

FBI

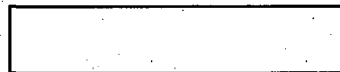
Evidence Response Team (ERT)



Citizens Academy New Orleans, Louisiana

March 25, 2008

Special Agent



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Senior Team Leader, ERT

The FBI's Mission

- Uphold the law
- Protect the U.S. from foreign intelligence and terrorist activities
- Provide leadership and law enforcement assistance
- Responsive to the U.S. Constitution



EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAMS

- ERTs were formed in the FBI in 1984
- Intended to provide field divisions the capability to conduct crime scene examinations and complex searches.
- ERTs are located in each FBI field office and employ complex state-of-the-art techniques to gather evidence of a criminal nature.
- ERTs employ a system of crime scene management, evidence recognition and proper collection techniques when processing crime scenes.

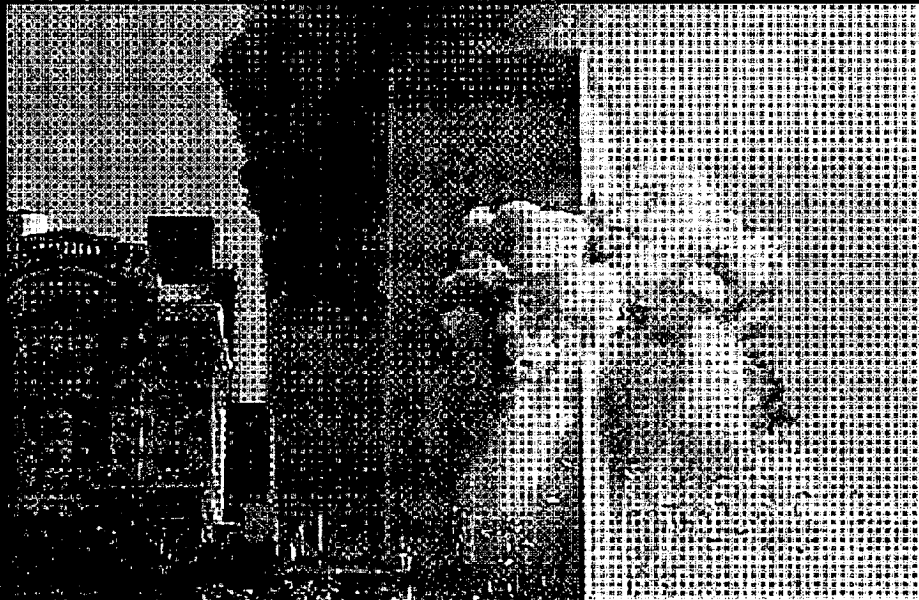
Evidence Response Teams

- Evidence Recovery Teams exist in every field office to be able to respond to crime scenes
- Teams consist of 8 members and depending on the size & needs of the office may have from 8 to 40 members
- Crime scenes are processed using a “team concept” and every team approaches every crime scene the same way using the same paperwork

ERT's Mission

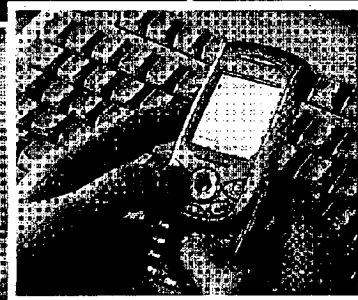
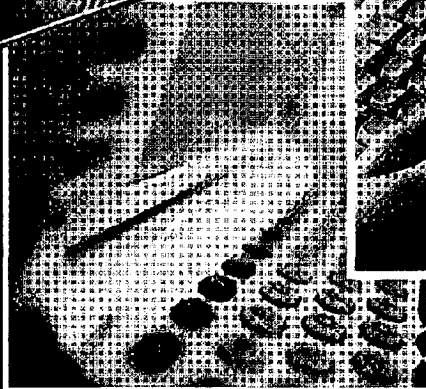
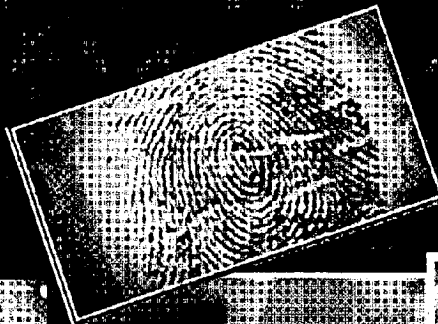
- To successfully investigate and prosecute crimes via the collection, preservation and forensic analysis of evidence
- ERTs are designed to gather evidence of a crime in an expert, competent, systematic way which is justifiable in a court of law.
- Gathering evidence from terrorist incidents both within and outside the U.S.
- The recovery and documentation of physical evidence (assist in Search Warrants)

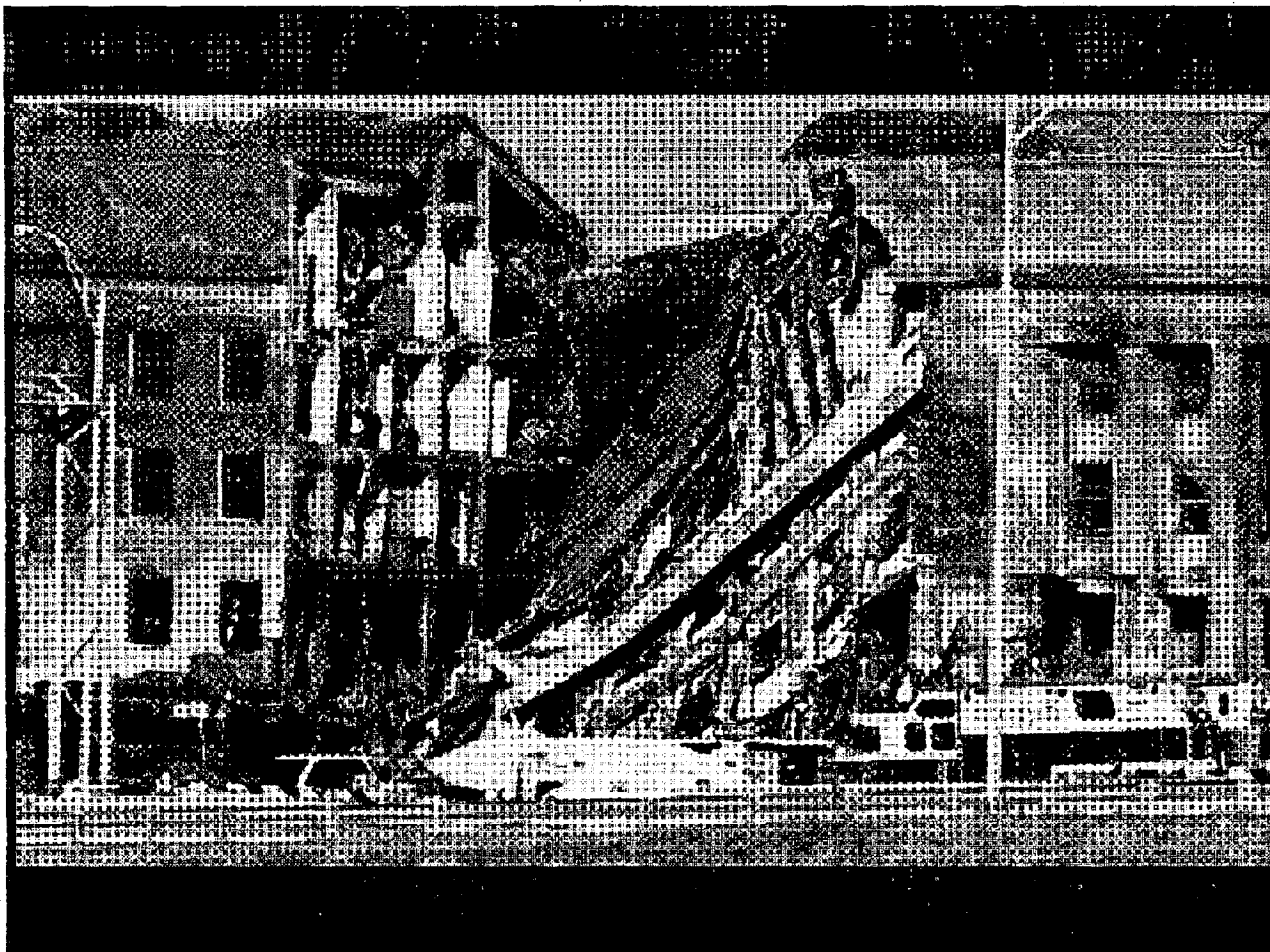
Why ERT?



Age of massive and complex crime scenes
often involving multiple jurisdictions

**Today's crimes are much more
complex and diverse**





Evidence Response Team Unit (ERTU)

The ERTU is one of five units
composing the Operational
Response Section of the FBI
Laboratory:

- Evidence Response Team Unit
- Hazardous Materials Response Unit
- Explosives Unit
- Photographic Operations and Imaging Services Unit
- Chemical/Biological Sciences Unit



ERTU Mission: Training...

