

REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Memphis

Date: April 17, 1968

FBI File No.

Re: MURKIN

Lab. No.

Specimens received

For a listing of the evidence  
see attached pages.

DELIVERED APRIL 5, 1968 BY

MEMPHIS OFFICE

Submitted by Airtel #1 as recovered by Inspector N. E. Zachary,  
Memphis Police Department in vicinity of 424 South Main Street:

- Q1 Rifle box for Browning .243 Winchester caliber rifle,  
Serial Number 4744Z5
- Q2 .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington "Gamemaster" slide-  
action rifle, Model 760, Serial Number 461476, with Redfield  
telescope sight, Serial Number A17350, with clip
- Q3 .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington-Peters cartridge case
- Q4-Q12 Nine .30-06 Springfield caliber cartridges (five Remington-  
Peters and four R-A-55) in Peters cartridge box, Index  
Number 3033
- Q13 Large green and brown cloth

Submitted by Airtel #2 as recovered by Inspector N. E. Zachary,  
Memphis Police Department in vicinity of 424 South Main Street:

- Q14 "Banner" binocular (Bushnell) 7 by 35, Serial Number DQ40S664  
(allegedly in zipper bag when recovered)
- Q15 Zipper bag

ITEMS FROM OUTSIDE COMPARTMENT OF ZIPPER BAG

- Q16 Duck-bill pliers and tack hammer marked "MAGNETIC"
- Q17 Box of "BAND-AID sheer strips"
- Q18 Georgia-Alabama Standard Oil map
- Q19 "Commercial Appeal" Memphis newspaper, first  
section only, issue of April 4, 1968
- Q20 Standard Oil map of the United States

ITEM INSIDE ZIPPER BAG, IN POCKET

- Q21 Partial roll of toilet paper

ITEMS LOOSE INSIDE ZIPPER BAG

- Q22 Binocular case with instruction booklet, lens cloth and guarantee card
- Q23 Binocular box, cardboard
- Q24 "Gillette" travel kit purchased at Oliver Rexall Store, Whitehaven, price \$1.89, with razor, lotion shaving cream, deodorant, hair cream and razor blade in dispenser
- Q25 Gray paper sack bearing marking "YORK ARMS CO." with receipt dated 4-4-68 in amount of \$41.55
- Q26 White and yellow towel
- Q27 White handkerchief
- Q28 Tube of "Colgate" toothpaste
- Q29-Q30 Pair of black socks
- Q31 Seven-ounce can of "RIGHT GUARD" deodorant
- Q32 Channel Master radio
- Q33 Bottle of "EUFFERIN"
- Q34 Elastic belt
- Q35 Tube of "ERYLCREEM"
- Q36 Bottle of "ONE A DAY" vitamins
- Q37 Small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap
- Q38 Hairbrush
- Q39 Bar of "dial" soap, bath size
- Q40 Tube of "Head & Shoulders" shampoo



ITEMS LOOSE INSIDE ZIPPER BAG (continued)

- Q41 Can of brown "KIWI" boot polish
- Q42 Can of "PALMOLIVE RAPID-SHAVE" shaving cream
- Q43 Gray-brown button (in sack with beer)
- Q44 Black button (in sack with beer)
- Q45 Toothbrush, "Pepsodent"
- Q46 Safety razor, without blade
- Q47 Plastic bottle of "MENNEN afta" lotion
- Q48 Small bar of "Cameo" toilet soap
- Q49 Small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap, bearing advertisement of Friendship Inns
- Q50-Q51 Two bobby pins
- Q52-Q53 Two cans of "Schlitz" beer, pull tab
- Q54 Plastic "six-pack" carrying device
- Q55 Brown paper sack (containing beer)
- Q56 Small brown paper sack, empty
- Q57 Key
- Q58 Toothpick
- Q59 Metal ring
- Q60-Q61 Two coat hangers
- Q62 Two links from "ADJUST-O" watchband
- Q63 Gray-brown button

Submitted by Airtel #3:

Q64 Bullet from body

Q65 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963A,  
Serial Number F14002844A

Q66 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963A,  
Serial Number H16164663A

Q67 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963,  
Serial Number F06445143A

Q68 Fingerprint card for Bessie Ruth Brewer

Results of examination:

FIREARMS - TOOLMARKS EXAMINATIONS

The serial number on the black rifle box, Q1, was determined to be 4744Z5. This box originally contained a .243 Winchester caliber Browning rifle.

