

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 4/13/68

ANDY GASDRITZA, for convenience, uses the name ANDY GAST and is employed as an over-the-road driver for Fruehauf Company. He resides at Route 6, Fremont, Ohio, but, because of his extensive absence from home, can more easily be contacted through the Fruehauf Manager, Avon Lake, Ohio.

He stated that on April 3, 1968, he checked in his trailer and then drove his tractor to the Rebel Motel located on S. Lamar, Memphis, Tennessee. He arrived at the motel between 6:00 and 7:00 O'clock in the evening, and after parking the tractor in the required area on the side of the motel went to the office and registered.

GASDRITZA stated that he uses this motel each time he comes to Memphis and did not select it at random at this time.

Following registration which resulted in his being assigned to room 35, he carried his overnight bag from the office to the room. During the period of registering and during the time he proceeded from the office to his assigned room, he did not see anyone whom he can now recall. He has no recollection of seeing any vehicle parked outside of the adjacent room, number 34. After cleaning up he returned to the restaurant of the motel and had dinner. The desk clerk told him that a fellow Fruehauf driver JIM BERDAN (phonetic) was registered at the motel across the court from room 35, and GASDRITZA then went to visit with this driver and have a few beers and some conversation.

He recalls there was a storm brewing and the wind reached such force that he thought the roof of the motel might blow off.

When he left his companion at approximately 9:00 o'clock that evening, he walked back to the restaurant for a few moments and then returned to his room, number 35, at about 9:30 PM.

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On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987  
by SA THOMAS O. RONAN /bbs Date dictated 4/13/68

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He stated that in proceeding from room 12 to the restaurant and from the restaurant back to room 35, he did not pass room 34, nor has he any recollection of seeing a car parked there. He said that in returning from the restaurant to his room, he felt that if a car had been parked outside of room 34, he, in all probability, would have recalled it.

At about 10:00 o'clock in the evening, he was watching the beginning of the news program on television when he heard the door to room 34 slam and was then aware there was an occupant to that room. His primary thought was that in view of the fact he could hear the adjacent room's occupant moving about, that he, GASDRITZA, would probably lose some sleep as soon as the other occupant turned on the television. However, GASDRITZA said that following the news report, he went to sleep and during the entire period that he was awake he heard no noise from the adjoining room and is under the impression the occupant did not turn on the television.

The following morning he left his room at approximately 7:00 o'clock and noticed a light colored car parked in front of the entrance to room 34. He cannot recall the make or model or exact color of this automobile, nor can he recall what license tags or other identifying or descriptive data was affixed to the vehicle.

When he went to the restaurant for breakfast, he did not recall anyone else being there, and following his breakfast returned to his room about 7:30. It was immediately after this that he departed the motel with his tractor to pick up his trailer of cargo and depart Memphis.

In conclusion, GASDRITZA stated that he cannot recall seeing any of the guests of the Rebel Motel from the time of his arrival until the time of his departure other than the fellow driver, whom he stayed with for awhile. If anyone was there, he cannot recall them and would be unable to identify them should he see them again.

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PHYSICAL EVIDENCE AND PHOTOGRAPHS

(This section of the report pertains only to photographs of the crime scene and the surrounding area; to physical evidence obtained, including latent fingerprints, in the area of the crime scene, and other material furnished to the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D. C.)

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 6, 1968

On the evening of April 4, 1968, items listed below were given by Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, to Special Agent In Charge ROBERT G. JENSEN, of the Memphis Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Inspector ZACHARY personally recovered these items from the sidewalk in front of 424 South Main Street, Memphis. These items were then turned over by Mr. JENSEN to Special Agent ROBERT FITZPATRICK, who personally delivered these to Special Agent ROBERT A. FRAZIER, of the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., at 5:10 a.m. on the morning of April 5, 1968. The items delivered are as follows:

(1.) A black cardboard box which had originally contained a Browning Mauser rifle. At one end of this box appears a label bearing Number 130712.

(2.) Remington Gamemaster rifle, Model 760, Serial Number 461476, on which is mounted a Redfield telescopic sight.

(3.) An empty ammunition clip removed from this rifle by Special Agent In Charge ROBERT G. JENSEN and Special Agent ORVILLE V. JOHNSON.

(4.) An empty shell casing removed from the chamber of this rifle by Mr. JENSEN and Special Agent JOHNSON.

(5.) A box containing nine cartridges.

(6.) A green and brown herringbone patterned bedspread.

(7.) A blue plastic zippered suitcase approximately twenty by thirty inches, which contained the following items:

(8.) One magnetic tack hammer.

(9.) One pair of pliers bearing the label, "Rompag."

(10.) Standard Oil road map designated, "Georgia - Alabama."

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On 4/4-5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987

SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN  
by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK RGJ: jms Date dictated 4/6/68

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(11.) The first section of the April 4, 1968, issue of the "Commercial Appeal," a daily newspaper published at Memphis, Tennessee.

(12.) A Standard Oil map of the United States.

(13.) One roll of bathroom tissue.

(14.) Binoculars, trade name, Banner By Bushnell, Serial Number DQ 408664.

(15.) Leather or plastic binocular case.

(16.) Cardboard carton marked, "Bushnell."

(17.) Gray paper bag bearing an advertisement for York Arms Company, Memphis, Tennessee.

(18.) York Arms Company sales slip in the amount of \$41.55, dated April 4, 1968.

(19.) Clear plastic box containing a Gillette Safety Razor, Gillette razor blades, an aerosol can of Gillette shaving creme, a can of Gillette Right Guard deodorant, and a tube of Gillette Heads Up hair cream. A price sticker appears on this box bearing the legend, "Oliver Rexall, Whitehaven, phone 397-2301, \$1.89."

(20.) One white and yellow checked hand-towel.

(21.) One white handkerchief.

(22.) One tube of Colgate toothpaste.

(23.) One pair of long black socks.

(24.) One seven ounce can of Gillette Right Guard deodorant.

(25.) One six-transistor Channel Master pocket size radio.

(26.) One bottle of Bufferin tablets.

(27.) One gray cloth belt.

(28.) One tube of Brylcreem hair dressing.

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- (29.) One bottle of One-A-Day vitamin tablets.
- (30.) One small bar of Cashmere Bouquet soap, bearing on the wrapper an advertisement for Friendship Inns.
- (31.) One small size bar of Cashmere Bouquet soap.
- (32.) One small bar of Cameo soap.
- (33.) One bar of Dial soap.
- (34.) One hair brush.
- (35.) One tube of Head and Shoulders shampoo, stamped "Liggett Rexall Number 1678, \$1.10."
- (36.) One can of Kiwi brown shoe polish.
- (37.) One aerosol can of Palmolive Rapid Shave, stamped, "Liggett Rexall Number 3478, 79¢."
- (38.) A maroon button.
- (39.) One toothbrush.
- (40.) One safety razor, brand unknown.
- (41.) One plastic bottle of Mennen Afta Shaving lotion.
- (42.) Two bobby pins.
- (43.) Brown paper bag containing two unopened cans of Schlitz beer, bearing the legend, "Mississippi Tax Paid, 4 cents."

