

Feb 24

Reeko's 25 Feb 1968 Ronald Timbulake

EXHIBIT
N Y SUPREME CT.

1764 Bedford Ave

FEB 8 1968

VL 6 - 8656

MURRAY DEUTSCH
OFFICIAL STENOGRAPHER

T.A. Employee - Proebman

Arrived at 9:55 1:50.

Seated in back - in booths on extreme right as for the stage.

First heard screaming and moving. Head shaking. Screaming saying, "Can you hear". Head Shaking from front of Ballroom. Car of Shors going off in Road fire. Saw 1 face. Crowd thinned.

Group of at least 3 men running up left side from direction of stage towards the rear. These seemed to have a definite purpose - out. First saw them near the rear of the ballroom. Headed for door on left which is main entrance. These were followed by 2 more men, who were firing and firing towards front of hall. Crawled was after them. 2 more men were chasing these and firing at them.

First 3 left, 2nd two at door turned and began firing. We moving towards them.

Door

W →

#1
Stopped firing

#2



X

W ~~but~~ #1 moved up, #2 pointed
gun at him, W stopped, as #1
turned to the door, with #1 with
shoulder in #1 side. He reeled and
fell down the steps. W started
down. Saw gun. #2 had a
small Cal automatic. didn't see what #1
had. W picked up the gun, #2
ran by W jumped up over #1
and ran down steps. #1 got up
and ran out. One of other two
on down steps and continued firing at
them. Other people had run down
steps. #2 Caught ^{on ground} ~~in~~ ^{man around the} ~~in~~ #1
Caught in doorway. A group of men
had got, about 4 or 5 had #1 in
doorway.

Didn't see #1 down the
Steps.

3/4 Dark ~~John~~ Suede jacket
Brown. Dark trousers
Hav

Saw #2 man in Hospital.
Apparently the man. Der Winston
DEVERGE #442 24 Sg.

#1 had on a Tweed Coat, Fine
long Topcoat.

W tried to fire at #1 but
gun jammed

Statement of: Robert Timberlake.
Made to: Herbert Stern, ADA.
Date: February 26, 1965.
Time: 2:00 a.m. to 2:25 a.m.
Place: 34th Precinct, New York City.
Appearances: Det. DeVergee Sh.#442 24th Sqd.
Lieutenant Sullivan, Man.North Hom.
Stenographer: Joseph Renda.

BY MR. STERN;

Q What is your name, please?

A Robert Timberlake.

Q And where do you live, Mr. Timberlake?

A Brooklyn.

Q Mr. Timberlake, on February 21st, 1965, did you have occasion to go to the Audubon Ballroom here in Manhattan?

A I don't know what date it was.

Q About what time was it that you arrived?

A About ten minutes to two.

Q And when you got there where did you sit yourself?

A In the right-hand corner, facing the stage.

Q Was that in one of the booths in the back?

A In one of the booths in the back.

Q And was anybody speaking on the stage at that time?

A No.

Q Would you try and speak a little louder. What happened after you seated yourself in the booth?

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EXHIBIT
N Y SUPREME CT.
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MURRAY DEUTSCH
SPECIAL STENOGRAPHER

A I was talking to a few people that came in, that I knew, then Rubin started --not Rubin, Benjamin started talking on the stage. Then I was talking to another fellow and we walked out into the foyer and he and I kept on talking. Then somebody came outside and asked me to come back inside. I came back inside and then Malcolm was introduced and Malcolm came in.

Q Now, at this time where were you inside the ballroom?

A I was standing in the back of the ballroom behind the booth.

Q Were you in the center, right or left?

A Center.

Q In the center and as you were standing there at anytime did you see any stink bomb or any object on fire?

A No.

Q As you stood there in the center rear part of the ballroom, you saw Malcolm X get up to speak; is that correct?

A He was in the back, he kept out on the stage.

Q Did he sit down on the stage?

A No, I don't believe so.

Q Well, what happened next?

A I don't remember whether he sat down or what. When I came in Malcolm was coming out to speak, when I was called back inside.

