence at York, Pa., during the summer of 1969. He said that this investigation is a joint investigation with the Pennsylvania State Police but to date, no breaks in this matter have developed which would lead to the identity of the person or persons who shot Mrs. Allen. He advised that he would be happy to advise of any new developments in this matter as they might occur.

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44-43108-14

ENCLOSURE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

April 2, 1970

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; JAMES PINKNEY;  
BEATRICE MOSLEY;  
HATTIE DICKSON;  
MURRAY DICKSON;  
LILLIE BELLE ALLEN (Deceased) -  
VICTIMS

The following is the result of a limited investigation:

Captain RUSSELL SCHAAD, Chief of Detectives, York Police Department, York, Pa., advised that the York Police Department was still maintaining in a pending status its investigation of the incident in the summer of 1969, at York, Pa., in which LILLIE BELLE ALLEN was fatally wounded by gunshot. He said that, to date, no suspects for this shooting had been developed, but nevertheless, investigation would continue to develop such a suspect. He stated he would be happy to advise of any suspects developed in this matter.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

May 5, 1970

UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
JAMES PINKNEY; BEATRICE MOSLEY;  
HATTIE DICKSON; MURRAY DICKSON;  
LILLIE BELLE ALLEN (DECEASED) -  
VICTIMS

The following is the result of a limited investigation:

On April 30, 1970, Chief LEONARD L. LANDIS, York, Pa., Police Department, advised that his department had no suspects at this time concerning the incident at York, Pa., in the summer of 1969, in which LILLIE BELLE ALLEN was fatally wounded by gunshot. He said that it was hoped that eventually some witness would step forward and identify the shooter or shooters in this matter. He added, that meanwhile, investigation by his department would remain open and active in this matter, and he would be happy to advise of anything new which might develop in this matter.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

44-43105-18

ENCLOSURE

-1\*-





Saturday, July 19, 1969

REPORT FROM : ~~CHARLES MCCAPPERY~~  
Captain of Detective Bureau

IN RE: Disorders in City which began Appx. 1 A.M. on 7/17/69

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PM on 7/18/69 to AM on 7/19/69

With Lt. Wasser interviewed Rev. H.G. Knight, 36 Jemison Drive, Springetts Manor Apartments, Phone 757 2292, and also Rev. Adam Kittrell. Both men gave us the same information regarding information they had received concerning Negro youths having guns and the fact that they were going to use same. We were unable to obtain any names of the youths as the informants would not give the Reverends same.

Spent considerable time on Newberry Street, between Gay and North talking with several Hundred youths with regard to their throwing rocks, bottles, etc. at passing vehicles and other disorderly acts they were doing. With Lt. Wasser we explained what could and would happen and we convinced the youths to get off the street -- which they did.

The men of the Detective Bureau, in Units 21 and 22, toured the entire City, trying to find out who was doing the shooting, what type of guns were being used, and who had the guns. Also received information regarding a dark colored Mustang that was driving around the areas shooting at our armored trucks, patrol cars and other vehicles. Information received was that Vincent Williams and Robert " Bobby" Simpson were responsible for this.

Det. Sgt. Chatman received information as to the names of 5 youths who might be responsible for the shooting of Officer Henry Schaad ( see confidential Directive typed on Mustang and information as to names of youths.) This information is to be kept within the Police Department so as not to mess up our investigation

Dets. Chatman & McIlvain with Cpl. Sherman Warner spent several hours at the York Hospital where 11 complaints were received of shooting incidents.

Assisted Captain Koontz, Lt. Bortner and other offices at College and Grantley where considerable shooting was going on.

Spent considerable time checking other areas regarding disorders and shootings.

~~With regard to the guns which were brought in by the Uniform Division, Det. Border dusted all guns for prints but were unable to come up with any prints.~~



*Charles M. McCappery*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Captain of Detective Bureau

Det George: The following is a ~~taped statement~~ taken from Rick Knouse on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2000 time is 2:17 pm. Present for this interview are Detective Rodney George of the District Attorney's Office; Detective Dennis Williams of the York City Police and Rick Knouse. This interview is taking place at the York County District Attorney's Office Crime Lab Interview area. Okay for the record could you please state your name and spell it please.

Knouse: ~~Yeah. Rick Knouse. K-n-o-u-s-e.~~

Det. George: And what's your date of birth?

