

Statement taken in the City Detective Bureau, City Hall, Camden, New Jersey, on September 6, 1949, beginning at 10:55 o'clock A. M., in the presence of Prosecutor Cohen, Captain Carroll, City Detective Benjamin Simon and Sergeant Earl Wright.

HOWARD BARTON UNRUH, examined

BY THE PROSECUTOR:

Q What is your name ?

A Howard Barton Unruh.

Q Where do you live, Howard ?

A 3202 River Avenue.

Q Camden, New Jersey ?

A Yes, sir.

Q How old are you, Howard ?

A 28 years.

Q Are you married ?

A Single.

Q Who do you live with at home ?

A I live with my mother.

Q What is her name ?

A Mrs. Frieda E. Unruh.

Q Do you live there with your father ?

A No.

Q Is your father living ?

A Yes.

Q Is he separated from your mother ?

A Yes.

Q Is he divorced from your mother ?

A No.

Q Just separated ?

A Yes.

Q Do you have any other brothers or sisters ?

A Just one brother.

Q What is his name ?

A James F. Unruh.

Q Does he live at home with you ?

A No. He lives in Haddon Heights.

Q Is he married ?

A He is married.

Q Now, Howard, at the present time you are under arrest, charged with the killing and murder of some 8 or 9 people. You are now in the Detective Bureau of Camden City, Camden City Hall. My name is Mitchell H. Cohen, Prosecutor of Camden County. This is Captain Carroll, of the Camden City Detective Bureau. This is Detective Benjamin Simon, of the Camden City Detective Bureau, and this gentleman is

Sergeant Wright, of the Camden City Police Department, and the man taking your statement is William B. Macdonald, the Official Court Stenographer of Camden County. I want to ask you some questions about how these people met their deaths but before doing so I want to warn you that whatever you say in response to any questions must be of your own free and voluntary will, that is, it must be a voluntary statement made by you, with full knowledge that whatever you say to me may and will be used against you in court. Now, under those circumstances, are you willing to tell me, if you know, what you did and what happened that brought about the deaths of these people ? Are you ?

A I deserve everything I get, so I will tell you everything I did and tell you the truth.

Q You are perfectly willing to tell me all you know and what you did that resulted in the deaths of these people ?

A Yes.

Q Howard, do you work ?

A Not at the present.

Q When was the last time that you were working ?

A The last time I was doing anything was going to school.

Q What school were you attending ?

A Attending Temple University School of Pharmacy.

Q How long ago was that ?

A I started the school in September 1948.

Q Did you go to public school ?

A Yes, sir.

Q Where ?

A I went to a number of grammar schools before I went to Woodrow Wilson Senior High School.

Q Did you graduate from Woodrow Wilson Senior High School ?

A Yes.

Q When, do you recall ?

A January 1939.

Q And from there where did you go ?

A Went from there, I went to work for Kurt H. Volk.

Q What kind of work were you doing for Volk ?

A There I was messenger and worked around the shop, distributing type and so forth.

Q Where is Mr. Volk's business ?

A He is no longer in business. He was bought out by the Armstrong Company, located at 35 North 10th Street, Philadelphia.

Q What kind of business is that ?

A Typography, printing and advertising.

Q How long did you work there ?

A Possibly 2 years..

Q And did you go to school at any time after you graduated from Woodrow Wilson Senior High School ?

A Yes.

Q What school did you go to ?

A Went to Brown Preparatory School.

Q How long did you go there ?

A Went there 2 terms.

Q When was that ?

A That was I think from September 1947 and the last term was supposed to be in June 1948.

Q So from the time you graduated from Woodrow Wilson Senior High School in 1939 until 1947 you did not go to any school at all ?

A No.

Q What were you doing all that time ?

A Holding down various jobs and in the service.

Q When did you go into the service ?

A October 1942.

Q And were you honorably discharged from the service ?

A Yes, sir.

Q When were you discharged ?

A November 1945.

Q Did you have any difficulty at all in the service ?

A None at all.

Q Were you overseas ?

A Yes, sir.

Q What branch of the service were you in ?

A Armored Field Artillery.

Q You remained in that branch of service from the time of your induction until the time of your discharge ?

A The first year was spent in the same outfit but then they converted.

Q How long did you stay in this country after you were first inducted ?

A From November - from October 1942 until around October 1944 I was in this country.

Q Where did you first go overseas ?

A When I first landed or something ?

Q Yes.

A The first landing was at Naples, Italy.

Q How long did you stay at Naples, Italy ?

A Just a short time, waiting orders.

Q What countries were you in overseas ?

A Italy, France, Germany, Austria and Belgium.

Q Were you in any battles ?

A Yes.

Q Were you wounded ?

A No.

Q Did you receive any medical treatment at all while you were in the service, other than the usual colds ?

A No.

Q Were you in any way afflicted either before going into the service or coming out of the service ?

A Nothing serious.

Q Just the ordinary illnesses ?

A Yes.

Q Now, you say when you came out of the service in 1945 you went to work ?

A Yes.

Q For whom did you work ?

A Acorn Company.

Q Where is that located ?

A 1141 South Broad.

Q Philadelphia ?

A Philadelphia.

Q What kind of work were you doing for the Acorn Company?

A Job press printing.

Q Is the Acorn Company a printing establishment ?

A Yes.

Q How long did you work there ?

A Approximately 7 months or so.

Q How much were you earning a week ?

A When I left I was making \$26 a week.

Q When you left there for whom did you work ?

A I believe it was Budd Manufacturing Company.

Q In Philadelphia ?

A Yes.

Q What kind of work were you doing for the Budd Manufacturing Company ?

A Worked in the metal stamping processes, stamping out metal parts for the Fords.

Q How much were you earning ?

A Approximately \$52 a week.

Q How long did you work for the Budd Company ?

A Short of a year.

Q When you left there were you employed by someone else?

A I don't believe so.

Q How long were you out of employment ?

A Approximately a year or so.

Q And then did you proceed to go to school again ?

A Yes.

Q And is that when you entered Brown Prep ?

A Yes.

Q Do you recall when that was ?

A Around September of 1947.

Q And you attended Brown Prep for how long ?

A Approximately for 2 terms. I didn't complete the last term.

Q What course were you taking in Brown Prep ?

