

**WITNESS STATEMENT**  
(AR 195-10 - TB PNG 3)

PLACE Homestead Air Force Base, Florida 33030	DATE 9 Jan 1970	TIME 1315 Hours	FILE NUMBER 69-CID193-12737
LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME FINERAN, Jesse John	SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NO.		GRADE SP4
ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS Btry A, 2d Bn (HERC), 52d Arty, Homestead Air Force Base, Florida 33030			

**SWORN STATEMENT**

SP4 Jesse J. FINERAN WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT UNDER OATH:

I entered the U.S. Army on 4 March 1968 and was subsequently trained as a Military Policeman. On 3 March 1969, I was assigned to Btry A, 2d Bn (HERC), 52d Arty, Everglades National Park, FL, as a Military Police Dog Handler. Around October 1969, I met PFC Frank E. SMITH when he was assigned to my battery. During a conversation with SMITH at the battery during November 1969, SMITH took out his wallet and showed me a cigarette which he stated was a marihuana cigarette. At that time nothing further was said about the marihuana cigarette that SMITH showed to me. After that on several occasions I had conversations with SMITH during which he discussed his use of marihuana. At about 0800 hours, 10 December 1969, I was in SMITH's room at the Administration Area and during a conversation he went to his wall locker and took out his service cap and removed a yellow cigarette butt from inside the hatband and gave it to me. SMITH indicated that the cigarette butt contained marihuana and that the butt which he gave to me was the remains of a cigarette which he had smoked. During the conversation with SMITH, he told me that he was going to get some more marihuana soon and that I could get some of it. At about 0900 hours, 10 December 1969, I went to 1LT LEPORE, my Battery Commander, and released the cigarette butt to him and told him that SMITH had given it to me and of my conversations with SMITH. During the afternoon of 11 December 1969, I accompanied LT LEPORE to Homestead Air Force Base, FL, where I was introduced to Mr SINGUEFIELD of Army CID. I related all of the circumstances surrounding SMITH giving me the cigarette butt which LT LEPORE had already released to Mr SINGUEFIELD and also of my conversations with SMITH. I agreed to assist Mr SINGUEFIELD in furthering his investigation and was instructed to return to my unit and to accept anything in the way of marihuana or narcotics that SMITH may offer me and that if SMITH offered to sell marihuana to me for me to contact Mr SINGUEFIELD and he would make money available for the purchase of marihuana from SMITH. At about 1200 hours 14 Dec 69 while at the launcher area of my battery I approached SMITH who was on duty at guard post # 4 and started talking to him. During the conversation with SMITH he took out his wallet and removed an orange colored handrolled cigarette which contained what appeared to be marihuana. SMITH gave that cigarette to me which I later released to Mr SINGUEFIELD at 1317 hours, 15 Dec 69 at the intersection of Epmore Dr and Newton Road, Homestead, FL. At the time that SMITH gave me the cigarette on 14 Dec 69 he told me that was all the marihuana that he had at that time but that he could have purchased some from SP5 Eddie D. EASON who had a matchbox full on 12 Dec 69 at the Top Cat Lounge, Florida City, FL. SMITH had offered to sell me \$10.00 worth of marihuana and he told me to meet him at the battery that evening and he would have it for me. At 1845 hours, 14 Dec 69, I met SMITH at the Admin area of the battery and he told me that I would have to drive him to Florida City to get the marihuana that he had offered to sell to me. SMITH and I departed the battery in my VW and drove to the Top Cat Lounge at Florida City, FL, and arrived there at 2025 hours. I waited in my car outside while SMITH went into the lounge and then returned in about 10 minutes and stated to me that "Willie The Dope Man was not there". SMITH and I then drove to the vicinity of NW 9th St and NW 5th Ave, Florida City, FL.

