

Agent:

Report Filed On:

**Question: Why was Julius Caesar assassinated and were his killers justified in their actions?**

1. **Jealous Senators?** Senators assassinated Caesar due to jealousy of his fame.
2. **Justified Senators?** Senators assassinated Caesar because they thought he was destroying Rome by making himself emperor.
3. **Caesar did it?** Caesar allowed the assassination to happen because he wanted to die a memorable and heroic death.

**Evidence A: Ancient Newspaper Article**

Which group loved Caesar?

What two reasons did they love him?

Why might this upset the senators?

Quote (supports jealous Senators):

**Evidence B: Ancient Artifacts**

What does the coin say on it and what does it mean?

What is carved on the tomb? What does it mean?

Why might Brutus have felt pressured to stop Caesar?

Quote (supports justified Senators):

**Evidence C: The Twelve Caesars by Plutarch**

What did Caesar do that insulted the senators?

What excuse did he give?

What does Plutarch say about the excuse?

Quote (supports Caesar did it):

**Evidence E: Statement by Caesar's Bodyguard**

Why does Tyrannus think Caesar fired him?

What did Tyrannus hear from the other guard?

Quote (supports Caesar did it):

**Evidence D: Autopsy report**

What does the autopsy tell us about the number and skill of the attackers?

How many attackers do you think there were?  
Why?

**Evidence F: Various Warnings**

If you had received these same warnings what would you do?

Do these warnings seem believable to you? Why or why not?

Quote (supports Caesar did it):

(Complete this only after reviewing all the exhibits.)

## INDICTMENT

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES THAT:

DEFENDANT \_\_\_\_\_  
(Write who you believe committed the crime.)

IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CRIME OF \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING EVIDENCE:

What stations prove your argument? What do they show? \*\*Do not quote in this section\*\*

Evidence \_\_\_\_\_ shows

Evidence \_\_\_\_\_ shows

Evidence \_\_\_\_\_ shows

Use this information to help you write a response the question (front page). Must be **at least 6 sentences**. Must use the RACES writing strategy. Must use at least **1 quote**. Use quotes that you wrote in each evidence section. Go to [www.msocmand.com/classwork-and-homework](http://www.msocmand.com/classwork-and-homework) if you want to download and use the evidence documents. DUE on 12/4 (A) 12/5 (B)

## CAESAR OUR HERO

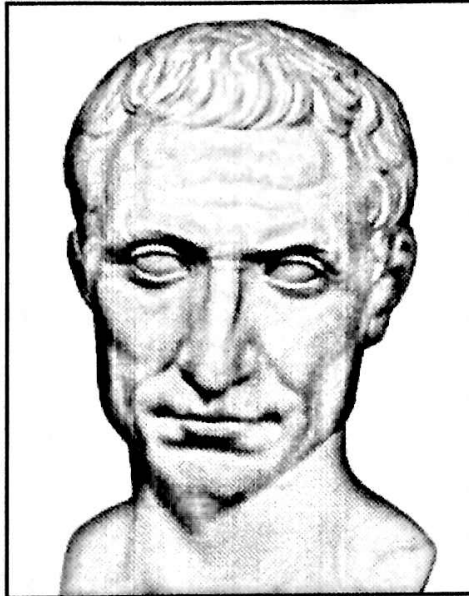
**Licinius Gaxus**

Rome Correspondant

ROME- A recent poll put Julius Caesar's approval rating among the lower class at an incredible 82%. Analysis of the poll shows two main reasons why the people love him so much.

First, unsurprisingly, is that Caesar gave many in the lower class money after a recent war. Senator Cassius remarked "This is an obvious case of bribery. He wants their support so he paid them off." His arguments clearly did not matter to the lower class.

CAESAR



Secondly, Caesar's incredible war record over the barbarians has brought peace and safety that Rome hasn't seen in decades. "Without the attacks we can finally work in peace" said one local merchant.

Cont.on B-4

**FOR SALE**



One lightly used chariot. Never used in battle. Only used for light training. Don't miss out on this chance to join in on the latest craze.

Contact Jacinus Tacitus for pricing information and for further details.