A College preparatory.

Q Preparatory to what ?

A For entrance into the School of Pharmacy, Temple University.

Q Did you ever enter the Temple School of Pharmacy ?

A Yes.

Q When ?

A September 1948.

Q How long did you go to Temple University ?

A 2 or 3 months.

Q That would be about the beginning of this year, 1949?

A The latter part of last year.

Q The latter part of 1948 ?

A Yes.

Q What have you been doing since the latter part of 1948 up until the present time ?

A Just unemployed.

Q You were not working at all ?

A No.

Q Who was supporting you ?

A I guess my mother. I was receiving money from selling things and my mother provided food and shelter.

Q What were you selling ?

A The large sets of electric trains.

Q Where did you get these trains from ?

A I had 3 or 4 sets. The first set was a Christmas present, when I was a kid, and the other 3 sets I bought later on.

Q In other words, they were your own sets that you were selling ?

A Yes.

Q And you were not selling anything for any manufacturer or store or anything like that ?

A No.

Q When you attended Brown Prep and Temple University, did you attend those schools under the GI Bill of Rights ?

A Yes.

Q In other words, the government was paying for your tuition ?

A Yes.

Q And you were also getting an allowance for sustenance ?

A Yes.

Q How much was the government giving you ?

A First it was 60 and later on 75.

Q A month ?

A Yes.

Q In addition to paying your school expenses ?

A Yes.

Q Howard, what did you do last night, that is, Monday, September 5, 1949 ?

A Monday night I went to the movie in Philadelphia.

Q What movie did you go to ?

A Family Theater.

Q On Market Street, Philadelphia ?

A Yes.

Q What picture did you see ?

A I cannot recall the title, sir.

Q Do you recall the names of any of the actors that were in it ?

A Yes, Barbara Stanwick.

Q Barbara Stanwick ?

A Yes.

Q Do you know who else was in the picture ?

A No, I cannot recall.

Q What time did you come out of the movies ?

A About 20 after 2.

Q In the morning ?

A Yes.

Q What time did you go into the movies ? Do you recall what time you went into the movies, Howard ? If you came out around 2, I guess the show must have lasted 2 hours.

A I saw a couple. I was in there for a couple of shows.

Q You saw the same show over again ?

A Yes.

Q Do you recall what time you went into the movies ?

A Somewhere around 7:30 or so.

Q Did you have dinner at home ?

A Yes.

Q And right after dinner, is that when you went over to Philadelphia ?

A Yes.

Q And to the best of your recollection you went to the Family Movie at 7:30 or so ?

A Yes.

Q And stayed there until about 2 o'clock in the morning?

A 2:20.

Q Where did you go when you came out of the movies ?

A Camden. Came home.

Q Did you get undressed and go to bed ?

A Yes.

Q What time did you get up this morning ?

A About 20 of 8. No, 8:20.

Q When, Howard, for the first time did you conceive of any idea or plan to shoot or harm any of these people that you shot this morning ?

A Around 3 o'clock this morning.

Q When you were home in bed ?

A No.

Q You hadn't gone to bed yet ?

A No.

Q What was it that caused you to conceive of this plan to kill these people ?

A It was building for 2 years or so but this morning was when I came through the gate that I decided.

Q Decided what ?

A To do something.

Q When you were going through the gate, ^{do} you mean when you first entered your home ?

A Yes, the gate to our yard.

Q About 2:30 or so this morning ?

A About 3.

Q You say this has been building up for 2 years or so ?

A Yes.

Q What was the first thing that occurred 2 years ago

that started to build this feeling up within you ?

A I had an idea in the back of my mind that Mr. Cohen was butting into my business.

Q What Mr. Cohen is this that you are speaking of ?

A That is the druggist.

Q Do you know his first name ?

A I think it's Maurice.

Q Where is his place of business located ?

A 3200 River Avenue.

Q How far is that from your home ?

A Next door.

Q In what manner was Mr. Cohen butting into your business a couple of years ago ? Can you tell me, Howard, what he did that brought you to the conclusion that he was butting into your business ?

A Different things.

Q For example ?

A Well, I had built up in the back of my mind that he had been saying things about me.

Q Did anyone ever come to you and say he was saying things about you ?

A I have heard people say he had.

Q What was he supposed to have said about you ?

A Different things detrimental to my character, and

back at that time I had been dealing at his store and I stopped dealing there for the reason he had short-changed me 5 different times. Twice I brought it to his attention and the other 3 times I said nothing.

Q Before then had you been friendly with him ?

A Yes, previous to that I had always been very friendly.

Q What was he saying that you considered detrimental to your character ? What did he say about you that you objected to ?

A Different things that I just didn't like.

Q Like what ?

A One time I was going in there to make a 'phone call. He said to his customers, "See that guy ? He is allowing his mother to support him."

Q Did you resent that ?

A Very much.

Q Do you recall anything else that he said to anyone that you resented ?

A One time I had gotten tear gas equipment.

Q When was that, Howard ?

A I don't recall when I got it.

Q What did you get it for ?

A More or less self-protection.

Q Self-protection from whom ?

A Oh, for a number of things. One, I was very often out late on the streets in Philadelphia and there are always holdups and things.

Q You were not afraid of being attacked by any particular individual, were you? Were you, Howard? Did you just generally carry it with you in case anything developed that you might need it to defend yourself?

A I carried it just for general purposes.

Q Just in case anyone should attack you, is that it? Is that the reason, Howard?

A That was the general idea as far as Philadelphia goes. For Camden I carried it for use against anyone who in the neighborhood that would bother me.

Q Was anyone in the neighborhood bothering you, Howard?

A No, just talk.

Q What kind of talk?

A Saying that they would.

Q That they would bother you?

A Yes.

Q In what manner did they say they were going to bother you? Did they say?

A Different times they said different things. One time they said they were going to gang up on me.

Q Why?

A Because they didn't like me.

Q Were you not getting along with your neighbors ?

A No.

Q And when you speak of your neighbors, whom specifically do you mean ?

A Neighbors in the immediate neighborhood.

Q Who were they ?

A Cohen. The barber.

Q What is his name ?

A Hoover.

Q Where is his place of business ?

A Next to our building.

Q Next to your building ?

A Yes.

Q Who else besides Cohen and Hoover, the barber ?

