

A F F I D A V I T

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA) ss:

GEORGE J. BORNHARDT, being duly sworn, deposes
and says:

1. I am 46 years old and I live at 1214 Georgia
Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

2. I am a Fingerprint Examiner in the Federal
Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C. I have held
this position since October 1952. I have attended schools
and other training classes conducted by the Federal Bureau
of Investigation to qualify me for my position. During the
time I have been a Fingerprint Examiner, I have made millions
of fingerprint comparisons for identification purposes. I
have testified as a fingerprint expert witness in numerous
cases in federal and state courts as well as in military
courts-martial with regard to my findings based on comparisons
of fingerprints.

3. On April 5, 1968, at approximately 9:15a.m.,
at the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, I
received certain objects of evidence from Special Agent
Robert Fitzpatrick. These objects were identified to me as
being part of the investigation into the shooting of Martin
Luther King, Jr. in Memphis, Tennessee, on the previous day.
Among the items delivered to me were a Remington Model 760
rifle, serial number 401470, with Redfield telescopic sight
number A 17350, and a pair of 7 by 35 Bushnell binoculars,
serial number DQ 408164. I examined each of these objects
for latent fingerprints, and subsequently on April 5, 1968,

I developed one latent fingerprint on the rifle, one latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight, and one latent fingerprint on the binoculars. These were the only latent prints on these objects which contained sufficient ridge characteristics detail to be of value for identification purposes.

4. On April 19, 1968, I identified each of the afore-mentioned three latent prints as being the fingerprints of James Earl Ray. I made this determination by comparing the latent prints with a fingerprint card containing the known fingerprints of James Earl Ray, which were obtained by officials of the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles, California, on October 11, 1967. The fingerprint card made by the Los Angeles Police Department is contained in the official fingerprint files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington, D.C. I determined that the latent fingerprint on the Remington rifle and the latent fingerprint on the binoculars were identical to the left thumbprint of James Earl Ray, and that the latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight was identical to the right ring-fingerprint of James Earl Ray.

5. The official fingerprint files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington also contain the fingerprint record of James Earl Ray, taken in connection with his incarceration in the Missouri State Penitentiary on March 17, 1960, following a conviction of first degree robbery. I have compared the fingerprints of James Earl Ray taken in connection with his arrest on October 11, 1967, by the Los Angeles Police Department with the fingerprints taken in connection with the incarceration of James Earl Ray in the Missouri State Penitentiary on March 17, 1960, and I have determined that these prints are of the same person.