## ANNUAL GAMES CALLED SUCCESS

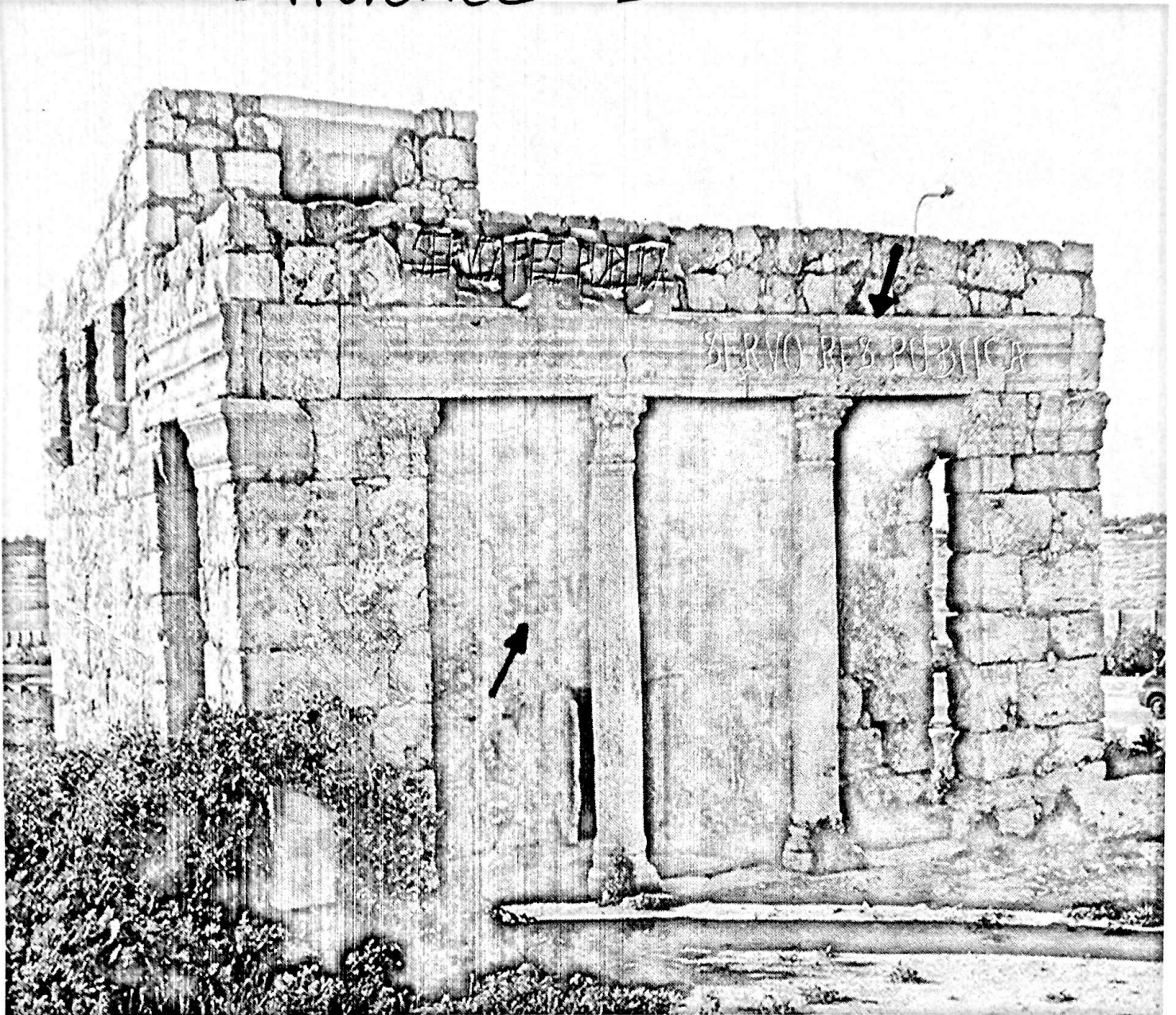
**Socratian Pompus**

Sports Desk

In a surprise, the winner of this year's gladiatorial games was none other than disgraced former general Commodus. Commodus shocked his opponents with incredible sword skills and a desire to win unmatched in the arena. "I had something to prove" Commodus later said. "I did not want to be remembered as the great



# Evidence B



Caesar was very popular among the poor but many in Rome did not want a return to rule by one man. Caesar made coins with his image and the words “dictator for life” printed on them. No living leader had ever been put on a Roman coin. Many felt this action proved he planned to one day rule as king.

Roman legend says that 600 years before Caesar a distant ancestor of Senator Brutus (a close friend of Caesar’s) killed off Rome’s last king leading to the beginning of the republic. This legend was still on the mind’s of the people as Caesar rose in power. This man’s tomb was covered with graffiti as well but not praising Caesar. Instead, this graffiti demanded that Brutus follow his ancestor and kill Caesar. The Latin phrase “SERVO RES PUBLICA” (Save the republic) was carved into the walls of the tomb in multiple places as seen above. It appears many people, not just a few jealous senators, wanted Caesar removed from power.