A The shoemaker.

Q What is his name ?

A I don't know.

Q Where is his place of business ?

A Second from my building.

Q Who else, Howard ?

A The tailor.

Q What is his name ?

A Zegrino.

Q Where is his place of business ?

A About 1218 - I mean 3218.

Q River Avenue ?

A Yes.

Q Anyone else ?

A The man downstairs in the apartment building.

Q What is his name ?

A I don't know.

Q Do you live in that apartment building ?

A No.

Q What do you mean when you say the man downstairs in the apartment building ? What building are you speaking of ?

A The building next to the tailor's, on the near side to me.

Q Is that an apartment building ?

A Yes.

Q What was he saying about you ?

A He made different cracks about me. One time he told me, one time he was telling me the shoemaker, that the shoemaker should have me arrested.

Q For what ?

A Broke up some of the shoemaker's lumber.

Q Did you break up the shoemaker's lumber ?

A Yes. It was during a heavy storm and the water was floating into our cellar.

Q Where was this lumber located ?

A Next to our building.

Q Was the shoemaker making some repairs to his building ?

A Had just finished building. They had just finished the building he occupied.

Q Why did you break his lumber up ?

A I got sore because the water, the drainage was floating into our cellar.

Q From the shoemaker's building ?

A From the lot, from our lot. Previously the water had been draining off into the street, and when he built he dumped all the dirt on the lot and the water drained into our cellar.

Q Did you have any differences with Mr. Cohen because of some improvements he was making to his property, that caused the water to seep into your cellar ?

A No, I don't believe any water from his place seeped into our cellar.

Q Where was the water coming from that seeped into your cellar ?

A From the lot next to us, between our building and the apartment building and in back of the shoemaker and the

barber's.

Q Did you complain to the shoemaker about this water that was coming in ?

A I didn't but everybody else in the neighborhood did.

Q What did he say ? You say you didn't or you did complain ?

A I didn't. I didn't say anything to him about the water.

Q Did he correct the situation when it was called to his attention by the neighbors ?

A No. He always had some kind of excuses, that it was somebody else's fault.

Q What about your differences with the barber that caused you to resent him ?

A Similar reasons. When he built, he dumped the dirt from the basement on the lot. That consisted of sand and clay, and we had used it as an entrance and exit.

Q To your home ?

A Yes.

Q Did you say anything to the barber about his depositing the sand and clay on the lot, that barred your entrance and exit to and from your home ?

A No.

Q You did not ?

A No.

Q Was there anyone else, Howard, besides the druggist, Mr. Cohen, and the barber and the tailor and the man who lived in the apartment building, that you had differences with, any other neighbors ?

A The tailor and the guy in the restaurant next to the tailor's.

Q What is his name ?

A In the restaurant ?

Q Yes.

A I don't know.

Q What were your differences with him ?

A Purely that he had been talking about me.

Q What was he saying about you ?

A Various things. He used to hang out there at the corner, in front of our place, making remarks as I passed.

Q What kind of remarks ?

A One time he told them that I had been carrying a gun and wondered why I hadn't been picked up.

Q Have you ever been arrested ?

A No.

Q Have you ever been convicted of any crime ?

A No.

Q Is there any other neighbor, Howard, that you haven't told us about, with whom you have had differences ?

A Yes, a kid named Sorg.

Q Where does he live ?

A On North --- 900 block, North 32nd.

Q How old is this boy Sorg that you are speaking of ?

A I don't know. About 20.

Q What was your trouble with him ?

A He rented a vacant store in front of us, during Christmas time, to sell Christmas trees, and when I came home from the service I found that he had run a cord through the floor of the store and attached it to an electrical outlet in the cellar, using our electricity.

Q Did you say anything to him about that ?

A Yes.

Q What did you say ?

A Oh, he offered to pay for it.

Q Did he pay for it ?

A No, because I tore out the light socket, because when I was in service the people out there - I think it was the same guy that sold the trees but I don't know whether he was directly responsible but, anyway, a bill for the light used in that store at that time came to our house, in my name. I have no account with Public Service. Our bill comes in my father's name and this bill for the store came in my name.

Q Howard, I show you 3 bullets, and ask you whether you recognize these bullets ?

A Yes, I recognize them.

Q What are they ?

A Tear gas cartridges.

Q Did you have them in your possession at the time that you were arrested ?

A I did.

Q How long have you had these tear gas cartridges ?

A I wouldn't recall.

Q Where did you get them ?

A From some import company. I had to send for them.

Q You don't recall the name of the company or the address of the company ?

A I think the name is Hagen Import Company.

Q Hagen ?

A Yes.

Q Where are they located ?

A I don't know.

Q Do you recall when you first received these from them ?

A No. I know it was over a year ago.

Q What kind of weapon do you use to discharge these tear gas cartridges ?

A A fountain pen gun.

Q Where is the fountain pen gun ?

A An officer took it from me.

Q Did you have that in your possession at the time of your arrest ?

A Yes.

Q And are these the tear gas cartridges you were speaking of when you said you carried them with you for your protection ?

A Yes.

Q In Philadelphia and also in Camden ?

A Yes.

Q Now, Howard, I show you a wallet containing 40 one-dollar bills and various cards of identification and I ask you whether or not you recognize this wallet ?

A Yes, it's mine.

Q It is your wallet ?

A Yes.

Q Was this taken from your possession at the time of your arrest ?

A Yes.

Q Where did you get these 40 one-dollar bills ?

A I kept them in my gun case at home.

Q And when did you take them out of your gun case ?

A This morning.

Q For what purpose ?

A For the purpose of having enough money on my person in case I needed it.

Q Do you usually carry around with you 40 one-dollar bills just in case you might need it ?

A I usually carry between 10 and 30.

Q What made you believe you would need 40 this morning ?

A That was all I had left, so I put it in my wallet.

Q Did you plan to use this to defray your expenses of a get-a-way after you had completed this plan of shooting these people ?

A No, not necessarily.

Q Now, Howard, you say this resentment had been building up within you for the past 2 years against these neighbors and it covers such as the druggist, the tailor, the barber, and this man in the apartment building and this boy by the name of Sorg ?

A Yes.

Q After returning home from the movies, about 3 o'clock this morning, you say that you at that time conceived of this plan to shoot these people, is that right ?

