

B. McDONALD DOSTER  
1414 BOULEVARD LORRAINE, S. W.  
ATLANTA 11, GA.

September 14, 1967

Chief Herbert Jenkins  
Atlanta Police Department  
175 Decatur Street, S. E.  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

I want to report an incident that happened Wednesday night about 9:00 p.m., September 13, which occurred on Gordon Road at the railroad underpass just west of the intersection of Lynhurst in the event you wish to alert your patrolmen to events of this kind.

My wife and I and friends had dinner at the Plantation Restaurant in Marietta and were proceeding homeward through Access Highway, Bolton Road by Fulton County Airport, Gordon Road, Lynhurst, and Sewell to Cascade Heights.

When we approached the underpass west of Lynhurst, but still some distance away, I saw five or so young Negroes sixteen to eighteen years old, or thereabouts, standing on the right hand side of the street at the abutment to the railroad bridge. They were doing nothing that appeared to be out of the ordinary, but were apparently were talking and having fun. Just as I became even with them, we were startled by a terrific report which sounded as though a gun had been fired inside the car. I had seen no one make any move and no flash from an explosion was seen so assumed that the boys had thrown a giant firecracker under the car where it exploded. There appearing nothing more serious at that time, I did not stop but proceeded on homeward.

After visiting with our friends for an hour or two, my wife and I went on home where we then examined the car because someone had expressed an opinion that something struck the car, which we did not immediately confirm.

Upon examination under light it is clear now that the explosion was the discharge of a gun, and the car was actually struck by the bullet and that from the trajectory the bullet came

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from overhead on the railroad bridge, from which someone must have fired the gun.

The bullet, from directly overhead, was fired at about a 40 degree angle, and it struck the left rear door window just above the center. Being struck from overhead, the bullet merely glanced off the glass and struck a curved portion of the metal door at the base of the glass where the curve caused the bullet to ricochet outward. The glass was not broken, but was scarred by the impact and the metal was not pierced, but was scored by the ricochet.

It is obvious that someone was making an attempt on the life of some unsuspecting person who would drive under the bridge. That person could have been me if the gun had been fired a split second sooner and six inches to my right, where it would have pierced the windshield directly in front of my face.

I saw no one on the bridge above, and having proceeded as far forward as I had, I saw no flash, but the circumstances were easy to read.

Very truly yours,

B. M. Doster

cc: Mayor Ivan Allen, Jr.  
City Hall  
Atlanta, Georgia