Also delivered to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory by Special Agent FITZPATRICK were the following three twenty dollar bills, which had been obtained from Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, it being believed that one of them had been given to her on April 4, 1968, by the unknown murderer who had rented a room in her rooming house:

Federal Reserve Note  
Series 1963 A SN F14002844A

Federal Reserve Note  
Series 1963 A SN H16164663A

Federal Reserve Note  
Series 1963 SN F06445143A

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 4/11/68

The following items were received by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK from SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN at the FBI Office, 841 Federal Building, Memphis, Tennessee:

- 1) One pair of men's shorts (waist band in unstretched condition, one side measures approximately 11-3/4 inches, which would be waist band of approximately 23-1/2 inches)
- 2) T-shirt, size 42-44, designated "Jockey Power Knit," T-shirt large size. It appears on visual examination that the lower portion of the T-shirt has been cut.
- 3) One board which is part of a window sill in the window of a bathroom at 422 1/2 South Main Street, Memphis.

These items were personally taken by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK to the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D. C.

SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK left the Memphis FBI Office at 6:15 p.m., April 6, 1968, en route Metropolitan Airport, Memphis, Tennessee. SA FITZPATRICK arrived at the Airport at 6:40 p.m., boarded American Airlines Flight #132 en route Washington, D. C., at Washington National Airport.

SA FITZPATRICK arrived at Washington National Airport, Washington, D. C., at 9:45 p.m., and personally delivered the aforementioned evidence to SA JAMES CADIGAN of the Document Section, FBI, Washington, D. C., at 9:55 p.m.

SA FITZPATRICK had these items of evidence in his possession at all times until they were personally delivered by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK to Washington, D. C., and ultimately released to SA JAMES CADIGAN of the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C.

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On 4/6/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK:gmh Date dictated 4/10/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 8, 1968

On the evening of April 4, 1968, DR. JERRY T. FRANCISCO, Medical Examiner, University of Tennessee, Memphis, Tennessee, gave to Lieutenant J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, the bullet removed from the body of the deceased DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING. Lieutenant HAMBY turned this bullet over to Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, who, in turn, delivered it to Special Agent CYRIL F. BUSCH. Special Agent BUSCH hand carried this bullet to Special Agent In Charge ROBERT G. JENSEN, who, in turn, furnished same to Special Agent ROBERT FITZPATRICK, to be hand carried to Washington, D.C.

At 5:10 a.m., on the morning of April 5, 1968, Special Agent FITZPATRICK delivered this bullet to Special Agent ROBERT A. FRAZIER, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory, Washington, D.C.

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On 4/4-5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987

SAs CYRIL F. BUSCH  
by ROBERT FITZPATRICK CFB:jms Date dictated 4/7/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/11/68

The following items were received by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK from SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN at the FBI Office, 841 Federal Building, Memphis, Tennessee:

- 1) Original registration card with the name ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, who according to the card had Room 34 and gave car license No. 138993, State of Alabama. Arrival date is shown as April 3, 1968, and make of car is listed as Mustang. This card is the property of VIC DUPRATT's New Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar, Memphis, Tennessee. The reverse side of this card has the following information thereon:  
Name: "Golt, E. S."  
Room: 34  
Rate: 6.24  
Arrival date: "4/3"  
Departure date: "4/4"

- 2) One bar of Cameo toilet soap.

SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK personally delivered these items to the Memphis Metropolitan Airport and personally handed these items to Captain C. M. VICKERS, American Airlines Flight No. 132 which was scheduled to leave Memphis at 6:45 p.m., CST, April 9, 1968, and arrive Washington National Airport, Washington, D. C., at 9:29 p.m., EST.

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On 4/9/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

SAs ROBERT FITZPATRICK and  
by EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. RF:gmh Date dictated 4/10/68

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JCH/bbs

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The Albany Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation advised on April 8, 1968, that experts at Textile Marking Machine Company, Syracuse, New York, had advised that the machine which printed the laundry labels on the undershorts and tee shirt abandoned by the Unknown Subject on April 4, 1968, is unusual in that the first two type characters are 15 point type and the last three characters are 18 point type, with the middle character, the letter B, probably being narrow rather than regular type. The usual machine carries 15 point type for the first 3 characters and 18 point type for the last two characters. Textile Marking Machine experts also stated that this machine is defective in that it is producing a tape 1 and 1/16 inches long instead of 1 and 1/8 inches long and is not projecting the tape far enough, resulting in cutting off a portion of the first letter.

Textile Marking Machine Company furnished a list of concerns who purchased Thermo-Seal machines capable of printing a five character code and a nationwide canvass has been instituted for the purpose of locating the machine used by the laundry which was patronized by the Unknown Subject.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 5, 1968

Det. E. S. BERKLEY, Homicide Bureau, Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Homicide Bureau, at which time he furnished the following information:

At the instructions of Assistant Chief ROUTT of the Memphis Police Department, he went to St. Joseph's Hospital at approximately 7:45 p.m. this evening. While at the hospital, he obtained the personal clothing from the body of MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. At this time, KING's body was located in a consultation room on the main floor of St. Joseph's Hospital adjacent to the emergency ward.

He then brought the clothing belonging to Dr. KING to the Homicide Bureau of the Memphis Police Department.

At this point, Det. BERKLEY made available for examination the following items belonging to Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING:

- 1) White long sleeve Arrow shirt, wash-and-wear style, showing a composition made up of dacron and polyester. This shirt was blood stained and there was a large hole on the right side in the area of the collar.
- 2) One black suit coat and pants bearing the label Petrocelli and the name Zimmerman, Atlanta, on the inside label of the coat. The coat was blood stained and torn.
- 3) One pair black 100 percent nylon shorts, size 34, bearing the name Shorewood.
- 4) One tie, brand D and H, bearing the name Apparel Shop.
- 5) One pair men's black socks.
- 6) One white T-shirt bearing the name Lewis, medium size, which was blood stained.
- 7) One pair black Bannister shoes.

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On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ANDREW SLOAN:LF Date dictated 4/5/68

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Det. BERKLEY advised that he also obtained from Dr. KING's body two \$10 bills, one \$5 bill and three \$1 bills, as well as 45 cents in change. He also obtained a key to Room 307 for the Lorraine Motel and Hotel. He also obtained one silver pen, numerous business cards and a black address book bearing the year 1968 on the cover.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/681

Lt. J. D. HAMBY, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, and SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON after observing what appeared to be a recently made indentation in the window sill of a window of the bathroom located at the east end of a hallway in the north wing, second floor of a rooming house, 422½ S. Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, removed a substantial portion of that window sill. Lt. HAMBY and SA JOHNSON identified this window sill and retained it as possible evidence.