- *ERT Basic Crime Scene Course*
 - *Two week course*
 - *Taught as the foundation course to all new ERT members, 24 - 32 students per class*
 - *Taught by ERTU Instructors, Lab Examiners and field office ERT members*



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ERTU Mission: Training...

ERT Basic Crime Scene Course teaches:

Crime Scene Management

Documentation

Search Techniques

Evidence Issues

Recovery

Packaging

Preservation

Forensic Skills

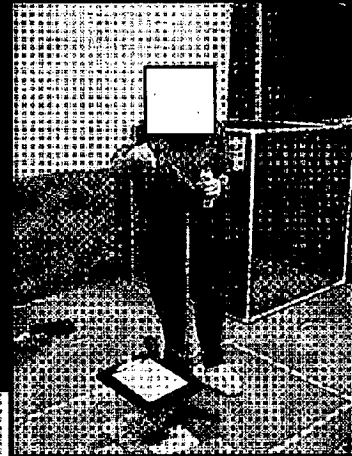


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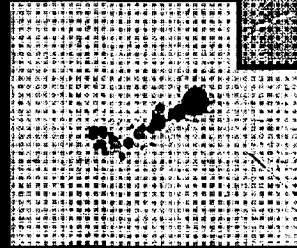
ERTU Mission: Training...

ERT Advanced Courses:

- ***Forensic Anthropology***
- ***Advanced Photography***
- ***Shooting Trajectory Analysis***
- ***Digital Evidence Collection***
- ***Bloodstain Pattern Analysis and Bloodstain Detection***



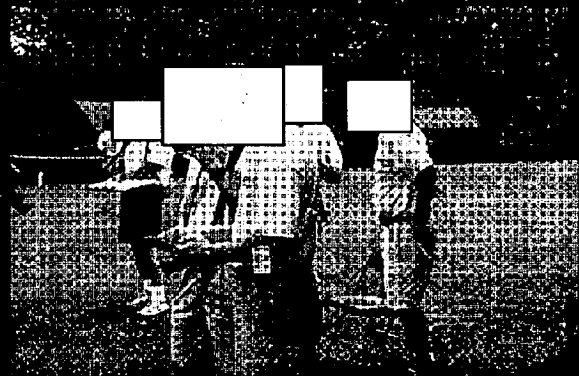
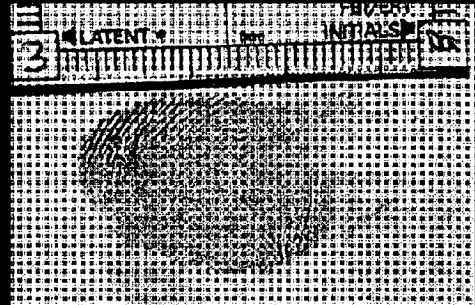
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ERTU Mission: Training...

ERT Advanced Courses:

- ***Advanced Latent Fingerprints***
- ***Advanced Sketching***
- ***Digital Diagramming***
- ***Post-Blast Investigations***
- ***Arson Investigations***



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ERT Missions: Support...

➤ National and International Special Events

- 2002 Winter Olympics
- 2004 Summer Olympics

➤ On-Scene Support –

- SNIPEMUR
- AMERITHRAX
- Space Shuttle Columbia
- Selected bombings in Mideast nations
- Eric Rudolph's campsites in NC
- PENTTBOM
- Thailand Tsunami
- Hurricane Katrina
- Minn. Bridge Collapse

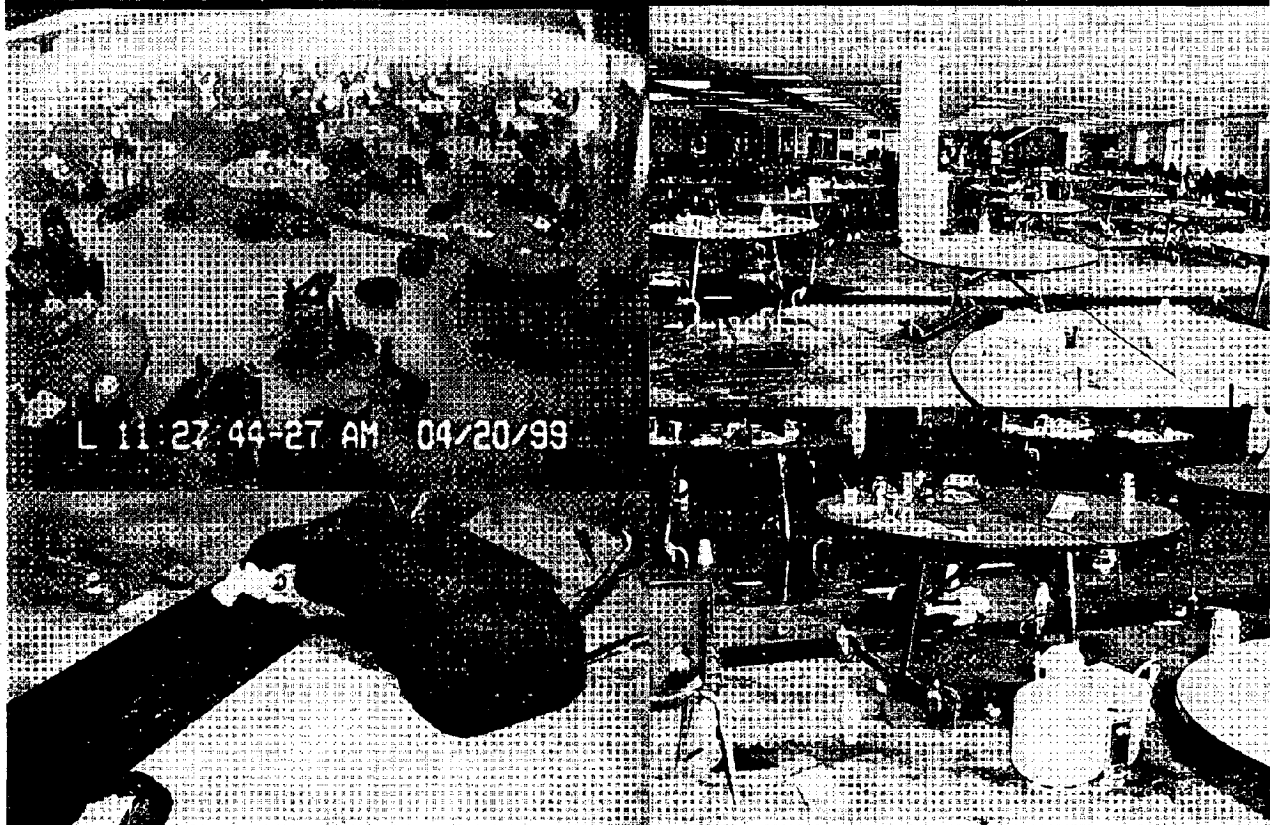


Columbine H.S. West Doors



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Columbine Cafeteria



EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAMS

SPECIALIZED TRAINING

Shooting Trajectory Analysis

Post-Blast Investigation

Recovery of Human Remains



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EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAMS

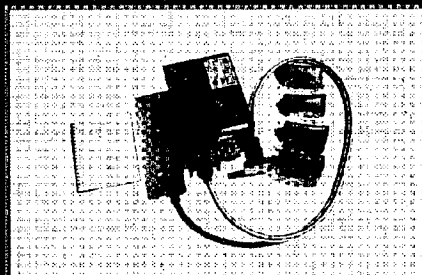
SPECIALIZED TRAINING

LATENT FINGERPRINT

SHOE IMPRESSION EVIDENCE



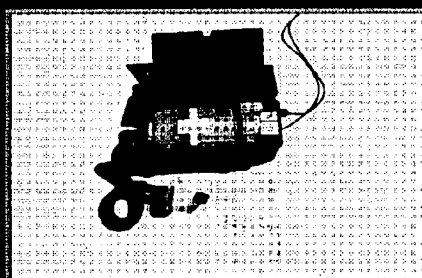
EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAMS



Alternate Light Source



TRACE EVIDENCE COLLECTION



Trace Evidence
Vacuum

ERT Dive Teams...

UNDERWATER SEARCH and EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAM (USERT)

➤ Four established teams:

USERT – New York

USERT – Miami

USERT – Los Angeles

USERT – WFO



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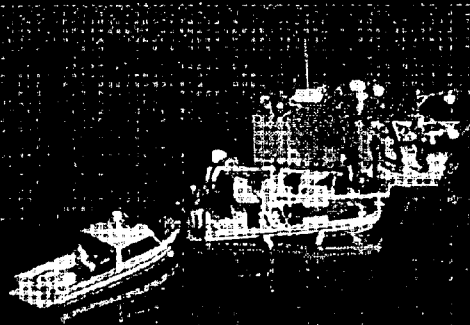
USERT...

UNDERWATER SEARCH and EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAM (USERT)

- Provides teams of certified divers
- Forensically trained
- Equipped with state-of-the-art professional dive team equipment
- Call-outs funded by ERTU

Teams provided nationally and internationally

- To assist federal, state,
and local law
enforcement agencies
- To conduct underwater
searches for evidence
and human remains



USERT Missions...