EXHIBIT	INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT <i>JJF</i>	PAGE 1 OF <u>Five</u> PAGES
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ADDITIONAL PAGES MUST CONTAIN THE HEADING "STATEMENT OF \_\_\_ TAKEN AT \_\_\_ DATED \_\_\_ CONTINUED." THE BOTTOM OF EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT AND BE INITIALED AS "PAGE \_\_\_ OF \_\_\_ PAGES." WHEN ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE UTILIZED, THE BACK OF PAGE 1 WILL BE LINED OUT, AND THE STATEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF ANOTHER COPY OF THIS FORM.

DA FORM 2823  
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*Exhibit 2*

STATEMENT OF SP4 JESSE J. FINERAN, TAKEN AT HOMESTEAD AFB, FL, DATED  
9 JANUARY 1970, CONTINUED:

and SMITH pointed and said that is where "Willie" lives. I was not able to determine which house SMITH was point to. At about 2035 hours or 2040 hours SMITH and I arrived at 1613 N.W. 1st Ct., Florida City, FL, where SMITH went in while I waited in the car. After about one hour SMITH came out and was accompanied by a Negro Male, 5'11" tall, light mustache, and about 18 years of age who was introduced to me as "Douglas FRY" or "Douglas FRIER". I later learned that Douglas is a Student at the South Campus of Miami-Dade Junior College, Miami, FL. SMITH and Douglas got into my car and we drove to SMITH's apartment at Florida City, FL, which is Apt # 1, 1470 N.W. 2d Ave. Douglas and I accompanied SMITH into his apartment where SMITH changed from fatigue uniform to civilian clothing and telephoned his wife in California. We later went to 1613 N.W. 1st Ct again where Douglas resides with his grandmother and after leaving there we went to a couple of bars in the area. At about 2230 hours, while in my car I gave SMITH a Ten Dollar Federal Reserve Note, Serial Number F60098383A which I had received from Mr. SINGUEFIELD on the morning of 14 December 1969. The three of us then drove to The Greenhouse (Temples Bar) located at S.W. 5th St. & NW 5th Ave, Homestead, FL, arriving at 2255 hours. I waited in my car while SMITH and Douglas went into the bar. SMITH and Douglas returned to the car at 2300 hours and SMITH handed me ten (10) handrolled cigarettes. SMITH told me that he had paid one dollar a joint for the cigarettes and that he purchased them from "Willie". I do not know if SMITH purchased more than the ten cigarettes that he sold to me for \$10.00. Douglas and I then drove SMITH to our battery and then I drove Douglas to his home. I released the 10 suspected marihuana cigarettes to Mr SINGUEFIELD at 1317 hours, 15 Dec 69 when I met him at the intersection of Epmore Dr & Newton Road, Homestead, FL. On 18 December 1969, during a conversation with SMITH at the battery he offered to sell me a matchbox of marihuana for \$5.00 and told me that he was going to get the matchbox of marihuana from SP5 EASON. SMITH told me that he would have the marihuana for me later that day. That afternoon I met Mr SINGUEFIELD at Homestead, FL where he released a Five Dollar Bill to me for the purchase of a matchbox of marihuana from SMITH. Prior to departing the battery on 18 December 1969, I had been looking for SMITH and while looking for him in the hallway of the billets I asked SP5 EASON if he had seen SMITH and during the conversation with EASON I mentioned that SMITH was supposed to have a package for me and EASON started asking me what kind of package SMITH was supposed to have for me. During the conversation it more or less became understood that the package SMITH was supposed to have for me was marihuana and EASON told me that if I ever needed anything like that he would be able to take care of me. No more was said at that time. During the morning of 26 December 1969, while at my residence located at 17000 Epmore Dr., Homestead, FL, I received a telephone call from SGT JONES of my battery who stated that he had someone who wanted to talk to me. At that time EASON got on the phone and identified himself and stated that he was at SMITH's apartment and asked me to come over there to see him. I drove to SMITH's apartment and met EASON outside where I gave him a Five Dollar Federal Reserve Note, SN F29037552B after he offered to sell me a matchbox of marihuana. I gave EASON the money at 1245 hours. EASON asked me to meet him back at SMITH's apartment at 1500 hours that day to receive the marihuana. I returned to SMITH's apartment at about 1500 hours, however,

