

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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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, Tennessee

File # Memphis 44-1987-*Sub D-29*by 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, 422½ and 424 South Main, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.32, distance 100'.

37. Showing front of 418, 422 and 422½ South Main, looking east. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 100'.

38. Showing front of 422, 422½ and 424 South Main, looking northeast. Exposure data: 1/100 second, F.22, distance 30'.

39. Showing 418, 422 and 422½ 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.

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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 4/12/68

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Miss ANNA CHRISTINE KELLY, Manager, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, advised that her records reflect the following:

At 7:15 on April 3, 1968, ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, registered in room 34 and departed on April 4. He stated on his registration card that he was driving a Mustang bearing Alabama license 1-38993.

Miss KELLY stated that the individual would have had to have left the hotel by checkout time, which was 1:00 PM, or his registration card would have reflected he was charged for two days lodging instead of one day.

She further advised that her records reflect the following:

On April 3, 1968, ANDY GAST, Route 6, Fremont, Ohio, registered in Room 35 and departed on April 4. WILLIAM HESTER, 109 Forest Avenue, Troy, Alabama, registered in Room 35 on April 4. Leonard E. Day, 5607 Highway 61 South, Memphis, registered in Room 33 on April 3. L. N. PAGE, 1282 Abbe Road, Sheffield, Ohio, registered in Room 34 at 8:30 PM on April 4.

Miss KELLY further advised that room numbers 33 and 35 are adjacent to Room 34, and that the only occupant of room 34 since ERIC S. GALT checked out was L. N. PAGE.

Miss KELLY stated that she could not remember ERIC S. GALT, and in fact the only occupants of the hotel which she ever became familiar with were the people who were steady customers of the hotel. She stated that SARA LOVINGS would have cleaned the room immediately after GALT checked out of the hotel.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-20 *Sub D-30*  
by SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN, SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON, and  
SA JOHN W. BAUER *JWB:bbs* Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

Mrs. HENRIETTA HAGEMASTER, Desk Clerk, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, advised that she was on duty on April 3, 1968, from 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM that day. She said she could not remember registering ERIC S. GALT in Room 34 on April 3, but upon reviewing GALT's registration card, said that she did register him in Room 34 at 7:15 PM on April 3. She added she is sure of the time because as she registers a guest in the hotel she looks back at the clock which is on the wall behind her and writes the time on his registration card. This is done routinely because it is a hotel policy to allow the guests 15 minutes from the time they register to decide if they still want the hotel room. If within this time they decide that do not want the hotel room their money is refunded. She stated she wrote the arrival time as 7:15 PM on GALT's registration card.

She said that she could not remember anything concerning GALT. She could not describe him or remember what kind of car he was driving.

Mrs. HAGEMASTER was shown an artist's conception drawing drawn in Birmingham, Alabama, and said that the individual in the drawing was not in any way familiar to her.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 *Sub D-31*  
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *MB* /bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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JWB:mjh

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Miss KELLY made available ERIC S. GALT's registration card to Special Agent in Charge ROBERT G. JENSEN for submission to the FBI Laboratory.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

Mrs. PEGGY BURNS, 4802 Rickard Road, Whitehaven, Tennessee, was interviewed at her residence, at which time she furnished the following information:

Mrs. BURNS stated that regarding the individual who purchased a Gillette Travel Aid Razor Kit at the Oliver Rexall Drugstore, where she is employed, she further remembered that this individual was wearing a dark blue suit, which appeared to be a normal business suit. She believes that when this individual made the purchase, he already had money in his hand when he approached the check-out counter. She could not recall the denomination of a bill which he gave her. After careful consideration, she believed that he was between 35 and 45 years of age, and was approximately 5'10" tall. To the best of her knowledge, this individual came to the store on Wednesday, April 3, 1968. She said she came to work on Tuesday, April 2, 1968, at noon, and is positive this individual did not make the purchase on that date.

She does not recall recently selling one of these Gillette Razor Kits for several weeks. She cannot recall making a request for this item to be re-stocked on their shelf in the check-out book, which is maintained in the drugstore. She stated this book is used for the purpose of replenishing stock when a particular item runs low on a particular shelf. She advised she did not work on Thursday, April 4, 1968. She does not know which cash register in the store that she rang up the sale on, but believes it was the front register because she had given this individual directions when he first came into the store, and at that time she was at the front cash register. She believes there were three or four other customers in the store who were total strangers to her.

She advised that during this particular week, they had a one cent sale, which was advertised in the "Whitehaven Press" newspaper. As a result of this sale, their volume of business picked up, and attracted many people other than regular customers.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 - *Sub D-32*  
by SAs ANDREW SLOAN  
ROBERT FITZPATRICK / AS:jms Date dictated 4/11/68

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To the best of her recollection, this individual appeared to be an "office worker type," and appeared to be a very average type individual. The suit he was wearing was very neat, and looked to be very expensive. She noted that while this individual was in the store, he did not hesitate in that he obtained his purchase, paid her, and immediately left.

Mrs. BURNS viewed the three artists' conceptions, at which time she stated that none of these individuals were familiar to her in any way, and does not believe that they appeared to resemble the individual who made the purchase in any way.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

IVAN B. WEBB, 2569 Faxon, Desk Clerk, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar, was contacted at his place of employment and advised the following:

He was on duty at the Rebel Motor Hotel from 10:00 PM, April 3, 1968, to 6:00 AM, April 4, 1968. He said that as a nightly routine he tours the hotel grounds hourly for security check. During his hourly tours on April 3 and 4, he noticed a white Mustang with Alabama license plates parked in front of Room 34. He added that he was positive that this Mustang was parked in front of 34 when he came on duty at 10:00 and it was there during each of his hourly rounds until 6:00 on April 4, 1968, when he was relieved by Mr. SAM HUDSON. He stated that he never saw the occupant of Room 34 during his shift.

