

Raymond Gilmer

Wash. Post:

The black '64 Pontiac swerved off Clinton Ave. onto Jeliff Ave. and jammed to a stop. An unmarked Newark City Police car veered onto the st. behind it, siren screaming.

Raymond Gilmer, age 20, jumped out of the Pontiac on the passenger side and headed for an alley between an apt. bldg. and an auto-body shop.

Police ordered "Halt!" and fired a warning shot, according to the official report, and then a second shot, which struck Gilmer. He fell dead on the pathway next to the body shop. Police say they found a knife with a black handle near his left hand and a 38-caliber revolver with one bullet spent under the seat of the car.

Ma ine Lance Cptl John Richardson home on leave from Calif. was watching from the door of his mother's candy store across the st. Richardson said Gilmer was never warned, but was shot twice by bullets from the moving police car. He said he watched the search afterward and that police found no weapons, either near the body or in the car.

Three other witnesses, who would not give their names, corroborated this. They said one of the police bullets shot Gilmer's brains all over the pathway.

Grandmother Bessie Hopkins. Wife Sharon Gilmer, 19 (her mother's apt. is on Bergen St.

Gilmer left Grandmother's house

He left and no one knows where he was until 2:20 a.m. Tuesday when the police patrol spotted him coming from the entrance to 774 Bergen St., directly across from his mother-in-law's house.

The police report said Gilmer was carrying something. They challenged him, the report said, and he fired a shot at the patrol car, ran to the Pontiac (which wasn't his) and fled. Police gave chase.

No witnesses to this part of the incident could be found.

The next day on Jeliff St., where the chase had end, someone went over and covered the blood and the pieces of brain with dirt. A gentle mound can still be seen there.

Roy Aarons

*Where is the Pontiac?*