UNDERWATER SEARCH and EVIDENCE RESPONSE TEAM (USERT)

- Past successes include:
 - Recovery of four bodies in Russian Organized Crime Case (Los Angeles case)
 - Recovered from depths of 150 to 300 feet
 - Recovery of a pistol used in triple homicide (New Orleans)



ERT Mission: Support...

Human Scent Evidence Team

HSET

- **Provide canine/handler teams to assist federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.**
- **Blind-proficiency tested to ensure reliability.**



ERT Mission: Support...

Human Scent Evidence Team

HSET

- Specially trained human scent discriminating canines.
- Non-destructive scent collection techniques.
- Techniques to provide investigative leads by conducting scent-match checks.



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ERT Mission: Support...

Human Scent Evidence Team

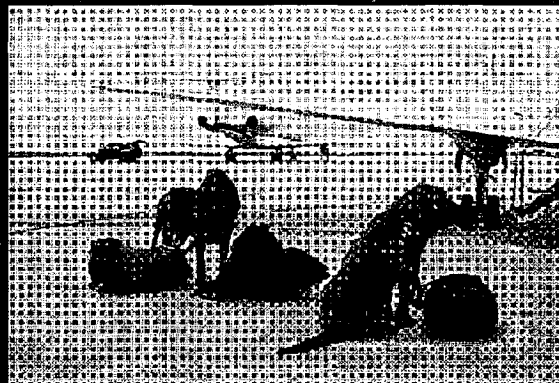
Human Remains Detection

- **Canine capable of scenting the odor of human decomposition.**
- **Can recognize decomposition odor in various forms (i.e. body, body parts, blood etc.)**
- **Buried or submerged under water.**

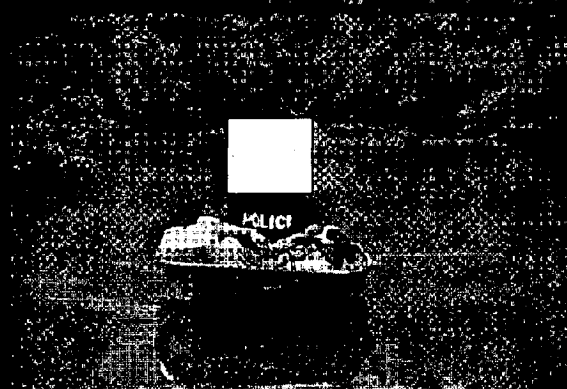


Forensic Canine Program

- Human Scent Evidence Team (HSET)
 - 3 Certified teams
 - 2 Teams in training



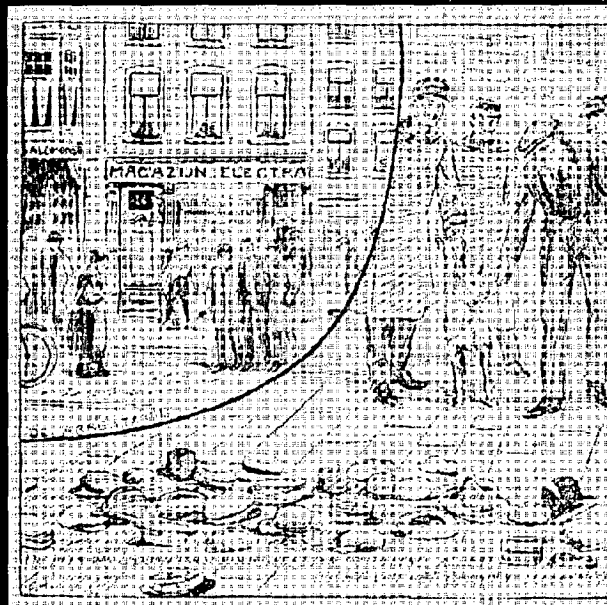
- Human Remains Detection Canines
 - 4 FBI Agent Teams
 - 1 Contractor



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Forensic Canine Program

- Many European nations have human scent evidence programs.
 - Human scent canines have been in use in Europe for over 100 years.
 - The collection and use of human scent evidence is routine throughout Europe.



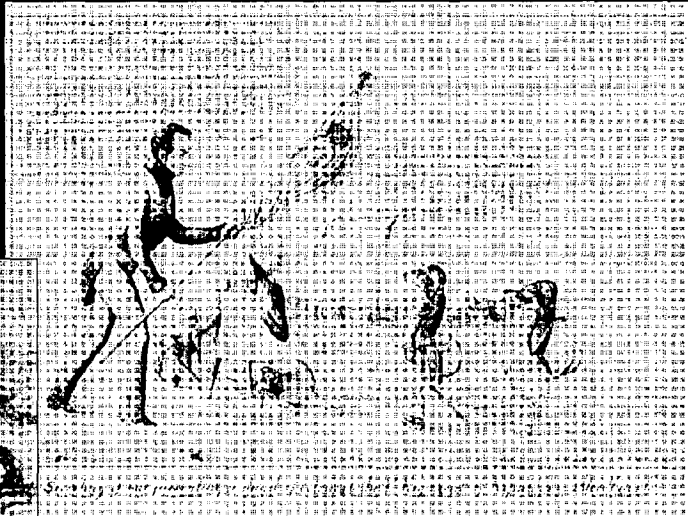
Forensic Canine Program

- Human scent canines have been used in the United States since the 1600s to chase Indians and fugitive slaves.



Sherman's March to the Sea - All bloodhounds are ordered killed.

Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper 1864



Purchase of Cuban bloodhounds for use during the Seminole Indian War

What The FBI Has Learned

Human Remains Detection Canines

- Non FBI certified canines proven ineffective in FBI investigations.
 - Poor training.
 - Specific to their own training aids.
 - Poor search location intelligence.

Human Scent: Evidence Canines

- FBI certified canines proven effective.
 - Science based
 - Non-traditional approach.
- Non-FBI canines ineffective for FBI investigations.
 - Folklore based.
 - Poor training.

Who Discovers the Body?

- 58.4% - Passerby
- 23.1% - Police
- 6.5% - Search Party
- 4.5% - Relative/Acquaintance
- 2.7% - Offender
- 1.8% - Witness to Death
- 1.6% - Fire Dept./Aid Crew

Case Management For Missing Children Homicide Investigation, K. Hanfland, et al, 1997

Which gangster reportedly said, "Don't shoot, G-Men, don't shoot!" as he surrendered to FBI agents, creating a nickname that became synonymous with our investigators and a fixture of the nation's popular imagination?

- a) John Dillinger**
- b) George "Machine Gun" Kelly**
- c) "Baby Face" Nelson**
- d) "Pretty Boy" Floyd**



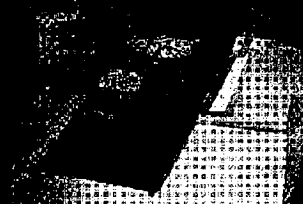
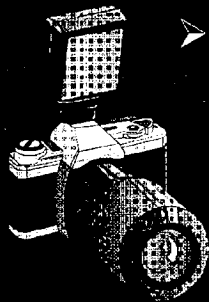


b) George "Machine Gun" Kelly

ERT Equipment...

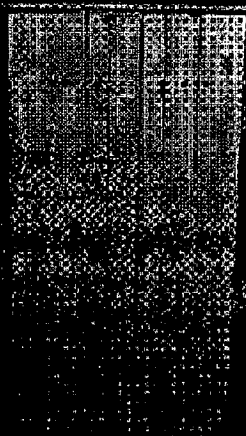
➤ ***Equipment Provided to all Field ERTs***

- *Alternate Light Sources*
- *Electrostatic Dust Print Lifters*
- *Laptop computers*
- *Professional quality film, digital and digital video cameras*
- *Explosives residue kits*
- *Superglue fuming system*
- *Drying cabinets*
- *RUVIS*



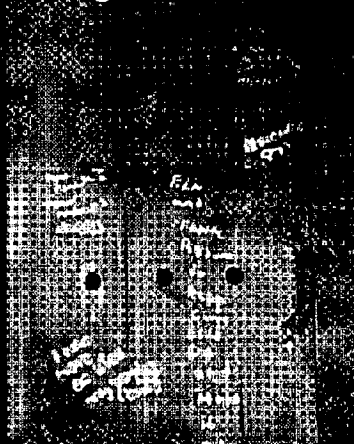
ERT Equipment...

Much of the equipment used by ERTs makes it possible to visualize evidence that could never be seen with our eyes alone.

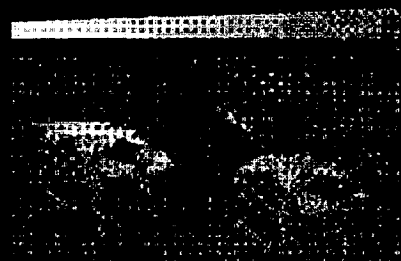


Normal view of door

*View of same door
using ALS*



Electrostatic Dust Print

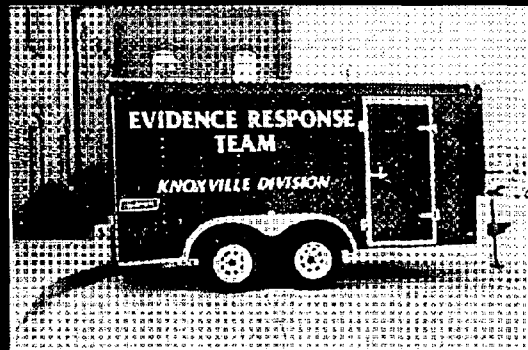


Luminol

ERT Equipment..

