

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

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 JAMES E. PERRY, Assistant Vice President and Buyer, Stratton-Warren Hardware Company, 37 East Carolina, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished the following information:

PERRY examined a color photograph of the pliers which were found along with other items in front of Canipe Amusement Company on South Main Street shortly after the fatal shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Mr. PERRY stated that he had been in the hardware business for 42 years and had never seen or stocked any pliers exactly like the ones in the photograph. He was unable to state a specific use for these pliers. Mr. PERRY advised that they appeared to be of foreign manufacture.

Mr. PERRY then examined a color photograph of a hammer and other items which were recovered as above and advised that the hammer appeared to be a magnetic tack hammer which would be principally used by a upholsterer. Mr. PERRY advised that until a number of years ago, it would not be uncommon for such a hammer to be in use around any home, since householders frequently purchased these hammers to repair window screens. PERRY stated that the hammer has not been in such general use since the advent of aluminum screen frames which appeared shortly following World War II.

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987-Sub-D-12
 by SA THOMAS L. BUCKLEY:wp Date dictated 4/13/68

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