STATEMENT OF SP4 JESSE J. FINERAN, TAKEN AT HOMESTEAD AFB, FL, DATED  
9 JANUARY 1970, CONTINUED:

SGT JONES and SMITH informed me that EASON had not returned. That night while at the battery I received a telephone call from EASON who stated that he had not been able to meet me that afternoon and he told me that I could come by his house the next morning when I got off duty and pick up the marijuana. I asked him to bring it in to me the next morning when he came to work and he said that he was off the next day that he would have SMITH bring it in to me. The next morning at about 0845 hours, 21 Dec 69, while I was in the battery messhall eating breakfast I received a telephone call from SGT JONES who stated that he was at the launching area and that EASON had left something for me in the glove compartment of his car. SGT JONES told me that he had left the keys to his car with SFC TUCKER who was the Sergeant of The Guard and that I could get the keys from him. I then went down to the launching area and got the keys for JONES' car from TUCKER and unlocked JONES' car which is a 1964 or 1965 yellow 2-door Chevrolet, and in the glove compartment I found a matchbox full of suspected marijuana. I put the matchbox into my pocket and returned the keys to TUCKER. I released the matchbox and its contents to Mr SINGUEFIELD at 1534 hours, 27 Dec 69 at the intersection of Epmore Dr., and Newton Road, Homestead, FL. During the period of 27 - 31 Dec 69, EASON and SMITH offered to sell me an ounce of marijuana. At 1640 hours, 31 Dec 69, I met Mr SINGUEFIELD at the intersection of Epmore Dr. & Newton Road, Homestead, FL, where I received Two Twenty Dollar Federal Reserve Notes, serial numbers G03778715\* and D29614705A. At 2045 hours, 31 Dec 69, I met EASON outside the main gate of the launcher area and his wife and children were with him. EASON took a plastic bag of marijuana (about 1 ounce) out of inside his shirt and told me that it would be \$25.00. I gave him a twenty dollar bill, SN D29614705A and told him that I would give him the remaining five dollars the next day. At 1635 hours, 1 Jan 1970, I met Mr SINGUEFIELD at Epmore Dr., & Newton Road, Homestead, FL, where I released the plastic bag of suspected marijuana to him. At that time I received A Five Dollar Bill, SN D27427113B from Mr SINGUEFIELD for final payment to EASON for the approximate one ounce of suspected marijuana. At about 0730 hours, 5 Jan 70, in the parking lot of my unit I gave EASON the five dollar bill for final payment for the marijuana purchased from him on 31 Dec 69. At 0750 hours, 6 Jan 70, I telephoned SMITH at the battery and asked him about the ounce of marijuana that he was going to sell me and he told me to meet him at his apartment during the morning of 7 Jan 70. On 7 Jan 70, I arrived at SMITH's apartment at about 0750 hours and he was not at home. I called SMITH at 0830 and he told me to come on over to his apartment. I arrived there at about 0845 hours and got into a 1956 black Chevrolet with SMITH and he drove to 950 S.W. 9th Ave, Homestead, FL, and a negro female about 23 years of age came out to the car and was identified Bonnie PEOPLES. PEOPLES directed SMITH to HELLE GRIFFIN's apartment located at Apt 21, 755 N.W. 9th St., Florida City, FL. PEOPLES got into the car with us and we drove to GRIFFIN's apartment and SMITH and PEOPLES went in and I waited in the car. They came back to the car in a few minutes and SMITH stated that he would not be able to get the marijuana until about 1500 hours that afternoon.

