

STATE OF NEW JERSEY )  
 ) SS:  
COUNTY OF ESSEX )

I, MARIE GAINER, being duly sworn upon my oath, do  
depose and say:

1. I am 22 years old. I reside at 302 Hunterdon  
Street, Newark, New Jersey. I am a Negro.

2. At approximately 7:30 P.M. on Saturday, July 15,  
1967, I was standing in the front room of my apartment which I  
rent on the third floor, in the company of my friend, Carmetia  
Roberts. We were both looking out the front windows onto  
Hunterdon Street.

3. We saw a group of State Troopers standing at the  
intersection of 16th Avenue and Hunterdon Street. The Troopers  
were dressed in blue uniforms with yellow stripes down the  
trouser legs and they wore helmets. The Troopers were all  
armed with rifles. The Troopers were firing into the Hayes  
Homes projects. Three of the Troopers were standing on  
Hunterdon Street near the corner of 16th Avenue, against the  
wall. One of the Troopers in the large group at the inter-  
section broke from the group and ran into Hunterdon Street to  
the house directly across from 302 Hunterdon Street, where my  
friend and I were standing at the third floor window.

4. Carmetia and I looked at the Trooper across the  
street as he continued to fire in the direction of the Hayes  
Homes Projects.

5. At this time, there were several persons on the  
street below the window from which we were looking out. There  
were also several persons moving around on the street below.

These people apparently thought, as I thought, that there was no cause to fear for our lives because the Troopers were across the street. The three standing against the wall on Hunterdon Street at the intersection of Hunterdon and 16th Avenue and the group in the middle of the intersection were all firing at the Hayes Homes Project and had no reason to fire in the direction of the house I live at.

6. At this time, I saw that some of the Troopers at the intersection were aiming in my direction. I turned to my friend Carmetia on my right and said: "They're aiming over here", or words to that effect. Carmetia then retreated backward from the window. I then said to Carmetia, "let's go downstairs".

7. Carmetia and I then started down the stairs. My three children, Michelle 7, Laura Ann 5, and Johnny, Jr. 3, were all downstairs on the second floor of the building with my mother, the deceased Mrs. Hattie Gainer. I had a conversation with my mother, face-to-face, minutes before the State Troopers started shooting at the projects.

8. While Carmetia and I were running down the stairs and while we were between the third and second floors, I heard my children shouting in fear, "Mamma, Mamma" (my children are used to referring to my mother as "Mamma" and to me as "Marie"). The next voice I heard as I was running down the stairs, was that of Henry (Lassin?). Henry shouted, "Miss Gainer is shot. Michelle, open the door".

9. By this time, I had arrived at the door, and Michelle, in hysterics and trembling, opened the door and was still screaming, "Mamma, Mamma"!

10. My friend Carmetia and I ran through the door and into the living room at the front of my mother's, Mrs. Gainer's apartment.

11. I saw my mother laying on the floor, her left side covered with blood, and with blood oozing from her mouth. I stooped over, held her right arm and said to her: "Mamma, Mamma".

My mother barely cracked open her eyes and sighed. The time now was approximately 8:30 P.M.

12. Approximately five Troopers entered my mother's apartment while I was stooping over her. They walked to the front of the apartment where myself, Carmetia, Henry, another friend named Willie and all my children were, and the Trooper ordered everyone to go to the rear of the apartment. Everyone obeyed the order.

13. One of the Troopers asked me, as I was standing in the kitchen of the apartment: "Who was shooting from here?" I said to him, "No one". The Trooper then said to me, "Well, we just killed an innocent person".

*Marie Gainer*  
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MARIE GAINER

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this      day of     , 1967.

*John A. [unclear]*  
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[unclear]