

BERNICE GARLAND

Statement of:                    Taken in the office of the Prosecuting Attorney of Wayne County by Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Max M. Silverman, on July 8th, 1963, at about 10:50 A.M., in the presence of Officer Charles Schlachter of the Homicide Bureau; Thelma B. Lilley, stenographer.

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Questioned by Mr. Silverman as follows:

Q    What is your name?

A    Bernice Garland.

Q    I can't hear you.

A    Bernice Garland.

Q    Where do you live?

A    [REDACTED]

Q    My name is Max M. Silverman; I am an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney acting under the direction of Samuel H. Olsen, Prosecuting Attorney for Wayne County; I want to ask you some questions about something that happened on the morning of July 5th; are you willing to answer my questions?

A    Yes, I am.

Q    Were you home on the morning of July 5th?

A    Yes, I was.

Q    Sometime during that morning did you see or hear something happen?

A    Yes, I did.

Q    About what time was it?

A    Between 3:10 and 3:15.

Q    And what did you hear?

A    I heard the police officer tell the girl, he said to her, "Get in bitch" after he had got out of the car and the girl told him she wasn't getting in.

Q    Who is the girl?

A    Cynthia Scott.

Q    Did you know Cynthia?

A    Yes, I do.

Q What happened then?

A He told her, he said, "I said, 'Get in bitch'." She said, "I told you, "I'm not getting in because I'm not doing anything; I am on my way home'."

Q Did she say she wasn't going any place?

A Yes.

Q What language did she use when she said that?

A At first she don't use any profanity; after he pushed her towards the car, she started swearing.

Q What did she say?

A She said, "I'm not going any mother fucking where; I'm not doing nothing; I'm on my way home."

Q Then what happened?

A He said, "Yes, bitch, you are going somewhere tonight."

Q Did he try to push her in the car?

A Yes, he did.

Q Well now when the officer tried to push her in the car, what did she do?

→ A She pushed him away from her.

Q Where did she go then?

A She walked around the car and across the street.

Q To which side of the street, west side?

A Same side she got killed on.

Q Towards Woodward?

A Yes.

Q And what did the officer do then?

A He pulled out his gun.

Q Did you see both officers?

A Yes.

Q Would this be the taller or shorter officer?

→ A This was the shorter officer.

Q You are positive of that?

A Positive.

Q Did he follow her across the street?

A Yes, he did.

Q And did she continue to yell at him?

A She had just walked across the street; he walked across after he pulled out his gun; he snatched her, grabbed her.

Q Where did he grab her?

A It looked like he grabbed her by the wrist and she snatched away from him.

Q Where were you when you saw all this?

A Seated in my window.

Q On the third floor?

A Yes.

Q After he grabbed her wrist, what happened?

A She snatched away from him, said, "Don't fuck with me; I'm not doing anything; don't fuck with me."

Q Then what happened?

A After she snatched away from him, she walked and he said, "I'll shoot you bitch, you do any more walking." She said, "I'm not doing anything; I'm on my way home; I'm not doing anything."

Q Did she have anything in her hand?

A I didn't see anything in her hand.

Q I can't hear you.

A I didn't see anything in her hand.

Q Now, after the shooting, what did that officer do?

A After the shooting, he, the last thing he said before he shot her, after she continued to walk, he said, "You take one more step, you be a dead black bitch" and she walked and he shot three, you know, one right after the other.

Q Now, did you hear him talk to his brother officer after the shooting?

A Yes, I did.

Q What did he say?

A At first he leaned down by Cynthia while she was on the ground; you could hear the money that was in her hand.

Q I can't hear you?

A It sounded like some money in her hand; you could hear it drop on the

sidewalk and you could see him doing something to his wrist, but I don't know what it was; he was doing something, making a movement on his wrist.

Q Which wrist?

A I don't know.

Q Which officer was making this movement?

A The short one.

Q Did you hear him say something to his partner after the shooting?

A Yes.

Q What did he say?

A He crossed the street and said, "The bitch cut me, I had to shoot her."

Q You are sure that was the shorter officer?

A Yes.

Q Now, who is the man that was with this woman?

A You got me, I don't know.

Q I can't hear you.

A I don't know, some people say his name was Tims, but I don't know.

Q Do you know Tims?

A I know Tims by seeing him.

Q Did you see Tims with her?

A That was Charles Marshall.

Q You saw Charles Marshall there?

A I saw Charles Marshall today.

Q And did you see him there?

A I don't know; I don't remember him, I really don't.

MR. SILVERMAN: All right, that's all.