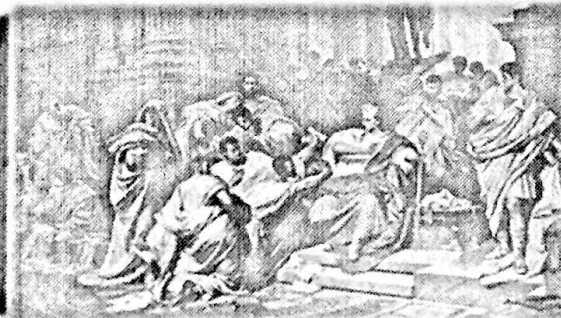
# Evidence C: The Twelve Caesars



**H**HE MOST OPEN AND DEADLY HATRED towards Caesar was created by his desire for royal power. For most Senators this was a first cause of hatred. Once, after returning from battle the Senators attempted to honor Caesar with a gift. He would not even stand up to receive it. His refusal to stand for the Senate led to great controversy. Caesar was suffering from a type of mental illness and when he realized how he had offended them he stood up, drew back his toga to show his neck and yelled "kill me now, I won't resist!"

But afterwards he made his disease an excuse for his behavior, saying that those with his mental illness do not usually remain steady when they stand and speak to many people and that he would be greatly embarrassed if that happened. However, what he said was not true; actually he very much wanted to rise to speak to the senate; but one of his friends, Cornelius Balbus, stopped him, saying: "Remember that you are Caesar, and you should be seen as their superior."

*The Twelve Caesars*  
by Plutarch



# Evidence D

## Office of the Medical Examiner

XXII Romulus Road

Rome, Roman Republic

### REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY THE MEDICAL EXAMINER

NAME: Gaius Julius Caesar      SEX: male      AGE: 55

CAUSE OF DEATH:  violent     suicide     sudden  
(mark one only)     suspicious, unusual or unnatural

Investigating Agency: FBI (unsolved crimes division)

Figure 1 shows a mapping of the 23 puncture wounds found on the body of the victim in what I believe is the order of infliction. The random placement of the wounds indicates many attackers crowded around the victim. Of the 23 wounds only wound two would have been fatal as it punctured the victim's heart. This indicates the attackers were likely not experienced.

Multiple wounds to the back indicate multiple attackers surrounding the victim for a simultaneous attack. It may also indicate that some wounds were inflicted while the victim lay on the ground.

The victim would have died quickly but not instantly. It is very possible he could have gotten off a few last words before death.

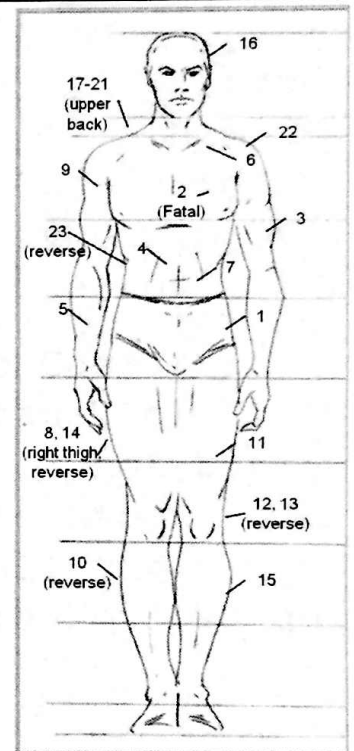


Figure 1

PROBABLE CAUSE OF DEATH	MANNER OF DEATH
Blood loss from a direct puncture wound to the heart.	<input type="checkbox"/> natural <input type="checkbox"/> suicide <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> homicide <input type="checkbox"/> accident <input type="checkbox"/> unknown

I hereby declare that after receiving notice of the death described above I took possession of the body and made inquiries regarding the cause of death in accordance with Section 28-654038.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# Evidence E

AO94 – Statement of Defense

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## Court of Rome

Republic of Rome vs. Senator Cassius

Case Number: 12

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### Witness statement given by Tyrannus, one of Caesar's bodyguards

"Three days before the assassination Caesar fired me along with all of his other bodyguards. He told us he would be traveling on his own. We insisted that he keep us around to protect him. I don't know what he was thinking. Maybe he was beginning to believe that he truly was a god and nobody could hurt him anyway or maybe he was just simply tired of being followed all the time. This was especially strange based on the threats that we heard from Cassius.