A 3 o'clock this morning, yes, sir.

Q And when did you make up your mind that you were

going to do this ?

A 3 o'clock this morning.

Q You didn't do anything about it at that time, did you?

A No.

Q When did you plan to do it ?

A 9:30.

Q Is there any reason why you picked that particular time ?

A Because the stores would be open by then.

Q Did you stay awake from 3 o'clock this morning until 9:30 ?

A No. I had difficulty getting to sleep though.

Q Did you finally fall asleep ?

A Yes.

Q And before falling asleep did you decide exactly what you were going to do and how you were going to do it?

A I didn't decide how. I just decided what I would do.

Q What did you decide ?

A I decided to do something about it.

Q And what manner and what means did you decide to use to do something about it ?

A Decided to use the Luger.

Q I show you this weapon that was taken from your possession at the time of your arrest and ask you whether

that is the Luger that you are referring to ?

A If the number is 6990, that's it.

Q Do you recognize the Luger from looking at it ?

A Well, most Lugers have a similar outline.

Q Is it your Luger ?

A Let's see the number. (After looking at Luger:)

That's my Luger.

Q And how long have you had this Luger ?

A I cannot recall when I bought it. It was in 1946
or 1947.

Q Was that after you came out of the service ?

A Yes.

Q Several years after you came out of the service ?

A Yes, sir.

Q Where did you purchase this Luger ?

A M & H Sport Shop, Philadelphia.

Q How much did you pay for it ?

A \$37.50

Q How many cartridges can it discharge ?

A A clip is supposed to normally hold 7 but it will
hold 9 with an extra in the clip and one in the chamber.

Q Is this the Luger that you used to shoot these people?

A Yes, sir.

Q I show you several clips and 2 cartridges and 3 spent

shells and ask you whether or not those clips and those cartridges and those spent shells are yours ?

A The 2 clips are similar to the ones I had. The cartridges and cartridge cases are gone. If they were picked up at the scene of the crime ---

Q I want to correct something that I asked you before. This weapon was not taken from you at the time of your arrest, was it ?

A No.

Q Where did you place this weapon after you discharged the bullets from it and shot these people ?

A I am not sure. I think it was on my desk.

Q In your home ?

A Yes.

Q Where is your desk located ?

A The rear room, second floor.

Q What is that, a bedroom ?

A Yes.

Q Your bedroom ?

A Yes.

Q Where did you buy the cartridges ?

A I don't know, because I have bought cartridges at several different places for the Luger.

Q The officers have informed me that there were quite

a few tear gas cartridges, a bayonet and a large knife that were taken from the front bedroom in your house. Are they your property ?

A Yes, sir.

Q This large knife, what kind of knife is it ?

A A Machete.

Q Where did you get that ?

A I sent away for that from the Bean Company.

Q When did you send away for that, do you remember ?

A I don't recall. I think last year.

Q Was there any reason that you had for sending away for this Machete ?

A Yes.

Q What was your reason ?

A In case I ever carried out what was in back of my mind, I might have use for it.

Q And when you say to carry out what you had in the back of your mind, do you mean that you wanted to kill these people that you were speaking of before ?

A Yes, if not kill them with it.

Q What do you mean if not kill them with it?

A I bought it for the purpose of decapitating Cohen and his wife.

Q Did you have any differences with Mrs. Cohen ?

A Yes.

Q What were your differences with her ?

A She was always talking about me and very belligerent towards me and seemed to take pleasure in bawling me out in front of people in public.

Q What was she saying about you that you resented ?

A One time she told a woman she could see something was wrong with me by just looking at my eyes.

Q I show you a knife with a switch blade and ask you whether or not that is your knife that was taken from you by the police officers at the time of your arrest ?

A Yes, sir.

Q I also show you a tear gas cartridge and ask you if that is similar to the tear gas cartridges that you had ?

A It's similar.

Q I show you what purports to be a tear gas fountain pen and ask you whether that is the fountain pen that you were speaking of before that discharges these tear gas cartridges that were taken from you at the time of your arrest by the police officers ?

A That is exactly like one I had.

Q Can you recognize it ?

A Not positively.

Q But it is like the one you had ?

A Exactly.

Q I show you a large steel knife which is known as a Machete, which was taken from your front bedroom, and ask you whether or not you recognize that knife ?

A That's exactly like the one I had.

Q And it is the one that you intended to decapitate Mr. and Mrs. Cohen with ?

A Yes.

Q I also show you several bayonets and knives that were taken from your front bedroom, and also a tear gas gun and several clips of rifle shells, shot gun shells, a toy pistol and several cartons of shells, and ask you whether or not you recognize all these instruments ?

A That's all exactly like the stuff that I possessed.

Q I also show you some shoulder holsters and other articles and ask you whether you recognize these ? Whose property are these ?

A It's all my property.

Q Now, Howard, how long have you been accumulating all these weapons and cartridges ?

A Since the war.

Q Since the war ?

A Yes.

Q And was there any particular reason why you were

saving all this stuff ?

A Just a hobby.

Q Didn't you also save all these weapons so that you could carry out this plan that you had for the destruction of these people whom you resented, such as the Cohens ?

A Not necessarily. It was souvenirs and a gun collection.

Q Didn't you tell me before that you intended to use that Machete for the purpose of decapitating Mr. and Mrs. Cohen ?

A I intended using the Machete and Luger only.

Q You just intended to use the Machete and Luger for the purpose of destroying these people ?

A Yes, sir.

Q The others you were just making a collection of as a hobby ?

A Yes.

Q I show you a wooden case with an instrument therein contained which was taken from your home and ask what that is.

A It's a German gun, quadrant.

Q Is that used in the field artillery ?

A Yes.

Q And where did you get this ?

A It's a souvenir.

Q Howard, let us get back to your complaint about Mrs. Cohen bawling you out in the presence of other people. Do you remember saying that to me ?

A Yes.

Q What was she saying about you in the presence of other people and in what manner was she bawling you out ?

A She bawled me out verbally in the presence of neighbors.

Q What did she say ?

A Lately it was over a matter of using her yard.

Q Were you using their yard ?

A Yes.

Q For what purposes ?

A Using it as an exit and entrance.

Q To your place ?