On April 3 and 4, 1968, Mr. WEBB was shown artist's conception drawings drawn at Birmingham, Alabama, and Memphis, Tennessee, and he stated that the drawing at Memphis looked familiar to him but he could not in any way identify any individual from it.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee

File # ME 44-1987-

*Sub D-33*

by SA JOHN W. BAUER /bbs

Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

Mr. VICTOR DUPRATT, Owner, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue in Memphis. He advised that he is usually in the hotel lobby from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM each day. He stated that he was in the hotel on the afternoon of April 3 and 4, but he knew nothing of anyone who checked into Room 34 on April 3, 1968. He said that after a guest checks out of a room the maids will go into the room that same day and clean it. They will empty all trash from the rooms into the trash cans at the front of the hotel. He said that these cans were picked up by the sanitation department on April 7, 1968.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - *Sub D-34*  
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *WJ*/bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## 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.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee

File # ME 44-1987 *Sub D-35*

by SA HOWARD D. TETEN /bbs *HT*

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 footprint 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

Date April 12, 1968

MARRELL MC CULLOUGH, residing 270 Gaston, Apartment 6, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 947-4265, who is employed as a warehouseman by the Summerall Electric Company, 345 S. Parkway, Memphis, telephone WH8-4455, advised as follows:

MC CULLOUGH is a native of the state of Mississippi and has lived in Memphis, Tennessee, since approximately February 1967. He had been present at the Lorraine Hotel and Motel, 406 S. Mulberry Street, Memphis, from approximately 5:55 p.m. until approximately 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and was present when Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR., President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), was shot.

He explained his presence as follows:

MC CULLOUGH, who is a Negro, had been a sympathetic supporter of the Memphis sanitation workers who had been on strike in Memphis beginning February 12, 1968.

Beginning around the early part of March 1968, MC-CULLOUGH, in his spare time, has engaged in various strike support activities sponsored by a group of Memphis Negro ministers who have adopted the name Community on the Move for Equality (COME). He has worked with this group and other supporters in the Memphis community engaging in sympathy marches and other strike support activity which is primarily centered in the headquarters of the Minimum Salary Division of the AME Church, 276 Hernando, Memphis, and at the Clayborn Temple AME Church at 280 Hernando.

Around March 18, 1968, the SCLC sent various of its staff to Memphis to assist the COME group in strike support activity, and in fact, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. made a public speech in behalf of the sanitation workers at Mason Temple on the night of March 18, 1968. Dr. KING returned to Memphis on the morning of March 28, 1968, to lead a mass downtown Memphis strike support march, and after a major disturbance occurred in the Beale Street area of Memphis resulting in considerable

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 - 36  
by SA HOWELL S. LOWE *[initials]*  
SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE *[initials]* WHL:LF Date dictated 4/12/68

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property damage by some of the marchers, the SCLC staff left various of its members in Memphis to further organize the strike support activity. Shortly after March 28, 1968, Mr. MC CULLOUGH became acquainted with two members of Dr. KING's staff; namely, Rev. JAMES ORANGE, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and Rev. JAMES BEVEL, of Birmingham, Alabama, and Chicago, Illinois, and he has worked with them on various projects since that time.

On the afternoon of April 4, 1968, MC CULLOUGH, who has a blue 1967 Volkswagen, 1600 series, fastback, drove to the Lorraine Motel accompanied in his car by Rev. JAMES ORANGE and Rev. JAMES BEVEL, and he fixed their arrival at the motel in the car at about 5:55 p.m. He parked his Volkswagen in the motel parking lot which would be on the east side of Mulberry and just south of the old hotel portion of the Lorraine Hotel and Motel. His car had been followed by a white Pontiac Tempest, exact model number not recalled, driven by CLARA ESTER, a student at LeMoyne College and who he understands resides at 396 LaCleda, Memphis, and another young lady, MARY HUNT, who lives on Baltimore Street in the Orange Mound area of Memphis and who he believes attends Memphis State University. These young ladies had also been working in some of the strike support activity sponsored by COME, and they had been with BEVEL, ORANGE and MC CULLOUGH at the Clayborn Temple prior to coming to the Lorraine Motel.

They parked their car behind the Volkswagen, and at that point, BEVEL, ORANGE and MC CULLOUGH and HUNT and ESTER got out of their cars and stood around the parking lot area. MC CULLOUGH recalled seeing numerous other people on the north end of the parking lot area which is directly in front of the new motel portion of the Lorraine and recalled seeing a Negro singing group managed by JAMES BEVEL known as the "Bread Basket Group." He did not know any of their specific identities.

MC CULLOUGH was first aware of the presence in the vicinity of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. when he got out of his car and observed Dr. KING standing on the second floor balcony of the motel almost directly in front of Room 306, which had been Dr. KING's room during his recent visit to Memphis. Dr. KING was leaning over the rail which runs in front of an outside walkway running the length of the second floor motel portion, and MC CULLOUGH noticed no one else on the balcony with him at the time.

At this point, which would probably have been close to 6:00 p.m., either shortly before or shortly thereafter, Mr. MC CULLOUGH walked back toward the car driven by CLARA ESTER and Rev. BEVEL and Rev. ORANGE walked north on the parking lot toward the group of people who were standing there.

Suddenly, MC CULLOUGH heard an explosive sound and recalled that he was standing and facing north when he first heard it. He was standing south of the position occupied by Dr. KING and noted that the rail on which Dr. KING had been leaning runs north and south, and that KING would have been facing Mulberry Street, or to the west with his back facing the doorway of the motel and to the east. MC CULLOUGH was unable to adequately describe the sound other than it was rather loud and had a seeming echo to it. He has served in the U. S. Army and would offer an opinion based on his Army experience and limited knowledge of firearms that the noise which he heard was a gunshot sound.

