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4/30/68

Lieutenant A. S. ZELINSKI, Inspectional Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that he and Lieutenant J. L. HARRISON met Memphis City Engineer ARTHUR C. HOLBROOK, P. E., Tennessee License No. 5173, and a surveying crew at the Lorraine Motel on April 23, 1968, at 8:30 a.m. Certain engineering measurements were subsequently taken.

Lieutenant ZELINSKI advised that an engineer's transit was placed over the spot where Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was shot, the telescope being positioned 59 inches above the balcony floor. This height was based on information contained in the autopsy report of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which indicated that the missile entered his body at a point 59 inches above the right heel with the head positioned to correspond with the path of the missile. He stated that the point where Dr. KING was standing when shot was indicated to them by Reverend JAMES BEVEL, a representative of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, who was staying at the Lorraine Motel.

From this position, two triangles were established with a baseline common to the two triangles established and measured. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. It was determined that the level distance from the second floor rear bathroom window sill of 422½ South Main Street to the point where Dr. KING was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel was 206.36 feet and the in-line distance from the window sill to the point where Dr. KING was standing was 207.02 feet. The window sill at the rear of 422½ South Main was determined to be 16.63 feet higher than a point 59 inches above the floor of the balcony of the Lorraine Motel at the location Dr. KING was standing when he was shot. The downward angle of the direct in-line distance from the second floor window sill at the rear of 422½ South Main to a point 59 inches above the balcony of the Lorraine Motel at the point where Dr. KING was standing was determined to be 4 degrees 36 minutes 25 seconds.

44-38861-5586

16 ³/₄" back of front edge of balcony
45 ³/₄" } from front edge of balcony
4' 5 ³/₄" }

LEVEL OF
WINDOW SILL
AT REAR OF
422½ SOUTH
MAIN ST.

16.63

APPROXIMATE PATH OF BULLET

207.02'

LEVEL LINE

206.36'

4° 36' 25"

BULLET
STUCK
MARTIN LUTHER
KING AT THIS
POINT
(59" above
balcony floor)

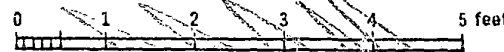
LORRAINE
MOTEL

59"

LEVEL OF
BALCONY FLOOR

SCALE

1" = 20'



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- HOLBROOK SURVEY OF TRAJECTORY
OF MURKIN BULLET
- PHOTOSTAT OF COVER LETTER

ENTIRE FILE REVIEWED
FOR HISTORICAL
DECLASSIFICATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/23/01 BY SP/CLP/JS

EVIDENCE

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.**