➤ **Equipment Provided to all Field ERTs**

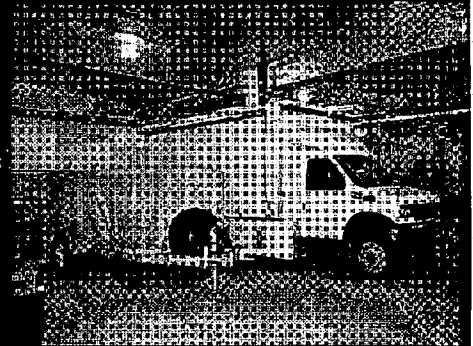
- **All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs)** for transporting equipment, supplies and personnel in rugged and rural areas
- **Sport Utility Vehicles** for transporting equipment and supplies
- **Trailers** for transporting equipment and supplies



ERT Equipment...

➤ Specialized Equipment Provided to Selected Field ERTs

- Nikon Total Stations
- Command Post Vehicles
- Tool Trucks for storing and transporting bulk crime scene supplies needed for major cases



- RUVIS (Reflective Ultraviolet Imaging System) for visual detection of latent fingerprints without powders

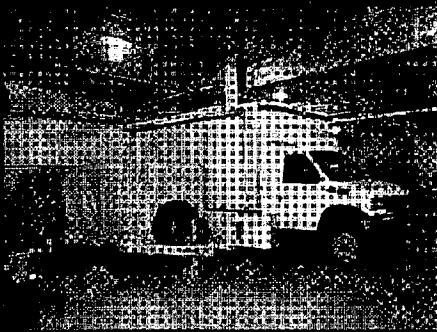
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ERT Equipment...

➤ ***Equipment Available for Special Deployments to field office ERTs***

DRASH Trailer System with insulated tents, large power generator, and cooling/heating system

Skid steers



ERT Space...

➤ Building dedicated ERT Space in FBI field offices nationwide



ERT & RDTs:

Provide rapid assistance and supplies

➤ **ERTU and its field components are an integral component of the FBI's Rapid Deployment Teams (RDTs)**

➤ **4 field office ERTs are part of the RDTs**

- New York ERT

- Miami ERT

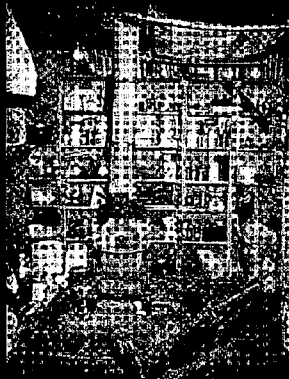
- Los Angeles ERT

- WFO ERT

➤ **ERTU maintains a warehouse stocked with additional supplies**

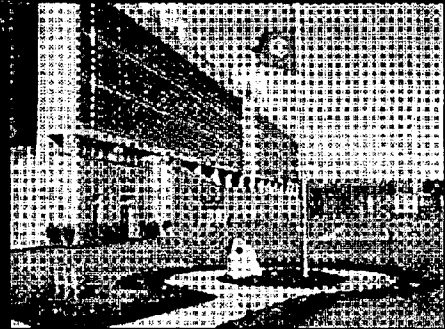
When A Crime Occurs:

There exists a scene containing the
evidence



of the crime...

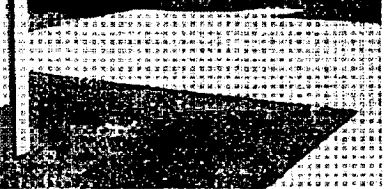
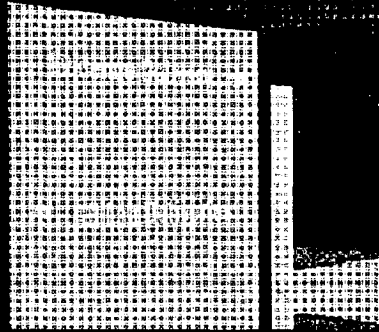
and



The crime laboratory ready to examine the
evidence for the information it contains.

But, there is a gap between the two.

*The gap between the crime scene and the
laboratory is filled by the work of the Evidence
Response Teams*



How does the evidence get from the crime scene to the lab?

- Someone must decide which items at the scene are evidence and which are not.
- Someone must decide how to properly collect the evidence, and then do it.
- Someone must properly document the original conditions at the scene and the work done to collect the evidence from the scene.
- Someone must be qualified and able to tell the jury how it was all done in order to have the evidence accepted into court.

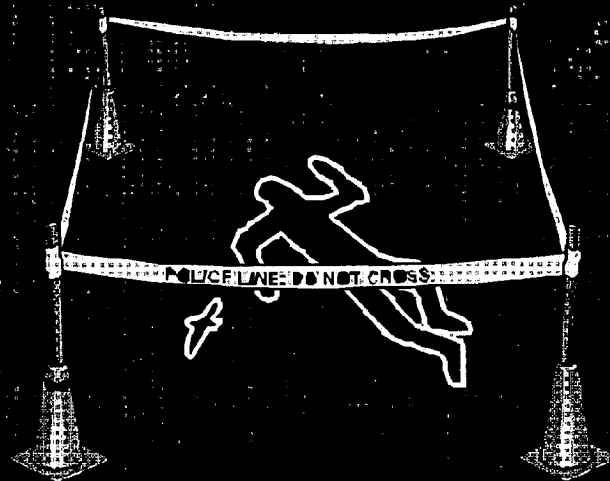
➤ERTs do all of the above!

Evidence Response Teams

Evidence Response Teams are designed to gather evidence of a crime in an expert, competent, and systematic manner, which is justifiable in a court of law. ERTs employ a team system of crime scene management, evidence recognition and proper collection techniques when processing crime scenes. This “Team” approach is the strength of ERT.

Evidence Recovery

Crime Scene Management



Which actor/actress hasn't played an FBI agent on the silver screen?

- a) Johnny Depp
- b) Sandra Bullock
- c) Denzel Washington
- d) Clint Eastwood
- e) They've all played agents

ERT: Twelve Step Program

1. Preparation
2. Approach scene
3. Secure and protect scene
4. Initiate preliminary survey
5. Evaluate physical evidence possibilities
6. Prepare narrative description
7. Depict scene photographically
8. Prepare diagram/sketch of scene
9. Conduct detailed search
10. Record and collect physical evidence
11. Conduct final survey
12. Release scene

Crime Scene Management

Personnel Assignments

- Team Leader
- Photographer and Photo Log Recorder
- Sketch Preparer
- Evidence Recorder/Custodian
- Evidence Recovery Personnel
- Specialists (as required)

Crime Scene Documentation



- 
- ✓ Administrative Worksheet
✓ Narrative Description
✓ Photo Log
✓ Diagram/sketch
✓ Evidence Recovery Log
✓ Latent Print Lift Log
✓ Other Forms

Support Mission: ...

➤ Developed ERT software

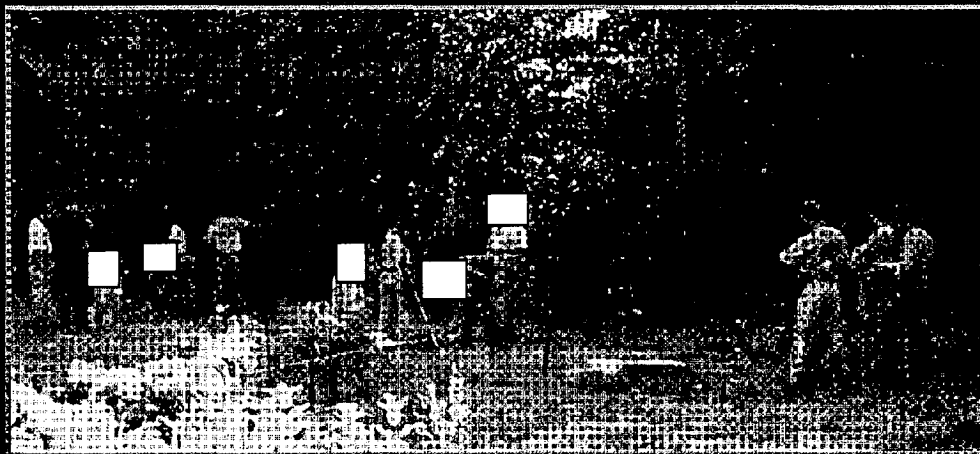
- For use at crime scenes by on-scene ERTs
- To collect all records and information related to the crime scene
- To provide printed records for use in the prosecution of the case



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Team Approach...

