

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date July 10, 1963

To: Commanding Officer, Homicide Bureau

Subject: FATAL SHOOTING OF CYNTHIA SCOTT BROADY, 24/N, OF 83 EDMUND PLACE,
APT. #202, I.B. #215218, HOMICIDE FILE #6360

On July 5, 1963, Patrolman Robert Marshall, Badge #2959, and Theodore Spicher, Badge #1729, assigned to the 1st Precinct, were working on Scout 1-3, on the first platoon.

At 3:00 a.m., the officers were traveling south on John R at which time they had a prisoner, Frances Jones, 29/N, of 210 Erskine, Apt. #21 in the back seat, whom they were conveying to Police Headquarters. Patrolman Spicher was driving the vehicle and Patrolman Marshall was in the passenger seat.

As the officers approached John R and Edmund Place, they observed CYNTHIA BROADY, a known prostitute, walking south on the east side of the street with a man later identified as Charles Marshall, 21/N, of 3492 St. Antoine. The officers could see she had paper currency in her hand. Patrolman Spicher parked the car, left wheel to the curb, and got out to talk to the two persons. Charles Marshall became belligerent and told the officer he had no right to stop them and that CYNTHIA BROADY was his girlfriend and they were walking home. Patrolman Spicher searched Charles Marshall and took from his person a brown handled pocket knife that was pegged so the blade could not be completely closed.

Patrolman Marshall then got out of the scout car and began talking to Charles Marshall to one side, and Patrolman Spicher informed CYNTHIA BROADY she was under arrest for investigation of Larceny from a Person and asked her to get into the scout car. As CYNTHIA BROADY was about to enter the scout car, she suddenly turned around with a knife in her right hand and slashed at Patrolman Spicher; cutting him on the left index finger.

CYNTHIA BROADY then ran around the scout car and west across John R. Patrolman Spicher pursued her and attempted to stop her from fleeing and she slashed at him again with the knife. At this time, he fired two shots from his service revolver. She continued running; and as Patrolman Spicher was nearing her, she turned around and made another slashing movement at him, and the officer fired again. CYNTHIA BROADY then fell to the sidewalk face down.

Patrolman Marshall stated that while he was standing with Charles Marshall, he observed CYNTHIA BROADY suddenly back away from the scout car and swing at Patrolman Spicher. He saw her run past Patrolman Spicher and cross the street. Patrolman Spicher attempted to head her off and she again swung at the officer at which time Patrolman Marshall saw a knife in her hand. Patrolman Spicher fired two shots at her as she continued running; and as she reached the west side of the street, with Patrolman Spicher nearing her, she turned around and again slashed at the officer, who then fired a third shot.

Patrolman Marshall walked across the street and attempted to disarm CYNTHIA BROADY and she slashed at him with the knife, cutting the left sleeve of his shirt. He finally had to put his foot on her hand and take the knife away from her. He stated he also called for assistance on the police radio.

On July 5, 1963, Detectives Charles Schlachter and Harry Hill, of the Homicide Bureau, were assigned to the investigation of this case. The officers went to the scene, and it was determined that Patrolman Marshall and Spicher had parked the scout car in front of apartment building at 2852 John R and that CYNTHIA BROADY collapsed approximately 70 feet south of Edmund Place on the west side of John R.

The investigating officers questioned the following witnesses from whom formal statements were later taken by Assistant Prosecutor Max M. Silverman and Stenographer Thelma Lilley:

FRANCES MAE JONES, 29/N, of 210 Erskine, Apt. #21.

The above witness was conveyed to the Homicide Bureau immediately following the shooting. She stated that she had been arrested by the officers in front of 210 Erskine; and while they were driving her downtown, they stopped to talk to a man and woman on the street. The officer wanted the woman to get into the car, and she stated she was not going to get in the car. The girl started running away from the police officer and she heard 2 or 3 shots. The officer returned to the car and said that the woman had cut him. The witness was unable to state what was said between the officer and the woman, and she stated she did not actually see what had happened. She stated she had been drinking but she was not actually drunk.

BERNICE GARLAND, 22/N, of 2852 John R, Apt. #303

The above woman was questioned by Detectives Schlachter and Hill on July 6, 1963 at 9:45 a.m. The formal statement was taken from her by Mr. Silverman on July 8, 1963 at 10:50 a.m.

