

Mr. J. P. Mohr

4/5/68

Mr. I. W. Conrad

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Representatives of the Laboratory met the Memphis Agent at Dulles Airport at 3:55 a. m. this morning and brought the evidence immediately to the Laboratory where processing of the material was begun immediately by Laboratory experts and Latent Fingerprint experts. Over 60 different items of evidence were sent by Memphis, including the bullet removed from the body of King, the suspected rifle, and a variety of miscellaneous items.

As a result of examinations thus far, two latent fingerprints of value have been developed on the gun and a palm print of value appears on the carton in which the gun reportedly was found. The latent fingerprint examiners advised that the two latent fingerprints on the gun are not identical with the prints of suspect John Hubbard Willard, FBI [REDACTED]. No palm prints of Willard are available at this time.

Among the items of evidence were a pair of binoculars and a cardboard carton for these binoculars. The carton bore the inked price notation \$41.55. Also included was a cash register receipt from the York Arms Company, Memphis, in the amount \$41.55 dated April 4, which would appear to indicate that the binoculars were purchased on the day of the assassination.

Serial numbers which may be capable of tracing appear on the rifle, on the telescopic sight mounted on the rifle and on the cardboard carton in which the rifle reportedly was found, as well as on the binoculars. Representatives of the General Investigative Division have inspected the evidence and are being furnished information as it is developed.

Examination of the remaining items is proceeding expeditiously and you will be advised as information is developed.

ACTION: This matter is being followed most closely.

IWC:dmg
(7)

1-Mr. Rosen
1-Mr. Trotter
~~1-Mr. Conrad~~

1-Mr. Mohr
1-Mr. DeLoach
1-Mr. Bishop

DELIVERED APRIL 5, 1968 BY SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK, MEMPHIS OFFICE

Submitted by Airtel #1 as recovered by Inspector N. E. Zachary,
Memphis Police Department in vicinity of 424 South Main Street:

- Q1 Rifle box for Browning .243 Winchester caliber rifle,
Serial Number 4744Z5
- Q2 .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington "Gamemaster" slide-
action rifle, Model 760, Serial Number 461476, with Redfield
telescope sight, Serial Number A17350, with clip
- Q3 .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington-Peters cartridge case
- Q4-Q12 Nine .30-06 Springfield caliber cartridges (five Remington-
Peters and four R-A-55) in Peters cartridge box, Index
Number 3033
- Q13 Large green and brown cloth

Submitted by Airtel #2 as recovered by Inspector N. E. Zachary,
Memphis Police Department in vicinity of 424 South Main Street:

- Q14 "Banner" binocular (Bushnell) 7 by 35, Serial Number DQ408664
(allegedly in zipper bag when recovered)
- Q15 Zipper bag

ITEMS FROM OUTSIDE COMPARTMENT OF ZIPPER BAG

- Q16 Needle-nose pliers and tack hammer
- Q17 Box of "Band-Aid Sheer Strips"
- Q18 Georgia-Alabama Standard Oil map
- Q19 "Commercial Appeal" Memphis newspaper, first
section only, issue of April 4, 1968
- Q20 Standard Oil map of the United States

ITEM INSIDE ZIPPER BAG, IN POCKET

Q21 Partial roll of toilet paper

ITEMS LOOSE INSIDE ZIPPER BAG

Q22 Binocular case with instruction booklet, lens cloth and guarantee card

Q23 Binocular box cardboard

Q24 "Gillette Travel Kit" purchased at Oliver Rexall Store, Whitehaven, price \$1.89, with razor, lotion shaving cream, deodorant, hair cream and razor blade in dispenser

Q25 Gray paper sack bearing marking "York Arms Co." with receipt dated 4-4-68 in amount of \$41.55

Q26 White and yellow towel

Q27 White handkerchief

Q28 Tube of "Colgate" toothpaste

Q29-Q30 Pair of black socks

Q31 Seven-ounce can of "Right Guard" deodorant

Q32 Channel Master radio

Q33 Bottle of "Bufferin"

Q34 Elastic belt

Q35 Tube of "Brylcreem"

Q36 Bottle of "One-A-Day" vitamins

Q37 Small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap

Q38 Hairbrush

Q39 Bar of "Dial" soap, bath size

Q40 Tube of "Head and Shoulders" shampoo

ITEMS LOOSE INSIDE ZIPPER BAG (continued)

