

**Benjamin Jason**  
**Metropolitan Police Officer, Washington, DC**

**Events: 1954 Shooting**

**Hectic Scene at the House**

Benjamin Jason describes the scene he witnessed when he arrived at the Capitol on March 1, 1954.  
*Interview recorded April 30, 2014*

When we arrived there it was very hectic. People were running out and yelling, "They're shooting in there!" We said, "Careful with the sidearm." We never pulled our sidearm out because of the amount of people there, and ran up to the floor, the entrance area inside the Capitol. Very hectic and yelling, and people pointed to this particular tall person, and he was one of them. And I grabbed a hold of him and my partner was busy with somebody else. But I had a hold of this guy and I had him by the belt, and I had him standing on his toes. And one of the photographs shows me, while I'm holding him, that I'm pointing and looking in another direction, as though I'm pointing somebody out or somebody getting away or something. I don't recall what transpired there, but I know I was looking at, at something else that was going on.