Entry 4: Firearms Report

August 15, 20XX-1.

State Bureau of Law Enforcement
Division of Local Law Enforcement Assistance
J. Edgar Hooper Building
Georgetown, State of Major

TO: Hon. Roy Rodgers
Camden County Sheriff
Camden City, Major

ATTN: Inv. Fred Durkin

FROM: Ed Armor, Firearms Examiner

RE: GARY GOODMAN

Murder & Attempted Murder
MOE HELTON & JOHN ELDER
Lincoln County, May 1, 20XX-1
SBLE Case No. 94100377
Agency Case No. BR-549.

REFERENCE:

This report has reference to items received in this laboratory on May 3, 20XX-1 from Inv. Fred Durkin.

EXHIBITS: DESCRIPTION

A One .38 spl. caliber S&W double action revolver, Model 36, commonly called a Chief’s Special, SN 11235813

B Five fired .38 spl caliber Remington cartridge cases

C One fired lead bullet marked as recovered from JOHN ELDER by FRED DURKIN

D On fired lead bullet marked as removed from floor near body of MOE HELTON by FRED DURKIN

E One fired lead bullet marked as “bullet #2 removed from inshoot C” on the body of MOE HELTON by TAVIS WOOD and turned over to FRED DURKIN

F One fired lead bullet marked “bullet #1 removed from inshoot A” on the body of MOE HELTON by TAVIS WOOD and turned over to FRED DURKIN
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G  One fired lead bullet marked as “bullet #3 removed from inshoot B” on the body of MOE HELTON by TAVIS WOOD and turned over FRED DURKIN

H  One black leather jacket marked as removed from body of MOE HELTON by TAVIS WOOD and turned over to FRED DURKIN

I  One outside shirt marked as recovered from JOHN ELDER by FRED DURKIN

RESULTS:

EXHIBIT A:

This revolver was test fired using laboratory ammunition and was found to be in working order. The trigger pull was determined to be approximately 3 pounds single action and 10 pounds double action.

EXHIBIT B:

These cartridge casings were microscopically compared with casings known to be fired from the revolver, Exhibit A. These cartridge casings were fired in the Exhibit A revolver.

EXHIBITS C-G:

These bullets were microscopically compared with tests fired from the Exhibit A revolver. Exhibits C, E, F, and G were identified as having been fired from Exhibit A. While the class characteristics on the Exhibit D bullet are the same as on the Exhibit A revolver, Exhibit D could not be positively identified as having been fired from Exhibit A due to the damaged condition of Exhibit D.

EXHIBIT H:

Examination and chemical processing of the three questioned holes in the lower center and right back portion of this jacket revealed the presence of propellant powder residue. Range tests were conducted using Exhibit A and suitable ammunition. For reference, the questioned holes will be referred to as Holes 1, 2, and 3, with the hole farthest left being denominated 1 and the hole farthest right being denominated 3. Characteristics around the questioned Hole H-1 were consistent with those produced when the muzzle-to-garment distance is between 12 to 24 inches.

Examination and chemical processing of the Holes H-2 and H-3 revealed that lead residue consistent with bullet wipe was found only around the edges of the holes. This is indicative of
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the firearm being fired at a distance beyond which it would normally deposit propellant powder residue. The range tests conducted with Exhibit A revealed it ceases to deposit such residue at a distance beyond two feet.

EXHIBIT I:

Examination and chemical processing around the questioned hole in this shirt revealed characteristics consistent with those produced when the muzzle of the firearm Exhibit A is within 12 inches of the material at the time of discharge.

REMARKS:

These exhibits are now available for pickup.

Ed Armor
Ed Armor
Ed Armor, Senior Crime Laboratory Analyst