

BA 44-128

DETAILS: AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The title of this case is being marked changed to reflect the correct spelling of the name of the subject as well as that of the victim.

This report is predicated upon the following:

At 9:20 P.M. on May 21, 1954, Mr. CLARENCE MITCHELL, Director, Washington, D.C. Bureau, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and his wife, JUANITA JACKSON MITCHELL, Secretary to the Legal Redress Committee, N.A.A.C.P., Baltimore, appeared at the Baltimore Office and contacted SA ROBERT C. NORTON. With the MITCHELLs were JAMES BROADDUS, Sr., father of the victim, residence address 706 Bradley Street, and two eye witnesses to the fatal shooting of the victim by Sergeant LOUIS M. REHAK, Baltimore City Police Department, on May 18, 1954. These witnesses were LEONARD MAC DONALD, a Seaman, and his wife, IOLA MAC DONALD. The MAC DONALDs live at 709 George Street, Baltimore, Maryland.

Mr. MITCHELL said that earlier in the evening he had been approached by Mr. BROADDUS who complained as to the manner of his son's death. MITCHELL went to the BROADDUS home at 8:00 P.M. BROADDUS then suggested that MITCHELL talk to the MAC DONALDs who had seen the shooting. MITCHELL located the MAC DONALDs at the Northwestern Police Station at around 9:00 P.M. where they had been questioned for about an hour and attempts made, according to MITCHELL, to have them change their story.

Mr. MITCHELL said that he had brought the MAC DONALDs to the Baltimore Office so that they could make their statements before further attempts were made by the Police to cause the MAC DONALDs to change their statements. Statements were prepared by the MAC DONALDs which were signed in the presence of, and witnessed by, SA NORTON.

The statement of LEONARD MAC DONALD is as follows:

"May 21, 1954
"Baltimore, Maryland

"I, Leonard MacDonald of 709 George Street, Baltimore, Maryland, make the following statement of my own free

"will to Robert C. Norton whom I know to be a Special Agent of the F.B.I.

"On Tuesday, May 18, about eleven thirty a.m. I had just come into my house. I heard the sirens and I went to the front door. I saw a squad of police cars and motorcycles. There was a colored girl with a bag of groceries. She said to one of the officers 'He is in the back.' At that time most of the officers went to the back. They climbed over the fences of the yards in the back of my house. Meanwhile, I had gone to the rear of my house. I saw the police out there. One of the police asked me whether I saw a fellow with a yellow shirt. Then two officers went to the yard where the shooting took place. One of them went into the alley-way and climbed up on the rubbish that was piled there. As he looked over the rubbish and did not find anybody he came back toward the back yard and through the alley-way. There was a glider sitting in the back yard where the shooting occurred with a tarpaulin thrown over the top as though to keep off the rain. The police walked to the glider, he raised the tarpaulin. He said 'Here he is; don't move.' At all happened in seconds. At the moment he said 'don't move' he was shooting. The policeman was holding the tarpaulin up and he shot two or three times. I can't say definitely how many. I do not know whether he shot through the tarpaulin or under it. After the shooting I saw the boy's shoulder on the ground and his feet was on the glider. The police hit him in the head twice. He hit him with his gun. He asked the officer why did he shoot him what had he done. The officer asked him what was he doing out in the back yard under that tarpaulin. He told the officers this is my mother's house. That's when the officer asked the address of the house. The kid asked for water, which he didn't get. As he would try to sit up he would fall back and bump his head on the cement."

"I have read the above statement and it is true. It was typed by Clarence Mitchell as I dickitaded it."

/s/ "LEONARD MAC DONALD"

"Witness:

"SA ROBERT C. NORTON, FBI, Baltimore, Md. 5/21/54"