Q And what happened then?

A Malcolm gave the greeting.

Q What greeting did he give if you remember?

A Something in Arabic.

Q Then what happened?

A Some people started getting up and moving as far as I can see.

Q Where was this at?

A The place had gotten quiet then it got noisy.

Q Was it on the left or right-hand side?

A Seemed to be right in the middle.

Q And you saw some people getting up and it was noisy?

A Yes. Then some women started screaming and Malcolm said hold your seats, keep your seats and then the shooting started.

Q And where did the shooting come from?

A From the middle. Cluster of men standing together and shooting.

Q And this cluster of men were they up in the front part of the ballroom?

A Towards the middle to me. The ballroom was slightly there was an aisle down the middle, they were on the left-hand side.

Q Of that middle aisle as you face the state; is that right?

A Yes.

Q Well, after you saw and heard this shooting, what did you see next?

A I just stood there. People start moving all kinds of ways; I just stood there. Then I notice three men moving to me, out of the place. Everybody else was running under tables, moving chairs.

Q These three men where were they running?

A They were coming down the left aisle going through the arch, out of the door.

Q That would be running away from the direction of the stage towards the entrance?

A Toward the exit.

Q The exit rather. As these three men ran did you see anything else?

A Then two men which I identified one in the hospital --.

Q Well, you saw two more men; is that right?

A Yes.

Q Were they also running up the aisle toward the exit, away from the stage?

A At the time I saw them they were firing.

Q And where were they firing?

A After the three left these two were middle way between where they were standing in the cluster and the exit. They were standing firing back at somebody.

Q And in which direction were they firing?

A Towards the stage.

Q Both men were firing?

A Yes.

Q Were they both using hand-guns, I mean pistols?

A Yes.

Q Then what did these two men do?

A Then they started to run.

Q Were they running towards the exit?

A Towards the exit.

Q Were they being pursued by anybody?

A They were being pursued by two woman.

Q Were these two men doing anything?

A They were firing on.

Q They were firing on the two men in front of them;
is that right?

A Yes.

Q Now, when the two men who were running toward the
exit reached the vicinity of the exit what happened then?

A They spun around again and began firing again.

Q Was that towards the two men who were chasing them?

A Towards the crowd in general. People start pick-
ing up chairs, make some kind of motion towards them. Every-
time they fire people would fall back again.

Q And one of these men were taller than the other;
is that right?

A I don't remember.

Q Well, as they stood there by the exit did you do anything?

A I was moving and I moved toward the closest one, which pointed a gun at me. That stopped me, I wasn't going no further. Then the gun fire broke out again and the other one wheeled around and --.

Q Which way was he running?

A Towards the steps, towards the exit.

Q When he wheeled to run what did you do?

A I ran up to him and hit him.

Q And how did you hit him?

A With my body, my shoulder.

Q What part of his body did you strike?

A Middle section.

Q What happened to him when you hit him?

A He went down the flight of stairs.

Q He fell down the steps?

A Yes.

Q What happened to the gun that he had?

A I don't know.

Q Did you see him drop the gun?

A No. I told you before I didn't see him drop the gun.

Q After he fell down the steps what happened then?

A I started down the steps behind him.

Q Did you see the gun there at that time?

A Yes, I jumped over the gun.

Q You were attempting to reach the man on the steps;
is that right?

A Yes.

Q Then what happened?

A Then I stopped and went back for the gun.

Q This man that was laying on the steps, was he doing anything?

A I guess he was getting up to get away. I took my eyes off him went back for the gun.

Q And the other man?

A Next time I looked up the other man had jumped over the man I hit and was headed out; making it down out the door.

Q So, the man who jumped over the man you hit was going out the door first; is that right?

A Right.

Q And then the man you hit --.

A Wait a second now.

Q I'm saying you hit one man, he fell on the steps;
is that right?

A Right.

Q The other man passed him and went out the door before he did; is that right?

A Yes.

Q Then the man you hit got up; is that correct?