By way of further explanation, the rooming house in question occupies a part of the second of two separate buildings there being an enclosed walkway connecting the two buildings. Mr. FRANK BREWER, husband of the landlady of this rooming house, advised that all tenants in the rooming house use the address of 422½ S. Main Street, although the north wing of this rooming house is not actually located over the entrance designated as 422½ S. Main Street. The bathroom window from which this sill was removed faces east and from this window there is a clear view of the west side of the Lorraine Motel which is located east of the rooming house in question.

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On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987by SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON /bbs Date dictated 4/9/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 5, 1968

Lt. GLYNN KING, Homicide Bureau, Memphis, Tennessee, Police Department, was interviewed at the Homicide Bureau, at which time he furnished the following information:

At approximately 7:15 p.m. this evening, he was at Apartment 5B, 422<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> South Main Street, Memphis, and conducted a search of this apartment with several other law enforcement officers. The search was conducted after it was believed that the slayer of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. had stayed in this room. During the course of the search, he obtained a red, white and blue stick pin which appeared to be a Disabled Veterans pin. The stick pin was located in the top drawer on the left hand side of the dresser adjacent to the east wall of Apartment 5B. This stick pin was taken to the Homicide Bureau to be retained as possible evidence.

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On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ANDREW SLOAN:LF Date dictated 4/5/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

Mr. FRANK BREWER, husband of the landlady at a rooming house, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, permitted Captain NICK CARIMI, Identification Bureau, Memphis Police Department, and SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON entry into Room 5-B of this rooming house on the evening of April 10, 1968, following which a small blond chest of drawers, located at that time against the west wall of this room, was completely processed for latent fingerprints, and no latents of value were obtained.

This chest was processed for latent prints after Mr. BREWER's wife had on April 10, 1968, called attention to the fact that this chest had originally been placed against the east window in the south wall of this room when she rented the room on April 4, 1968, to a man using the name of JOHN WILLARD, but later when she checked this room, she found that this chest had been moved to the west wall of the room and a chair placed next to that window.

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On 4/10/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA FRANKLIN L. JOHNSON:wp Date dictated 4/12/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/5/68

E. LARRY HUTCHINSON, Criminal Investigator, Attorney General's Office, Shelby County, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Homicide Bureau of the Memphis Police Department, at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. HUTCHINSON advised that he went to Apartment B, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street, at approximately 7:30 or 8:00 p.m., April 4, 1968, at which time he and other officers conducted a search of this apartment. He identified the other officers conducting this search and working with him as Captain R. L. WILLIAMS and Captain R. A. COCHRAN, of the Memphis Police Department, and JOHN CARLISLE, Chief Investigator, Shelby County Attorney General's Office, Memphis. Mr. HUTCHINSON stated that during this time a complete and minute search was made of this apartment, at which time the following items of possible evidentiary value were located and retained as evidence in this case:

- A. One pillow and one pillowcase.
- B. Two white sheets.
- C. One small green pillow, which appears to be a couch pillow.
- D. One black strap with buckle, approximately one-half inch in width.
- E. One small black strap approximately one-fourth inch in width.
- F. One towel, white in color with blue and green stripes.
- G. Several strands of grassy-like material which were located approximately four feet and one inch north of the south wall and four feet and three inches west of the east wall in this apartment.

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On 4/4/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987  
by SAs ANDREW SLOAN  
ORVILLE V. JOHNSON / OVJ:jms Date dictated 4/5/68

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Mr. HUTCHINSON advised that after the above items of evidence were located, they were then taken to the Homicide Bureau at the Memphis Police Department where he identified them by placing his initials on a small brown tag and putting each item in a separate cellophane bag. Mr. HUTCHINSON turned this evidence over to SAs SLOAN and JOHNSON in order that they may be forwarded to the FBI Laboratory.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

On April 12, 1968, SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY gathered soil samples from the below-listed locations. It is noted that the second floor of 418 South Main Street is the north wing of a rooming house, the main entrance of which is located at 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street. It is further noted that there is on the second floor of these buildings a covered connected walkway between the buildings through which one may pass from one building to the other.

All references made to the directions, "right" and "left," as listed below, are made with reference to the scene that would be presented to a person who was facing the rear of these buildings.

## Soil Samples:

1. Sample obtained from in front of the threshold of the rear door of 418 South Main Street.
2. Specimen obtained from a location six feet from the building and five feet to the left of the rear door of 418 South Main Street.
3. Specimen obtained from a location 12 feet from the building and nine feet to the left of the rear door of 418 South Main Street.
4. Specimen obtained from a location twenty feet from the building and fifteen feet to the left of the rear door of 418 South Main Street.
5. Specimen obtained 47 feet from the building and 20 feet to the left of the rear door of 418 South Main Street.
6. Specimen obtained 48 feet from the foot of the stairs in the rear of the building known as 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street and in a line with those stairs.

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On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987  
by SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY / jms Date dictated 4/12/68

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7. Specimen from immediately in front of the foot of the stairs in the rear of the building at 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street.

8. Specimen from between 418 and 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street at the rear of and even with the end of 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street.

9. Specimen obtained 15 feet from the end of a fence and four feet north of that fence, the fence being located on the south side of 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main Street.

10. Specimen obtained from location four feet north of the southeast corner of 418 South Main Street, and three feet from the building wall.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

On April 13, 1968, SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY obtained soil specimens from the vicinity of the Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, as stated below.

It should be noted that all references to the directions "right" and "left" are from the viewpoint of a person standing in the parking lot of the Rebel Motel facing the door to Unit 34.

SOIL SPECIMENS:No. 1:

Specimen obtained from a depression in the blacktop immediately in front of Units 34 and 35 of the Rebel Motel and approximately one foot from the curb.

No. 2:

Soil specimen obtained from a depression in the blacktop 9 feet from the curb and 8 feet to the right of the door to Unit 34.

No. 3:

Soil specimen from a depression in the blacktop 14 feet to the left of the door to Unit 34 and 9 feet from the curb.

No. 4:

Specimen of soil obtained from a depression in the blacktop 24 feet to the left of the door and one foot from the curb.

No. 5:

A specimen of soil obtained from a depression in the blacktop 6 feet to the right of the door to Unit 34 and one foot from the curb.

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On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY:wp Date dictated 4/13/68

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No. 6:

Soil specimen from grassy area between the  
curb and sidewalk immediately in front of the door to  
Unit 34.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 4/12/68

Detective THOMAS SMITH, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, advised that he had taken the following photographs on April 4, 1968. He stated he used 4 x 5 speedgraphic camera, serial number 969171, equipped with a 135 mm Graplex Optar lens, serial number 45917. SMITH advised that he used Kodak Tri-X film and number 5 General Electric photo flashbulbs for the photographs.

1. Showing blood on veranda, second floor of Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance approximately 6 feet.

2. Front of Lorraine Motel showing rooms 206 and 306. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance approximately 30 feet.

3. Front of Canipe Amusement Company, 424 S. Main, showing bundle. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 10 feet.

4. Front of the Canipe Amusement Company, 424 S. Main, showing bundle. Exposure data: distance 10 feet, 1/200 second F.18.

