

AFFIDAVIT

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA) ss:

ROBERT A. FRALIER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am 49 years old and I reside at 2705 Gaither Street, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland.
2. I obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Idaho in 19 . I have been a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since December 1942. I am Chief of the Firearms Unit of the Physics and Chemistry Section of the Federal Bureau of Investigation laboratories in Washington, D. C. I have been assigned to the Firearms Unit continuously since June 9, 1941. I received the specialized training program in firearms identification of approximately one year; duration from the Federal Bureau of Investigation when I was initially assigned to the Firearms Unit. Since being assigned to this unit I have made thousands of comparisons of bullets and cartridge cases with firearms for the purpose of determining whether a particular firearm fired a certain bullet or cartridge case. I have testified on numerous occasions in federal and state courts, as well as in military courts martial, as a firearms identification expert witness.
3. On April 5, 1968, at the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory, I received certain items of evidence from Special Agent ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, who has brought

them by airplane from Memphis, Tennessee. These objects has been obtained in connection with the investigation of the shooting of Martin Luther King on the previous day.

4. Among the items of evidence I received was a 30.06 Springfield caliber Remington "Gamemaster" Slide-action rifle Model 760, Serial Number 461476, with Redfield telescopic sight, Serial Number A17350, with clip. I also received from Special Agent Fitzpatrick a .30 caliber metal-jacketed "soft-point" sporting type Remington-Peters bullet, a 30.06 Springfield Remington-Peters cartridge case, and Peters cartridge box, bearing manufacturers index number 3033 containing five 30.06 Springfield Remington-Peters cartridges and four 30.06 Springfield U. S. military cartridges containing full metal-jacketed bullets.

5. Because of distortion due to mutilation and insufficient marks of value, it was not possible to establish that the submitted bullet was fired from the submitted rifle. However, I determined that the .30-caliber metal-jacketed rifle bullet had been fired from a barrel rifled with six lands and grooves, right twist, and that the submitted rifle produces general rifling impressions on fired bullets having the physical characteristics of those on the submitted bullet. I also determined that the submitted bullet was a 150-grain soft point bullet identical to the bullets in the five cartridges contained in the submitted Peters cartridge box.

6. The 30.06 Springfield Benjamin-Peters cartridge case was identified by me as bearing an extractor mark made by the extractor of the submitted rifle. Based on physical characteristics, I determined that the submitted bullet and the submitted cartridge case could originally have been portions of the same cartridge, which would have been similar to the cartridges in the Peters cartridge box.

7. On April 6, 1968, I received a window sill from Special Agent Fitzpatrick. This sill was identified to me as having been removed from the bathroom of the room house at 422 1/2 Main Street in Memphis, Tennessee. I examined the surface of this window sill and found a recent indentation which bore microscopic impressions. Even though there were not sufficient microscopic impressions in the indentation for positive identification of the object which made it, these impressions on the dent have characteristics similar to those produced by the polishing marks on the side of the barrel of the submitted rifle near its muzzle.

ROBERT A. FRAZIER

Sworn to before me this
_____ day of June, 1968.