A He was up.

Q He was running for the door too; is that right?

A Right.

Q And you reached the gun; is that correct?

A I had reached the gun and turned around.

Q What did you do with the gun?

A I went back down the steps behind them, there was a foyer, and I tried to discharge the gun at the last man that went out the door.

Q That was the man you hit; is that right?

A Right.

Q Were you able to fire the pistol?

A No.

Q Had it jammed?

A I guess so.

Q You weren't able to fire it in any case; is that right?

A No.

Q Did you see what happened to the two men?

A Then I went to the door, I went down the next flight of steps and make the turn to the door and someone held me at the door, wouldn't let me out in the street. Both mean, as far as I can see had been captured by the crowd, one out in the street and one I hit right by the door.

Q Now, when you were on the stairway did anything else happen, did anybody else run up and fire at the man who

you had knocked down?

A Whoever it was they were having a gun battle. They came down the steps and was firing at both men.

Q And he was the same man who you had seen firing at them before; is that right?

A I don't know. I didn't turn around. I just heard the shots coming from behind me.

Q Now, what did you do with the pistol, did you turn it over to the F.B.I.?

A Yes.

Q Did you examine the gun to see how many rounds were in the clip?

A Yes.

Q How many were in the clip?

A Three bullets.

Q And you turned the gun over to the F.B.I.; is that correct?

A Right.

Q Did you write down the serial number or anything else about that?

A No.

Q That was a .45 caliber automatic pistol; is that right?

A Right.

Q Now, the day after this happened, on Monday, did you go to the hospital?

A Yes.

Q And that was Bellevue Hospital; is that correct?

A Right.

Q When you went to Bellevue Hospital did you see a patient in a bed?

A Yes.

Q And were you with Lieutenant Sullivan?

A Who is Lieutenant Sullivan?

Q That's this gentleman here and Detective Devergee, this gentleman right over here?

A Right.

Q And the man you saw in the bed in Bellevue --.

A There was another officer there.

Q But the man you saw in the bed in Bellevue, had you ever seen him before?

A He was up at the Audubon Ballroom.

Q Was he one of the two men who you observed firing backwards and running out?

A He's the one that held the pistol on me.

Q Not the man you knocked down, he's the other man; is that correct?

A Right.

Q All right, sir. Now, we'd like you to take a look at these men, there are a group of men standing outside, look at them and see if you recognize any of them.

(Lieutenant Sullivan leaves room)

(Witness looking through peep-hole)

Q All right sir, do you recognize any of this group of men that you see?

A Just that one.

Q Which number is he?

A From which one?

Q From either side?

A He's fifth from this side?

Q Fifth from the right?

A Fourth from this side?

Q And fourth from the left; is that correct?

A Yes.

Q And where have you seen that man before?

A Up in the Audubon Ballroom.

Q Is he the man that you knocked down on the staircase in the Audubon Ballroom? The one that was firing at the two men pursuing him; is that right?

A Yes.

MR. STERN: Thank you very much.

Police line up 34th Squad room.

Mr. Stern: Starting from the left, number one will you give your name:

- 1 Lionel Jackson, Patrolman, Sh.#10450 28th pct.
- 2 Walter Cross Sh.#1158 25th Sqd.
- 3 Albert Robertson, Patrolman, Sh.#18087 34th Pct.
- 4 Norman Butler 661 Rosdale Avenue.
- 5 Howard Sheffey, Patrolman, Sh.#21557 34th Pct.
- 6 Rudolph Steward, Patrolman, Sh.#23487 34th Pct.

7 Archer Simmons Sh.#2461 26th Sgd.
8 James Symonds, Patrolman, Sh.#2127 32nd Pct.

Mr. Stern; For the record: Norman Butler was identified by the witness. He's the fourth man from the . He's also the fifth man from the right on the line.

BY MR. STERN: Time 2:38 a.m.

Q Mr. Timberlake, this man you just identified, you say he was the man that was caught by the door; is that correct?

A Right.