5. Showing interior of room 5-B, second floor, 422½ S. Main Street, shooting southeast from entrance. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 12 feet.

6. Showing interior of room 5-B, shooting south from entrance. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 12 feet.

7. Showing second floor hallway looking west, 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance approximately 25 feet.

8. Showing rear stairs leaving from second floor to ground, 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance approximately 25 feet.

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On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

by SA HOWARD D. TETEN /bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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9. Showing rear stairs looking towards second floor 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 25 feet.

10. Showing entry to rear bathroom second floor, 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 15 feet.

11. Showing entry of rear bathroom second floor looking east 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 10 feet.

12. Showing bathtub in rear bathroom second floor 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 7 feet.

13. Showing rear exterior of second floor 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 20 feet.

14. Showing screens found near north wall at rear of 422½ S. Main looking northwest. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 7 feet.

15. Showing debris at rear of Jim's Grill, 418 S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 7 feet.

16. Showing footprints found between 418 and 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 8 feet.

17. Closeup of footprint found between 418 and 422½ S. Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second F.18, distance 6 feet.

The above photographs were developed and printed by Detective CALVIN ELLISON, Photographer, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 12, 1968

Detective CALVIN ELLISON, photographer, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that he had taken the following photographs on April 4, 1968. He stated these photographs were taken with a four by five Speed Graphic camera, serial number 889178, equipped with 135 millimeter Graphlex Optar lens, serial number 893919. Kodak Tri-X film was used for all photographs and number five General Electric photo flash bulbs were used for illumination. Detective ELLISON stated that Detective THOMAS SMITH, Homicide Bureau, had also taken 17 photographs of the Lorraine Motel and the area of 422½ South Main and in order to preserve the continuity, the photographs taken by Detective SMITH had been numbered from one to 17. Detective ELLISON stated that his photographs begin with number 18. They are as follows:

18. Showing right side and upper abdomen of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., taken at City Morgue, John Gaston Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee. Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32, distance 5'.

19. Showing wound and upper body of victim. Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32, distance 4'.

20. Showing wound and upper body of victim. Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32, distance 3½'.

21. Showing wound and right side of head of victim. Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32, distance 3½'.

22. Showing front and head of victim. Exposure data: 1/400 second, F. 32, distance 3½'.

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On 4/10/68 at Memphis, TennesseeFile # Memphis 44-1987by SA HOWARD D. TETEN:tjmDate dictated 4/12/68

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23. Showing left upper body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 4½'.

24. Showing left upper body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 2½'.

25. Showing upper body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 6'.

26. Showing left rear of body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 3½'.

27. Showing upper back of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 4'.

28. Showing right rear of body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 4'.

29. Showing right side of body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 5'.

30. Showing rear of body of victim.  
Exposure data: 1/400 second, F.32,  
distance 5'.

The following photographs were taken on April 5, 1968, by Detective CALVIN ELLISON, using the camera and film described above. Natural lighting was used for illumination, except where noted:

31. Looking north on Main Street toward the 400 block of South Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

32. Showing Fire Station Number 2, northeast corner of Main Street, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

33. Showing Fire Station Number 2, northeast corner of Main and Butler, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

34. Showing entrance to parking lot and junk yard, south side of 424 South Main. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

35. Showing entrance to parking lot and junk yard, immediately to the south of 424 South Main, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

36. Showing front of 422, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 424 South Main, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.32, distance 100'.

37. Showing front of 418, 422, and 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

38. Showing front of 422, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  and 424 South Main, looking northeast. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 30'.

39. Showing 418, 422 and 422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main, looking southeast. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

40. Showing Main Street and east side of sidewalk on Main Street, looking south from Huling Avenue. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance infinity.

41. Looking west from front of Room 306, second floor, Lorraine Motel. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

42. Looking west from driveway entrance to Lorraine Motel on Mulberry. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

43. Showing front of Lorraine Motel from entrance driveway on Mulberry Street, looking east. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

44. Showing Lorraine Motel from south entrance, looking north from Butler Street. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 50'.

45. Showing Lorraine Motel, looking northeast. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

46. Showing Lorraine Motel, looking northeast. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 50'.

47. Showing rear of Fire Station Number 2, looking northwest. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

48. Showing Mulberry Street from intersection of Mulberry and Butler Streets, looking north. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

49. Showing Lorraine Motel from top of rear steps of Fire Station Number 2, looking northeast. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

50. Showing Lorraine Motel from northeast corner of Fire Station Number 2. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

51. Showing rear of 418 - 422 South Main Street, looking northwest. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

52. Showing rear of 418 - 424 South Main, looking northwest. Exposure data: 1/200, F.22, distance 100'.

53. Showing rear of 422 -424 South Main, looking northwest. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

54. Showing northern most portion of parking lot and junk yard which is located immediately south of 424 South Main, looking west. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

55. Showing parking lot and junk yard, looking southwest. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

56. Showing Lorraine Hotel, corner of Mulberry and Huling, looking southeast. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

57. Showing Lorraine Hotel and Motel from Huling entrance, looking south. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 100'.

58. Showing second floor hallway, 422½ South Main, looking east. Exposure data: 1/50 second, F.8, distance 25'. One number five General Electric photo flash bulb used for illumination.

59. Showing outside of Room 5B, second floor, 422½ South Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 5'. One number five General Electric photo flash bulb used for illumination.

60. Showing inside of second floor rear bathroom window, 422½ South Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance 4'. One number five General Electric photo flash bulb used for illumination.

61. Showing Lorraine Motel from opening in second floor rear bathroom window, 422½ South Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

ME 44-1987

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62. Showing Lorraine Motel from second floor rear bathroom window,,422 $\frac{1}{2}$  South Main. Exposure data: 1/200 second, F.22, distance infinity.

Detective ELLISON stated that he personally developed and printed all photographs described above.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

ELMER C. HOLDER, JR., 2006 Pendleton Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that on April 10, 1968, he photographed the area of South Main Street and the Lorraine Hotel and Motel on Mulberry Street, from the air. He furnished the following information concerning these photographs:

The airplane was a Cessna 180. The pilot was J. R. BOWEN, and Mr. HOLDER used a Wild Number 228 Aerial Camera with lens, Serial Number NR 24. This camera has a focal length of 152.46mm. The weather at the time of the photography was clear. The altimeter at the start and at the finish of the run in which the photographs were taken read 1,500 feet. Mr. HOLDER stated that four runs were made over the area, each utilizing one strip of film.

Strip one consisted of exposures 15 through 19 and was flown from south to north at 10:45 a.m. Strip two consisted of photographs 20 through 24, and was flown from south to north at 10:48 a.m. Strip three consisted of photographs 26 and 27, and was flown from northwest to southeast at 10:55 a.m. Strip four consisted of exposures number 28 and 29, and was flown from east to west at 10:57 a.m.

Mr. HOLDER stated that he personally developed the negatives taken on this flight.

