AT 44-880

DR. WALTER D. MARTIN was interviewed on June 6, 1958, at which time he furnished the following signed statement:

"Dawson, Ga. June 6, 1958

"I, Dr. WALTER D. MARTIN, make the following free and voluntary statement to JAMES J. WARD and HENRY L. BURGETT who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that I do not have to make any statement and that any statement that I make may be used in a court of law. No threats or promises of reward have been made to me to cause me to make this statement.

"I am presently a practicing physician in Dawson, Ga.

"During the evening hours of May 23, 1958 I had occasion to examine TOBE LATIMER, a colored man, who was brought to the Terrell County Hospital, Dawson, Ga. suffering from a gunshot wound.

"I examined LATIMER and found that he was shot about 1½" left of the anus. The bullet hit the thight bone almost at the hip joint and was deflected and lodged about 6 to 8 inches below the hip on the lateral side of the thigh.

"The bullet was not removed at that time due to LATIMER going into shock and possible hemorhage.

"LATIMER made only one remark 'The Law shot me'

"Officer CHERRY stated that LATIMER had some whiskey, he tried to throw the bottle on the ground to break it however it did not break. CHERRY further stated that both he and LATIMER were trying to get the bottle. CHERRY stated that he grabbed LATIMER to keep him from getting the bottle. CHERRY stated that LATIMER grabbed him around the knees and legs.

"CHERRY stated that he told LATIMER to turn loose or he would shoot him. CHERRY stated that LATIMER grabbed at his arm or his gun or reached in that direction.

"CHERRY stated that he thought he would shoot LATIMER in the thigh or leg to wound him to get loose from him.

"The following day, Saturday, I removed the bullet from LATIMER's leg.

"I have read the above statement of this and two other pages and find it to be true and correct.

/s/ WALTER D_MARTIN, M.D.

"Witnessed by: HENRY L. BURGETT, Special Agent, FBI, Atlanta, Ga. 6/6/58
JAMES J. WARD, Special Agent, FBI, Atlanta, Ga. 6/6/58."