Immediately thereafter, someone in the crowd, identity not recalled, by MC CULLOUGH stated in essence, "Dr. KING has been shot." MC CULLOUGH pointed out that he had been facing north when he heard the sound, and upon hearing the person say something to the effect that Dr. KING had been shot, he looked easterly and upward toward the rail where Dr. KING had been standing and observed Dr. KING falling backward in a southeasterly direction. It appeared as though Dr. KING may have been grasping with one of his hands for his throat area, although MC CULLOUGH could not be positive as to the physical movement, if any, of Dr. KING's hands. Almost immediately, MC CULLOUGH turned his head in a westerly direction looking across Mulberry Street, which runs north and south, and saw no one either on the ground or in any of the buildings which face east toward the Lorraine Hotel and Motel. He saw no one in the area in the vicinity of the motel with a gun or a weapon of any sort.

He saw no one running from the area in any direction.

A few seconds later, he recalled seeing a group of what he felt were Memphis Fire Department employees running from the rear entrance of the fire station which faces Main Street and whose rear entrance faces Mulberry Street and which is located just south of the motel, noting that these firemen seemed to be running toward the vicinity of the motel.

When MC CULLOUGH looked upward again at the point where Dr. KING had fallen, he was first conscious of seeing Rev. JESSE JACKSON, an SCLC staff member from Chicago, looking out a doorway of a motel room just south of the room previously occupied by Dr. KING. JACKSON would have been looking in a westerly or actually a northwesterly direction, because he was looking toward KING's prone body.

Almost instinctively, MC CULLOUGH ran up the outdoor iron and cement stairway which leads to the balcony from the ground level and which is located about two or three motel doors south of where KING's body rested. He turned north on the balcony upon reaching the second floor level, running toward Dr. KING's body, and noticed that Dr. KING was lying prone in a crosswise position with his head pointing in a southeasterly direction and his feet pointing in a northwesterly direction, his feet being located adjacent to the protective railing.

Mr. MC CULLOUGH was the first person to reach the body of Dr. KING, and he knelt down to Dr. KING's prone body. Almost simultaneously, one of the Negroes at the motel, identity not recalled, handed MC CULLOUGH a towel which MC CULLOUGH used to apply pressure to the wounded area of Dr. KING's body, which he recalled was on the right side of his face in the immediate area of his cheekbone and running down into his upper neck area. The wound was recalled by him to be a large wound, not unlike a tear. The flesh on Dr. KING's face on the right side thereof appeared to be torn backward toward the rear of his head area, and the wound appeared to start around the middle of his cheekbone and continue downward into his upper neck area. He also recalled seeing splotches of blood, possibly pinhead in size, in the immediate vicinity of the large wounded area, and his first impression was that these may have been minute pellet wounds, although he now feels that they were probably mere blood splotches or spots.

MC CULLOUGH attempted to apply pressure to the wound in an effort to stop the bleeding, as the bleeding was quite profuse at this time, and as he knelt down and observed Dr. KING's body in its prone position with his back facing the concrete floor and the front side of his body facing upward, the wound would have had to have been caused by a bullet or projectile coming toward Dr. KING from a northwesterly direction since it entered the right side of his face and since KING

was last recalled being seen by him looking directly west as he stood against the hand rail. It was his definite impression at the time, and he still holds to this impression, that the shot would have come from one of the buildings to the northwest. There is a series of old buildings located just west of the motel whose fronts would face on S. Main Street, which is the next north-south street west of Mulberry.

From the second story position of Dr. KING when he was shot, coupled with the position of the wound beginning around his cheekbone area and dropping down toward his neck area, he believes the shot in all probability would have come from one of these buildings at an elevated level rather than from the ground area surrounding the buildings.

MC CULLOUGH also recalled that as he applied the pressure around Dr. KING's cheekbone and upper neck area with the towel, he was aware of an unusual odor which was similar to the odor which one smells when a firecracker is exploded.

Shortly thereafter, he was conscious of the fact that CLARA ESTER and MARY HUNT had come up onto the balcony and were standing near him. By this time, there was no doubt in MC CULLOUGH's mind that Dr. KING was dead. There was no movement in his body, and his eyes were immobile and he believes they were open, although he could not be certain of this. He estimated he applied the pressure for one to two minutes, and by this time, a number of Negroes had gathered around the body, and he recalled seeing Rev. RALPH B. ABERNATHY, Dr. KING's chief aide. ABERNATHY knelt down and began applying pressure with the towel which had originally been held by MC CULLOUGH.

At this point, Rev. ABERNATHY relieved MC CULLOUGH, as MC CULLOUGH noted that CLARA ESTER and MARY HUNT were crying and appeared to be shaken considerably at the sight of Dr. KING's body. He was afraid they would become hysterical and he thereafter walked with them away from the area. They walked down the outside motel stairs to the south of Dr. KING's body onto the parking lot area and stood around.

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By this time, it would probably have been a few minutes after 6:00 p.m., and he observed a large number of members of the Memphis Police Department and possibly the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in the immediate area. One of the officers, identity not recalled, asked all of the people in the immediate area to remain and not leave.

He estimated that he stood around the parking lot area in the immediate hotel and motel area until close to 8:00 p.m. and when no one had asked him specifically not to leave he left and returned to the Clayborn Temple.

He had been to the motel on Wednesday, April 3, 1968, with some of the SCLC people and representatives of the COME group, and at no time while around the Lorraine Motel did he recall seeing any individuals he could consider to be suspicious or who may have given the impression they were observing the area other than the fact that he had from time to time seen law enforcement officers in the area. He was unable to pinpoint the exact times when he had seen this.

MC CULLOUGH concluded that he knew of no suspects and had not recalled having heard any of his associates mention any suspects or any suspicious persons who may have been frequenting the area of the motel during the day or two prior to Dr. KING's death.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

EUNIS E. MILLER, cook and waitress, Lorraine Motel and Hotel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that she worked at the hotel from 7:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on April 3 and 4, 1968. She said she had absolutely no information regarding the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., as she worked inside the hotel both days and was not outside at all during her working hours.

She advised she would notify the FBI should she remember or obtain any information regarding the assassination.