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On 4/11/68 at Memphis, TennesseeFile # 44-1987by SA HOWARD D. TETEN / jmsDate dictated 4/12/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/10/68

Contents of Room 34, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, were processed for anything of an evidentiary value. As a result, the following lifts of latent fingerprints were obtained:

- (1) Removed from the left side of inside of front door
- (2) Removed from left side of television set
- (3) Removed from left side of television set
- (4) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (5) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (6) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (7) Removed from right side of outside portion of bathroom door
- (8) Removed from left side of right of bathroom door
- (9) Removed from left side of right of bathroom door
- (10) Removed from left side of right of bathroom door
- (11) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (12) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (13) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (14) Removed from center of inside of bathroom door
- (15) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom

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On 4/9/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987  
by SA ROBERT F. BOYLE  
SA HOWARD D. TETEN RFB:raj Date dictated 4/9/68

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2  
—

- (16) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom
- (17) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom
- (18) Removed from left side of inside of bathroom
- (19) Removed from shower head in bathroom
- (20) Removed from inner bathroom door jamb
- (21) Removed from outer bathroom door jamb
- (22) Removed from outer bathroom door jamb
- (23) Removed from inside closet door
- (24) Removed from inside closet door
- (25) Removed from inside closet door.



ME 44-1987

AUTOPSY FINDINGS

## EXTERNAL EXAMINATION OF THE BODY

This is a well developed, well nourished Negro male measuring 69 1/2 inches in length and weighing approximately 140 pounds. The hair is black, the eyes are brown. There is a line mustache present.

## EXTERNAL MARKS AND SCARS

There is a remote midline scar present in the center of the chest and a remote scar present extending to the right axilla measuring 8 inches in length. There is a sutured vertical surgical incision present at the base of the neck. A sutured incision is present in the right chest at the anterior axillary line. Three needle punctures are present in the precordium, having no hemorrhage present surrounding the area. There are blood splatters present on the palm and dorsum of the right hand. A remote scar is present in the right lateral chest. Sutured incisions are present in the left ante cubital fossa, one that is obliquely directed measuring 2 inches in length, one that is horizontally directed measuring 1 inch in length. There are two sutured incisions present on the medial aspect of the left ankle. The superior incision measuring 2 inches in length, the inferior incision measuring 1/4 inch in length. There is an extensive excavating lesion affecting the right side of the face beginning at a point 1 inch lateral to the right corner of the mouth and 1/2 inch inferior to the right corner of the mouth that measures approximately 3 inches in length. At the superior aspect of this gaping wound there is an abrasion collar that measures 1/8 of an inch in maximum thickness, having brownish discoloration present at the superior margin. Adjacent to this area there is extensive laceration of the soft tissues of the face with a fracturing of the right side of the mandible. A re-approximation of the tissues reveals the laceration to extend to the base of the neck and into the base of the neck with intervening skin unaffected in this area. The second penetrating wound at the base of the neck in the superior aspect of the chest measures 3 inches in length. The missile path is through the external jugular vein and vertebral artery. There is a penetration into the lateral aspect of the base of the neck into the upper thoracic and lower cervical cord totally severing the lower cervical and upper thoracic cord passing through the spinal column at the level of C7 and T1 into the posterior aspect of the back. The bullet is removed from the posterior aspect of the back, 56 inches superior to the right heel and 55 1/2 inches superior to the left heel, 3 inches to the left of the midline of the spine in the medial aspect of the left scapula. The entrance wound is 61 1/2 inches superior to the right heel and 59 inches superior to the right heel with the head turned and positioned so that the wound in the face corresponds with the path of the missile into the neck and spine. The total thickness from the entrance wound to the posterior aspect of the back is 8 1/2 inches in thickness. The angle of the penetrating wound is approximately 45° from a sagittal plane at an angle from right to left inferiorly and anterior to posteriorly at about a 30° angle with a coronal plane.

## SECTION

The abdominal panniculus measures an inch in maximum thickness. The skeletal muscles are red and fibillary. There is scarring present over the right anterior-superior chest with pleural adhesions present in this area.

## BODY CAVITIES

There is approximately 25cc. of blood present within the right thoracic cavity and some subpleural hemorrhage that is present affecting the right and the left in the posterior apex. The missile did not enter the right pleural cavity.

## GROSS DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANS

### HEART:

The heart weighs 450 grams. The myocardium is pale brown. The valvular surfaces reveal no significant changes. There is focal yellowing of the subendocardial areas affecting the left aspect of the interventricular septum. The right ventricle measures 5mm. in maximum thickness. The left ventricle measures 20mm. in maximum thickness. The coronary ostia originate in normal position and have a normal distribution over the epicardial surface. There is minimal intimal proliferation present. Focal yellow plaqueing is present in the ascending aspect of the aortic arch but ulceration is not present. There is no significant dilatation affecting the chambers of the heart.

### AORTA:

Focal yellow plaques are present throughout the aorta but ulceration and calcification is not present. The great vessels originate normally. There is perivascular hemorrhage affecting the right carotid artery but no penetration of the wall. The right subclavian artery is lacerated.

### ESOPHAGUS:

Partially digested food fragments are present throughout the esophagus.

### TRACHEA:

Hemorrhagic mucoid material is present throughout the upper trachea.

### LUNGS:

The right lung weighs 300 grams. The left lung weighs 325 grams. There is diffuse congestion, consolidation and hemorrhage affecting the right upper lobe of the lung. Frothy fluid is expressable from the sectioned surface. There is minimal wrinkling of the pleura diffusely throughout the pulmonary parenchyma.

### BRAIN:

The brain weighs 1400 grams. There is some flattening of the gyri and narrowing of the sulci. The cerebral vessels are symmetrical. There is no subdural, epidural, or extradural hemorrhage present. There is no significant flattening throughout the cerebral vessels.

### KIDNEYS:

The kidneys weigh 175 grams on the left and 150 grams on the right. The capsular surface is smooth. The parenchyma is of normal coloration. The cortical-medullary junction is prominent.

continued

**PANCREAS:**

The pancreatic parenchyma is well preserved. The lobular pattern is preserved. There is no fatty infiltration present. The parenchyma is yellowish-grey.

**LARYNX:**

There is diffuse hemorrhage present throughout the superior larynx along with submucosal hemorrhage that is present within the intra-laryngeal areas. There is a tracheostomy perforation that is superior to the thyroid penetrating to the right of the pyramidal lobe.

**THYROID:**

No significant changes.

**SPLEEN:**

The spleen weighs 80 grams. The capsule is wrinkled. There is no capsular thickening present. The follicles are not prominent.

**STOMACH:**

The stomach contains approximately 10cc. of partially digested food fragments. There is no ulceration present.

**DUODENUM:**

No significant changes.

**GALLBLADDER:**

The gallbladder contains approximately 5cc. of light green bile. No stones are present.

**LIVER:**

The liver weighs 1600 grams. The parenchyma is pale yellowish-brown. The lobular pattern is accentuated. The parenchyma is quite soft.

