

3/9/65, 3 Mar '65, MS

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A L V I N A R A N O F F, called as a witness,
being first duly sworn, testified as follows:

BY MR. STERN:

Q Will you give your name, shield and
assignment, please?

A Sergeant Alvin H. Aranoff, Shield No. 640, assigned to
the 30th Precinct.

Q Sergeant Aranoff, I direct your attention
to February 21, 1965, at about 3 p.m. on that date were
you on duty?

A Yes, I was.

Q And where were you stationed?

A I was assigned to radio motor patrol in car 885 of
the 30th Precinct.

Q Were you on any particular assignment?

A No, sir, I was just cruising in a radio car.

Q At about 3 p.m. were you in the vicinity
of the Audubon Hall, here in New York County?

A Yes, I was.

Q And at that time, or shortly after, what if
anything did you hear?

A I was at the corner of 165th Street and Broadway,
facing northbound, when I heard a series of muffled shots

Police Exhibit 27 For ID
NY SUPREME CT.
FEB 4 1966
MURRAY DEUTSCH
OFFICIAL STENOGRAPHER

coming from the direction of the Audubon Ballroom.

Q What happened then?

A I told the chauffeur to go to the corner of 166th, which was one block away, where I saw another sergeant standing on the sidewalk there. We pulled up there, I said to him, "I thought I heard shots." He said, "So did I." At that moment about five or six male Negro men came running out of the main entrance on 166th Street, from the Audubon Ballroom, and they were shouting.

Q Please don't tell us what they were shouting.

You saw them running out, and you heard them shouting?

A Yes, sir.

Q Then what did you do?

A Got out of the radio car, on the righthand side, which was the sidewalk side. The chauffeur got out on the roadway side. We both ran toward the doorway of the Ballroom.

Q And what did you see when you ran toward the doorway?

A When we got just about to the entrance, a man who I later arrested --

Q All right, officer. There was a man there,

is that right?

A Yes.

Q And I direct your attention to the photographs in front of you, and I ask you if you see the man you saw there, portrayed in any of those photographs? You are indicating Grand Jury Exhibit 2, is that right?

A Yes, sir.

Q Now, when you saw the man portrayed in the photograph marked Grand Jury Exhibit 2, was he standing alone or were there other people around him?

A There were other people around him.

Q Were they doing anything to him?

A Yes, sir.

Q What were they doing to him?

A They were pummeling him, striking him, pulling him by his coat, trying to keep him from getting away.

Q And were these people yelling anything, yes or no?

A Yes, they were.

Q After you made that observation, what did you do?

A I at this time placed --

Q Did you retrieve this man from the mob?

A Yes.

Q And when you retrieved him from the mob around him, was this whole area congested with people?

A Yes, sir, very many people.

Q What happened after you got the man portrayed in this photograph from the people who were hitting him and yelling things?

A We were trying to bring him to a radio car, my radio car, which was parked at the curb, and there were so many people around us, that they were striking the officer that was with me. Others were pulling me to get me away from this fellow, to let him go, that I had to draw my gun at this time, and ordered these people to stand back and let us take this man into the radio car.

Q Were they striking this man who was in your custody?

A Yes, they were striking and kicking.

Q And you drew your gun?

A That's right. I fired one shot in the air.

Q And then what happened?

A That enabled us -- the crowd sort of stepped back

and enabled us to bring this fellow into the radio car. I sat in the back of the radio car with him, and my partner, Patrolman Louis Angelos, also of the 30th Precinct, my chauffeur, he got in the front of the car, and I told him to drive to the station house at Wadsworth Avenue.

Q Now, did you have any conversation with the man portrayed in Grand Jury Exhibit No. 2, in the radio car?

A Yes, sir.

Q And what conversation was that?

A I asked him his name. He told me Thomas Hagan. I asked him other questions.

Q All right, you asked him his name, he said it was Thomas Hgan, is that correct?

A Yes, sir.

Q And you did ask other questions, is that right?

A Yes, sir.

Q In the radio car did you search the man who told you his name was Thomas Hgan, this man whose photograph you have pointed out to the grand jury?

A Yes, sir.

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Q And what if anything did you find on his person at that time?

A In his right trouser pocket was a clip from a 45, containing four unused 45 cartridges.

Q In other words, there was a clip containing four live rounds of 45 caliber ammunition, is that right?

A Yes, sir.

Q And you searched him further at a later time, is that correct?

A I had him --

Q Yes or no?

A Yes.

Q Now, did the man, Thomas Hagan, the man who identified himself to you as Thomas Hagan, complain of anything to you?

A Yes, sir.

Q What did he say?

A He had been shot.

Q In fact was he bleeding?

A Yes, but not an awful lot.

Q Where was he bleeding from?

A The left thigh on the outside.

Q And did there come a time when you brought him to the hospital?

A Yes, sir.

Q Which hospital did you bring him to?

A First I brought him to Jewish Memorial Hospital.

Q Then where did you bring him?

A Then we transferred him to Bellevue Hospital.

MR. STERN: Are there any questions

of this officer? Thank you very much.

THE FOREMAN: Thank you, officer.

(WITNESS EXCUSED)

Feb. 7, 1966.

Crossy St. Amnygy Sallbetman

no presents or ship for James E. Fitzgerald

Richard - ask about bits assigned to case

He did not arrange the Dy.

He does not know when Dy was assigned

no one else attached any & cyg + Dy Hays