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 STATEMENT OF JERRY OWEN, 1113 North Mar-Les Drive, Santa Ana, Calif.
 Phone: 839-0123, DOB 4-16-13, 6', 215, dark hair, blue eyes.
 Never arrested in Los Angeles (claims he was arrested and exonerated
 three times). Church work - Evangelist; conduct services on Sunday
 at Calvary Baptist Church in Oxnard.

File # 28693

STATEMENT TAKEN AT UNIVERSITY DETECTIVE DIVISION 6-5-68 5:00 p.m.

I left Santa Ana Monday, 6-3-68 around 1:00 p.m., came in on the freeway and turned off and stopped at the Coliseum Hotel on Santa Barbara and Figueroa where a friend of mine has a heavyweight boxer who stays by the name of Rip O'Riley, and he asked me how I was getting along and to come in and see if I needed any equipment from United Sporting Goods Store on Hill Street, downtown, Los Angeles, I went down and purchased a pair of boxing shoes and was taking them out to Hollywood to have some green shamrocks sewed on each side. As I turned over from 9th and Hill Street, I stopped at one of the lights and I was waiting for the light, one fellow walked up and reached out to touch a large chrome horse (ornament) on my Chev pickup truck and he asked if I was going west and I said "yes" I was going out Wilshire over into Hollywood. They wanted to know if they could ride and the two of them jumped in the back of the pickup. When we stopped at the light at Western and Wilshire, there was three or four young kids on the corner dressed hippie style (heads).

They both got out of the truck. One fellow (susp) asked if he could ride up front with me. He appeared to be in his early 20's, I thought he was Mexican, dark bushy headed kid, looked like a Mexican, but spoke very good English. As we went out Wilshire he asked me if I could stop for a little while at the big hotel and stated that he had a friend that worked there, that he'd only be a few minutes. I waited about ten minutes and was ready to go on my way when he came across the street and got into the truck and he started talking about horses. He wanted to know if I had horses and what kind of horses. In the conversation he stated that he

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was an exercise boy at the race track. In the conversation I told him I was going to Oxnard to sell a Palomino horse that had been used to pony horses. I told him that I was going to sell it for \$250., and he said he would like to buy it, cause if he had his own horse he could work at the track ponying some horses, and told me that I could meet him that night. We discussed where I was going to stay. I told him that I would be going to the Saints and Sinners, and he seemed to know when I said on Fairfax, then he wanted to know if I was Jewish and I said "no", "I'm not Jewish, I'm Welsh," and he said I have no use for Jews. He said that as a boy he lived in Jordan. He told me that he was raised in Jordan and left there when he was 13 or 14 years old. In his conversation he seemed to be opposed to Jews and trouble. He said he would have cash at 11:00 p.m., that night. I came to the hotel and parked and he was across the street on the corner. Across the street was a car; 57, 58, or 59 Chevy, hard top, kind of off-white, a dirty car. He went across the street. The girl that was standing on Wilshire and Western was there. The other fellow in the car got out. (Girl 20/21, 5/5, 140, chunky, wearing slack outfit, straight dirty blonde hair and needed a bath) He went across, talked to them, and came back and showed me a hundred dollar bill. He said he was supposed to get more money and he didn't have the rest. He said "I'll buy the Palomino from you and give you \$250." So I said I'll go over and stay in the hotel (St. Moritz Hotel, 5849 Sunset Blvd, 467-2174, Rm 203). I left a call for in the morning for 8:00 a.m., cause he was to have the money at 8:00 A.M. So I got a phone call about five minutes to eight and I came out in front and the same girl and the same guy said that he wanted the horse bad and if I could wait over until Tuesday night. He said something was happening

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at the Ambassador Hotel and he would take the horse and he asked me if I could get the boy a job at the ranch because he was a good rider. He was too heavy for a jockey. I gave him a card. I left. I stayed in Oxnard Tuesday night with some friends. I left Oxnard at 12:30 p.m., Wednesday. I arrived at the Coliseum hotel at exactly five minutes after three, discussed Kennedy tragedy with waitress. I began to look at Hollywood Citizen News and saw kids picture in the paper. I told the waitress that it looked like the three same kids I saw the other night.

Q. What time did you leave the Coliseum Hotel?

A. Monday afternoon at about 1:20 p.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Q. What was the name of the friend that you know that owns the coffee shop?

A. Bert Morris

Q. You left the Coliseum coffee shop and you went to a store to buy some shoes?

A. First I went by the Teamsters Gym and then I went to United Sporting Goods Store, located at 9th and Hill.

Q. What time was that?

A. About 2:30 p.m. or 3:00 p.m., June 3, 1968.

Q. You went from United Sporting Goods Store, west on 7th St. to Grand, north on Grand to Wilshire and west on Wilshire?

A. Yes

Q. What time did the two guys get into your truck at 7th and Grand?

A. Shortly between 2:45 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Q. Two guys got in your truck; one of whom you have identified as the fellow that has his picture in the paper. Describe the other fellow.