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On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-~~20~~ *Sub D-37*  
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON & SA JOHN W. BAUER:SMD:cjs *SMD* Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

MARY ELLEN NORWOOD, Desk Clerk and cook, Lorraine Motel and Hotel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

She worked from 3:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m., April 3, and April 4, 1968, at the Lorraine Hotel in the kitchen cooking food. She heard a shot around 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and ran out of the kitchen, out the back door on the eastern side of the hotel, looked around, but saw nothing and re-entered the hotel and ran out of the main entrance on the east side of the hotel. She looked up and saw Dr. KING lying on the balcony in front of room 306, but at no time did she look in a westerly direction towards South Main Street. She said she has no other information concerning the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and would immediately notify the FBI should she recall or obtain any further information.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-<sup>Sub D-38</sup>  
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON & SA JOHN W. BAUER:SMD:cjs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

SADIE MC KAY, 853 Buntyn, Laundry Woman, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, was contacted at her place of employment and advised that she was not working on April 3, 1968. She said she was working on April 4, 1968, at which time, as is her daily routine, she obtained a list of all guests that have checked out of the hotel from the desk clerk. She does this upon arriving at work at about 8:00 in the morning so that she can enter the rooms and strip the beds of their linens. She said that after she strips all the linens off the beds in the rooms, she takes the linen to the laundry room where she proceeds to launder it. At about 9:00 or 9:30 AM on April 4, she remembers knocking on Room 34 to check and see if anyone was still in the room so she could strip the linen from the bed. When she knocked on the door a voice which sounded like a male voice answered yes. She then retorted to this and said she was collecting the linen and would come back later. She then went on to the other rooms in the hotel and then proceeded to the laundry room. She stated she never saw the occupant of Room 34. She added she could not remember any specific cars that were parked in front of Room 34 on April 4, 1968, and in fact she never pays very much attention to any of the cars at the hotel. She added that she never went into Room 34 on April 4, 1968, but SARA LOVINGS, who was the maid on duty that day would have gone into the room to clean it.

She was shown artist's conception drawings drawn at Memphis, Tennessee, and Birmingham, Alabama, and stated that neither of the men in these 2 drawings looked familiar to her.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - 29 *Sub D-39*  
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *WJ* /bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

SARA LOVINGS, 3230 Democrat Road, Memphis, maid, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, was contacted at her home and advised that she was on duty at the hotel on April 4. She said that she went into Room 34 on April 4, after the occupant had checked out of the hotel, so she could clean the room. She stated that she could not remember what time she went into the room, but she believes it to be in the early part of the afternoon. She stated that nothing was left in Room 34 by the occupant or she would have remembered taking it to the desk clerk. She added that she could not remember ever seeing the occupant of Room 34, and she paid no attention to the cars that were parked in the hotel lot.

She was shown an artist's conception drawing which was drawn at Birmingham, Alabama, and she stated that the individual in the drawing did not look familiar to her.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - *Sub D-40*  
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *pb* /bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

BECKY ANDERS, Assistant Manager, Rebel Restaurant, 3464 Lamar Avenue, advised that she came to the restaurant as she normally does at about 5:10 AM on April 4, 1968. She stated that she went off duty that same day at about 10:00 AM, and she was not on duty at the restaurant on the evening of April 3, 1968. She said that she could not remember anyone particular coming into the restaurant on the morning of April 4, 1968. She said that she often gets guests from the hotel who come in for breakfast, but from these guests that came in that morning she could remember nothing concerning anyone of them.

She was shown photographs of artist's conception drawings that were drawn in Memphis, Tennessee, and Birmingham, Alabama, and she stated that the sketch that was drawn in Memphis looks familiar to her. She said that it would have been possible that one of the guests ordered for room service on April 4, but off hand she could not remember anyone doing so. She added that if anyone had asked for room service either JUANITA WILSON or V. L. CAMPBELL would have taken the food tray to the hotel room. She stated she never saves any of the food checks so she would have no record of her sales for any particular day.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987- *Sub D-41*  
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *W.B.* /bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/681

SAM N. HUDSON, 3847 Marion Street, Desk Clerk, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, advised that he was on duty at the hotel from 6:00 AM on April 4, to 2:00 PM on April 4, 1968. He stated that he could not remember anything concerning the occupant in room 34 and he was unaware of any automobile that this individual was driving. He could not remember seeing a white Mustang parked in the lot in the hotel. He stated that the occupant of Room 34 checked out on the morning of April 4, 1968, without coming to the desk. He stated that this would be normal if the individual paid for his room in advance, which he did in this case. He said that if anyone leaves anything in the hotel rooms after checking out, the maids will bring the objects to him and he tags them as to the room number and occupant's name. He stated that on the morning of April 4, 1968, none of the maids brought anything to him to be tagged.

Mr. HUDSON was shown artist's conception drawings drawn in Memphis, Tennessee, and Birmingham, Alabama, and he stated that neither of these drawings looked familiar to him.

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - *Sub D-42*  
by SA JOHN W. BAUER *JS* /bbs Date dictated 4/11/68

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## 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 422½ 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 422½ South Main Street and in a line with those stairs.

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On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 - *Sub D-43*  
by *TKS* 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 4/13/68

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.

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - *Sub D-44*  
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.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

Mr. FRANKLIN WILSON RAY, JR., 3639 Allendale Road, Memphis, advised he is employed as a salesman by the Tayloe Paper Company, 420 South Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. RAY advised he left work approximately 5:30 p.m., on April 4, 1968, and walked alone directly to Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main, Memphis. He stated he walked east on Huling Street toward South Main and when he reached the corner of Huling and South Main he walked diagonally across the street to Jim's Grill. He stated he does not recall walking past any cars other than STEVE CUPPLES' 1959 white Chevrolet which was parked across the street from Jim's Grill. He said he recalls there was a line of white cars parked at the curb near the entrance to Jim's Grill.