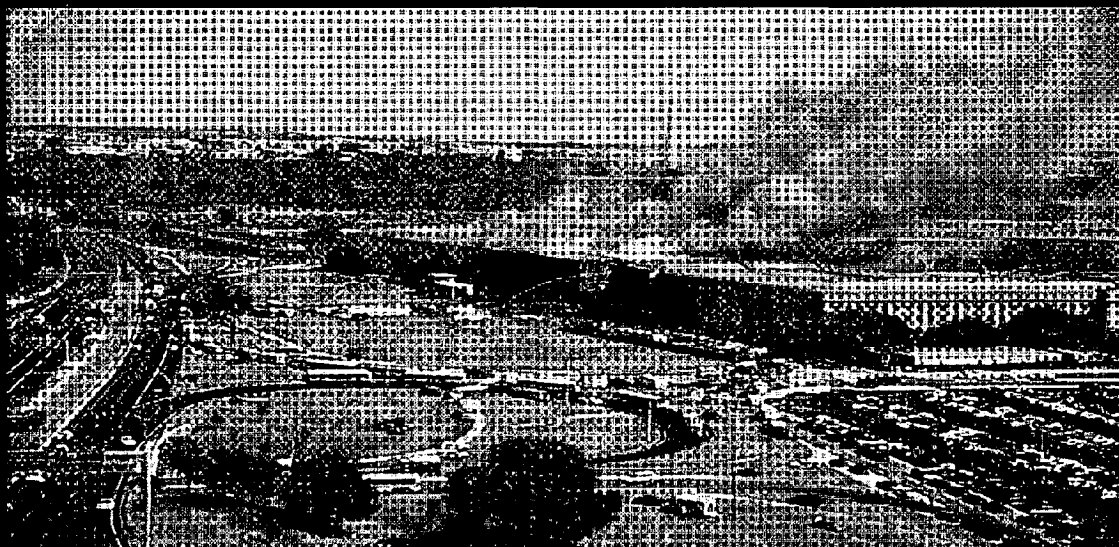
- Team Leader
- Photographer
- Sketch Preparer
- Evidence Custodian
- Evidence Recovery
- Specialists



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Team Leader

- Assume Control
- Control Access
- Initial Survey
- Release Scene



Photographer

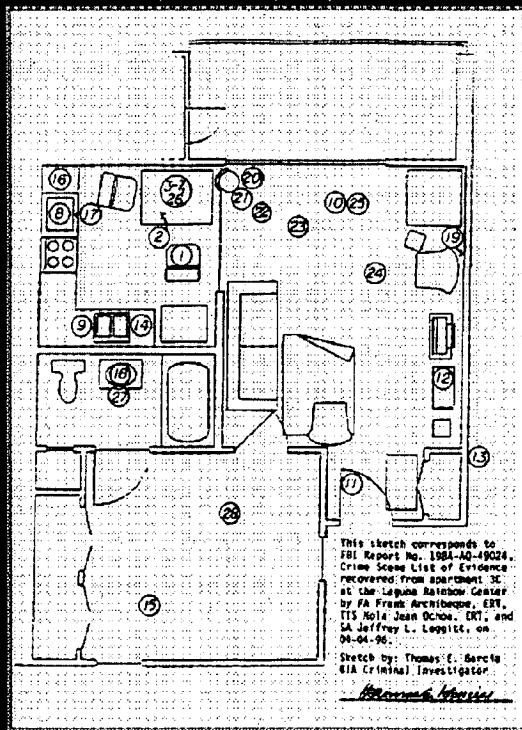


*Responsible for all
Photographs*

*Maintains Photo
Log*

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Sketch Preparer



- Orient sketch to north
- Designate names of rooms/areas
- Disclaimer (not to scale)
- Coordinate production of the final sketch

Evidence Recovery Personnel



- Adhere to safety precautions
- Initial and date all evidence
- Ensure all evidence has been photographed
- Report lead information to Team Leader

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Evidence Custodian/Recorder

- Prepare Evidence Log
- Coordinate evidence names and locations with sketcher
- Maintain custody and control of all evidence



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Evidence Custodian/Recorder



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Evidence Recovery Personnel

***Must stick to their
assigned responsibilities***

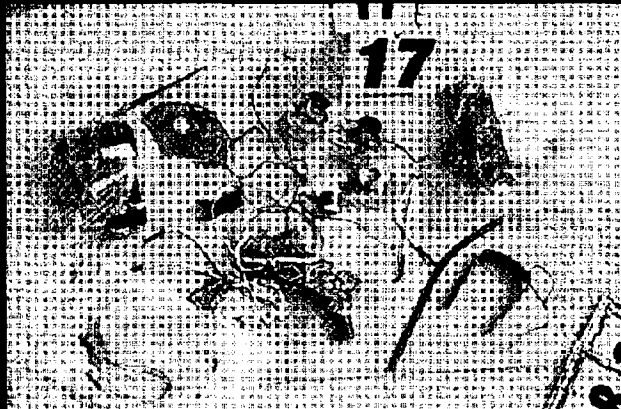


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Specialists



- CART Examiners
- Scientific Experts
 - Botanists
 - Entomologists
 - Anthropologists
- Industrial Specialists
- Bomb Technicians



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Determining Which Items to Collect

- Consider obtaining a similar vehicle for comparison purposes

Ryder truck used for comparison after the Oklahoma City Bombing 4/19/95

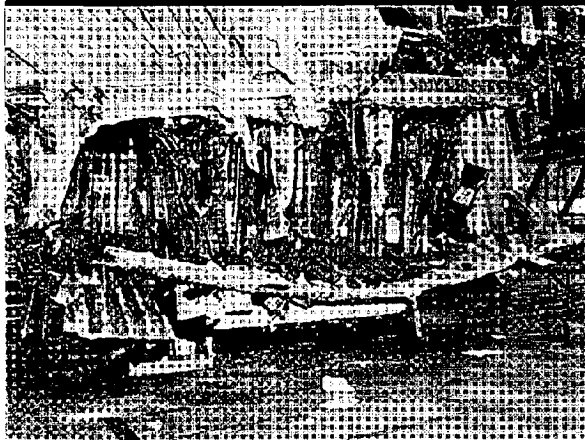


Command Post

- Physically located at the perimeter
- Incident Command System established at major crime scenes
- Point of contact for both outside and crime scene investigations
- Control point for access into the crime scene
- Provide for liaison with news media, command elements, etc.
- Provide logistical support

ERT - Major Cases

TWA FLIGHT 800 NEW YORK



ERT - Major Cases

World Trade Center, New York

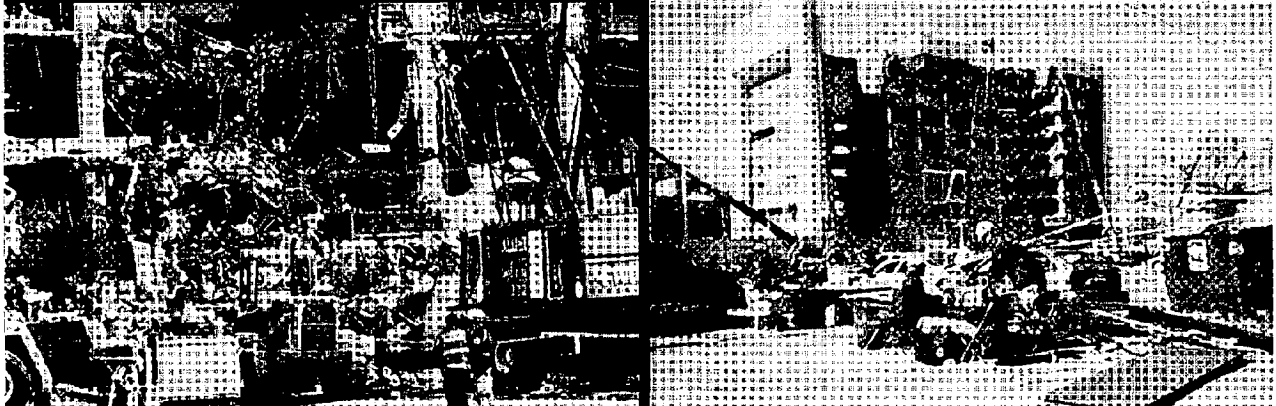


ERT - Major Cases

UNABOM – Cabin in Montana



ERT - Major Cases
OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING



MURRAH
FEDERAL BUILDING

ERT - Major Cases

EMBASSY BOMBING NAIROBI, KENYA

KHOBAR TOWERS BOMBING, SAUDI ARABIA

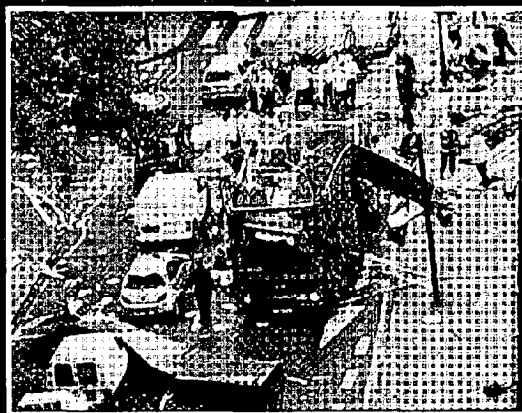


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ERT - Major Cases
US EMBASSY BOMBING
DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA



