

STATE OF NEW JERSEY)

COUNTY OF ESSEX )

ss:

I, OZEL BROWN, being of full age, having been duly sworn, do depose and say:

1. That I reside at 298 Bergen Street, Newark, New Jersey. I have lived at this address for the past four years and have been a Newark resident for the past six years.

2. That for the past five years I have been employed by Francisco Construction Company, 395 Little Falls Road, Cedar Grove, New Jersey.

3. That up to last Saturday, July 15, 1967, I resided at the aforesaid address with my wife Rebecca; and my children, Della, age two; Irving, age four; Gladys, age eight; and Eddie Gene, age nine.

4. That on July 15, 1967 at approximately 6 P.M., I was sitting on the stoop in front of my apartment at 298 Bergen Street. From this vantage point I was able to observe the New Jersey State Troopers and the National Guard engaged in shooting at an object which was unknown to me in an area around Springfield Avenue and Bergen Street.

5. That at this time, my brother, Irving Brown, was visiting my family at my apartment, leaned outside of my apartment window and advised me to come upstairs. Immediately thereafter a convoy of State Troopers and National Guardsmen which had been proceeding on Bergen Street toward my house stopped in front of my house and without warning or provocation began to shoot aimlessly at all objects in the general area.

I was afraid it would be impossible for me to safely return to my own house and so ran into the house next door which was more readily accessible. I went into a neighbor's apartment where there were about ten other people. All of us lay down on the floor of the apartment for maximum safety against the aimless firing of the Troopers and Guardsmen.

6. That shortly thereafter the shooting ceased and some of the Troopers entered the apartment inquiring as to which of us had a gun. We responded that none of us had any weapons. The Troopers conducted a brief search of the premises and seemed more inclined to destroy property than to uncover weapons.

7. That thereafter I went downstairs with the intention of returning to my apartment to see if everything was alright. As I attempted to enter my building, I was stopped by a Guardsman who informed me that I could not get into the building. I informed him that I lived there and was then told that my wife had been shot.

8. That shortly thereafter I learned that my wife had been killed.

9. I am presently and temporarily residing at 217 Rose Street with my sister-in-law, Bertha Walker, who is helping me care for my children.

10. The foregoing is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

OZEL BROWN

Sworn to and subscribed before me  
this 29<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1967.

Harris David, Attorney-at-Law