He said he was not aware of any activity in the neighborhood and that he was playing pinball machine and shuffleboard machine when a deputy sheriff came to the door and advised that no one was to leave until further notice. He said shortly thereafter an individual who he believed to be with the police department came to the door, requested that each one put their name and address on a sheet of paper and it was at that time he learned that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He said he does not recall looking out the window while playing the pinball machine and shuffleboard machine, but as soon as the deputy sheriff entered he recalls looking out the window and saw STEVE CUPPLES' 1959 Chevrolet parked across the street and JIMMY WALKER's white Fairlane Ford parked just south of the entrance of Jim's Grill. He added he also saw JOWERS' Cadillac parked directly in front of the entrance of Jim's Grill.

Mr. RAY stated he was concentrating on playing the pinball machine and shuffleboard machine and was not aware of any activity in the immediate neighborhood. He said it was not until sometime later that he learned MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He stated he did not hear the shot and cannot furnish any information concerning the activity in the neighborhood such as people walking or running, cars parked or being driven or any other activity.

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 - <sup>Sub D-45</sup>  
 by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK  
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

Mr. GEORGE ROWLAND HARDING, Room 3, 386½ South Main Street, advised that he is unemployed and that he is living at this rooming house at the present time. Mr. HARDING stated that on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, he went to Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main and ordered a bowl of chili and a quart of beer.

He further stated that he sat in the last booth with a person by the name of HAROLD PARKER who works for Yellow Cab.

Mr. HARDING stated he was in the grill when a police officer came to the door and instructed everyone to stay in the grill. He said he learned later that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He said he feels certain he heard a shot, but did not realize it was a gun that was fired at that time.

Mr. HARDING explained that he had been sleeping most of the day and when he awoke he was hungry. He said he had been drinking heavily before he went to sleep and, therefore, was not too alert when he walked down to Jim's Grill. He stated he does not recall seeing any cars on the street either being driven or parked and does not recall seeing any people on the street before he entered Jim's Grill. Mr. HARDING advised he cannot furnish any additional information concerning the activities that took place in the immediate vicinity of Jim's Grill at the time MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot.

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-  
by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK  
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/15/68

Mr. ROBERT D. WHEELER, 908 Emery Street, Memphis, advised that he is employed as a driver of a lift truck for M. E. Carter, 415 South Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. WHEELER advised that he got off work at 5:00 p.m., and walked to Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis. He stated that prior to going to Jim's Grill he was waiting on the corner of South Front Street and Huling Street to get a ride home. He said that when he was unable to get a ride he started walking down the east side of South Main Street. Mr. WHEELER stated that when he was almost in front of Jim's Grill he was told by someone, probably a Memphis Policeman or a Deputy Sheriff, to go inside of Jim's Grill and stay there and then the door was locked.

He said he was walking alone and was not aware of any activity in the immediate area at that time. He said some time after entering Jim's Grill he learned that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. Mr. WHEELER stated he did not hear the shot and he did not see anyone running, walking or carrying anything in the immediate area. He said he does not recall any cars parked in the immediate area and does not recall seeing any car drive away while he was walking down South Main Street from the intersection of Huling and South Main to Jim's Grill.

Mr. WHEELER advised he cannot furnish any additional information concerning any activity that took place in that immediate area at the time MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot.

Mr. WHEELER said the above activity took place on April 4, 1968.

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-<sup>Sub D-47</sup>  
by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK  
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

CEOLAR SHAVERS, 610 F Brownmall, Clayborn Homes, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

She advised that she formerly was employed as a maid at the Lorraine Hotel and Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, Tennessee, and that she was on duty on the 11:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. shift on April 3 and 4, 1968.

She also stated that sometime around 6:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968, pursuant to instructions from her employer, Mr. WALTER BAILEY, owner, Lorraine Hotel and Motel, she was proceeding along the second level of the motel on the balcony in a southerly direction to clean two rooms, which had not been taken care of by the maid assigned to these rooms. It was not normally her responsibility to clean these rooms, but the other maid left work at about 5:30 p.m. without attending to them.

She stated she had not as yet passed Room 306, but estimated that she was in front of Room 304 proceeding in the direction of Room 306 when she heard what she thought was a shot. She stated the sound was very loud, and caused her to drop some sheets, which she had been carrying, and that it frightened her quite a bit.

She stated that right after hearing the sound, she looked down into the courtyard parking lot area, and saw many people beginning to assemble. She advised that she then looked in a northwesterly direction toward some buildings where she believed the sound came from. She stated that she did not see anyone, and definitely did not see anyone in the bushes on the west side of Mulberry Street nor did she see anyone running away from these bushes.

She also stated that she had been employed at the Lorraine for about six weeks, and during that time cannot recall seeing or hearing anything suspicious nor anything which she would consider to be connected with the assassination of

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 - 10 *Sub D-48*  
by SAs STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON *SM*  
EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. *EAM*/EAM:jms Date dictated 4/13/68

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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

She further advised that after being startled by the loud noise, which sounded to her like a shot, she was very frightened and did not look at DR. KING. She did not see him get hit. She did look at him shortly thereafter, and saw him as he fell to the ground. She remembers looking at his feet as he fell.

She stated she then quickly went down the steps to the ground level, and recalls nothing else relating to the sound.



## 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.

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987 - *Sub D-49*  
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

Date 4/15/68

1

Patrolman BARNEY G. WRIGHT, Memphis Police Department, home address 4264 Dunn Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised as follows:

On April 4, 1968, he was assigned to a Tact Unit which is an emergency unit. That unit consists of 3 automobiles with four police officers in each automobile. The automobiles consisted of both Memphis Police Officers and Shelby County Sheriff's Office Deputies. During the day of April 4, 1968, the members of that emergency squad did change cars from time to time so that at different times during the day he, himself, was riding with different police officers. They were doing this so that the members of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office did not feel that the Memphis Police Department did not want to work with them. Shortly before 6:00 PM, April 4, 1968, the 3 cars making up the emergency squad or Tact Unit parked in the driveway of the fire station at Main and E. Butler Streets. That fire station is located south of the rooming house from which the shot which killed Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was believed to be fired. A fenced in parking lot is located between the fire station and that building. The 3 vehicles making up the emergency squad were parked facing Main Street. Two of the vehicles were side by side, and the third vehicle was directly behind one of the 2 cars which faced onto Main Street.