She stated she was in her apartment and heard loud voices and arguing on the street and looked out her window. She saw a man and a woman talking to the police officers who were out of the scout car. She stated she knew the woman to be CYNTHIA BROADY, and the shorter of the two officers was attempting to get her into the car. She stated that CYNTHIA refused to get in the car and pulled away from the officer and started across John R. The officer followed her and took her by the wrist. She pulled away from him making a sweeping motion at him. She stated when they both reached the sidewalk, the woman was walking directly away from the police officer. He fired 3 rapid shots at her and she fell to the sidewalk. She stated the taller of the two officers never left the east side of John R, and that the man he was standing with was known to her as "Tims." She stated CYNTHIA BROADY used profane language and had refused to accompany the officer to the car. She denied seeing anything in CYNTHIA'S hand.

Later, Bernice Garland changed her statement, stating the man accompanying the deceased was Charles Marshall. She also claimed that the shorter of the two officers was the one who fired the shots.

ROBERT LEE FARR, 33/N, of 2998 Brush

Statement given to Detective Schlachter on July 7, 1963, at 10:15 a.m., at the Homicide Bureau.

He stated that on July 5, 1963, at approximately 2:30 a.m., he was standing on the corner of John R and Edmund Place. He saw a scout car stop south on Edmund Place, on the east side of John R. He stated he saw a tall police officer get out and talk to a Negro man and woman. The officer asked the woman to get in the scout car and she refused. He stated that when the woman refused, the officer took out his gun and said, "If you don't get in the car you black bitch, I'll kill you." At this time, the woman had only her purse in her hand. He stated she then started to walk west across John R. The officer yelled at her and she refused to stop. The officer stood at the rear of the scout car and fired one shot at her. The woman failed to stop and he fired again. She still failed to stop, and he fired a third shot and she fell to the sidewalk. The officer never left the rear of the scout car.

He said the officer then walked over to the woman and took a knife from her purse -- which he could not describe. The officer then slashed his left hand with the knife but he did not know where. The officer then walked back to the scout car and the other officer took the knife from him and cut the officer's shirt that did the shooting. He stated that the other officer never got out of the scout car and that they were the only two persons in the car.

On July 8, 1963, Mr. Farr made a formal statement to Mr. Silverman. He stated that he was walking down Edmund Place towards John R, and that the policeman on the right side of the police car got out and was talking to a lady. He stated that when the one officer started to shoot, the other officer got out of the car. He stated that the woman took a knife out of her skirt; and when she was half way across the street and had it in her hand, she fell down. He stated he was standing on the corner of John R and Watson when he saw this. He stated that when the officer fired the first shot, he knew he missed because he saw the bullet go over her shoulder. He also stated at this time that there was another woman in the police car at this time, and that the officer who fired the shots went back into the scout car and cut the other officer's shirt.

JOSEPH F. MAIORANO, 39/W, of 25574 Fortuna, Roseville, 777-2521

Mr. Maiorano voluntarily appeared at the Homicide Bureau at approximately 8:00 a.m., July 5, 1963 where he was questioned by Detectives Schlachter and Hill, and later a formal statement was taken from him by Mr. Silverman.

Mr. Maiorano stated that he was driving south on John R in his automobile. At this time, he heard 3 shots or 4 shots which he described as a loud noise, which he first thought were fire crackers. Almost simultaneously, he observed a police officer cross John R from the west side to the east side. The officer ran to a parked police car and called on the radio. Mr. Maiorano immediately stopped and got out of his car, and at this time, he observed another police officer on the west side of John R and a woman lying on the sidewalk. He walked over and observed that the woman had a knife in her hand with the blade open. He gave his name to the officer and left.

EVANS TIMS, 48/N, of 85 Erskine, Apt. #103

Mr. Tims appeared at the Homicide Bureau voluntarily on July 5, 1963 and was questioned by Detectives Schlachter and Hill. Later a formal statement was taken from him by Mr. Silverman.

Mr. Tims stated that he pays the rent on the deceased's apartment and that he knew her as a prostitute and has had intercourse with her. He stated he was with the deceased from 9:00 p.m., July 4, 1963 until the shooting and had been drinking with her.

On July 5, 1963, at about 12:30 a.m., he states he and the deceased were walking south on John R on the west side of the street, north of Edmund Place. At this time, a scout car stopped on the northwest corner of Edmund Place and John R, headed west toward Woodward Avenue. The car was parked 2 or 3 car lengths west of John R. One police officer got out of the car and he did not know which officer it was, the driver or the passenger. He saw no one else in the scout car but the officers. The police officer tried to place the deceased in the scout car but she broke away and walked east toward John R. At this time, the witness stated he was at the northwest corner of John R and Edmund Place. He did not hear the deceased say anything but heard the officer yell, "Halt," at least twice.