The Q3 cartridge case was identified as having been fired in the Q2 rifle. The only marks found on Q3, other than marks made during manufacturing procedures, were one extractor mark which was identified as having been made by the extractor of the Q2 rifle and the marks left on Q3 by the Q2 rifle when Q3 was fired.

The bullet, Q64, from the victim, is a .30 caliber metal-jacketed "soft-point" sporting type bullet of Remington-Peters manufacture which was fired from a barrel rifled with six lands and grooves, right twist. Based on the physical characteristics of the general rifling impressions, the Q64 bullet could have been fired from the Remington rifle, Q2. The Q64 bullet has been distorted due to mutilation and insufficient marks of value for identification remain on this bullet. Therefore, it was not possible to determine whether or not Q64 was fired from the Q2 rifle.

The Q64 bullet is identical in all remaining observable physical characteristics to the 150 grain bullets in the five loaded .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington-Peters cartridges, Q4 through Q8.

Based on physical characteristics, specimen Q64 and the cartridge case, Q3, could originally have been portions of the same cartridge, which would be the same as the Q4 through Q8 cartridges. No marks are present on Q64 of the type which would permit determining positively whether or not the Q64 bullet was originally a portion of the cartridge represented by Q3.

The five cartridges, Q4 through Q8, conform in description to the type of cartridges packaged by the manufacturer in the Peters cartridge box in which they were submitted. Because of the manner in which cartridges are boxed at the factory, it is not possible to determine whether or not the cartridge represented by Q3 or any of the



Q4 through Q8 cartridges were packaged in the same box by the manufacturer.

The Peters cartridge box in which Q4 through Q8 were submitted also contained four U. S. Military cartridges, containing full-metal jacketed 150 grain bullets, different from Q64. The manufacturer's headstamp on these cartridges is "R A 55." The "R A" indicates that these cartridges were manufactured by Remington Arms Company, Incorporated, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Cartridges bearing "55" are those normally manufactured in 1955.

Examination of the four cartridges, Q9 through Q12, revealed no marks indicating these cartridges had ever been loaded into a weapon. The only marks on these cartridges appear to be marks produced by the manufacturer's machines and marks of the type produced by metal-link ammunition belts of the type used with machine guns. The link belt marks on Q9 through Q12 are suitable for comparison with the metal links from which the cartridges were withdrawn. In metal-link belts, each cartridge serves to hold adjacent links together. As each cartridge is withdrawn, a link (which is expendable) separates from the rest of the belt.

No aluminum, screen-type scratches, paint, wood or other foreign material was found on the muzzle or side of the barrel of the Q2 rifle.

No record was located in the National Stolen Property Index or the National Crime Information Center for a Browning rifle, Serial Number 4744Z5, as originally contained in Q1; for the Q2 rifle; for a Redfield 2X-7X variable telescope sight, Serial Number A17350 (which is mounted on Q2), or for the Bushnell binocular, Q14, Serial Number DQ408664.

No serial number which would facilitate tracing was found on the Weaver telescope sight mount and base on Q2. The screws used to secure the sight tube to the mount were "finger" tight. No tool was required to loosen them and no toolmarks of value for comparison are present.

The magnification setting of the telescope sight tube was "6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x" when the C2 rifle was received. Therefore, objects viewed would be enlarged to approximately 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  times normal size.

2x 0200/x



Part of an April 47 FBI report which plays the same games with the ballistics evidence still without identifying the precise bullet that was lethal of the nine the one manufacturer makes concludes with an Orwellian commentary on the telescopic sight.

First it says <sup>p.6</sup> that the sight was only finger tight, which means not adjusted for the first shot would have knocked it out of adjustment.

Each sight has to be sighted in the the individual shooter, as the manufacturers instructions say and as riflemen know. It

It also discloses the use of no tool to tighten the screw. Which tightens the screws on the FBI.

Then, in the straightfaced way the FBI has of covering itself, it says "the magnification setting" was 6 1/2. Well, the FBI doesn't answer questions for me. Not even in federal court. So I phoned my local gunshop and was told that for that scope the correct setting for a 300 foot target was 2, not 6 1/2.