London Bombings

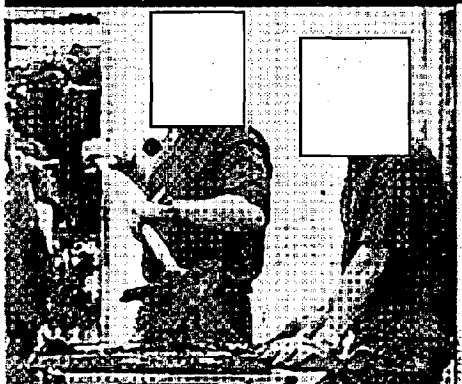


Riyadh

Madrid Bombing



ERT - Major Cases



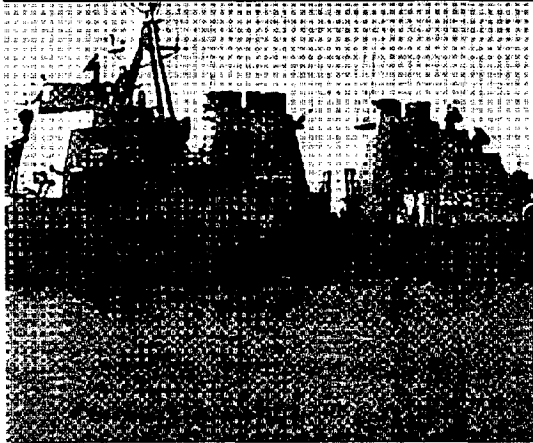
Kosovo
Mass Graves



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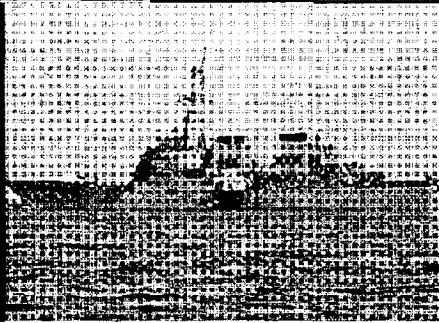
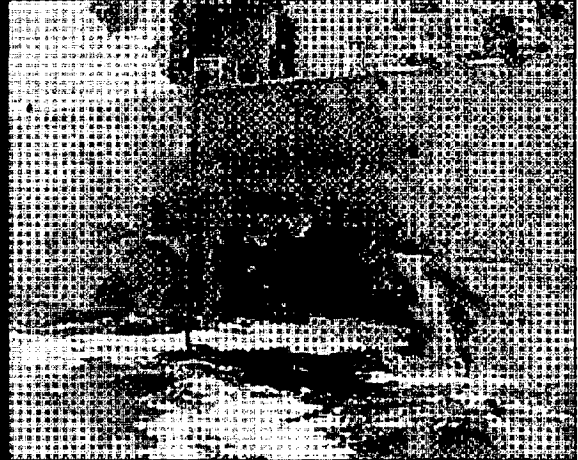


ERT - Major Cases



USS
COLE

(COURTESY US NAVY)



(NATIONAL SECURITY NEWS SERVICE)

MISSING CALL

ANDREW GOODMAN JAMES EARL RAY STEPHEN BARRY ROSENBERG



SHOULD YOU HAVE OR IN THE FUTURE RECEIVE ANY INFORMATION

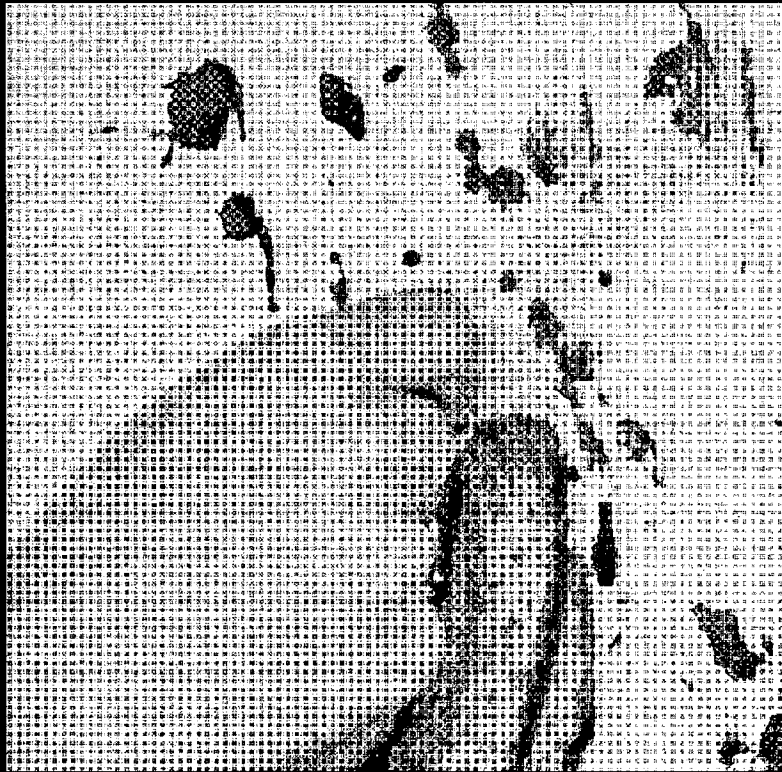


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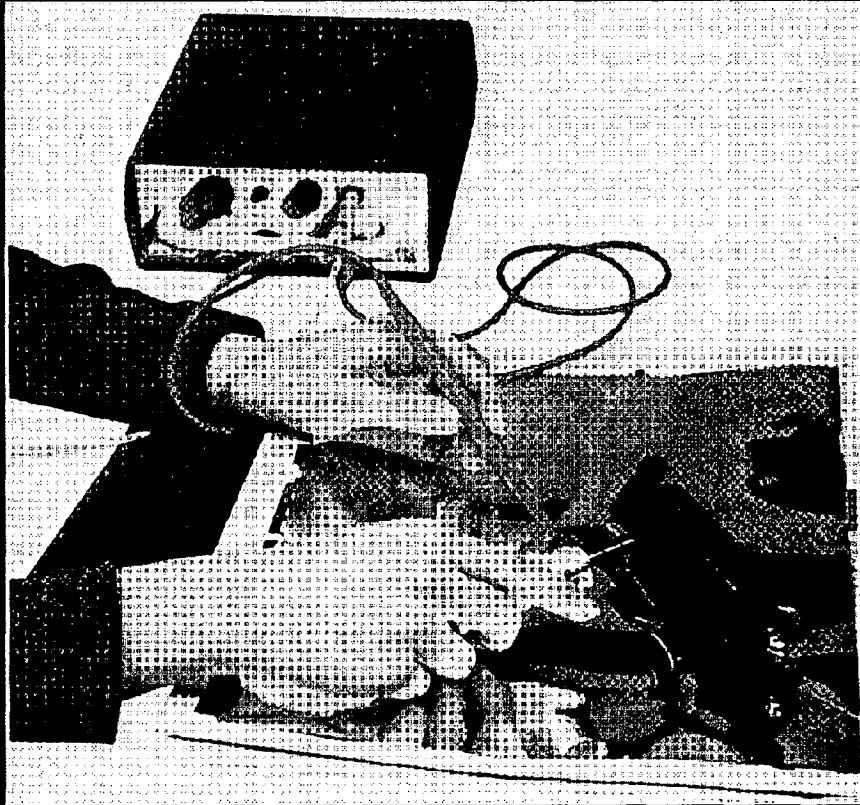
Dental Stone Casting