**BLADDER:**

There is approximately 25cc. of cloudy yellow urine present.

**PROSTATE:**

No significant gross abnormalities are present.

**COLON:**

The appendix is present. The colonic contents is normal.

**SMALL INTESTINE:**

There is alternately liquid and gaseous distention present throughout the small intestine.

**ADRENALS:**

The adrenals are in normal position and weigh 8 grams together. The cortex is bright yellow. The medulla is grey.

- LUNG:** Focal areas of intra-alveolar hemorrhage are present throughout. Otherwise the alveoli are well preserved without hyperdistention or collapse. There is a loss of bronchial epithelium free within the lumens of the bronchioles. The pulmonary vessels reveal no significant changes.
- PANCREAS:** The pancreatic parenchyma is well preserved. The islets and acini are well preserved. There is minimal congestion present but no fibrosis or hemorrhage.
- KIDNEY:** The glomeruli and tubules are well preserved. There is no parenchymal fibrosis evident or vascular proliferation present. The tubules are filled with eosinophilic material. There is no collapse of the tubular lumen.
- THYROID:** The follicles are uniform and regular. There is a small quantity of extravasation of mature erythrocytes into peri-follicular locations. Cellular inflammatory reaction is not present. There is no migration of polymorphonuclear leucocytes within the areas of hemorrhage.
- LIVER:** There is diffuse cytoplasmic vacuolation throughout the hepatic cytoplasm being distributed throughout the lobules and in both pericentral and periportal locations. A small number of mononuclear cells are present in portal areas. There is some variation in size, shape of the hepatic nuclei. The vacuoles that are present are irregular in size, being numerous in some cells and being single large vacuoles in others with a disruption of cytoplasmic borders in some.
- ADRENAL:** There is congestion of the inner cortical zones of the adrenal. The cytoplasm is otherwise well maintained. The cortico-medullary ratio is maintained.
- SPLEEN:** The follicles are present but without secondary reactive centers. There is some congestion of the pulp but focal hemorrhage is not present.
- HEART:** The myocardial fibers are well preserved. The nuclei are regular. Fibrosis is not present throughout the myocardium and cellular inflammatory reaction is not present. The atrium reveals no significant changes.
- SKIN:** There is dermal hemorrhage present but no accumulation of polymorphonuclear leucocytes. Blackened debris is present throughout the hemorrhagic area of the dermis having no identifiable form. There is pronounced eosinophilia of the collagen bundles. There is hemorrhage into the dermal layers with an alteration in the tinctorial properties of the epithelium with focal fragmentation of the epithelium adjacent to the area of dermal hemorrhage.

**CORONARY:**

There is moderate intimal proliferation along with an extra cellular deposition of lipid within the sub-intimal areas along with lipid filled macrophages present in this location. Small foci of perivascular mononuclear cells are present in the regions of most pronounced intimal proliferation.

**PROSTATE:**

The glandular elements are well preserved without any significant increase in collagenous connective tissue. Inflammatory reaction is not present.

**THE CITY OF MEMPHIS HOSPITALS  
AUTOPSY PROTOCOL**

Autopsy No. A68-252 Service Med. Ex. Hospital No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name Martin Luther King, Jr. Age 39 Race Negro Sex Male  
Date of Admission DOA Date and Hour of Death 4-4-68 P.M.  
Date and Hour of Autopsy 4-4-68 10:45 P.M.  
Pathologist Drs. Sprunt and Francisco Assistant \_\_\_\_\_  
Checked by \_\_\_\_\_ Date Completed 4-11-68

**FINAL PATHOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS****PRIMARY SERIES:**

- I. Distant gunshot wound to body and face
  - A. Fracture of right mandible
  - B. Laceration of vertebral artery, jugular vein and subclavian artery, right
  - C. Fracture of spine (T-1, C-7)
  - D. Laceration of spinal cord (lower cervical, upper thoracic )
  - E. Submucosal hemorrhage, larynx
  - F. Intrapulmonary hematoma, apex right upper lobe

**SECONDARY SERIES:**

1. Remote scars as described
2. Pleural adhesions
3. Fatty change liver, moderate
4. Arteriosclerosis, moderate
5. Venous cut-downs
6. Tracheostomy

**LABORATORY FINDINGS:**

Blood Alcohol - 0.01%

PROVISIONAL ( )

FINAL

(X)

## TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

## OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

858 Madison Avenue  
Memphis, Tennessee 38103CASE NO. A68-252COUNTY Shelby

## AUTOPSY REPORT

NAME OF DECEDENT Martin Luther King, Jr. RACE N SEX M AGE 39  
HOME ADDRESS Atlanta, Georgia  
NUMBER OR STREET CITY OR TOWN STATE  
COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER J. T. Francisco, M.D.  
ADDRESS Memphis, Tennessee  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL Phil A. Canale  
ADDRESS Memphis, Tennessee  
ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS Gunshot wound to body and face with:  
Fracture of mandible  
Laceration vertebral artery, jugular vein and sub-  
clavian artery, right,  
Laceration of spinal cord (lower cervical, upper  
thoracic),  
Intrapulmonary hematoma, apex, right upper lobe  
CAUSE OF DEATH Gunshot wound to spinal column, lower cervical, upper  
thoracic

NARRATIVE OF FINDINGS Death was the result of a gunshot wound to the  
chin and neck with a total transection of the lower cervical and  
upper thoracic spinal cord and other structures in the neck. The  
direction of the wounding was from front to back, above downward and  
from right to left. The severing of the spinal cord at this level  
and to this extent was a wound that was fatal very shortly after its  
occurrence.

The purpose of this report is to provide a certified opinion to the County Medical Examiner and the District Attorney General. The facts and findings to support these conclusions are filed with the office of the State Medical Examiner.

DATE April 11, 1968SIGNATURE: 

