

District Attorney's Office

COUNTY OF NEW YORK

March 8, 1965

Herman Porter

*Grand Jury
Appearance*

Hermon Potter March 8

516 E 11th St

2286433

part time reporter for Hudson,
weekly newspaper.

Sat down before
anyone spoke.

After Mx at podium,
man in front standing, seemed
to get gun and out of my pocket.
Saw man in crouched position.

Looked at Mx who had
stepped to side of podium. Then
heard what sounded like a
string of fireworks. W got
my foot. Firing continued. Seemed
to come from all over. Saw
man run from to back of
my feet, saw him kick a
chair, but this long after after
most of audience had all
wandered around.

John GRAY
2300 8th Ave - 862 8803

I was put in the Audubon Ballroom
on 2-21-65. I knew Norman 3x Butler & Thomas 15x Johnson,
Lusa working at the Post office that day. 384-1114
I belong to Muslim Mosque No. 7, It's not Mosque 7.
It's under Malcolm X organization. I left Mosque #7
about 1 1/2 yrs ago. I knew Norman 3x & Thomas 15x
as members of Mosque 7. I don't know what they were in the
organization. I never saw Hayer before Post office
139 + 6th Ave. punched in & out. (Interview to be continued
384 - 3-15-65 Monday).

842

Dr. Norman

Bullet Hayer - Bellman Surgery - Ballroom

15 36

3-8-65 2nd office

Herman Party - 516 E 11 St.

I was seated 8 or 9 rows from front on extreme left. I usually sit in front row with bass. I arrived around 2:15 PM 2-21-65 - at Audubon Ballroom. Copeland spoke & MacArthur came on stage & sat down. Benjamin finished talk. MacArthur & double hands with Benj. Hale & one person & said "Shelter Alicher" someone shouted from audience "Get your hands out of my pocket." It was seated on the right & front of me. I heard a man yell twice "Get your hand out of my pocket" I glanced over, he was crouched over. I didn't get a good look at his face. wearing dark suit well built. I saw his mouth say something as the words passed "Get your hands out of my pocket" Shots rang out I couldn't tell where they came from. It sounded like a string of firecrackers. I went down to the floor. Spring continued it seemed to come from all kinds of different places. I looked up later & saw rockets lying there. After shot & everything was over I saw a man run down left aisle & kick a chair over. I don't think he had anything to do with it. Center was clear almost everyone had run out the rear, by then. The man I saw start was dark skinned. I cannot say from the pictures of the man shown to me (Butler, Hays, & Johnson) I cannot say for sure he is or is not the man.

(John S. Gray on reverse side)

HERMAN PORTER
516 E. 11 St.

3-8-65 at DA Stern's office

I was seated 8 or 9 rows from the front stage on the extreme left side. I usually sit in the front row with the press. I arrived at about 2:15 P.M. on 2-21-65 at the Audubon Ballroom. A speaker spoke and his name is Benjamin, he finished and then introduced Malcolm X. They shook hands and then Malcolm X stepped forward and greeted crowd with "Salaam Aleichem", someone then shouted from the audience "Get your hand out of my pocket". He was seated on the right and in front of me. I heard these words Get your hand out of my pocket, twice, I glanced over in that direction and saw a man get to his feet crouched over. I did not get a good look at him. He was wearing dark clothes and was well built. His mouth was moving when I heard the words Get your hand out of my pocket. Shots rang out, I couldn't tell where the shots came from. It sounded like a string of firecrackers. I went down to the floor. Shots continued it seemed to be coming from all kinds of places. I looked up later and saw Malcolm X lying on the stage. After the shots and everything was over I saw a man run down the left aisle and kick a chair over, I don't think he had anything to do with it. The center was clear almost everyone had run out the rear by then. The man I saw was darkskinned I cannot say from the photos shown me that it was or was not the people in the ~~XXXXXX~~ photos.

witness went before the grand jury and was immunized.

Cavallaro

Grand Jury -

Herman Porter - 516 E. 11 St. -
Occupation - Computer Programmer,
Computer Applications, Inc. 855
Madison Ave. - Part-Time reporter
for "militant" newspaper. -

Arrived at Ballroom - 2/21/65 -
2:15pm, about 8 or 9 rows from
front - near left aisle - a man
a row or two in front of me -
"Get your hand out of my pocket."
crouched over - wearing a dark
suit - and it was dark checks -
Then shots rang out - Malcolm
raised his hand to his chest -
seemed to stiffen - more shots
or firecrackers fell to floor -

Didn't see enough to identify
anyone - can not say whether
it was or wasn't our perpetrator
to

D.D. 5[#] 94 Re: Herman Porter -

writes under name of Dave Newman - M-W-43 yrs -

D.D. 5[#] 94-1-

8 or 9 rows from stage on extreme left side - usually sit in front row - man was wearing dark clothes - "well built" - does not vary with grand jury testimony.

Vince -

H.B.1- Re: Herman Porter -

Born - 2/28/31 - Bronx -
U.S. Army - 54 - to 56 -

City College - 49-53 -
Northwestern U. - 1963 -

1962-63 - attended S.W.P. -
meetings in Chicago -
Chairman - Militant Labor Forum
in Chicago -
Contributed large sum to SWP -
Young Socialist Alliance -
Fail Play For Cuba - 1962 -
Member Executive Committee -
of S.W.P. - in 1965 -
Very Active in SWP -
(Socialist Workers Party)

2nd - John Leely -

3rd - Went to Broo Office -