

STATEMENT OF MR. WILLIAM KOHN

To Mr. John J. Abt:

BY MR. ABT: Q My name is Abt; I am from Washington, assisting Mr. Williams in the investigation that has been going on down here, and trying to determine who, if anybody, is responsible for this; and I am asking each of you men to make a statement of all the facts they know in regard to it.

A I just say only what I know. I have been in the Camp 3. I been going to take a trip from the Camp to the railroad and watch to the water:

Q When was this? A On Sunday; and Mr. Sherron, he was in the office right across the road by the railroad, nearby the railroad; there was a phone there; only one telephone in the Camp.

Q What time Sunday was this? A Sunday about twelve o'clock; and I was stare right through the window, only a screen door, you can hear everything what is going on. And he tried to get in touch with the weather bureau. And one fellow come down ask if he going to leave. He says, Not yet. He says "If we get ready we can pack all the men in six hours; we can call them up to the railroad, a train come down here and get them in six hours." Then I walked right through the Ferry land there, and it is quite a few tourists was there, probably oh twelve, or about fifteen congregate, I don't know for sure, something like that, want to go to Key West. And Sherron gave him order to go back to Miami, because he says Ferry come

down here and going to stay here, because it is plenty of storm. That was Sunday. And I never ask nothing; as soon as I heard that word from Sherron I come away; and that Sunday morning when Mr. Sherron gives an order to some captain or skipper he hed on the tug, to take all his machinery; he had a machinery you know at the water, and had a special hole to dig for that machinery; and the storm come down, he put it in there and keep it safe. That was about five o'clock in the morning.

Q Sunday morning? A Sunday morning, he gives order to that skipper to take all the machinery and put in that hole. And them boats was working all the morning. That is all I know.

Q Did anybody ever tell you that you couldn't leave the keys, or was any attempt ever made to keep men from leaving the keys if they wanted to, on Sunday and Monday?

A No, I never asked nobody; nobody talked to me; and I was all around, so many boys, and all around; I know just everybody. He says "You won't get the storm but the tail end; we won't here." And Monday send telegrams and say it come this way, about two o'clock in the afternoon they give us warning; and he says "Let's go and pack your stuff, we are going to have a train, and we are going to have our lunch." We have lunch about four o'clock, and we pack all the stuff, and we went from there to the railroad to watch for the train; and the train never come. If you don't have warning to watch

for the train, the men could get placed in the daytime. We was ready for the train, expecting for the train.

Q Did you yourself identify any of the dead?

A Yes, sir.

Q Can you give us the names of the people that you personally identified?

A Only one I saw him, McGain, supply sergeant.

Q How do you spell his name?

A Mack McGain; I don't know how to spell it. That's the only one I was identify; identify by his shoe and clothes, how he should wear the clothes and shoe; identify by the clothes and shoe.

Q Thank you very much. Nothing else you would like to say?

A No, sir; nothing else.