Knouse: 8-25-52

Det. George: What's your address?

Knouse: 1012 South Pine Street York Pennsylvania 17403

Det. George: How long have you lived there?

Knouse: 6 months.

Det. George: Have you lived in York your whole life?

Knouse: Yes.

Det. George: Are you aware that this statement you're about to give is going to be recorded?

Knouse: Yeah.

Det. George: Do you have any objections to it being recorded?

Knouse: No.

Det. George: All right Rick what I wanted to talk to you about is the, the death of a lady who's name was Lily Allen. It happened on ~~July the 21<sup>st</sup> 1969~~ on Newberry Street. North Newberry Street exactly. Are you familiar with that incident?

Knouse: Yes.

Det. George: Are you familiar with the days and the events that, that led up to that incident?



Det. George: When you were down there in this area either the day of this that Lily Allen was killed or the days before did you have a gun?

Knouse: No, no.

Det. George: You didn't have a gun at all while you were on the street?

Knouse: No. Well wait, when a when I first when I first got there somebody I can't I just believe it was one of the Messersmith's I can't tell you for sure. Somebody gave me a gun, now that you're talking I remember somebody giving me a old like bolt action 30-06 I remember somebody giving me that. And a...

Det. George: Where did that take place?

Knouse: Right down in here.

Det. George: At Newberry and Cottage.

Knouse: Whatever day that I'd seen the police and and Robinson. It was just not Robinson it was a crew of police down there hollering what kind of gun do you got and this and this and this and that. He said what are you shooting Knouse. I didn't know much about it and I don't know who it was said he's got a 30-06 and he had shells for it. He threw a box of them down.

Det. George: What did he, back up a little bit who was that?

Knouse: Robinson.

Det. George: Who is...

Knouse: Charlie Robinson.

Det. George: The Mayor?

Knouse: Who's the Mayor right now. He was a beat cop then.

Det. George: And he saw you at the intersection of Cottage Hill and Newberry Street...

Knouse: Right here at this intersection.

Det. George: With the gun. Yes?



## Grand Jury: 1969 Riots

### Witnesses

Stewart Aldinger—(now-didn't see a former statement)-was an NSB at time of shooting-friends of the *Messersmith's*—says *Bob M's* father a racist—wasn't at Newberry St. that night-parents made him come home-was there earlier that day-and that mood was that something was going to happen as result of prior confrontations with blacks in neighborhood.

-there was a prior confront'n several days before-involving Newberry Street Boys (nsb's) and Parkway blacks after which *Bob M* shot *Takani Sweeny*

--as a result of racial tension-number of "white power" rallies at Farquhar Park- rally included a # of police including *Charlie* who "exhorted" the crowd of 150.

Greg Everhart-(now)-came to site with *Traettino*-was an outsider and didn't know many—while there a reporter from Baltimore interviewing people, including *Jim Rummel*—says he left area before *Lilli* was shot-but did see a large car come up street, occupied by a number of black males.—he got scared and left.

Stephan Noonan—then-went to Newberry St. w/ *Kluyber* — saw *Tom Smith*, *Jim Rummel* *Ben Mathis*, *Gordon Snyder*, *Darryl Kauffman*, *Gary Holtzapple*—saw 25-30 guys—ages 14-20—saw 5 or so with gun—saw caddy come-*Lilli* out-shots fired-they ran—*Tom Smith* had gun and fired one shot.

-now-same except he saw police car at *Bobby's* and officer told them at *Bobby's* to stay inside with guns—lot of shooting from east side of Newberry St.

George Rhine — now-lived on Smyser St in 1969-ran to Newberry & Gay just before shooting-saw *Lilli* arrive and get out-without any weapon-saw a white male in breezeway shoot-followed by volley of shots.(this person, per interview with *Bob Myers* was *Chauncy Gladfelter*)

Richard Eisensmith—now-heard '69 there were bunch of kids with guns to protect neighborhood-saw *Chauncy Gladfelter* in breezeway with a gun-heard shots as he was going home (Smyser st)

Amy Lau-now-was 1 year old at time in 1969-met *Bobby M's* mother 1989 in city- was shown gun + KKK outfits during period 1989-1992---in house in city---mom *Messersmith* told her *Bobby* killed *Lilli*.