He was sitting in the lounge of the fire station at Main and E. Butler Streets shortly before 6:00 PM reading a newspaper when he heard rattling of the plate glass window behind him. The lounge area of that fire station is on the south side of the building. He does not recall hearing any shot but only the rattling of the plate glass window, and immediately thereafter the other members in his emergency squad began running out of the north side of the fire station building. He ran out after them and on the outside of the building he was surprised to find that the other members of his emergency squad were running toward Mulberry Street and the Lorraine Motel instead of

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987-<sup>Sub D-50</sup>50  
 by SA VINCENT H. LAMMERS  
SA JOE W. PHILLIPS JWP/bbs Date dictated 4/13/68

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toward their emergency vehicles. He ran to Mulberry Street, but did not cross Mulberry Street as there is a high retaining wall at Mulberry Street. As he arrived at Mulberry Street, other members of his emergency squad had gone beyond the retaining wall, had crossed Mulberry Street, and were at the Lorraine Motel. They were calling out that Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot and the shot was believed to have come from an apartment or rooming house north of the fire station. He then ran back to the emergency vehicle which he had previously been assigned to parked in the fire station driveway facing Main Street, and as he got into that vehicle, Patrolman E. E. DOUGLAS also got into the unit with him, and Patrolman DOUGLAS immediately began putting out a radio broadcast that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot.

He does not recall seeing any officer near Canipe's Amusement Center, 424 Main Street, at the time he and Patrolman DOUGLAS got into their emergency unit. After Patrolman DOUGLAS radioed the message that KING had been shot, they then drove their emergency unit out onto Main Street, but instead of turning north toward the building where the shot which hit Doctor KING was believed to have been fired, they turned south on Main Street, circled around the fire station there, and drove onto Mulberry Street and in front of the Lorraine Motel. They stopped momentarily in front of the Lorraine Motel on Mulberry Street and then proceeded on down Mulberry Street to the next street which is Huling Avenue, and they went west on Huling Avenue and around to Main Street where they parked their emergency unit in front of the building in which the shot which hit KING was believed to have been fired. He and Patrolman DOUGLAS got out of that emergency unit and took a position across the street from that building on Main Street to watch for any suspects who might come out of the building. He estimated that it took he and Patrolman DOUGLAS from 2 to 3 minutes from the time Doctor KING was shot until they made that circle around the block and came back to their position in front of the building on Main Street.

He was dressed in dark blue trousers, a royal blue shirt, a dark blue tie, and a blue steel helmet. He does

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not recall anyone in the area who might be described as wearing a light colored upper garment, or wearing anything which might resemble a hood. He does not recall any officers in any of the positions along Main Street in front of that building north of the fire station where he held a position after the shooting. He does not recall Patrolman DOLLARHITE or any other officer running past U. S. Fixtures moments after the shooting. He does not recall seeing any officer near Canipe's Amusement Center, 424 Main Street, immediately after the shooting. Since he and the other Memphis Police Officers were interchanging cars and were switching off to ride with members of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office Deputies in their 3 emergency vehicles, the only persons he can recall as being in the emergency vehicle which he was assigned to at the time of the shooting were Patrolman E. E. DOUGLAS and Lieutenant J. E. GHORMLEY.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

1

Patrolman WILLIAM E. GROSS, Memphis Police Department, home address 4728 Tutwiler, Memphis, advised as follows:

On April 4, 1968, he was assigned to one of 3 emergency units which make up what is called a Tact Unit for controlling any disturbances which might occur in Memphis. Those 3 emergency units are made up of 4 men, each of both Memphis Police Officers and Deputies of the Shelby County Sheriff's Office. During the day of April 4, 1968, the men assigned to those units changed from one car to the other. For that reason, he does not recall who was in the emergency vehicle with him during the late afternoon of April 4, 1968, except Patrolman BILL DU FOUR (phonetic).

Shortly before 6:00 PM, April 4, 1968, the 3 emergency units parked at the fire station at Main and E. Butler Streets, Memphis, so that they might take a rest break. Since his wife had just gotten out of the hospital, he went to the telephone in the fire station to call and see how she was feeling, as the other men were taking their rest break. That fire station is located south of a building on Main Street in which a shot which killed Doctor KING is believed to have been fired. Between the fire station and that building is a fenced in parking lot with a gate in front.

As he was talking with his wife, he saw the other men in his emergency unit began running out of the fire station. He does not recall hearing any shot, but he knew something was wrong and he immediately told his wife he had to leave and would call her later. He ran out of the fire station after the other men and turned east once outside the fire station, and he ran toward Mulberry Street and the Lorraine Motel. Since a high retaining wall is located at Mulberry Street, he never crossed that retaining wall or Mulberry Street, but when he arrived at that point some of the other police officers who had crossed Mulberry and who were at the Lorraine Motel called out that Doctor KING had been shot and they believed the shot had come from the building north of

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987 *Sub D-51*  
 by SA VINCENT H. LAMMERS  
SA JOE W. PHILLIPS JWP/bbs Date dictated 4/13/68

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the fire station. He ran back through that passageway which is between the fire station and the fenced in lot just north of the fire station to Main Street. When he arrived at Main Street, he recalls there were 2 Memphis Police Officers and also a Deputy Sheriff already on Main Street in front of the building where the shot was believed to have been fired from, however, he cannot identify either of those 3 officers. He took up a position in front of Canipe Amusement Center at 424 S. Main Street, Memphis. He actually stood on Main Street in front of that doorway. After he took up his position, he recalls seeing a satchel and a rifle in the doorway in front of him. Those items were lying on what appeared to be a green piece of cloth material which appeared to be a blanket or bedspread. He did not touch any of that material, nor did he go near it, but he did watch it from his position.