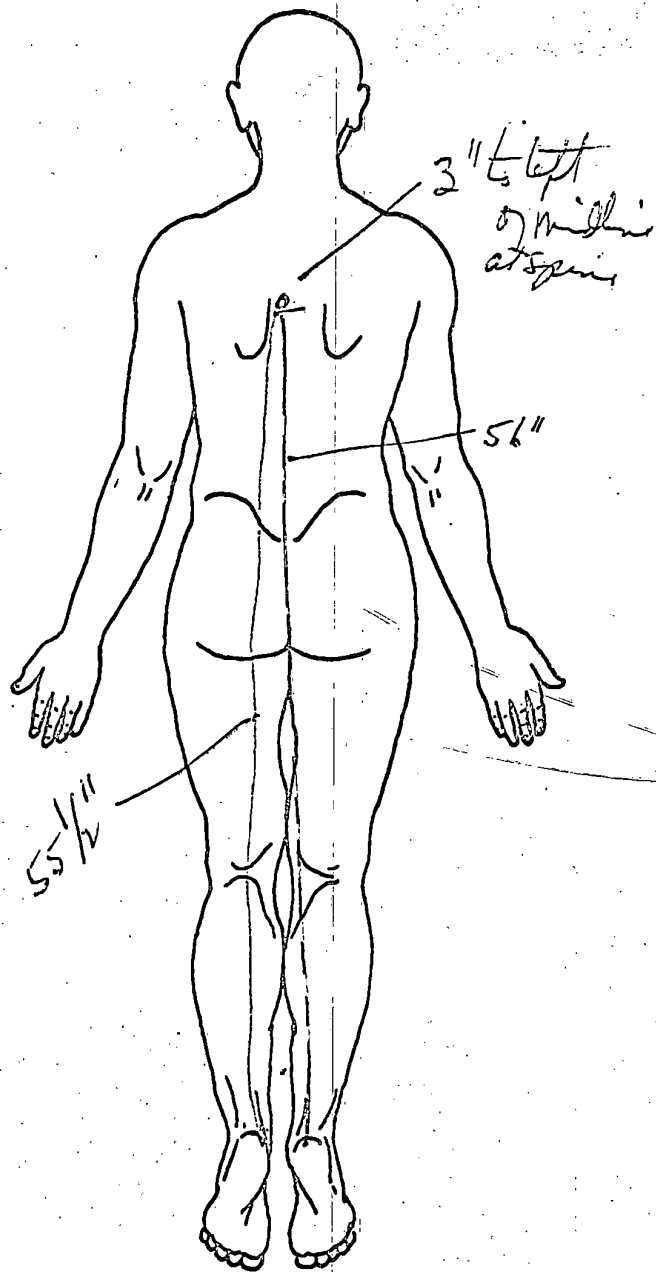
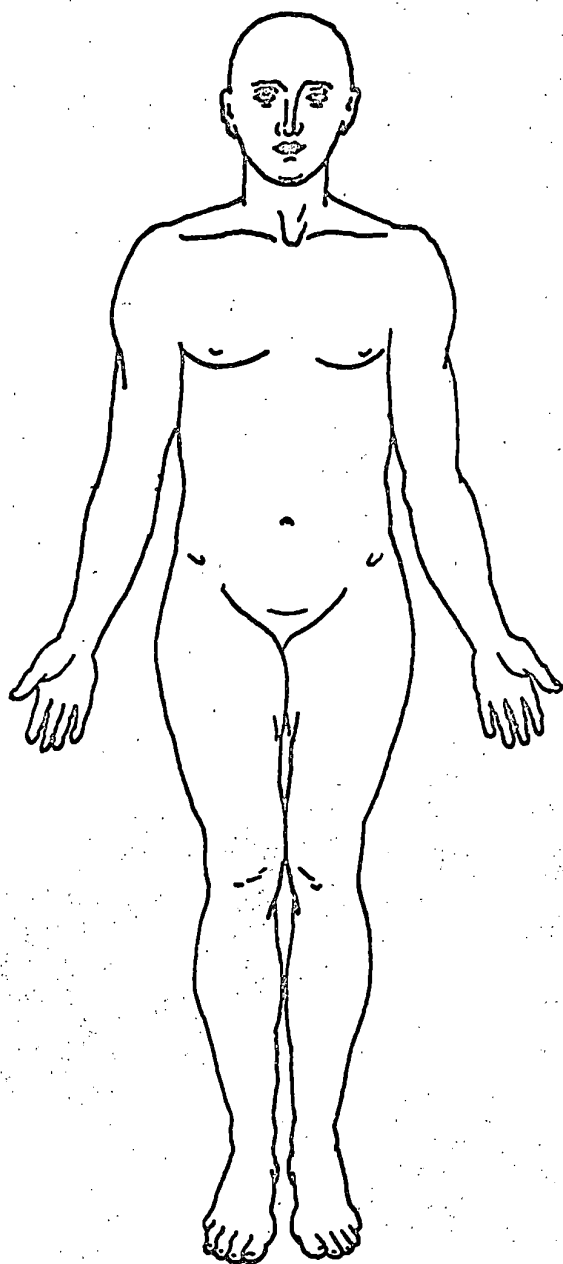
M.D.