A Yes.

Q Now, Howard, you told me before that this resentment was building up within you for several years against the Cohens, against the barber, the tailor, the shoemaker, the boy called Sorg, this man who lives in the downstairs apartment next door to the tailor and, I assume, several other neighbors, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q You decided definitely when you returned from the movies last night or rather early this morning, September

6, 1949, about 3 A. M., that you were going to destroy them, is that correct ?

A Yes, sir.

Q You then decided to wait until 9:30 in the morning, when the stores would be open, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q Now, what time did you get out of bed this morning ?

A 8:20.

Q Did you dress in the clothes that you are wearing now?

A Yes.

Q Did you have your breakfast ?

A Yes.

Q Who prepared your breakfast ?

A My mother.

Q What did you have for breakfast ?

A Post Toasties, milk, sugar, and fried eggs.

Q You dressed and had your breakfast. What did you do?

A I went and got the Luger and the money and the tear gas gun in preparation for 9:30.

Q You had the Luger, you had your 40 one-dollar bills, your tear gas cartridges and the tear gas gun ?

A Yes, sir.

Q And this knife ?

A Yes, sir.

Q When did you leave the house with these weapons in your possession ?

A Possibly 9:30.

Q And where was the first place that you went ?

A Went to the shoemaker's.

Q Was the store open ?

A Yes.

Q Who was in the store when you first entered the shoemaker's store ?

A The shoemaker.

Q Anyone else there at the time ?

A I think there was a little boy sitting.

Q Sitting in the store ?

A Yes.

Q Did you have the Luger in your hand when you went into the store ?

A I pulled the Luger after I went in.

Q Did you have any conversation with the shoemaker ?

A No.

Q None at all ?

A No.

Q You went into the store, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q What did you do ?

A Looked to see who was in there. I went over to the shoemaker, pulled the gun and I shot him.

Q Did you point the gun at him ?

A Yes.

Q How many shots did you fire ?

A I don't recall. I remember firing once. I might have fired 2 or 3. I remember I fired once and he fell and I remember firing one into his head.

Q Did you fire one into his head as he was lying on the floor ?

A Yes.

Q What part of the store was the shoemaker in when you fired these shots from that Luger ?

A Right-hand rear as you go in.

Q Is there a counter of any kind in the store ?

A Yes.

Q Was he behind the counter or in front of the counter ?

A Behind it.

Q Does the counter extend all the way to the rear of the store ?

A I think there's an opening at the rear.

Q When he fell to the floor, was he behind the counter or in front of the counter ?

A I don't recall. He was at the opening there.

Q Did you have to step through the opening behind the counter and then fire the shot into his head ?

A I didn't go all the way through the opening.

Q Did he fall right in the opening ?

A I don't know whether it was in the opening or just behind but it was there at the opening.

Q And when you fired your first shot from the Luger, what part of his body were you aiming at ?

A I don't recall. I think it was high on his chest.

Q And you said nothing to him ?

A No.

Q Did he say anything to you ?

A No.

Q What happened to this boy that was in the store ? Did he remain in there while you were firing your shots from the Luger ?

A He was in there when I fired but I think he went out.

Q So that when you left the store there was nobody there other than the shoemaker lying on the floor, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q After you left the shoemaker store, where did you next go ?

A I went to the barbershop.

Q How far is that from the shoemaker's ?

A Next door.

Q Was the store open ?

A Yes.

Q After you shot the shoemaker, did you put your Luger back into your pocket or did you still carry it in your hand as you went into the barber shop ?

A I think I still had it in my hand.

Q Who was in the barber shop when you went in there ?

A The barber and some patrons.

Q Was the barber engaged in shaving anyone or cutting anyone's hair ?

A I think there was a little boy in the chair.

Q Did you have any conversation with the barber ?

A No.

Q Did he have any with you ?

A No.

Q What did you do when you came into the barber shop ?

A Looked to see who was there and then I went over to the barber and fired at him.

Q How far were you from him when you fired at him ?

A A yard and a half.

Q Where did you aim ?

A At his body, possibly at his chest.

Q Was he facing you or standing sidewise to you ?

A I can't recall. I think he was at an angle.

Q How many shots did you discharge from your Luger at the barber ?

A I don't know.

Q Did you fire your Luger at anyone else other than the barber in the barber shop ?

A No.

Q Did you see him fall to the floor ?

A Yes.

Q And you say you do not recall how many shots you discharged at the barber ?

A No.

Q What did you do after you discharged your cartridges at the barber ?

A When he fell, I went over to him and shot him in the head.

Q Then what did you do ?

A Then I left.

Q What did you do with your Luger ?

A Still had it in my hand.

Q Did you place it in your pocket or continue to carry it in your hand ?

A Continued to carry it.

Q Did anyone try to stop you or attack you ?

A No.

Q Where did you go after you left the barber shop ?

A Went to Cohen's, the druggist, on the corner.

Q And that is at 3200 River Avenue ?

A Yes.

Q Was the store open ?

A Yes.

Q Who was in the store as you came in ?

A No one was in the store.

Q Was Mr. Cohen in there ?

A Not in the store.

Q When you left the barber shop to go to the Cohens, that is, Cohen's drugstore, was anyone standing out in front of the store ?

A There was a man going into the store.

Q Yes.

A It was our insurance man.

Q Your insurance man ?

A Yes.

Q What is his name, do you know ?

A I know his name but I can't think of it. Hutton.

Q Hutton ?

A Yes.

Q What company does he write insurance for ?

A Prudential.

Q Do you know his first name ?

A No.

Q How old a man is he ?

A I don't know how old he is. 40. I don't know.

Q Had you had any disagreement with him ?

A No.

Q Any differences or quarrels with him at all ?

A No.

Q You say he was standing in front of the drugstore as you started to go into the store ?

A He was coming into the store.

Q Did you have any discussion with him ?

A Just a few words.

Q What did you say to him ?

A He saw me approach. He saw the gun in my hand and he turned around and refrained from going into the store. He didn't seem to know what to do, so I said, "Excuse me. I am sorry." He didn't move, so I fired.

Q You fired at him ?

A Yes.

Q How far was he from you when you fired at him ?

A Point-blank.

Q What part of his body did you aim at ?

A Left-hand side of his chest.

