Stage 2 answers

4. The power did not fail by itself. Someone switched the breaker off. The breaker's red flag did not pop up, the electrician confirms it was switched off by hand, and there was no leak and no water (13). Only this one building went dark (9, 10), and the electrician's receipt explains how to tell a trip from a switch-off (11).

5. The person who went up to the accounts room was Apao.

- He holds key no. 3 (14) · the size-42 footprints on the 3rd floor match his wet sandals (13, 15)
- Wet legs but dry hair and shirt: exactly what you'd expect from someone wearing the hooded raincoat hanging soaked in the storeroom (13, 15, Statement 11)
- His story about floodwater and sandbags is false (13, Statement 10), and he changed his own statement (Statement 12)
- He knew where the hidden fuse box was because he had it moved there himself (11, Statement 7). The power came back on with his voice coming from the ground floor, while Ming was already on the 3rd floor with Lee (9, Statement 3)
- He never fetched the cake at all (Statements 2, 3) · the back door banged at about 21:43 and about 21:49, matching his trip up and his trip down (Statements 7, 8)

6. Nobody else went up to the 3rd floor.

Suspect	Was not the one in the accounts room, because
Akong	At the table, Nick holding his hand (9) · can't climb to the 3rd floor (12, Statement 1) · no key (14)
Hia Ming	On a video call, standing at the front grille the whole time from 21:40 to 21:49 (16, 17, Statement 8) · no key (14) · dry (13)
Je Lee	Answers from the kitchen only 12 seconds after the thud (9) · dry (13) · used the key on Tuesday night, not that night (19) · her sleeping pills are all there, and they were not found in the victim's body (13)
Nick	His voice is on the livestream throughout (9) · no key (14) · he did take the missing money (18, Statement 10), but that has nothing to do with the death
Mrs. Emorn	Her voice at the window, and the camera flash at 21:44 (9, 10) · no key, and her house has no connecting door (14) · dry (13)

Final mission

On 24 August Apao was charged and **confessed that he acted alone** (Statement 13). The file was about to be closed. But on 25 August the forensic results finally arrived (28). The Centre asks you to check whether **this confession fits every piece of evidence.**

Questions remain. Apao worked here for thirty years without a single problem. What sent him up to the victim through the rain that night? What did the missing negatives prove? Whose face was scratched out?

Use Exhibits 22-30 and Statements 13-14 together with everything else. **Go back and read the Main File documents again**, then fill in all 5 questions on the case summary sheet before you open the Solution envelope.

Exhibit 22 **Seized item · found in the chest pocket of the yellow raincoat (storeroom) · lab result 23 Aug, 16:30**
One strip of black-and-white film negatives, 3 frames, wrapped in greaseproof paper. Still dry, because the pocket has a waterproof zip · held up to the light, the middle frame matches the photo in the victim's hand (3) exactly, **but the face of the young man on the far right is NOT scratched out** · it fits the empty envelope on the victim's desk (2, 4)

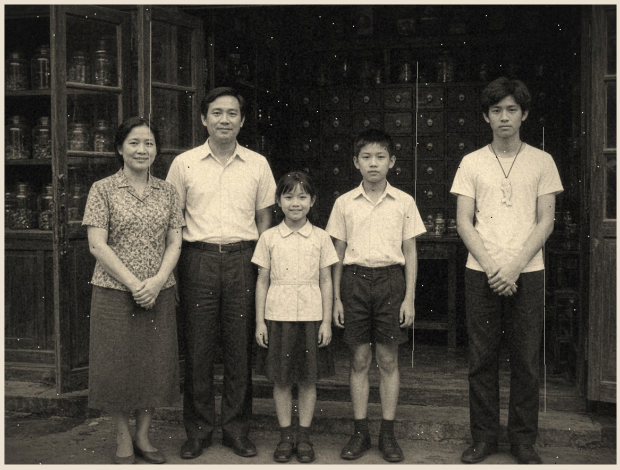

Exhibit 23 New print from the negative · handed to police by Mrs. Emorn, 24 Aug

Exhibit 23 Back of photo (glue to photo 23)

Emorn Film · Soi Fon

Reprinted from the original negative, 18 Aug '25.
Kept 1 print before giving the film to Khun Mei.

