

CO 44-299  
DEB:ham

RE: SUSPECT - WILLIAM GARY SHAVER

The following investigation was conducted on April 15, 1968, at Beaufort, South Carolina, by SA DANIEL F. O'SULLIVAN:

Staff Sergeant LARRY WARREN, Marine Serial Number [REDACTED] VMFA-324, Marine Corps Air Station, residence 1343 Cardinal Lane, Laurel Bay, South Carolina, advised that he saw an individual in Beaufort, South Carolina, who resembled the composite sketch of someone who was allegedly connected with the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. Staff Sergeant WARREN advised that he was walking on Carteret Street in Beaufort, South Carolina, on Saturday, April 13, 1968, and passed a house located at 906 Carteret Street. He said that on the front porch of this house he observed a man sitting on the porch reading a newspaper and that this individual reminded him of a sketch he saw on a national news television show sometime during the prior week. WARREN said he could not recall the name of the individual whose sketch appeared on television, but recalled that this was the individual seen leaving a boarding house located in the area where Dr. KING was killed.

Staff Sergeant WARREN described the individual he saw sitting on the porch as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	30's
Height	5' 10" - 6'
Weight	160-170 pounds
Hair	Sandy colored, combed straight back
Eyes	Blue or grey
Complexion	Fair
Dress	Clean Shaven Dark Pants and White Shirt

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Kearney

A review of the 1966-1967 Beaufort City Directory showed that the house located at 906 Carteret Street, was a boarding house operated by Mrs. JANIE YOUNG.

Mrs. JANIE YOUNG, Young Boarding House, 906 Carteret Street, advised that on Saturday, April 13, 1968, she had two boarders staying at her boarding house. She said that she did not remember either one of her boarders sitting on the front porch reading a newspaper at any time on the previous Saturday, but noted that one of her boarders, a Mr. LINBERG, is an old man and seldom leaves his room. Mrs. YOUNG said her second boarder was WILLIAM SHAWER, who moved into her boarding house on April 3, 1968. Mrs. YOUNG said that SHAWER has stayed at her boarding house on several occasions and she has learned that SHAWER is from Greenville, South Carolina.

Mrs. YOUNG stated that SHAWER called her on Wednesday, April 3, 1968, and said that he was coming to Beaufort that day and would like to stay at her boarding house. SHAWER moved in that evening and has resided there ever since.

Mrs. YOUNG further advised that SHAWER is employed as a painter with the Coastal Cabinet Company, Beaufort, South Carolina. She described him as a white male, in mid forties, short in stature, medium build, dark wavy hair and fair complexion.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JULIAN P. DOWLING at Beaufort, South Carolina, on April 15, 1968:

Mr. WILLIAM KEARSE, Coastal Cabinet Works, 702 Bladen Street, advised that WILLIAM G. SHAWER, Greenville, South Carolina, Social Security Number - [REDACTED] started work as a painter at the Coastal Cabinet Works on April 8, 1968..

The following investigation was conducted by SA DANIEL F. O'SULLIVAN and SA LANSING P. LOGAN at Beaufort, South Carolina, on April 15, 1968:

WILLIAM GARY SHAVER, Youmans Boarding House, 906 Carteret Street, advised that his permanent address is 220 Francis Avenue, Greenville, South Carolina. SHAVER said that he left Greenville, South Carolina, by Greyhound Bus on April 3, 1968, and arrived in Beaufort, South Carolina, at 9 p.m. that evening. He moved into Youmans Boarding House that evening and remained there until the morning of April 8, 1968, when he reported to work at the Coastal Cabinet Works, Beaufort, South Carolina. SHAVER stated that he never left Beaufort, South Carolina, for any reason during the period April 3-8, 1968.

The following description of WILLIAM GARY SHAVER was obtained through observation and interview:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	August 19, 1923
Place of Birth	Rockingham, North Carolina
Height	5' 8"
Weight	175
Build	Medium to Heavy
Hair	Light Brown, greying, combed straight back
Eyes	Hazel
Scars and Marks	3" vertical scar from hairline down center of forehead
Occupation	Painter
Arrests	Admitted None

After the interview of SHAVER, Mrs. JANIE YOUNANS was recontacted at which time she advised that SHAVER had in fact been at her boarding house from April 3 through April 15, 1968. Mrs. YOUNANS stated that, with the exception of the past two days, when SHAVER has been working, he never left her boarding house for any great length of time.