Q How many shots did you fire at him ?

A I only recall firing one.

Q Did you see him fall to the ground ?

A Yes.

Q Was it then that you went into the store ?

A Yes.

Q And you say no one was in the drugstore ?

A No.

Q Where did you go when you saw no one in the store ?
Where did you go ?

A I went through the drugstore, towards the rear.

Q Does Cohen maintain living quarters in the rear of
the store ?

A They have the whole building, rear and upstairs.

Q You went into the room adjoining the drugstore ?

A Yes.

Q Was anyone there ?

A No.

Q Where did you go after you went through that room ?

A To the kitchen.

Q Was anyone there ?

A No.

Q Where did you go when you saw no one in the kitchen ?

A Upstairs.

Q Where are the stairs located ?

A In the room between the kitchen and the store.

Q When you went upstairs, what room did you go into ?

What was the first room that you went into ?

A I heard a noise in the rear, so I went back there.

Q Who did you see in the rear room ?

A No one at first. They had the door locked. When I entered I saw Mr. Cohen and his boy come out the window to the porch roof. They moved so fast I didn't take a shot at them. I had seen Mrs. Cohen go into the closet and shut the door.

Q In which room was this closet contained ?

A In the rear upstairs room.

Q Is that a bedroom ?

A I don't recall.

Q What did you do when you saw Mrs. Cohen in the closet of the rear room ?

A I fired 3 shots into the closet.

Q With the door closed ?

A Yes.

Q Then what did you do ?

A I heard her still hollering so I opened the door and

she was on the floor, so I fired into her face and head.

Q At what point did you reload your Luger ?

A When I came downstairs from that building.

Q Was that after you shot Mrs. Cohen ?

A Yes, it was after I had shot her.

Q And after you shot Mrs. Cohen, where did you go ?

A After I shot Mrs. Cohen, I heard the mother-in-law
'phoning for the police, in one of the upstairs rooms.

Q When you heard that, what did you do ?

A I shot her.

Q What room was she in ?

A An upstairs room.

Q And when you went into the room, was she still holding
the 'phone in her hand ?

A Yes.

Q And how far were you away from her ?

A Approximately a yard.

Q How many shots did you fire at her ?

A I don't recall. At least 2.

Q At least 2 ?

A Yes.

Q Did you see her fall to the floor ?

A No.

Q Did she fall on the bed ?

A She fell but I didn't see her fall because I turned away.

Q You say she was a mother-in-law to whom ?

A I am not sure. I think it's Mrs. Cohen's mother-in-law.

Q So that would be Mr. Cohen's mother ?

A Yes.

Q After you shot her, where did you go ?

A Downstairs.

Q And whom did you see downstairs ?

A No one in the building.

Q Did you see Mr. Cohen at all ?

A Just once when he was going out the rear bedroom window upstairs.

Q Did you shoot at Mr. Cohen at all ?

A I don't recall shooting at him.

Q Did you at any time go to the back garage, in the garage or in the driveway ?

A I wasn't in there, no. I wasn't in the yard or in the driveway that I recall.

Q Do you recall shooting Maurice Cohen ?

A I didn't shoot him.

Q You didn't shoot him at all ?

A No.

Q So that the only people that you shot when you left the barber shop were this insurance man just as you were going in the store, Mrs. Cohen, through the closet and Mrs. Cohen's mother-in-law, is that right ?

A Yes, The other 2 had left the building.

Q You came downstairs, didn't you ?

A Yes, sir.

Q Where did you go after you reached the first floor of the building ?

A I put a new clip in and went through the front entrance on 32nd Street.

Q Where did you go when you left the drugstore ?

A Up River Avenue.

Q To where ?

A I was headed for the tailor shop.

Q Was your gun in your hand or in your pocket ?

A In my hand.

Q Did you go to the tailor shop ?

A Yes, I went there.

Q Who was in the store when you reached the tailor shop ?

A Nobody.

Q Was the tailor there ?

A No, I didn't see him.

Q Wasn't anyone in the store at all ?

A No one in the store.

Q When you saw no one in the store, where did you go ?

A I pushed the store door open and went back into the building.

Q Did you see the tailor in the back of the building ?

A No.

Q Did you see him at all ?

A I didn't see him at all.

Q Did you shoot anyone on your way from the store, from the drugstore to the tailor shop ?

A Yes.

Q Who ?

A A man in a car.

Q Where was the car parked ?

A In front of the drugstore or a little above.

Q Did you know this man ?

A No.

Q Did he say anything to you ?

A No.

Q Did you say anything to him ?

A No.

Q Why did you shoot him ?

A I don't know.

Q Was it because he saw you walking out with the gun and

heard shots ?

A I don't know exactly. I don't know whether he was parked or what. All I can remember on that deal is when I looked at him his car was moving slowly and he was looking at me.

Q And were you afraid he had seen you shoot anyone ?

A I knew he saw me. I assume he saw me come out of the store. He saw me with the gun in my hand.

Q Is that why you shot him ?

A I suppose so.

Q How close were you to him when you fired the shot ?

A Very close. I fired through the window.

Q Was anyone in the car with him ?

A I don't think so.

Q Did you shoot several women waiting for the traffic light to change ?

A Not at that time, but I did.

Q When did you shoot these women ?

A After I had come out of the tailor shop.

Q You went into the tailor shop and saw no one there ?

A Yes.

Q And you came on out, is that right ?

A No.

Q What is right ?

A I went to the tailor shop and I saw no one in the store. The door was closed and I opened the door and went back into the rear of the place.

Q And you saw no one there, did you ?

A I saw a girl in the furthest room back.

Q How old was she ?

A I don't know. 30.

Q Do you know who she was ?

A She works in the store.

Q Did you shoot her ?

A Yes.

Q Did you have any conversation with her ?

A No.

Q Did you see a little boy in the building in which the tailor store is contained ?

A I don't think so.

Q Did you shoot a little boy ?

A Not that I know of.

Q After you shot this girl, in the rear of the tailor shop, was anyone else in that building other than that girl that you shot ?

A Not in that building.

Q Did you go upstairs in the tailor shop ?

A No.

Q After you shot the girl, in the rear, where did you go?

A I came out of the building, went towards 32nd and River.

Q Did you see anyone as you came out of the tailor shop and went towards the corner ?