J. T. Francisco  
ADDRESS 858 Madison Avenue-Memphis, Tennessee



Autopsy No. \_\_\_\_\_

A68-252

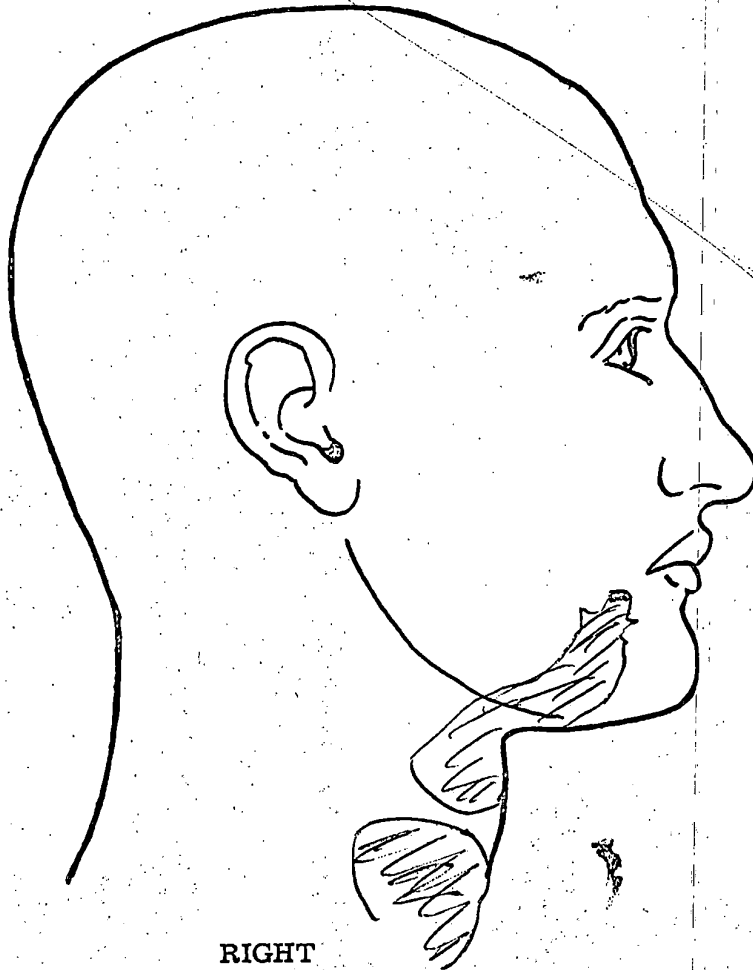


RIGHT HEAD

Special 14

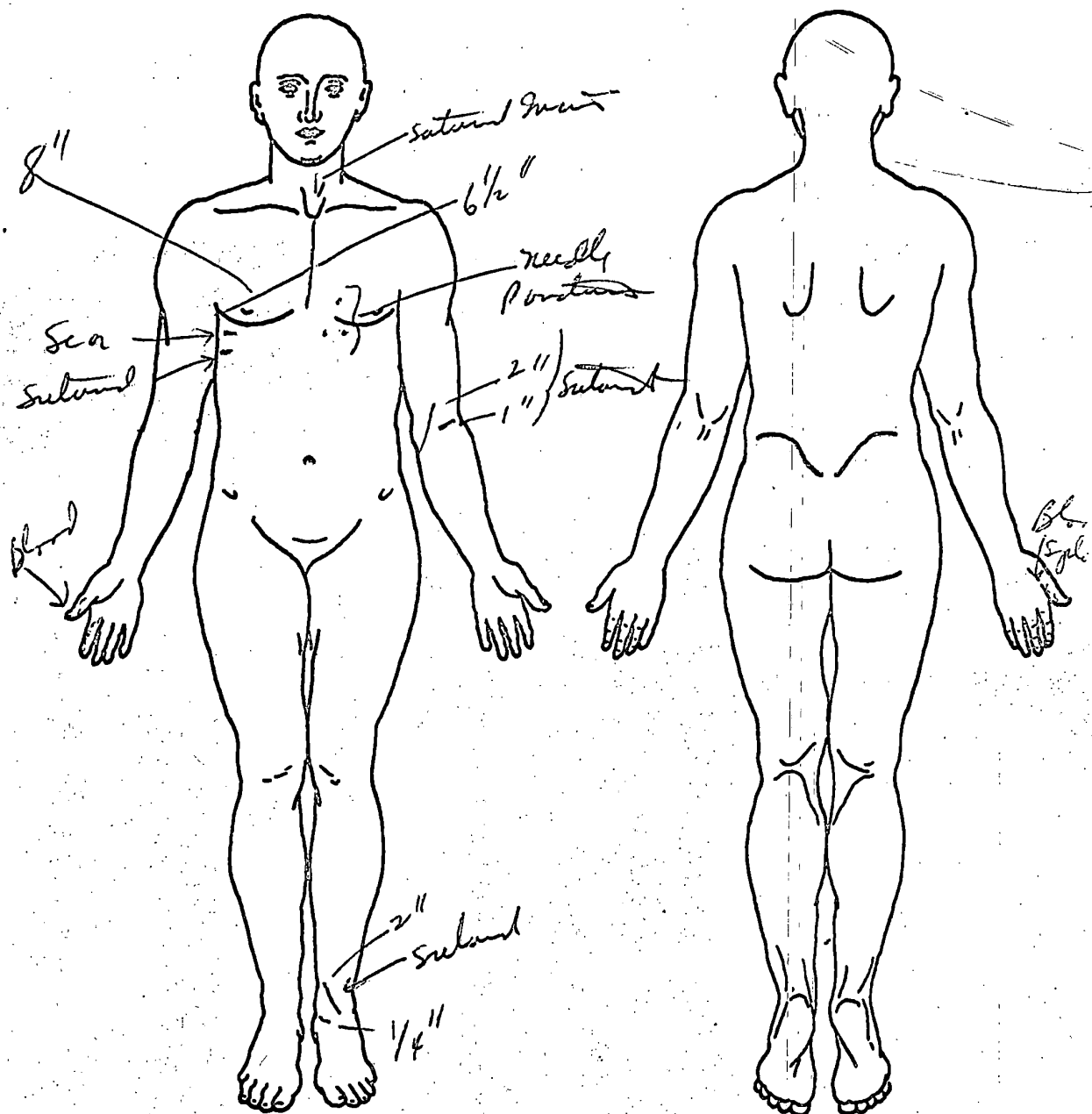
Autopsy No. \_\_\_\_\_

A68-252



RIGHT

A68-252



#413

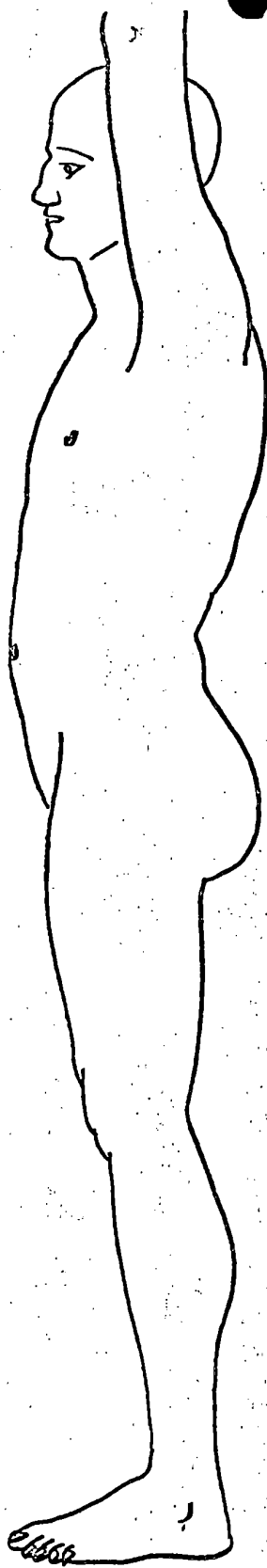
CHART # 17

A68-252

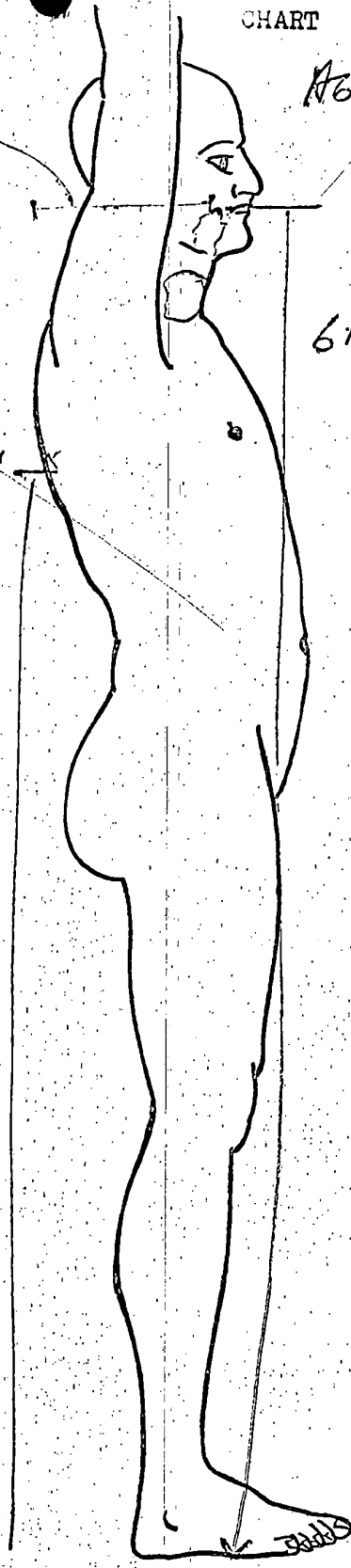
8 1/2"

61 1/2"

55 1/2"



LEFT



RIGHT

185\*