"The above statement has been read to me by Special Agent Crawford and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ M. T. MINTER

"Witness: W. H. Crawford
Marcus B. Calhoun
Spec. Agts., FBI, Atlanta, Ga."

VELMA MINTER was interviewed and furnished the following signed statement:

"Newton, Georgia
February 27, 1943

"I, Velma Minter, Newton, Ga., make the following true and voluntary statement to Special Agents Marcus Calhoun and W. H. Crawford of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I realize that this statement can be used in court. I have not been induced to make this statement by the use of force, threats or promises of reward.

"At about 9:00 PM January 29, 1943, my husband, Mrs. Josephine Price and I went to Johnny West's barroom. We went into dance hall in the back of the barroom. Sheriff Screws, Frank Jones and Jim Bob Kelley were there while we were there. While we were in the dance hall a shot was fired and it embeded in the floor. Frank Jones and Screws had guns but I didn't see one out of the holster.

"After the gun fired we left. We were there about 20 minutes. Jones, Screws and Kelley were there when we left.

"I have read the above statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ Mrs. JACK MINTER

"Witness: Marcus B. Calhoun
W. H. Crawford
Special Agents, FBI, Atlanta, Ga.

JOHNNY WEST was interviewed and furnished the following statement:

"Newton, Georgia
February 25, 1943

"I, Johnny West, Newton, Georgia, make the following true and voluntary statement to Special Agents Marcus Calhoun and W. H. Crawford of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I realize that this statement can be used in court and I have not been induced to make it by the use of force, threats or promise of reward.

"I operate the only liquor store and barroom in Newton, Ga.

"Sheriff Screws, Frank Jones and Jim Bob Kelley often come in my place and buy liquor from me. They are all heavy drinkers at times.

"As well as I can remember Screws, Kelly and Jones came into my place at about 9:00 PM January 29, 1943. I can't be positive as to the time. They bought a pint from me at this time and drank about half of it in my place. As well as I remember Cal Hall, Josephine Price and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Minter were there while the above three were there. I remember that Jones danced with Mrs. Price. They were all in the back of my place and I was up in front when I heard a shot fired. I went back there but I did not see a gun, however a bullet was in the floor. I dug it out of the floor several days ago with a knife and threw it away.

"While at my place Jones and Kelley said, 'We're wasting time, that negro will get away, we don't want to miss him,' or something to that effect.

"Jones and Kelley left before the Sheriff and I told Screws that he should go home and wait and get the negro when he came to work the next morning. He made no reply to this suggestion. The reason that I told him to wait was because I thought he had been drinking too much to be going out to arrest someone.

"It appeared to me that Frank Jones and Jim Bob Kelley were agitating the whole thing and I think they are more responsible than Screws.

"The above statement has been read to me by Special Agent Crawford and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief."

WEST refused to sign this statement but he acknowledged it to be true in the presence of Special Agents WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD and MARCUS B. CALHOUN at 11:15 P. M. on February 25, 1943. WEST stated that the reason he did not wish to sign this statement was the fact that he was in business in Newton and did not want to become involved in this matter in any way.

It is to be noted that during the course of the interview with WEST he was questioned as to the location of the bullet hole in his floor, and without any hesitancy he pointed out a whole in his floor approximately four feet from the bar in the rear of his establishment.

AT ALBANY, GA.

LOREA T. HATCHER was interviewed and furnished the following signed statement:

"Albany, Ga.
2/27/43

"I, Lorea T. Hatcher, make the following voluntary statement to William H. Crawford and Marcus B. Calhoun, whom I know to be Special Agents of the