Shortly after he took up his position, which was within 2 or 3 minutes after he received the report that Doctor KING had been shot, he remained at that spot until the investigation was completed. Immediately after he took his position, 2 other members of the emergency squad came to the parking lot, which was between the building in which he was then standing and the fire station. Those officers went into that parking lot and searched it thoroughly for anyone who might be hiding therein, including a clump of bushes located at the back of the parking lot at the retaining wall. After they found no one hiding in that area, they came out, locked the gate on the parking lot, and the 2 men stood there to guard that gate.

After he had stood at his position for a short time, an individual, who apparently was the operator of Canipe Amusement Center, came out and informed him that he had been ordered to the Memphis Police Station to make a report of what he had seen. He informed that individual that he could not leave the area until he (GROSS) had cleared it with his superior officer. After he cleared it with his superior officer, he told the individual to go ahead. That man then got into his pick-up truck which was parked on Main Street

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between the building he was standing in front of and the fire station and drove away, apparently to the police station.

GROSS advised that he observed Inspector N. E. ZACHARY, Memphis Police Department Homicide Squad, and another officer of the Homicide Squad, name unknown, come to the area and collected the satchel, rifle, and green cloth material which he had been standing in front of. He noted they did not touch any of those items, but used handkerchiefs to pick it up. They placed the rifle and the satchel in the green cloth material, then they picked up the green cloth containing the other items and took it all to police headquarters. GROSS observed this from a distance of approximately 10 to 15 feet.

On April 4, 1968, he was wearing dark blue trousers, a royal blue shirt, a dark blue tie, and a blue steel helmet. He does not recall anyone in the area who might have been wearing an upper garment which might be described as white or light colored, and who was wearing an item of clothing which might be described as a hood. He does not recall seeing Patrolman DOLLAHITE or any other police officer running on Main Street near the U. S. Fixtures office moments after the shooting.

He advised when the 3 emergency units parked by the fire station shortly before 6:00 PM, April 4, 1968, they parked in the fire station driveway facing the units toward south Main Street. Two emergency units were parked side by side and the third unit was parked directly behind one of the front two. He surmised that if the person who shot Doctor KING had fired the shot from the building north of the fire station on Main Street, and that individual had then run out of the building onto Main Street and had turned south on Main Street, the first thing that individual would have seen would have been 3 police cars in the driveway of the fire station. Although those 3 emergency police vehicles were unmanned, he feels that is possibly what happened in this instance and that is why the suspect dropped the rifle, satchel and green cloth blanket or bedspread, which was in front of the Canipe Amusement Center at 424 S. Main Street.



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

WILLIAM BISHOP KING, 1776 West Lloyd Circle, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Central Police Headquarters, and furnished the following information:

KING advised he was regularly assigned to Number 2 Fire Station, Main and Butler, Memphis, and that on April 4, 1968, he had reported to work at 7:00 a.m., and was to work until 7:00 a.m., April 5, 1968. He advised that during this work shift, two officers of the Memphis police force had been on location in the fire station conducting a surveillance of the KING party from a door to the rear of the fire station.

KING stated that he occasionally looked through holes torn in a newspaper which was being used to cover the rear door and to cover the surveilling officers during this period.

KING stated that he had been at the window observing for approximately ten minutes at the time DR. KING was shot. He advised that during this five or ten minute period that he observed DR. KING came out of his motel room, and stood on the balcony for approximately three minutes prior to the time he was shot. He stated that an individual was standing on the balcony with DR. KING, and that DR. KING appeared to be talking to someone in the courtyard. At this time, KING heard what sounded to be a shot, and he noted DR. KING fall on the balcony. KING advised that he thought that it was a rifle shot because the sound had a zinging tone to it. Immediately DR. KING fell, confusion broke out in the motel. KING advised that he kept his eyes on the balcony, and did not actually look around the area, and that he, himself, was in a stunned state. At this time, someone else in the firehouse made the statement, "Let me see," and he, KING, moved away from the door, and this person moved to the door. KING could not identify this person, and advised that he moved back into the firehouse proper.

KING stated that at the time he was observing the motel, that a Negro officer, a CHARLES STONE, and Lieutenant LOENNEKE were also at the window. He stated that he could furnish no further

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 - *Sub D-52*  
 by SAs EDWARD M. QUINN *Quinn*  
SHIELDS W. SMITH *Smith* / SWS:jms Date dictated 4/13/68

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names of individuals who might possibly have been observing the motel at the time DR. KING was shot.

KING advised that he thought a shot came from his left, and that at the time he heard the shot, that KING fell approximately the same instant; however, KING stated he could not see any buildings to the left of where he was standing nor could he see the open lot to the left of the firehouse. KING advised that he did not see anyone outside the building, other than those persons in the KING group, prior to the shot. He also advised that following the shot, he did not see any policeman or any other individual in the street before he moved away from the window.

KING advised that he could not identify any other persons whom he had seen on the balcony either prior to or following the shooting of DR. KING as he was not familiar with these individuals by name. He does recall seeing a Negro woman in the doorway of the motel room two doors down from the room of DR. KING immediately after the shooting. He also recalled that the individual standing by DR. KING at the time of the shot was crawling around on the balcony attempting to aid DR. KING. He advised that his view was restricted to either side, and that because of the manner in which the holes were placed in the newspaper, he could only see straight ahead to the motel.