Boy on the far right: *Auntie Jerm's boy, from Ban Lang Market.*
Wears a jade fish.

— Emorn

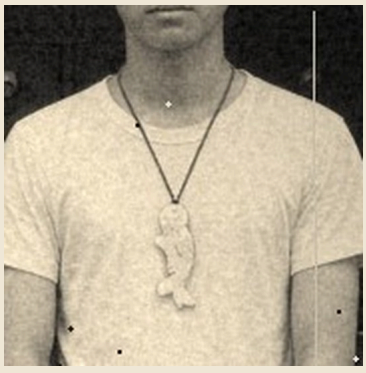

Exhibit 23 Enlargement: the neck of the boy on the far right of photo 23 (enlarged by police from the negative)

Exhibit 27 Taken from Mr. Pao in a body search, 23 Aug, 17:00: **a jade fish pendant** on a red cord, worn round the neck under his shirt · key ring (with back-door key no. 3)

Exhibit 24 Letter · found in the locked drawer of the victim's desk (opened with a key on the victim's ring, 23 Aug)

Ban Lang Market, 12 March 1984

Dear Ah Heng,

I have received the last month's money. Thank you for sending it all these eighteen years. I know Madam Ngek has known everything since the day of the photograph in front of the shop. I blame no one.

Pao has finished high school and found work at the district rice mill. He is hard-working and patient, and he smiles exactly like his mother. You need not send any more money. And I ask you, Ah Heng, do not go looking for him until he decides for himself whether he wants to know his father.

The jade fish you gave Janpen, I have kept for Pao. If one day he comes to you, you will know him by this fish.

Jerm

Exhibit 26 The victim's small notebook (latest pages)

15 Aug: Akong wants the photo from his 37th birthday. "I want to see that boy's face again." → told him I can't find it.

17 Aug: FOUND IT. Ama's box, 3rd floor! Boy's face scratched out + letter from Auntie Jerm + Akong's old accounts.

18 Aug: Emorn still has the negatives!! Offered 20,000. Hand over on birthday night.

18 Aug: Ban Lang Market… **P. comes from Ban Lang Market too.** Right age. Always wears a red cord round his neck.

20 Aug: 8,000 missing from the till. Don't know who took it, but **I can use this.**

20 Aug, evening: P. went into Akong's room, door shut, talked almost an hour. Came out red-eyed ??

21 Aug: Lawyer: if a doctor certifies Akong as senile, Ming can apply to be his guardian → care home 1 Sep, before Monday · Ming / Nuch ?? leave for now.

22 Aug: TONIGHT. Make P. sign his resignation + burn everything. If another son turns up to take a share, what's left for Ming? And the building could never be sold.

Exhibit 25 **Private accounts · Heng** (small notebook, same drawer)

Month	Item	Baht
Jan 1966	Sent to Auntie Jerm, Ban Lang Market · milk money for **young Pao**	150
Jun 1972	Sent to Auntie Jerm · school fees, young Pao, Grade 1	200
Aug 1982	Sent to Auntie Jerm · school fees, young Pao, Grade 9 + bus fare to the shop, 22 Aug	450
Feb 1984	Sent to Auntie Jerm · last month	500
Mar 1984	Stopped (Ama Ngek's orders)	—

Young Pao born '66 → 59 this year!!
Ban Lang Market = Apao's home town (his job application, '95) — Mei

ENVELOPE B · Exhibit 28

Forensic Medicine Unit, Talat Kao Hospital

Exhibit 28 **Forensic and Toxicology Report**

Submitted by Pol. Lt. Wichai Saithan, 23 Aug 2025 · report issued Mon 25 Aug 2025, 09:15

Deceased Mrs. Mei Heng-Ankul, age 58 · Cause of death head injury from striking a hard, angled object (corner of the safe)

