

REPORT  
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Memphis  
Re: MURKIN

Date: April 18, 1968  
FBI File 44-38861  
Lab. No. PC-A5530 BX GH J

Specimens received

4/8/68

CLOTHING FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Q76 Shirt  
Q77 Necktie  
Q78 Suit coat  
Q79 Trousers  
Q80-Q81 Pair of socks  
Q82 Undershorts  
Q83 Undershirt  
Q84-Q85 Pair of shoes

Results of examination:

There is a large hole in the right front portion of the collar of the Q76 shirt. The Q77 necktie has been forcibly torn apart in the right front neck portion also. The object or objects causing the damage were larger than a bullet of .30 caliber size and irregular in shape as all of the yarns were broken, not cut. One or more segments of bone could not be eliminated as the cause of the damage.

The right lapel of the Q78 coat has three damaged areas on the surface of the fabric. These areas have been torn by some object or objects, but the damage does not extend through the lapel. The torn areas vary from  $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 1" in length and the condition of the yarn indicates the object or objects struck the coat from above and probably glanced off the coat.

Due to the sizes and ragged edges of the damaged areas of the Q76 shirt, Q77 necktie and Q78 suit coat, it was not possible to recognize any bullet holes or to

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(continued on next page)

RAF:jc (9)

44-38861

Bulky  
5586

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
LABORATORY

- 1 - Mr. Tolson
- 1 - Mr. Boardman
- 1 - Mr. Nichols
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Casper
- 1 - Mr. Callahan
- 1 - Mr. Conrad
- 1 - Mr. Felt
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Tavel
- 1 - Mr. Trotter
- 1 - Tele. Room
- 1 - Miss Holmes
- 1 - Miss Gandy

determine from visual examination whether or not a bullet or any bullet fragments had passed through or struck these items.

No bullet holes were found in Q79 through Q85.

The edges of the hole torn in the Q76 shirt collar, the edges of the three tears on the collar of the Q78 suit coat and the material near the ends of the Q77 necktie were contaminated with traces of lead which could have come from a bullet or from bullet fragments. The lead contamination of these items could not be associated with a particular bullet or lead source.

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

... through Q77 and Q78 ...

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RAF:gc (8)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

4/4/68

**AIRTEL**

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI**  
**ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY**

**FROM: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987) (P)**

**SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka**  
**John Willard;**  
**MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. -**  
**VICTIM**  
**CR**

**(OO Memphis)**

Submitted herewith in separate enclosure is the clothing Dr. KING wore at the time of the shooting. This was removed at St. Joseph Hospital in Memphis and brought to the Memphis PD by Det. E. S. BERKLEY, Memphis PD, and turned over to SAC ROBERT G. JENSEN. Preliminary examination indicates what appears to be bullet entry in collar of shirt and collection of large amounts of blood on clothing. This being submitted to Laboratory as possibility exists it may determine point of entry at which bullet entered KING's body. Laboratory also conduct serology examination and any other examination deemed appropriate by Laboratory.

③ - Bureau (Enc 1) (AIR FREIGHT)  
1 - Memphis  
RGJ:mnr  
(4)

## Collogher's Deck

The edges of the hole torn in the Q76 shirt collar, the edges of the three tears on the collar of the Q78 suit jacket and the material near the torn ends of the K27 necktie were contaminated with traces of lead which could have come from a bullet or <sup>from bullet fragments,</sup> the lead contaminating these items could not be associated with a particular bullet or lead source.