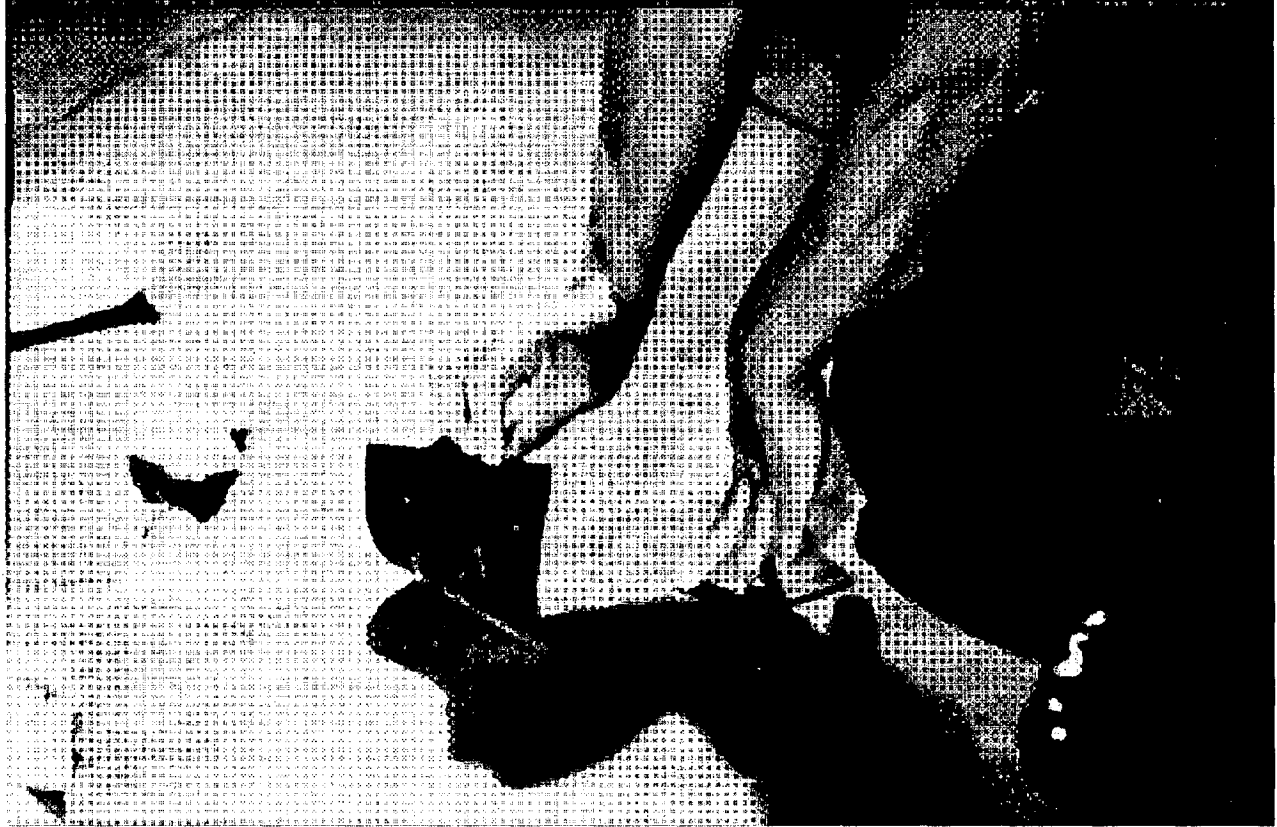
Blood Swabbing



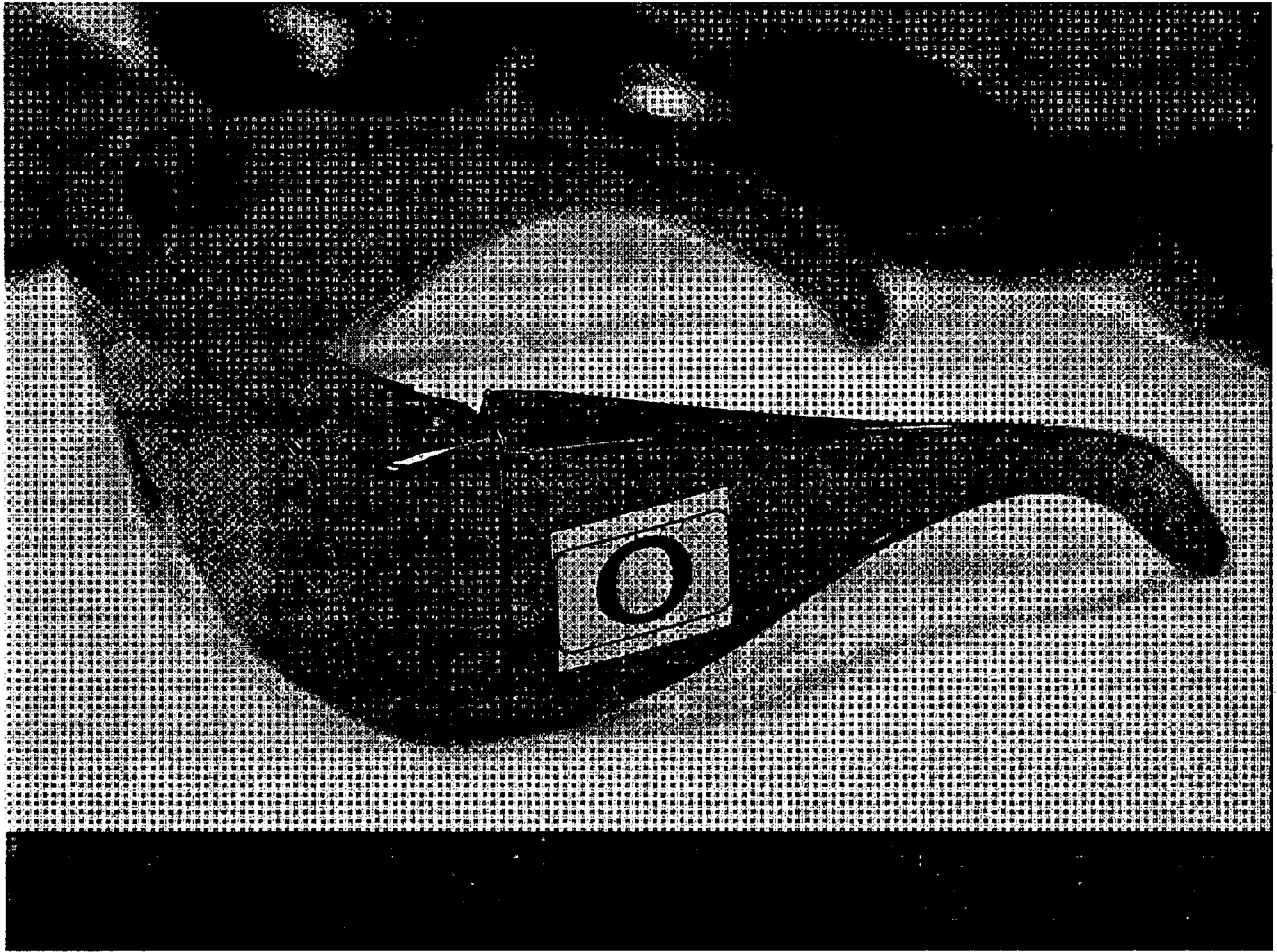
Electrostatic Dustprint Lifter



Rubber Lifter









Alternate Light Source (ALS)

Evidence and Grave Outline



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Evidence and Grave Outline



Begin Excavations



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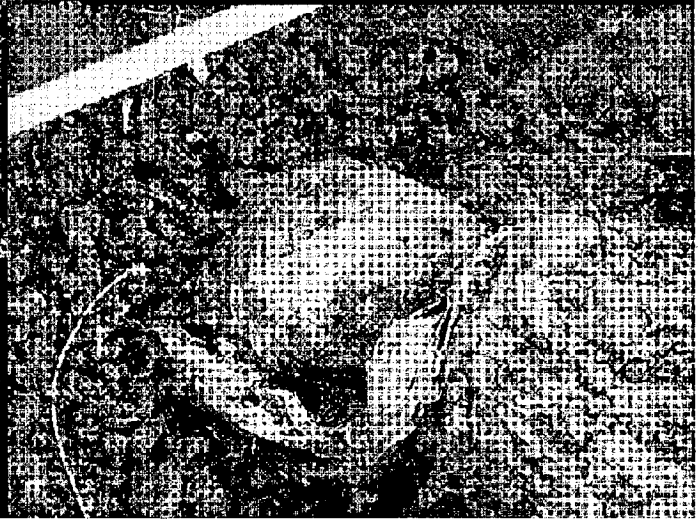
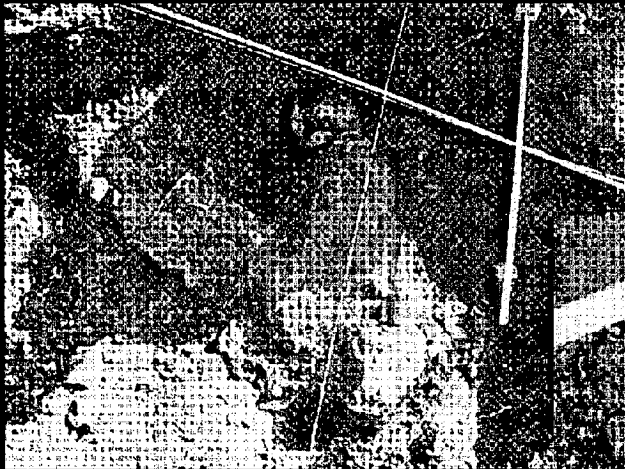
Continuing on...



