

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

King Case Costliest Ever for Police

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Press-Scimitar Staff Writer

When a rifle shot rang out on the evening of April 4, 1968, bringing death to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the result was the most expensive murder case in the history of the police department, it was revealed today.

Chief Henry Lux released figures showing that the homicide squad devoted 3,144 man hours to the investigation, at a cost of \$14,677.

Then the department assigned men to the guard detail assisting the sheriff's department, in the 24-hour

day guarding of James Earl Ray in the county jail, at a cost of 13,872 man hours and \$57,934.

Another guard detail had to be assigned to the guarding of a key witness, Charles Stevens, for a total of 7,530 man hours between Aug. 24, 1968, until March 11, 1969, at a money cost of \$31,684.

Cost of overtime during the last few days prior to the trial when police were mobilized on an overtime basis to guard against any possible trouble, was \$64,428.

Total cost of the homicide investigation and the various

guard details adds up to \$163,775.

These figures do not include the money spent by the sheriff's department in the guard detail, alteration of the jail to accommodate Ray or costs of preparation for the trial.

Police have estimated that it cost the department

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guard details added up to \$168,776.

These figures do not include the money spent by the sheriff's department in the guard detail, alteration of the jail to accommodate Ray or costs of preparation for the trial.

Police have estimated that it cost the department

\$301,491 in overtime and expenses for police officers in the handling of the riots and civil disorders resulting from the garbage strike and the marches and riots at the time of Dr. King's slaying.

Costs given here by Chief Lux do not, of course, include the vast sum of money spent by the FBI and the

federal government in tracking down James Earl Ray, convicted slayer of Dr. King.