

STATEMENT

My name is Edward Wiggins. I live at 112 Jackson Street, Moss Point, Mississippi. I was born on November 7th, 1941.

At about 10:30 PM on July 6th, 1964, I was standing at the side of Magnolia Street in front of the Pinetop Inn. I had left the mass meeting at K.P. Park after the shooting there. A car full of white guys came by and started shooting, so I fell on the ground immediately, to protect myself. By the time I got up, the car had gone, so I didn't see the license or the people inside. I did see a yellow Ford which might have been the car from which the shots were fired. Then I got into my own car with two other boys and we attempted to follow and find the car that had shot at us. We went down the River Road, to Highway 63, and followed this road to Telephone Road. I thought I had seen the car we were looking for pull into the Texaco filling station, so I pulled in after it. After I stopped in the filling station, the manager hollared, "What are you all doing here?" Then he ran into the office and came out with a rifle. We got out of the car and began running down the road. He fired after us and after a passing car, a '56 Chevrolet, with Negroes inside. I hid in the bushes, but after he stopped shooting (he only fired one shot), I came out and went up to the Billup filling station. A friend of mine, E.J. Hudson, was at the filling station getting some gas. He took me down Highway 63 to Mr. Whitehead's filling station, where there were about four policemen sitting in a car. I got out and told them that my car was held up at the Texaco filling station, that I wanted it back, and I told them what had happened there. He told us to go back there and he would follow us in his car. When we got to the Texaco station, he told us to get out. He searched both me and E.J., and both our cars. In E.J.'s car he found a gun under the seat. Then he told us to come with him, and he took us down to the station. He also took Lamar Turnipseed down to the station with us. Lamar had come up to the Texaco station while we were being searched, and he was searched also. (see Turnipseed's statement).

I was placed under arrest after questioning, at the police station. I was charged with abusive profane language, and attempted assault.