## Witnesses

Marvin Kohlbus—then—went to Newberry with *Cliff Heindell*—at time of shooting was on Smyser st and didn't see shooting or Caddy—ran into alley with *Rummel* and *Mathis*—did see *Bobby* before shooting with a shotgun—left with *Roger Kinard*.

Now-doesn't recall statements he made at time

Robert Meyers—then—at corner of Smyser and Newberry night of-@ 9 pm heard someone yell "here come some N-----s"—ran home to protect family—after shootin returned and noticed police didn't search Caddy for weapons.

Now—says at time he knew a lot of NSB's—it was disruptive time—lot of false rumors ie. The young b/m being st on fire—then the *Takani Sweeny* shooting—followed by a group of b/m smashing windows out of the cigar store—saw *Bobby* with a shotgun and *Chauncy* in the breezeway armed with a rifle—heard the car come—heard someone yell abot N-----s, -- he ran to his home—saw *Bobby M* walk into street and shoot in direction of car—says everyone was shooting—didn't see the car itself until the police armored car arrived. -says *Bobby M* told him they shot because *Lilli* leaned across the hood like she was going to shoot—he admits he lied because he was afraid at the time—lied about Bobby that is.

Roger Kinard—then—at Newberry that night—saw *Bobby M*—saw car arrive—heard someone yell "get 'em Neff"—heard shots—ducked—before shooting saw *Tom Smith* with gun in parts—saw *Kohlbus*, *Noonan*, *Kuybler*, *Tom Smith* and *Artie M*.

Now-(lives in NJ)—inactive Yorklyn boy then—was at a rally or rallies in Farquhar Park—saw "police wagon" pull up where there were 50 kids, an officer jumped out and yell "white power"—went to Newberry ½ hr before shooting—got the impression police wanted them to back them up—saw car arrive—heard shots and ducked—heard the *Neff* statement—ran away—denies he had a gun. Recalls it as he did then—will testify—lives Wantage, NJ—**NEED TO FILE MOTION**

**TO GET HERE.** (see statement taken)

Reporter Art Geiselman, *Baltimore Sun*—now—drove around the city that day—attended with his photographer, the rally in Farquhar Park (a rally led by *Charlie Robertson*). -- left after a while—down Newberry—no barricades—saw a lot of people out in the street—drove to the area of King St heard a car driving on its rims coming up behind them—the tires and windows were shot out—it was being driven by a black minister who told them they had been shot at and their daughter shot. -followed car for a bit until pulled into the station by the police.

The next day was at the cigar store on Newberry—no one would talk—an officer said that the police gave guns to the kids to use.



friends—saw no one with guns—was walking up street when shooting started and ran—denies he had a gun—denies he went down the street after the shooting.

Bobby Messersmith—then—worked York City parks-age 20—was on front porch and saw car arrive—car lights went out and made a U turn—someone got out and the shooting started—he ran in house.

Now—search warrant served 8/12—his home in Montgomery Co—some guns seized but claimed by his wife—no significant statements—has an atty (*Wayne Bradshaw*)

Gary Moffitt—now—6/12—Girard—went to Newberry st—to *Bobbys*—saw *Bobby, Artie, Mike Wueshinski, Rick Knouse, Greg Neff*.—he was given a 12 gauge shotgun with BB"S—he was in last house on Gay—with *Larry Writsel*—backs to intersection—said he shot but not at car—said few days later *Rick Knouse* told him "*Charlie Robertson* was in area before shooting and handing out 30-06 ammo

9/8—says he shot at a Greek the day after *Lilli*—

James Frey—aka Fireman Jim—now—came to area—talked to police and learned of trouble brewing in city—went to his home—then talked to others in area and heard "blacks" coming to area with guns—was taken to *Messersmith* house—the center of activity—kids were making Molotov cocktails to place on fence in back of house—brought his own 12 gauge shotgun—he was positioned on roof—couldn't see—faced rear to shoot the molotov's—heard someone say they are coming and heard shots for 10-15 secs.—says later Officer Ruppert, shortly after, told them they did the right thing.

## Police

Off Gordon Fleming—now—says he was not in the armored car with *Charlie R* at Farquhar Park.

Captain Rice—now—retired PSP—commander of PSP during riots—turned over his records to us for now.

--had no undercover officers working at the time in riots.