STATEMENT OF SP4 JESSE J. FINGERHILL, TAKEN AT HOMESTEAD AFB, FL, DATED  
9 JANUARY 1970, CONTINUED:

On the way to SMITH's apartment the girl (PEOPLES) took out what appeared to be a marihuana cigarette and SMITH told her not to lite it then. At SMITH's apartment all three of us went in SMITH told me that an ounce of marihuana would cost me \$30.00 so I told him that I only wanted \$20.00 worth and he said OK. PEOPLES lit the suspected marihuana cigarette and took a draw off of it and passed it to SMITH who smoked the rest of it. SMITH offered the cigarette to me but I declined saying that it was too early in the morning for me. SMITH and I took PEOPLES back to her residence and I stayed with SMITH until about 1330 hours. SMITH told me to meet him back at his apartment at about 1500 hours. I went to PEOPLES apartment at 1530 hours and SMITH told me that he had called and GRIFFIN would not have the marihuana until 1630 hours and asked me to come back then. I picked up SMITH at PEOPLES apartment at 1630 hours and we drove to GRIFFIN's apartment and we found that he was not there so we returned to SMITH's apartment and after about an hour and at 1800 hours we returned to GRIFFIN's apartment and SMITH went in and then SMITH and GRIFFIN came out and got into my car. GRIFFIN directed me to a one story apartment house located at the intersection of S.W. 178th St. and S.W. 104th Ave at Perrine, FL, where I parked in front. GRIFFIN got out and walked behind my car and I could see him talking to an unidentified Negro Male. In a very short time GRIFFIN returned to the car and said "let's go". GRIFFIN had me stop at a Grocery Store on Homestead Ave., Perrine, FL, and SMITH asked me for some money to get some cigarette papers with so I gave him a quarter and SMITH and GRIFFIN went into the store and I waited in the car. SMITH and GRIFFIN each returned to the car with a beer and two packages of cigarette papers. We then drove back to GRIFFIN's apartment and arrived at about 1900 hours. We all went into GRIFFIN's apartment and sat down at the kitchen table. GRIFFIN took out three bags (light brown) and poured marihuana from each one onto the table. From the marihuana that GRIFFIN poured onto the table he and I rolled a total of 21 cigarettes with the yellow cigarette papers they had purchased at the store. After GRIFFIN and I completed rolling the cigarettes GRIFFIN took two of them and gave me a piece of waxed paper to wrap the other 19 cigarettes in. I wrapped the 19 cigarettes in the waxed paper and put them into my pocket. I had given SMITH a twenty dollar bill, SN 60377815\* at 0815 hours, 5 Jan 70 at SMITH's apartment. Before I left the apartment GRIFFIN lit one of the two cigarettes he had kept and he and SMITH smoked it. They offered the cigarette to me but I declined saying that I had to go to work. I departed the apartment at 1930 hours leaving SMITH and GRIFFIN there and I returned to my residence where I met Mr. BERKSHIELD at 2000 hours and released the waxed paper and 19 cigarettes to him.

Q: What was your occupation before entering the U.S. Army?

A: I was a Police Officer with the Police Department, New Orleans, LA.

Q: Were you trained in Marihuana identification and investigation.

A: Yes marihuana was also burned during the course of my instruction to enable me to detect the odor of burned marihuana.

Q: Do you wish to add anything to this statement?

A: No.

//////////////////////END OF STATEMENT////////////////////////////////////

AFFIDAVIT

I, Sgt. Jesse J. FINNERAN HAVE READ ~~OR HAVE HAD READ TO ME~~ THIS STATEMENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1 AND ENDS ON PAGE 5. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME, THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.

WITNESSES:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law to administer oaths, this 2th day of January, 19 70 at Homestead Air Force Base, Florida 33030

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

James D. Siquemfield  
(Signature of Person Administering Oath)

JAMES D. SINGUEFIELD, Grim Inves

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

(Typed Name of Person Administering Oath)

ART 136 (b) (4) UCMJ 1969

(Authority To Administer Oaths)

INITIALS OF PERSON MAKING STATEMENT JSF