Q And when these people had him by the door did you see what they were doing to him?

A Some people were kicking him, some people were holding him, some had his legs up in the air.

Q Were they doing anything to his leg?

A They were twisting it.

Time 2:39 a.m.

District Attorney's Office

COUNTY OF NEW YORK

March 5, 1965 -

Ronald Timler-
lake -

Grand Jury
Appearance

Timberlake

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RONALD TIMBERLAKE, called
as a witness, having been first duly
sworn, testified as follows:

THE FOREMAN: Please sit down.

BY MR. STERN:

Q What is your name, sir?

A Ronald Timberlake.

Q And where do you live, Mr. Timberlake?

A In Brooklyn.

Q Now, Mr. Timberlake, I direct your
attention to February 21, 1965, Sunday, on that
date, did there come a time that you went to the
Audubon Ballroom located here in New York County to
hear Malcolm X speak?

A Yes.

Q And would you tell the grand jury
please what happened after you arrived at the ballroom?

A Well, I was in the back of the ballroom talking to/
a fellow. I was called inside at the time when Malcolm
just came on the stage to speak. Malcolm gave a
greeting to the crowd, and something had taken place,
I don't know what it was, and people started moving.

EXHIBIT 74
N.Y. SUPREME CT.

FEB 3 1966

MURRAY DEUTSCH
OFFICIAL STENOGRAPHER

Timberlake

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And Malcolm asked the people to hold their seats.

And he asked them to hold their seats, then they started shooting, and I just stood there and --

Q You heard shooting, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q And after you heard the shooting, what happened?

A I stood there, and the crowd began to break up.

And everybody began scattering. And I noticed three men going in a particular direction, which was towards the door, heading out. And there were two more men following these three men which were shooting back at the crowd.

Q In other words, the two men that were running in back of the three men were firing behind them?

A They were turned around backwards firing and running a few steps and firing again.

Q Was anybody behind these two men?

A They were two more men following them shooting at them.

Q Then what happened?

A I proceeded to intervene and one man pointed a gun at me.

Q Now, when you intervened, are you speaking now in reference to the two -- the middle two men that were firing backwards?

A The two middle men.

Q Did you approach them?

A I started to approach them and one of the pointed a gun at me and I stopped.

Q Was this in the area of the exit or entrance-way to the ballroom?

A Yes.

Q Now, after one of these two men pointed a gun at you, and you stopped, what happened then?

A The other one turned to run and I proceeded towards him, and I -- his side was to me and I hit him, and he fell down ~~ag~~ a flight of steps.

Q You hit him with your shoulder you are indicating, is that right?

A Yes.

Q And he fell down -- and after he fell down, what if anything did you notice?

Timberlake

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A Well, I proceeded behind him to get him, and as I started down the steps I passed over a .45 automatic.

Q Now, directing your attention to the other man, the man who you said pointed the gun at you, what happened in reference to him?

A He was engaged in a gun battle with another fellow, him and this other fellow seemed to be shooting it out.

Q And then what happened?

A I started towards the man that went down the steps. I turned around and came back and picked up the .45, I turned around again, the other fellow that was in the gun battle had jumped over the man that fell down, and was running out the door.

Q This other man had run -- evidently
past
run right/past you, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q And he ran out into the street first, is that right?

A Yes.

Q Then what happened?

A The other fellow followed him out into the street.

Q Did you see what if anything happened

x

Timberlake

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to these two men, the first man in the street and the second man?

A Well, most -- both of them, the first man --

MR. STERN: One moment. Read

back the question, please.

(BY THE REPORTER: "Question: Did you see what if anything happened to these two men, the first man in the street and the second man?")

Q Please continue.

A One of them got out on the sidewalk and the other one was stopped at the door right outside the Audubon door.

Q The man who got out to the sidewalk, is he the man who had jumped over the body of the man you had knocked down?

A Yes.

Q And did anything happen to him when he got to the sidewalk?

A The crowd had merged on him and he was stopped.

