

NEW WORKS  
EVERSIDE PK  
1450

Q (By Commr. Reilly) What is your name? A. Anthony Peter Marra.

Q Where do you live? A. 44 Englewood Avenue, Everett, Massachusetts.

Q How old are you? A. Fifteen.

Q Where do you work? A. Cocoanut Grove.

Q What hours do you work at the Cocoanut Grove? A. Four o'clock until the bar closes.

Q How long have you been working there? A. Since October.

Q You started in October? A. This year, 1942.

Q You started to work there in October this year? A. Yes, sir.

Q Is that the first job you have had? A. Yes, sir.

Q Did you work regularly there every day? A. No, I go to school, Everett High School, and I just work week-ends.

Q Week-ends. What is that, Friday and Saturday? A. Yes.

Q Friday and Saturday nights? A. Yes, sir.

Q What were you doing the night of the fire? A. I was in the pantry, standing there.

Q In the Kitchen, downstairs, is that it? A. In the pantry on the Dining Room floor. There is a door that separates the pantry and the Dining Room.

Q Let's see where the pantry is in this diagram here. That is the main ball room (pointing). A. Right over here is the pantry (pointing). There are two doors that separate the dining room. The pantry is in here, and the stairs that go down to the Kitchen (pointing).

Q And you were in the pantry? A. Yes, sir.

Q (By Chief Pope) On the Terrace? A. Not exactly, -to the left of the terrace.

Q (by Commr. Reilly) And this side of the terrace (pointing)? A. Yes, sir.

Q And you were in the pantry, and then what happened? A. Well, a lot of people started rushing, and I saw smoke.

Q A lot of people started rushing where? A. To the doors.

Q How do you know? You were in the pantry with the doors closed?



A Yes, the doors were closed, just a little glass window, you could look in the dining room.

Q Did you hear any noise or see a commotion? A. I saw smoke, and I saw people yelling and running.

Q How, in the main room? A. Yes, in the dining room.

Q And there was smoke in the room? That is the first you knew of the fire, was it, when you saw smoke and saw people running? A. From the pantry, yes.

Q How long had you been in the pantry then. A. Oh, about ten thirty I was in the pantry.

Q I mean, had you just gone into the pantry there ? A. Yes, just gone in then.

Q Just walking in? A. Yes, sir.

Q And the next thing you knew, there ~~was~~ smoke ? A. Yes, I was just going to see if there was anybody on the spotlight, checking up to see if there was anybody on the spot.

Q Who is that? A. Another ~~boy~~. I don't know his name.

Q What was he checking up on the spotlight ? What did he have to do? A. Well, he ran the spotlight for the second show.

Q How old is this boy ? A. I don't know.

Q Is he young or old ? A. Pretty old.

Q. Pretty old ? A. Yes, sir.

Q What were your duties yourself ? A. Well, as a busboy I just set the tables up, forks and knives, to see that people have butter and water, that is all.

Q Now when you saw the smoke in the room and all the people rushing around, what did you do? A. I ran downstairs into the kitchen. And the smoke was getting thick, and I didn't know what to do.

Q The smoke was getting thick in the kitchen? A. Yes. I was coughing a little bit and I got scared so the window of the service bar, I escaped from this window over here. The waiter John Rizzo and I, and we took two ladies, I think, and a man.

Q Through that window? A. Yes, sir.

Q ~~Were~~ there a lot of people in the kitchen when you went downstairs? A. Not when I was down there. I was down there for about 20 minutes.

Q. Well, after the excitement took place upstairs you went downstairs? A. Yes, sir.



Q And there was nobody down in the kitchen then? A. There were people down there but they all disappeared. I saw I was the only one in there, and I didn't know what to do.

Q Was there smoke there ? A. Yes, sir.

Q Were the lights out ? A. They just went out. The lights were out.

Q. The lights were out when you were downstairs ? A. Not when I went downstairs. After I was downstairs they went out.

Q Was the cashier there, do you know? A. I didn't see anything of any cashier. I was wondering about her after I got out.

Q And you seemed to be all alone in the room? A. Yes, sir.

Q So you got up on the service bar and went out the window yourself? A. Yes, sir.

Q And you said something about helping a couple of women? A. Yes, John Rizzo, the waiter, he went out.

Q There was somebody there, then? A. We helped John Bradley out, the bartender. We took him out. I don't know if his name was John Bradley but I think it was him.

Q Well, he probably was in the room at the same time, then ? A. Yes, sir.

Q So that after you got outside you helped to pull some people through the window, did you ? A. Yes, sir.

Q Then what did you do after that ? A. I ran out on Shawmut Street and I went into a tea room, I was so excited, and I met my friends, and I was glad to see them and they were glad to see me, too.

Q And you stayed in the tea room for a while and then went home ? A. Yes, had a cup of coffee and calmed my nerves.

That is all. Thank you.