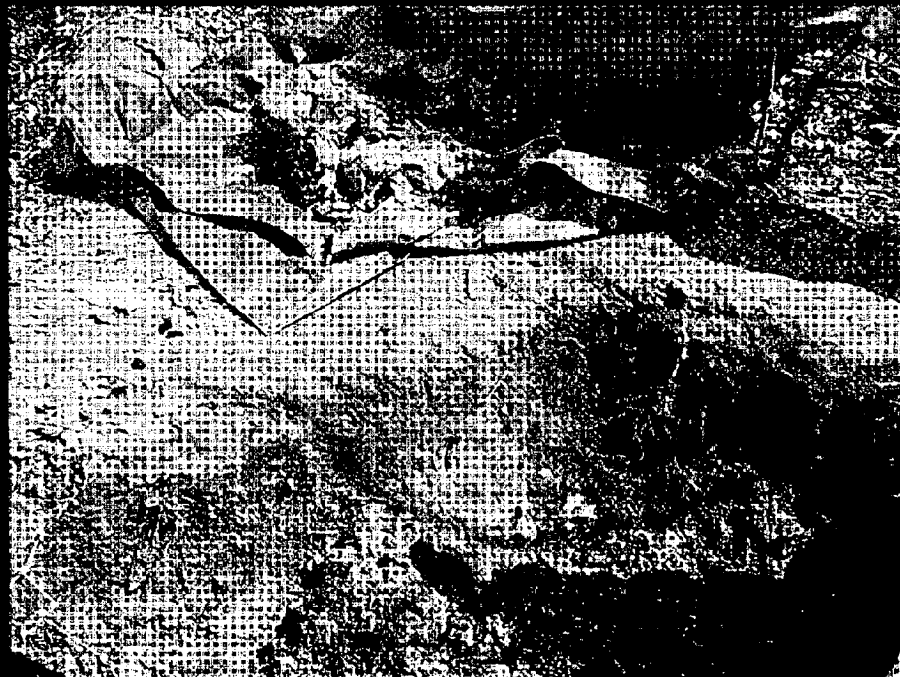
Uncovering the first body parts



Excavating the body

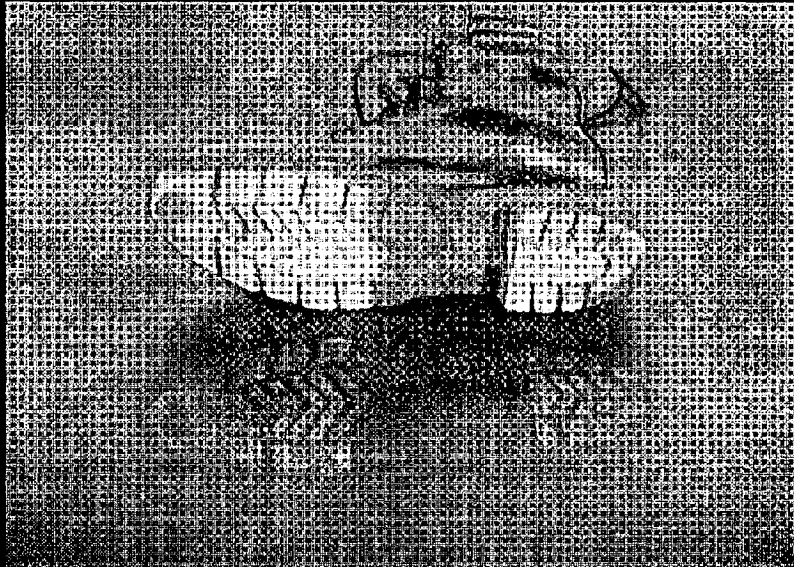


Body Removal



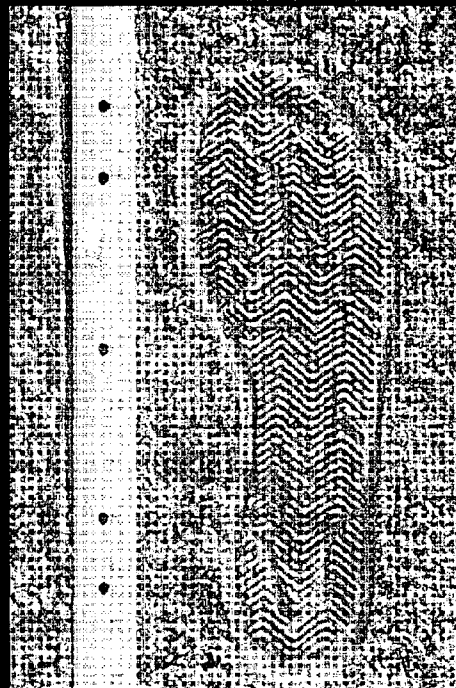
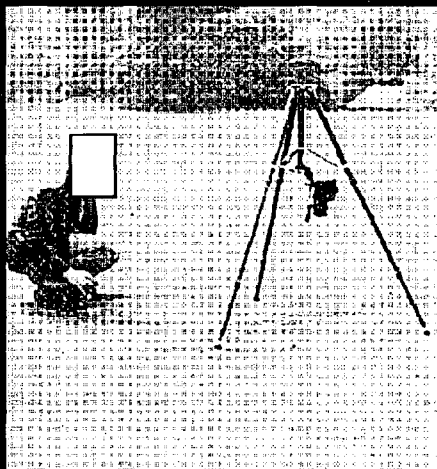
Impression Evidence

- Lift dust shoeprint with rubberlifts or electrostatic dust print lifter



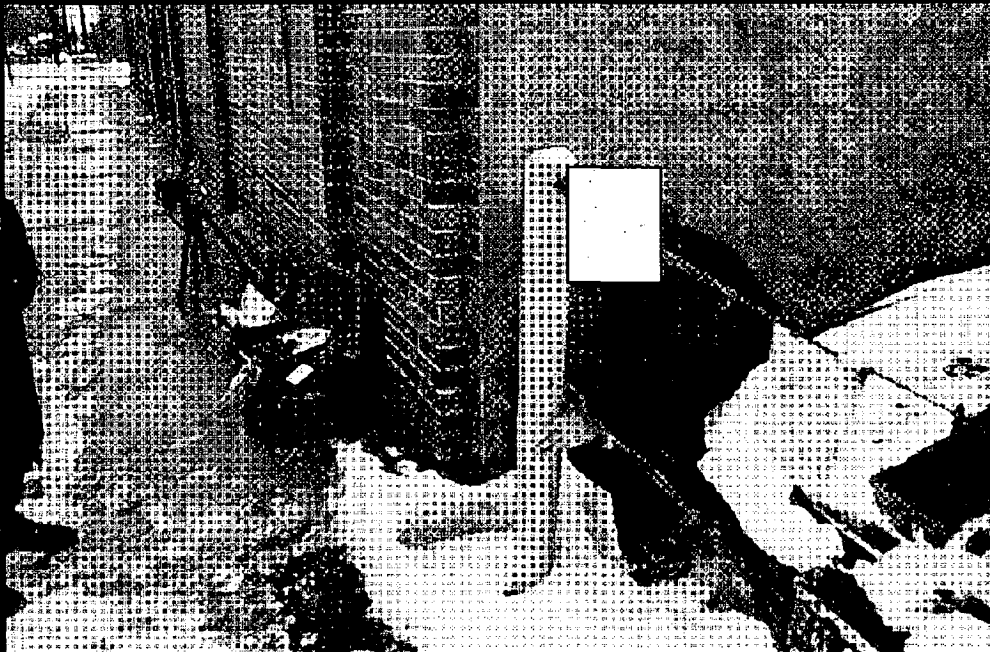
Tire & Shoeprint Evidence

All impressions should be photographed and casted or lifted (with and without scale)



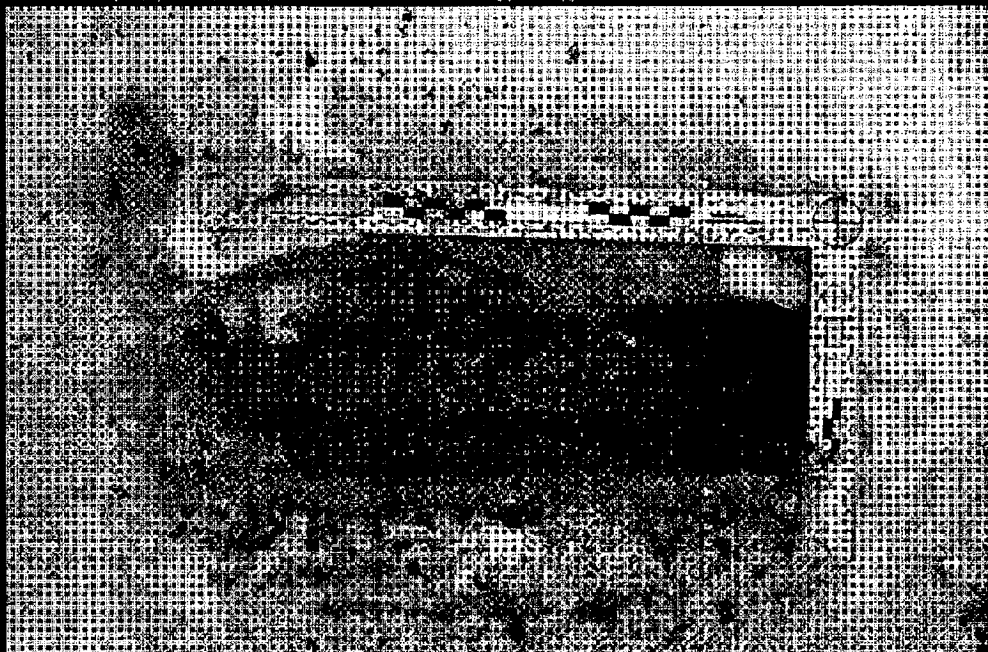
b6
b7c

Shoe Impression Casting



b6
b7C

Shoe Impression Casting



Questions?





