

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mr. HAROLD E. PARKER, 1054 Meada Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised he is employed as a driver for Yellow Cab Company, 581 South Second Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. PARKER advised he got off of work at approximately 4:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968. He stated he left the cab he was driving at the gas pump at approximately 4:00 p.m., checked in with his day's proceedings, and then left in his 1959 white four door Rambler, license Number, Shelby County AS 6131, which is his personally owned auto. He stated he drove this car to the area of Jim's Grill, which is located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. PARKER stated that it is his estimate that he arrived at approximately 4:15 to 4:20 p.m. at Jim's Grill. He commented that when he arrived, he drove past the Grill, and parked near the intersection of Huling Street and South Main Street. He said he does not recall what cars were on the street at that time, but does recall specifically that Mr. JOWERS' Cadillac was parked almost directly in front of Jim's Grill. He explained that Mr. JOWERS owns and operates Jim's Grill. Mr. PARKER stated he cannot recall what other cars were on the street or what other cars were between his 1959 Rambler and JOWERS' white Cadillac, but believes that there was at least one, if not two, cars between his and JOWERS' car. He stated he has no idea as to the color, make, or model of the cars between his and JOWERS' car.

Mr. PARKER stated he was in Jim's Grill having his evening meal of chili and beer. He said he was sitting in the last booth in the Grill with a person whose name he knows as GEORGE HARDING. He stated he does not know HARDING's occupation or his address, but commented that HARDING frequents Jim's Grill quite regularly. Mr. PARKER added there were a number of people in the Grill during the entire time that he was there, and that there were several young men playing the shuffleboard, ping-pong machine, and the jukebox. He said he was not aware of any activity outside of Jim's Grill until a Deputy Sheriff entered Jim's Grill sometime after 6:00 p.m., and told everyone in the Grill to remain there until they were advised they could leave.

On 4/15/68 at Memphis, TennesseeFile # 44-1987Sub D-54by SAs HARLEY E. GYLFEby OJ: JAMES HOLBROOK / BEG:jmsDate dictated 4/15/68

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Mr. PARKER stated he stayed in his booth the entire time, and did not look out the window at any time until he left. He said he was not aware of what occurred out in the street, and in the immediate area until Mr. JOWERS asked him if he had heard the shooting. He stated he told JOWERS he had not heard any shooting, and was shortly thereafter advised that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He stated he definitely did not hear any shot fired while he was in Jim's Grill.

Mr. PARKER stated he did not notice any new faces in Jim's Grill while he was there, but commented the only individual he actually knew was GEORGE HARDING, who shared the booth with him. He said he knew there were a number of regular customers in Jim's Grill, and these were young men who are employed by the Tayloe Paper Company, but he is completely unfamiliar with their names.

Mr. PARKER stated the only car he can remember on the street in front of or in the immediate area of Jim's Grill when he entered Jim's Grill was Mr. JOWERS' white Cadillac. He stated he cannot recall any individual or individuals either walking or running in the immediate area of Jim's Grill when he entered to have his meal. He stated he can furnish no information whatsoever concerning the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING on April 4, 1968.