- Q41 Can of brown "Kiwi" shoe polish
- Q42 Can of "Palmolive Rapid Shave" shaving cream
- Q43 Maroon button (in sack with beer)
- Q44 Black button (in sack with beer)
- Q45 Toothbrush, "Pepsodent"
- Q46 Safety razor, without blade
- Q47 Plastic bottle of "Mennen Afta" lotion
- Q48 Small bar of "Cameo" toilet soap
- Q49 Small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap, bearing advertisement of Friendship Inn
- Q50-Q51 Two bobby pins
- Q52-Q53 Two cans of "Schlitz" beer, pull tab
- Q54 Plastic "six-pack" carrying device
- Q55 Brown paper sack (containing beer)
- Q56 Small brown paper sack, empty
- Q57 Key
- Q58 Toothpick
- Q59 Metal ring
- Q60-Q61 Two coat hangers
- Q62 Two links from "Adjust-O" watchband
- Q63 Maroon button

Submitted by Airtel #3:

- Q64 Bullet from body
- Q65 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963A,
Serial Number F14002844A
- Q66 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963A,
Serial Number H16164663A
- Q67 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963,
Serial Number F06445143A
- Q68 Fingerprint card for Bessie Ruth Brewer

F B I

Date: 4/4/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AM _____
(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) P

UNSUB; Aka. John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CIVIL RIGHTS

OO: MEMPHIS

Submitted herewith is black box with caption "Browning Shotguns, Rifles, Pistols, Mauser Rifle" appearing on top of box. At end of box appears label bearing Number 130712 with marking "Caliber 243W." Further descriptive data on this label discloses it is Browning high-powered rifle, 22" barrel, light with sights, grade Safari, and SN 444915. Possibility exists that number may read "4Y44Z5."

Inside box is Remington Gamemaster rifle, Model 760. Number appearing on rifle is 461476. Rifle bears Redfield Tube Sight 2X7X. In addition, box contains clip which was removed from weapon by SA O. V. JOHNSON. Also contained in box is shell casing which was removed from weapon by SA O. V. JOHNSON and SAC R. G. JENSEN. Also in box is package of Peters high velocity center fire cartridges; nine cartridges in case, eleven empty slots.

This material recovered by Inspector N. E. ZACHARY (NA), Memphis Police Department, in area immediately in front of 424 South Main Street. This is location Canipe Amusement Co. Box in which rifle contained was partially obscured and covered by blanket of green herringbone type material. This blanket also recovered by Inspector ZACHARY. It is noted blanket has some mud stains thereon. Inspector ZACHARY advised blanket is not property of rooming house at which UNSUB stayed.

③ BUREAU (Enc.
1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN

(4)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

ME 44-1987

REQUEST OF LABORATORY

Laboratory requested to examine all possible places on rifle, scope, cartridges, and box for possible evidence of fingerprints.

In connection with enclosed blanket, Laboratory requested to submit to soil examination since evidence of soil appears thereon. Also determine, if possible, nature of composition of blanket, as to whether it is synthetic or animal fiber. If possible, determine percentage of content, if it is a mixed type composition, cotton fiber, woolen fiber, or synthetic fiber. Also advise if possible any knowledge available to Laboratory as to possible manufacturer of blanket. Any other appropriate examination in connection with this blanket should be conducted by the Laboratory.

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UNSUB, Aka. John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM
CR

AIRTEL #2

Re Airtel #1 submitted this date, Attn: FBI Laboratory.

In separate container there is submitted second item recovered by Inspector N. E. ZACHARY (NA), Memphis PD, in same area as rifle submitted in prior Airtel. This zipper bag was recovered in area in front of 424 South Main Street. Business located at this address is Canipe Amusement Co.

Individual items in blue zipper bag, 20 x 30 inches, have not been individually marked. They were all, however, recovered by Inspector ZACHARY. Contents of bag are as follows:

- (1) In outside zipper compartment is one small magnetic tack hammer.
- (2) Small needle-nose type pliers bearing sales tag, or identifying tag, on handle which reads either "Compage" or "Rompage" Hardware.
- (3) Georgia-Alabama Standard Oil map.
- (4) "Commercial Appeal," Memphis newspaper, first section only, issue of April 4, 1968.
- (5) Standard Oil U. S. map.