A I think I went over towards the American Store.

Q Why did you go there ?

A I wanted to enter it.

Q You wanted to enter the American Store ?

A Yes.

Q For what purpose ?

A To shoot anyone in the store, I guess.

Q Anyone at all ?

A Yes.

Q Why did you want to do that ?

A I don't know.

Q Did you shoot anyone in the American Store ?

A The door was locked.

Q Did you fire any shots at all ^{as} you approached the American Store ?

A No.

Q Where did you see these two women that you mentioned a moment ago ?

A In a car ?

Q Yes.

A When I couldn't get in the American Store I turned around and there was a car parked for a redlight and in it was 2 women and a boy.

Q What did you do ?

A I opened fire on them.

Q How far were you from the car when you opened fire ?

A At the car, alongside of it.

Q And at whom did you fire ?

A I fired at the driver first.

Q How many shots did you fire at the driver ?

A I think I fired one at the driver but I missed and I saw blood running down the head of the boy and I fired again at the driver and one at the woman nearest him.

Q Were the women both sitting in the front of the car ?

A Yes, 3 were sitting together.

Q All 3 were seated on the front seat ?

A Yes.

Q How many shots would you say that you fired at the 2 women and the boy ?

A I don't know.

Q After you discharged those bullets from your Luger, where did you go then ?

A I went in the alleyway between the shoemaker and the apartment house.

Q For what purpose ?

A To go to the rear.

Q Rear of what ?

A My house.

Q What did you do when you reached that alleyway ?

A I went into my yard and out the back gate.

Q Did you fire at anyone on your way ?

A Not at that time.

Q Did you go through your house, did you say ?

A No, through our backyard.

Q Where did you go ?

A To the house at our rear.

Q Who lives there ?

A A family by the name of Harrie.

Q Did you go into the house ?

A Yes.

Q Who was in the house ?

A A woman and a boy.

Q Mrs. Harrie ?

A I suppose so.

Q Do you know the boy's name ?

A I think it was Harman.

Q How old is he ?

A I don't know. 16 or 17.

Q What did you do when you entered the house and saw Mrs. Harrie and Harman ?

A I went in and they were back in the kitchen, so I fired at the nearest one to him, which was Mrs. Harrie.

Q How many shots did you fire at her ?

A I don't recall.

Q Did you shoot at Harman ?

A I attempted to but the gun was empty.

Q How many clips did you have ?

A 2 when I started out.

Q Did you go back and get any more ?

A No, I took all the Remington ammunition that I had.

Q How much would you say that was ?

A I think each clip had 8 and there was an extra for the chamber and 16 rounds in my pocket.

Q That would be 25 altogether, 8 in each clip and one in the gun, 25 altogether, is that right ?

A No.

Q There were 8 in the clip and one in the gun and an extra clip with 8, that would be 17, and 16 rounds in your pocket ?

A Yes, sir.

Q That would make a total of 33 ?

A Yes, sir.

Q You say you shot Mrs. Harrie. Did you shoot Harman ?

A I attempted to.

Q But you ran out of ammunition, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q And then what did you do ?

A I run out the front entrance.

Q And where did you go ?

A Before I went in the house I saw a man across the street, opposite Harman's.

Q Who was this man, do you know ?

A No.

Q A stranger, was he ?

A Yes.

Q What did you do when you saw this man ?

A Fired a round at him.

Q When you were there and when you tried to shoot Harman but you had no shells in your Luger, when did you load it again ?

A I fired at the man before I went into Harrie's house.

Q Before you went into Harrie's house ?

A Yes. I remember now when I went through the yard I saw this man and I fired at him and he and somebody else ran behind the garage back there somewhere.

Q Did you hit the man that you fired at ?

A He didn't fall.

Q How many shots did you fire at him ?

A I think I only fired one. My hand was shaky and the range was too great.

Q How far was he from you ?

A Between 30 and 50 feet.

Q And it was after you shot at him that you went into the Harrie house ?

A Yes, sir.

Q After you shot Mrs. Harrie and tried to shoot Harman and couldn't because of the lack of ammunition, you came out the front of the house ?

A Yes.

Q Where did you go to then ?

A Into my house.

Q How long did you stay in your house ?

A Until the gas was thrown into the window.

Q The tear gas are you talking of ? When the tear gas was thrown in the window, is that when you came out of the house ?

A Yes.

Q And is that when you were arrested by the officers ?

A Yes.

Q And where did the officers meet you ?

A At the rear door.

Q Do you know how many people you shot ?

A No.

Q You recall the first one that you shot was the shoemaker, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q And then you went into the barber shop and shot him, is that right ?

A Yes.

Q And then on your way to the drugstore you shot this insurance man ?

A Yes.

Q Then you shot Mrs. Cohen in the closet upstairs ?

A Yes.

Q Then you shot Mrs. Cohen's mother-in-law ?

A Yes.

Q Then you came out of the drugstore and went into the tailor shop ?

A No, I fired at somebody between then.

Q In other words, on your way out of the drugstore you shot this man who was slowly moving in his car ?

A Yes.

Q After you shot the man moving slowly in that car you say that you fired a shot at another man ?

A I think I shot, fired a round at 2 men across the street.

Q Who was coming out of the saloon across the street ?

A I don't know. It seems to me they were going into it.

Q Did any of them fall to the ground as a result of your shots ?

A No.

Q You don't know whether you hit them or not ?

A No.

Q Was it then you went into the tailor shop ?

A I fired another shot between there.

Q Who did you fire at there ?

A Somebody was looking out the apartment window and I fired a shot.

Q What apartment building is this you are talking about? Is that the apartment on River Avenue ?

A Yes.

Q You say you saw someone looking out the window ?

A Yes.

Q Was it on the ground floor or on one of the upper floors ?

A Ground.

Q Do you know who it was ?

A No, just saw someone back in the shadows of the window, so I just fired into them.

Q How many shots did you fire into that window ?

A I don't recall. The officer said 2, so it must be 2.

Q Was it then that you went into the tailor shop ?

A Yes, sir.

Q That is when you shot this woman ?

A Yes, sir.

Q And when you came out of the tailor shop, on your way over to the American Store, was that when you saw the automobile parked, waiting for the traffic light, with 2 women and a boy in it ?