Q And the man that you knocked down, did anything happen to him, the man --

Timberlake

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A The crowd merged on him at the street.

Q And the man that you know -- the man that you knocked down, did you see what the crowd was doing to him?

A The crowd was trying to beat him up. They had his feet up in the air when I saw him, and twisting his legs.

Q They had him by the legs, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q Now, in reference to the .45 caliber hand gun that you retrieved on the steps, did there come a time when you turned that weapon over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation?

A Yes.

Q Now, Mr. Timberlake, I show you these three photographs, which have been marked Grand Jury Exhibit #1, 2, and 3, and I ask you if you can recognize any of the men portrayed in those photographs?

A This man pointed the gun at me.

Q Now, you're indicating the man portrayed in Grand Jury Exhibit #2 and you say this is the man

that pointed the gun at you?

A Right.

Q And this is the man who leaped over the body of the other man in the staircase and went into the street, correct?

A Right.

Q Did you recognize any of the other men portrayed?

A This man was caught in the street by the crowd, the one I saw his face was twisted, they were twisting his legs when I saw him.

Q And he's the man that you had knocked down the staircase, is that correct?

A That I don't know.

Q You say that the --

A I didn't see his face on the staircase.

Q Was he dressed the same way as the man you knocked down?

A Yes, he had on a tweed topcoat.

Q Long tweed topcoat?

A Yes.

Q Well, the man you knocked down on the

staircase, did you see him get up?

A He got up.

Q Did you see him run out?

A He got down the steps all right, yes.

Q And then you saw the crowd catch him?

A He was caught outside the door.

Q So that the man you knocked down the stairs was the man who got caught outside the door;

is that correct?

A That's right.

Q And then you saw this man's face?

A I saw his face after he was lying on the ground.

Q And this is the man portrayed in Grand Jury Exhibit #3, is that right?

A Right.

Q Now, calling your attention to Grand Jury Exhibit #1, do you know this man?

A I know him.

Q Just a minute. Can you tell us of your own knowledge then whether or not the man portrayed in that photograph, Grand Jury Exhibit #1 was present in the Audubon Ballroom that day?

Timberlake

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A I do not know.

MR. STERN: Thank you very much.

Are there any questions?

MR. FOREMAN: Just a minute, Mr.

Stern.

MR. STERN: I am sorry.

Thank you very much.

(Witness excused.)

-oOo-

CRIMINAL RECORD TRANSCRIPT

D.D. 106 (Rev. 8-58)

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORKBUREAU OF
CRIMINAL IDENTIFICATIONNAME Ronald S. TimbulakiB # 2 9 9 2 9 9

ALIAS _____

E # _____

Following is a true copy of the records of this bureau concerning the above named person as revealed by:

D.C.I. # 397 055A☒ A search by name and information furnished.☐ A comparison of finger impressions.

F.B.I. # _____

Date of Arrest	NAME	Borough or City	CHARGE	Arresting Officer	Date, Disposition, Judge and Court
4/20/51	Ronald Timbulaki	Bronx	422 PHL	Smith 11th Div.	10/1/52 Information Dism. Judge Silver Spec Sess Court #964
6/12/58	Ronald Timbulaki	Bronx	Fel. Asslt. & 722 P.L.	Kilcullen 50th Pct.	11/3/58 DOR Judge Rossback Spec Sess On 10/23/61 Info. Dism. Jud. Haddock #3907/58

Record prepared on MAR 8 1965
by _____
Signature _____
Rank _____ Shield No. _____ Command BCI

Cross of Timberlake by Chance

He says shots came from front of hall room

Clean up - Referred to 3 men

2 men - firing
other 2 men,

He did not see police take Butler into
Custody

He did not fire on Butler

Clean up Re

He did not see either 2 men drop the gun
But it was 1 of the 2 men. - Explain

He heard gun drop

He last seeing Butler when he picked up the gun

Gross T. Mulichy & Sabbatino

Police arrived later - explain

Tombstone - 3816 Barnes Ave. Bk.
family L. with address