One of the other guards told me he heard Caesar say that he didn't want to live any more because of his sickness. I don't know if this is true or not but either way it seems very odd. For days he had delayed his visit to the Senate due to all the warnings. And yet, only three days before he does go he gives up his protection?"

SWORN TO before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of March, 44 B.C.

*Marcelus Cicero*

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Roman District Judge

# Evidence F

**Caesar was warned repeatedly about a possible attack. He in fact delayed his visit to the Senate many times because of it. Here are two of the warnings.**

*Warning from Calpurnia, Caesar's Wife*

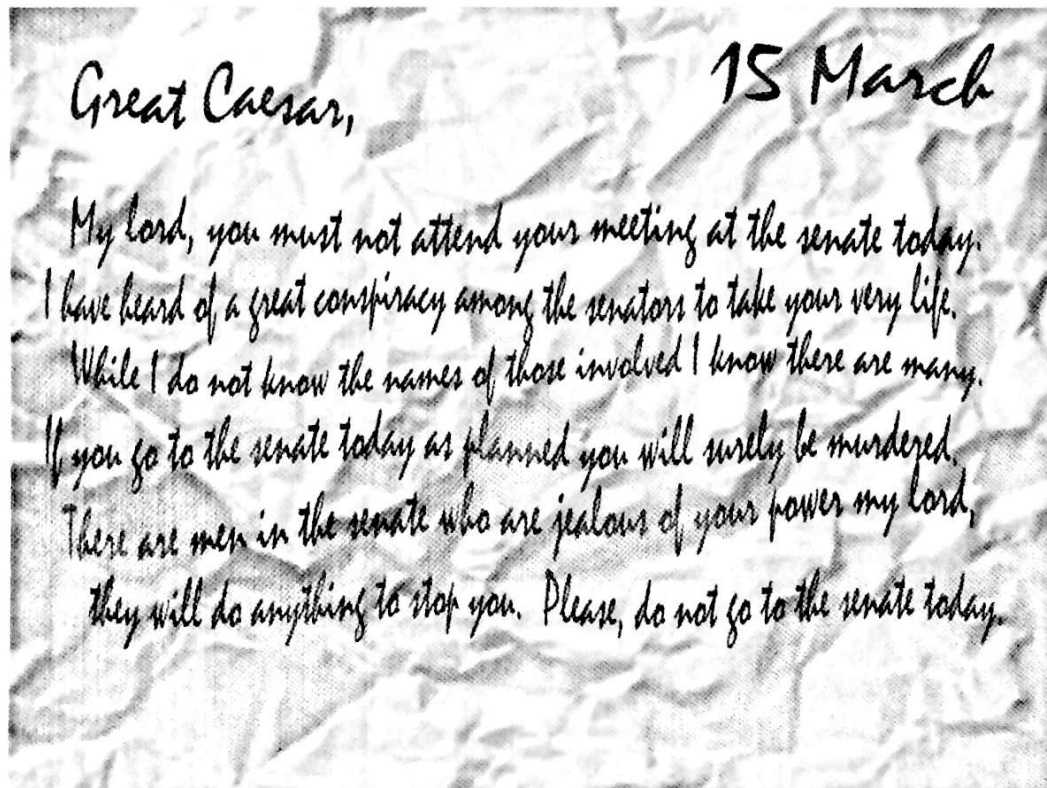
"My Lord! I have had a terrible nightmare! I saw myself holding your bloody body crying. Please, I beg of you, stay home. Tell them you are sick. Do not go to the Senate today!"

*Warning from Spurina, Fortune-Teller*

"The oracles tell of blood on this day, the Ides of March. Caesar, you must be careful."

**He ignored them and went. That very day he was given a note giving specific details about the attack.**

*Note found in Caesar's Hand after the Assassination*



Great Caesar, 15 March

My lord, you must not attend your meeting at the senate today. I have heard of a great conspiracy among the senators to take your very life. While I do not know the names of those involved I know there are many. If you go to the senate today as planned you will surely be murdered. There are men in the senate who are jealous of your power my lord, they will do anything to stop you. Please, do not go to the senate today.



## Translation

15 March

Great Caesar,

My lord, you must not attend the meeting at the senate today. I have heard of a great conspiracy among the senators to take your very life. While I do not know the names of those involved I know there are many. If you go to the senate today as planned you will surely be murdered. There are men in the senate who are jealous of your power my lord and will do anything to stop you from taking your rightful place as ruler. Please, do not go to the senate today.