A I went to the American Store and the door was locked and I couldn't get in and then saw the car parked there.

Q And you fired at these 2 women and the boy ?

A Yes.

Q And from there you went into Mrs. Harrie's house ?

A No, then I went around back of my place, around 32nd Street, and saw the man across from Harrie's and I fired at him and I went into Harrie's house.

Q And then the man that you fired at, you then saw him and somebody else go back of the garage ?

A Yes.

Q Then you went into Mrs. Harrie's house ?

A Yes.

Q And that is when you shot Mrs. Harrie and tried to shoot Harman but you ran out of ammunition ?

A Yes, sir.

Q And from Mrs. Harrie's you went where ?

A Into my house.

Q Did you shoot anybody on your way from Mrs. Harrie's house to your house ?

A No.

Q Do you recall shooting Mr. Cohen ?

A I didn't shoot Mr. Cohen.

Q You are sure of that ?

A I don't recall. If I did fire at him, I don't recall.

Q Was there anybody with you during the course of these events ?

A Nobody.

Q Did you consult anyone ?

A No.

Q About your plans ?

A No.

Q So that all that you did was purely your own idea ?

A Yes.

Q And your plan was carried out by you alone ?

A Yes.

Q Did your brother know anything of your plans ?

A No.

Q Was your brother home ?

A No.

Q At all this morning when you were there ?

A No, he hasn't lived home.

Q Did you ever tell your mother what you planned to do ?

A No.

Q Did you fire any shots at Mr. Cohen or his boy as you saw them going out the back porch ?

A I don't recall. It seems to me that since you are keeping after me on that point I must have killed them.

Q The only reason I am keeping after you on that point is the fact that Mr. Cohen's body was found dead.

A Then in that case I shot him. I know when I went in the rear room Mr. Cohen and his boy were fleeing out of the window on to the rear of the porch and the kid turned to the roof at the side. Mr. Cohen jumped off the roof. I thought he jumped to escape. You say he is dead. I must have fired at him, at his back.

Q But you don't recall firing at him ?

A I don't remember firing at him.

Q Now, Howard, can you recall shooting anybody else

other than the people that you have already mentioned ?

Can you ?

A No, I cannot.

Q Have you told me everything that you know about that occurred ?

A The only important point in my mind that I haven't told you was when I came home at 3 o'clock this morning Mr. Cohen had ordered me to stay out of his yard and we had been using it as an entrance and exit to our place, so my mother had a friend construct a gate in the rear of our property, at the fence, and I had started using that, so I thought that would end the trouble about using the yard of Cohen's, but at 3 A. M. this morning, when I came home that newly constructed gate and our fence had been torn off and wasn't there, had been taken somewhere, and our fence had been broken in 2 places, apparently done purposely. It was then I decided to do what I did.

Q Let me understand you, Howard. The drugstore that Cohen operates is on the corner of 32nd and River Avenue ?

A Yes.

Q And you live right next door ?

A Yes.

Q Is there any ground or alley or lot between the drugstore and your house ?

A No.

Q Well, that gate that you are speaking of, is it in the rear of the house ?

A The new gate was in the rear. It opens out on the Harrie property, the property that Harrie built.

Q Harry who ?

A That's the last name, the woman and boy.

Q Is it Harrie or Harris ?

A I think it's Harrie.

Q So when you referred to Mrs. Harris, you meant Mrs. Harrie ?

A Yes.

Q And her son Harman Harrie ?

A Yes.

Q What dispute could you possibly have had with Mr. and Mrs. Cohen about the rear of your property which opened up to the Harrie property ?

A None on that dispute. We had been using their yard.

Q Whose yard ?

A The Cohen yard and he ordered me to stay out.

Q But you came through Cohen's back yard and went to the rear of your property ?

A Yes, using that as an exit.

Q And did you go across their yard on 32nd Street ?

A When I was using their gate, do you mean ?

Q Yes.

A Yes, sir.

Q You say the Cohens had objected to your using their lot as an entrance to the rear of your property ?

A Their yard, yes.

Q Did you have a gate constructed ?

A My mother had a gate constructed in the rear of our property leading to the Harrie property.

Q And when you came home at 3 o'clock this morning you noticed that gate broken down ?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did you know who broke the gate down ?

A No.

Q Did you come to the conclusion that it was Cohen that broke the gate down ?

A No.

Q Didn't you tell me that when you saw this gate broken down it was then you made up your mind to get the Cohens for this ?

A That's when I decided to do what I did, not necessarily the Cohens.

Q How could you obtain revenge against the party who broke your gate down if you say you don't know who it was

that broke the gate down ?

A I couldn't very well. All I remember is the shoemaker and the barber recently said they were going to give me a chance to use my gun, so I thought it might be them.

Q You just thought it might be them ?

A Yes.

Q And it was then you conceived the plan to do away with them or the Cohens or anybody else against whom you had built up a resentment within yourself in the past 2 years ?

A Yes, sir.

Q Is there anything else that you want to say to me ?

A I cannot think of nothing else.

Q You realized, didn't you, at the time that you shot these people that you were committing murder ?

A Yes, sir.

Q You knew what you were doing ?

A Yes, sir.

Q Is everything that you have told me the truth ?

A To the best of my knowledge it is.

Q And what you have told me has been voluntary ?

A Yes.

Q Whatever you have told me has been of your own free will ?

A Yes, sir.

Q You perfectly and clearly understood my questions ?

A Yes, sir.

Q No one has forced you, have they, to answer these questions that I have asked you ?

A Not here.

Q Anywhere else have they forced you to answer my questions ?

A No, just in the patrol wagon the cops would like to give it to me but superiors had sense enough to prevent it.

Q No one laid a hand on you other than to handcuff you ?

A No.

Q You were not assaulted by any members of the police department ?

A No.

Q And you have not been compelled or forced to answer any of my questions, have you ?

A No.

Q And what you have told me is the truth ?

A Yes.

Q Has anyone threatened you or treated you unjustly in any manner whatsoever ?

A Concerning who ?

Q Your making of the statement.

A No.

Q No threats have been made to you in making this statement ?

A No.

Q No one has promised you anything ?

A No.

Q In making the statement ?

A No.

Q And what you have told me has been the truth ?

A That's right.