

DL.

Mr. Cowden when and where did you see James Earl Ray ten years ago on that day.

COWDEN

Well on that day as I stated previously the fella appeared to look like James Earl Ray and it was right down by the service station right off the South lane in Memphis.

DL.

Now this is some way away from ~~from~~ the motel.

COWDEN

Yes that's approximately eh four and a half blocks to five from the Motel.

DL.

And what time was it when you saw this man.

COWDEN

Approximately eh eh in the timeframe I'd say it was ten minutes after the sirens went off you know down there, and the actual time I would have no idea really I didn't look at my watch.

DL.

How can you be sure that ten years later that a man you saw at that filling station was in fact James Earl Ray.

COWDEN

Well really I don't really know it was James Earl Ray, it just appeared it looked like him from the match up from the picture in the paper, it looked like him.

Mr
Kerr
Cowden

DL.

But how can you remember that ten years later.

COWDEN

Well it wasn't ten years later you know when I saw the picture you know the newspaper at that time, ~~it appeared~~ at that time and I talked with ~~Anthony~~ Hayes about it eh a few years later, been a long time ago, ~~but to~~ actually to say for sure you know I wouldn't be that positive at all you know about it, it looked like him and that's about the crux of it.

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DL.

But you'd be prepared to go into court and say that you think that the man you saw then was - or looked like James Earl Ray.

COWDEN

It looked like him I wouldn't eh like it's a lot of people look alike you know for that matter I've seen some people that appeared like somebody else, and really not knowing him and looking back, I can say it looked like the same fella they appeared to be the same.

DL.

Why didn't you come forward at the time and say that you'd seen somebody that looked like James Earl Ray at the time of the shooting.

COWDEN

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Nobody asked me at the time, there was some investigation I thought it would you know come out, but nothing ever came of it, ~~when I have had talked with me and I thought he was going to court at the time~~

DL.

Thank you very much.

END SHOT 127 take 1.

TAPE ROLL 13.
SHOT NO. 128 take 1.

1.

DL.

When you saw the man that you thought was James Earl Ray what was he doing and did he have a car with him.

COWDEN

Well eh he walked into the service station and there was a white mustang at the service station parked at the side of the service station.

DL.

And what was he doing at the time.

COWDEN

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He walked into the service station bay and back out you know he walked from south main to the station into the bay the service bay of the station for a few minutes and then walked back towards north main.

END SHOT 128 take 1.

TAPE ROLL 7

SHOT NO. 48 TAKE 1

PAGE 2.

DAVID:

In the end, can anybody say definitely where the shot came from? And could it have come from those things?

CAPT SMITH:

No I...I don't believe that any person that was on the scene at that time that the actual shot was fired, could say with any certainty that it came from that room, window because I did not talk to anyone that actually saw the shot fired, myself.

DAVID:

So if nobody who was immediately around saw anybody, who they could identify definitely as James Earl Ray at the time, and if no-one's exactly sure where the shot came from, there's still very many questions about the whole case.

CAPT SMITH:

Well as far...as far as I know they the problem's been tried to be resolved one way or the other now, my personal knowledge of it I would eh, certainly like to see the ~~ka~~ factual account of it eh, but if that's ever available I would be glad to have a look at it. But so far I have not read, and probably will not be reading the entire case. I assume it's quite large.

DAVID:

From your own personal point of view do you look upon this as a case that's closed - or are there still niggling questions about it, for you?

CAPT SMITH:

Well my personal feeling is the case is closed because eh, a man has been arrested and convicted of the murder. But eh, there's certainly a lot of questions I would like answered myself but eh, there again they may have already been answered and I'm just not aware of it.

*Possible
not
Browning*