KING could furnish no further information concerning individuals who might have been in or around the motel at the time of the shooting, and could furnish no information concerning any automobiles outside the fire station as he had not gone out of the station immediately following the shooting.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mr. GEORGE W. LOENNEKE, 1390 Smythe, Memphis, Tennessee, was interviewed at the Memphis Police Department, and furnished the following information:

LOENNEKE stated that he is a Lieutenant at the Memphis Fire Department, and is regularly assigned to Fire Station Number 2, located at 474 South Main Street. He advised that he was on duty at this location on April 4, 1968. LOENNEKE stated that at approximately 6:00 p.m. on that date he was standing, looking through a peephole in a newspaper, which had been placed over the window on the rear door of the fire station. He stated that he was in the locker room at the rear of the station, and with him was a Negro police officer, Officer RICHMOND, and another fireman named WILLIAM KING.

LOENNEKE went on to state that as he approached his locker, which was to the right of the window, Officer RICHMOND called him and said, "DR. KING is fixing to leave his hotel room." LOENNEKE stated that he then asked Officer RICHMOND to let him look at KING, as LOENNEKE had not seen DR. KING for approximately two years. While LOENNEKE was looking through the peephole of the window, he saw DR. KING standing and leaning against the rail, looking down to the parking lot, saying something to another Negro male. Individuals by the name of BABY JESUS and Reverend BEVEL were standing to the extreme right of DR. KING. LOENNEKE stated that as DR. KING turned slowly to his left to say something to the individual below was when the shot was fired. LOENNEKE advised that it appeared to him as though DR. KING was looking at something or someone that fired the shot. LOENNEKE immediately turned to Police Officer RICHMOND, and stated, "DR. KING has been shot." He stated that Officer RICHMOND went in a state of shock at the sound of this news, and did not take any immediate action.

LOENNEKE stated that he then ran through the apparatus floor, telling other police officers that DR. KING had been shot. He then went through the lunchroom of the engine house telling

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 - *Sub D-53*  
by SAs EDWARD M. QUINN *EMQ*  
SHIELDS W. SMITH *SW* / EMQ:jms Date dictated 4/13/68

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the officers in that location that DR. KING had been shot. All police officers, upon hearing the news that DR. KING had been shot, immediately rushed out the door and proceeded in all directions in order to surround the motel in which DR. KING was staying.

LOENNEKE further advised that after he informed the police officers that DR. KING had been shot, he went out the front door of the station onto Main Street, but did not observe anyone running on Main Street or any pedestrian traffic whatsoever. In addition, he stated that he did not see a white Mustang on Main Street after the shooting nor did he hear the sound of an automobile leaving in a hurried manner.

LOENNEKE stated that while he was looking through the peephole, both before and immediately after DR. KING had been shot, he did not see any person on Mulberry Street wearing a light jacket or pull-over shirt with a hood on it. He stated that just prior to the time DR. KING was shot, two Negro females were standing on the second floor balcony, a short distance from DR. KING. LOENNEKE advised that at the time DR. KING was shot, these women started hollering in excitement, and appeared to be in a state of shock. He stated that both women, after realizing what had happened, then began to attempt to administer help to DR. KING. He also advised that there was a white man, without a suitcoat and wearing black horn-rimmed glasses, who approached the body of DR. KING, and then left to obtain more towels, which were being used to stop the blood coming from DR. KING's body. LOENNEKE stated that he had seen this white man previously that date with DR. KING, and assumed that he was in DR. KING's party. Approximately thirty seconds after the shot had been fired, a Negro male appeared on the balcony, and started taking photographs of DR. KING's body. LOENNEKE thought this odd at the time because the individual made no attempt to assist DR. KING, but was more concerned with the taking of the pictures.

LOENNEKE further stated that at the time the shot was fired, he saw only one man in the courtyard or parking lot beneath DR. KING's balcony, and this man he assumed was DR. KING's personal chauffeur.

LOENNEKE advised that to the best of his knowledge, the shot that was fired came from the left of the firehouse and from a position which could not be seen from the window from which



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he was observing DR. KING. He stated that at no time did he see a white male running from the area, and could furnish no positive information concerning a possible suspect in this murder.

LOENNEKE advised that he was unable to furnish any additional information at this time.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 15, 1968

Mr. HAROLD E. PARKER, 1054 Meada Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised he is employed as a driver for Yellow Cab Company, 581 South Second Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. PARKER advised he got off of work at approximately 4:00 p.m. on April 4, 1968. He stated he left the cab he was driving at the gas pump at approximately 4:00 p.m., checked in with his day's proceedings, and then left in his 1959 white four door Rambler, License Number, Shelby County AS 6131, which is his personally owned auto. He stated he drove this car to the area of Jim's Grill, which is located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. Mr. PARKER stated that it is his estimate that he arrived at approximately 4:15 to 4:20 p.m. at Jim's Grill. He commented that when he arrived, he drove past the Grill, and parked near the intersection of Huling Street and South Main Street. He said he does not recall what cars were on the street at that time, but does recall specifically that Mr. JOWERS' Cadillac was parked almost directly in front of Jim's Grill. He explained that Mr. JOWERS owns and operates Jim's Grill. Mr. PARKER stated he cannot recall what other cars were on the street or what other cars were between his 1959 Rambler and JOWERS' white Cadillac, but believes that there was at least one, if not two, cars between his and JOWERS' car. He stated he has no idea as to the color, make, or model of the cars between his and JOWERS' car.

Mr. PARKER stated he was in Jim's Grill having his evening meal of chili and beer. He said he was sitting in the last booth in the Grill with a person whose name he knows as GEORGE HARDING. He stated he does not know HARDING's occupation or his address, but commented that HARDING frequents Jim's Grill quite regularly. Mr. PARKER added there were a number of people in the Grill during the entire time that he was there, and that there were several young men playing the shuffleboard, ping-pong machine, and the jukebox. He said he was not aware of any activity outside of Jim's Grill until a Deputy Sheriff entered Jim's Grill sometime after 6:00 p.m., and told everyone in the Grill to remain there until they were advised they could leave.

On 4/15/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987 *Sub D-54*  
by SAs HARLEY E. GYLFE *HG*  
*OJH* O. JAMES HOLBROOK / HEG:jms Date dictated 4/15/68

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