A. Mexican or Latin, 23, three or four inches taller and slimmer, dark hair, long hair, old jacket, sleeves were different color from body of jacket, dark standard levis, shoes, nothing unusual. No mustache. Medallion around his neck, a tall kid.

Q. Describe the short one.

A. Shorter kid I identified from the paper. He was wearing a sweat shirt (dk gry), light colored pants (beige), bushy hair, in his 20's, not over 22 or 23. They got in the back of truck and I drove north on Grand and west on Wilshire to LaBrea.

The other kid got out on Western and Wilshire, on the right hand corner. We stopped at the light and here stands three or four kids on the corner, including a blonde girl. The three or four kids on the corner appeared to know the two guys that were with you. The tall kid got out.

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Q. Describe the girl.

A. Blonde, wearing slack outfit, (dk gry or blu), 20/21, Cauc, needed a bath, have stuff on neck and large wristwatch. Made a big fuss about the horse. (ornament) Had sandals on. The same guy that was with her I saw later on that night.

Q. Describe him

A. Biggest of the whole bunch, gold turtleneck, fair suit, long hair and long sideburns, dark brown hair, straight and combed good. He was in his 30's, pretty neat, greenish-golden irredescent suit, matching pants, no mustache, medallion around neck, very neat, polished and manicured nails.

Q. Described the others

A. Two guys on the corner, extreme hippies, between 19/23, (whiskers, pants to knees, long hair).

Q. Then what happened?

A. We stopped at the Ambassador Hotel for about ten minutes. He said he knew someone that worked there and he'd only be a few minutes. He started talking about the horses and he said he had to get some money. He said he would like to stop at the big hotel, he didn't say the Ambassador. He said I have a friend who is working there. He gets out and goes in. He's gone ten minutes or more. He came back and then he wanted to go out to Hollywood.

Q. Did he say what his friend was doing in the hotel?

A. He works in the kitchen.

Q. Was his friend male or female?

A. Friend was a male.

Q. Was he dressed in the same clothing?

A. Yes

Q. Were you able to determine what entrance he went into the hotel?

A. No

Q. How long was he in the hotel?

A. About ten minutes.

Q. When he got back what happened?

A. After returning to car, we continued west to Rosemont, north on Rosemont to Vine, north on Vine to Smitty's Shoe Shine, across from Hollywood market. I stopped at Smitty's and he waited in the car.

Q. Did Smitty's see the kid in the car?

A. No

Q. Then what happened?

A. I went across the street with the shoes and when I came back that's when he told me he'd meet me and have some money and he really wanted the horse. I told him that I was going to the Saints and Sinners.

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When I said that, he said, where's that, and I said on Fairfax and right away. He said that "heeb" town. I then drove north on Vine, east on Sunset to the old bowling alley. He got out. I told him I'd meet him on this corner at 11:00 p.m. that night. He was to have the \$250. He said, I'm interested in buying the horse and I said, O.K. I'll meet you here at 11:00 p.m. tonight and I left. At 11:00 p.m. that night, across the street from the hotel, he was standing on the corner. I backed the truck and he said, just a minute. He went across the street and I could see from the lights that it looked like the same dirty girl, and the guy in the suit sitting at the wheel of the dirty Chev. He then came back and said, I got \$100. He showed me a hundred dollar bill. He said I'm suppose to get more money, but I can't get it until tomorrow morning. He was very interested in getting the horse. I said if you are positive that you will take this horse for \$250, I'll wait over, if not, don't waste my time. So I went over into the hotel across the street, registered and put a call in for 8:00 a.m. A fellow called, who said he was phoning for Joe Sahara. I met him outside at the parking lot. There was the car, the same girl and guy (wearing the same yellow turtleneck shirt and same suit). He (the guy in the suit) said if you could stay over until tonight, he (susp) hasn't got his money.

Q. The call received from the hotel was not to wake you up?
A. No, it was from them.

Q. When you went out to talk to these people, what did they say about Joe Sahara?
A. He said that Joe got the message and that he was interested in buying the Palomino horse, and that he won't have the money until tonight. If I would wait over, it was positive deal to take the horse.

Q. When you left, did you hear anymore from them?
A. No, not until now.

Q. Would you know the girl if you saw her again?
A. Yes, I believe I would.

Q. Would you know the guy with the yellow turtleneck?
A. Yes, I would know those two.

Q. Would you know the guy whose picture is in the paper?
A. I think three of them I could positively identify.

Q. Maybe the tall kid who rode in the back of the truck?
A. I wouldn't be too positive, but they looked enough alike to be the same nationality, or cousins or brothers. They looked like they were Mexicans.

Q. If you were to retrace your steps in a police car, could you do it?
A. I think I could retrace it all. I think the man at the hotel saw me and the truck when I asked for a cheap room.