3 BUREAU (Enc.

1 MEMPHIS RGJ:BN (4)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

ME 44-1987

When opened, blue bag has insert and enclosed in insert is one roll of toilet paper.

In bag proper is a set of binoculars, Banner by Bushnell, binocular case and a box in which binoculars in case belong. Binoculars carry magnifying 7 x 35 and No. DQ408664.

(2) Gillette shaving kit - razor, lotion, foamy cream. Right Guard, Heads Up - appears purchased from Oliver Rexall Drug Store, Whitehaven, Tenn., price \$1.89.

(3) Gray paper sack bearing York Arms Co. price tag \$41.55, dated 4/4/68. This appears to be bag in which binoculars purchased.

(4) One white and yellow checked towel.

(5) One white handkerchief, no laundry mark.

(6) Tube Colgate toothpaste

(7) Pair black socks

(8) 7 oz. can Right Guard

(9) 6-Transistor Channel Master Radio

(10) Bottle Bufferin

(11) String belt, gray in color.

(12) Brillcream

(13) Bottle of one-a-day Vitamins

(14) Cashmere Bouquet bar of soap

(15) Hair brush

(16) Dial Soap

(17) Head and Shoulders Shampoo bearing=Liggitt-Rexall #1678, Price \$1.10.

(18) Can Kiwi brown polish

ME 44-1987

- (19) Palmolive Rapid Shave with Liggitt Rexall #3478, 79¢
- (20) Loose button, maroon color
- (21) Tooth brush and safety razor
- (22) Mennin Afta
- (23) Cameo Small toilet soap
- (24) Two bobby pins
- (25) 2 cans Schlitz beer in paper sack.

REQUEST OF LABORATORY

Laboratory requested to arrange for appropriate latent fingerprint examination of all items contained herein, as well as exterior and interior of blue bag, various and sundry items enclosed inside bag, and various compartments. Consider all for possibility latent fingerprint examination.

In addition to latent examination, Laboratory should conduct any appropriate Laboratory examination that will assist Memphis in determining manufacturer and distributor of any of items enclosed in blue bag.

See next page for additional Request of Laboratory.

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

ME 44-1987

REQUEST OF FBI LABORATORY

Laboratory requested to process all material within this outer compartment for fingerprints and conduct any other appropriate Laboratory examination to assist Memphis in ascertaining where this material came from.

~~2~~
7

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 4/4/68

Transmit the following in _____
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(Priority)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
John Willard;
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -
VICTIM
CR

(OO Memphis) #3

Submitted herewith under separate cover is the bullet which was removed from Dr. KING's body. It is requested the Laboratory perform the necessary examinations to determine if this bullet came from the rifle being submitted.

In addition to item mentioned above, there is submitted herewith 3 separate \$20 bills bearing the following serial numbers:

Federal Reserve Note
Series 1963 A SN F14002844A

Federal Reserve Note
Series 1963 A SN H16164663A

Federal Reserve Note
Series 1963 SN F06445143A

These were received from BESSIE RUTH BREWER at flop house in which captioned subject stayed. Mrs. BREWER advised subject paid her this date shortly after 3:00 P.M. with a \$20 bill. She does not know which of these \$20 bills subject used. Therefore, Laboratory requested to have necessary latent examination conducted on these \$20

(3) - Bureau (1-Package) (Encs 5)

1 - Memphis

RGJ:mnr

(4)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

Date: 4/4/88

[illegible]

bills. Also enclosed herewith are prints of BESSIE RUTH BREWER for elimination purposes.

100 copies.

On admission to the institution, the following were admitted to the hospital and the following were admitted to the hospital:

Initial Release Date: 01/05/2015
 Initial Release: 12/05/2015 14:00

14 - Bureau (1-Subgroup) Group 2

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

F B I

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*gr - Murkin*Transmit the following in _____
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③ BUREAU (Enc.
1 MEMPHISRGJ:BN
(4)Approved: *R. Jensen*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

ME 44-1987

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3 BUREAU (Enc.

1 MEMPHIS

RGJ:BN (4)

Approved: Rafelson
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

ME 44-1987

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ME 44-1987

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Via _____
(Priority)

ME 44-1987

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~~3~~

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③ - Bureau (1-Package) (Encs 5)

1 - Memphis

RGJ:mnr

(4)

Approved: R. J. G. J. Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

ME 44-1987

**bills. Also enclosed herewith are prints of BESSIE RUTH
BREWER for elimination purposes.**