Mr. Tims stated the officer fired once from a distance of about 12 ft. and shot again from a distance of about 10 or 12 ft. The deceased kept walking and the officer kept walking. The officer fired a third time, and the deceased fell to the sidewalk about 6 ft. from where he was standing. He did not see the deceased with a knife, but stated that 2 or 3 hours before the shooting, he saw her have a black handled Case pocket knife. He said the shooting occurred before the bars closed.

CHARLES MARSHALL, 21/N, of 3492 St. Antoine, TE 3-4756

On July 5, 1963, at 4:20 a.m., Mr. Marshall was questioned by Detective Lieutenant Robert Slottke, of the Homicide Bureau, and later at 5:55 a.m., Mr. Silverman attempted to take a formal statement from him at which time he refused until he consulted an attorney. On July 8, 1963, at 9:55 a.m., he made a formal statement to Mr. Silverman.

Mr. Marshall stated he had known the deceased for 3 months, and that he had met her at about 11:30 p.m., July 4, 1963 at John R and Watson. They were together for the rest of the evening. While walking her home, south on John R, he stated a scout car stopped and the taller of the officers got out and grabbed the deceased and told her to get into the scout car. He stated that the other officer got out and talked to him. The next thing he knew, the deceased was across the street on the west side of John R. He observed the police officer about 8 ft. away from her. He fired 3 shots. He states that he then left the scene and went to the deceased's home and told her husband about the shooting. He then took a cab to Receiving Hospital where he was arrested.

He told Mr. Silverman that one of the police officers confiscated a pegged knife from him and that he heard the deceased use obscene language to the officer and observed her back away from him when he attempted to put her in the police car. He stated he did not go near the deceased's body after she fell and he did not see the deceased have a knife.

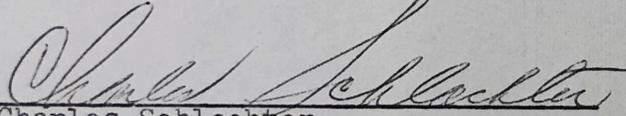
DONALD JOHNSON, 31/N, of 2841 John R

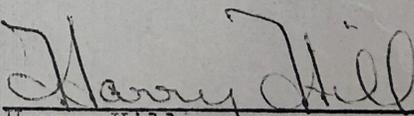
On July 5, 1963, at 2:35 p.m., the above subject was questioned at the Homicide Bureau by Detectives Schlachter and Hill.

He stated that at about 3:15 a.m., July 5, 1963, he got out of bed to open the window. This window faced on John R, and he heard loud voices. He heard a voice say, "Get in the car." He then raised the window shade and looked out and saw a police car parked in front of 2852 John R, on the east side of the street. When he first looked out, he saw a police officer talking to a man and a woman on the sidewalk. The officer out of the car appeared to be the driver. The other officer and another person were still in the police car. The officer already out of the car was talking to theman. The other police officer got out of the car and walked around to the back of the car and began talking to the woman. This officer appeared to be the shorter of the two. He said the shorter of the two reached over and took the woman by the arm and told her to get into the car. The woman jerked away from him and walked across the street, to the west side of John R.

Mr. Johnson further stated the officer then pulled out his gun and followed her. The officer walked ahead of the woman and turned facing her, standing about 5 ft. away. The officer appeared to be looking at both of her hands. The officer pointed his gun at her and said, "If you take another step, I'll shoot you." The woman replied, "You will just have to shoot me because I'm going home." The woman then walked past him; and when she was about 12 or 15 ft. from the officer, he fired at her. She did not stop and he fired two more rapid shots at her. The woman fell to the sidewalk, and the officer walked over to her and bent over her, and Mr. Johnson believes the officer took something from her hand, but he could not see what it was. During all this time, the taller of the two officers was still across the street by the police car.

A formal statement was taken from Mr. Johnson by Mr. Silverman on July 8, 1963, at 10:25 a.m. He stated he had seen the officers drive up and stop the two people on the street and gave substantially the same statement as he had to the investigating officers.


Charles Schlachter,
Detective


Harry Hill,
Detective

1st Endorsement

From the Commanding Officer of the Homicide Bureau to the Chief of Detectives, 7-10-63:

Forwarded as requested.

GEORGE BLOOMFIELD,
Detective Inspector
Homicide Bureau