No.	Item tested	Result
1	Victim's blood	**Sleeping-pill drug found**, the same drug prescribed to **Mr. Heng Heng-Ankul** (Talat Kao Hospital prescription). The level matches **about 3 tablets taken at once**, within 30 minutes before death
2	Tea left in the dragon-pattern cup (victim's desk)	**Same drug found**
3	Tea in Mr. Heng's personal flask (dining room)	**No drug found**
4	Fingerprints on the dragon-pattern cup	Only **Mr. Heng's** and **the victim's**
5	Sleeping pills in Mrs. Lee's handbag (10 tablets)	**A different drug** from the one in the victim's blood
6	4 matchsticks (victim's desk)	Lit, then went out by themselves; never touched paper

Doctor's opinion: At the time of the incident the victim was drowsy and weak from the drug, which takes clear effect about 15–30 minutes after it is taken. She would most likely have been unable to fight back or cry out for help, which fits the absence of defensive wounds. The force of the blow to the head was **greater than in an ordinary fall**, and there are no other injuries.

Signed *Pakin Srimek*, examining doctor
(Dr. Pakin Srimek), forensic pathologist

3 tablets → who poured the tea? Who held this cup? — W.

CERTIFIED COPY
Wichai
Pol. Lt. Wichai Saithan

Form TP-15 · Statement of Accused

ENVELOPE B · Statements 13–14

Statement 13 · Mr. Pao (accused)

Sun 24 Aug · 10:00 · Talat Kao Police · lawyer present

I, Mr. Pao, age 59, state the following to Pol. Lt. Wichai Saithan, investigator:

Q. **Do you admit that on the night of the 22nd you went up to the 3rd-floor accounts room?**

A. I admit it. I did it alone. I switched off the power, put on the raincoat, climbed the iron stairs and unlocked the door with my own key.

Q. **Why did you go up?**

A. Sim Mei was going to burn the film, and sack me over money I never stole. I only wanted the film back.

Q. **What happened in the room?**

A. She refused. She stood up and **shouted that she'd call the whole house up**. I panicked and pushed her. She fell and hit her head on the safe.

Q. **Does Akong know you are his son?**

A. **No. I've never told anyone.** Tao-kae knows nothing. Please don't go asking him.

Q. **What do you know about the tea in the dragon-pattern cup?**

A. I know nothing about any tea. That's Tao-kae's cup. I've never touched it.

Q. **At 21:35, who told you to go downstairs?**

A. I went down on my own.

Q. **Why didn't you destroy the film? Why keep it in the raincoat pocket?**

A. ...It's the only picture there is of me with this family. I had to keep it for... I wanted to keep it.

Recorder's note: the accused repeated "I did it alone" many times and asked police not to trouble Mr. Heng.

Read back; confirmed correct. Signed *Pao* accused Signed *Wichai* recorder

Form TP-14 · Record of Statement

Criminal Case No. 317/2025

Statement 14 · Mr. Heng (second)

Sun 24 Aug · 14:00 · 2F bedroom

I, Mr. Heng Heng-Ankul, age 80, state the following to Pol. Lt. Wichai Saithan, investigator:

Q. **The tea you gave the deceased that night: who poured it, and who touched the cup?**

A. I poured it myself. My cup, my flask. Nobody else is allowed to touch them.

Q. **How do you take the sleeping pills in your bottle?**

A. One a night, as the doctor says. I've never missed a night. I took one on Friday too.

Q. **A draft will dated 20 Aug in your drawer names Mr. Pao as your son. Since when have you known?**

A. *(long silence)* An old man's business.

Q. **Did you know the deceased was going to apply for Mr. Ming to become your legal guardian?**

A. I knew. On Thursday I heard her on the phone to the lawyer. She was going to get a doctor to sign that I'm senile, then send me to a care home on the first. I'm not senile.

Q. **On the livestream you shouted "Ask Apao! Apao knows everything about this building!" Yet on the first night you said you didn't know where the fuse box was.**

A. I'm old. I don't remember what I say.

Q. **Mr. Pao has confessed that he acted alone. Do you have anything to say?**

A. ...Pao said he did it alone, did he? *(says nothing more)*

Recorder's note: throughout the interview the witness held a jade fish pendant in his hand. It looks like the seized pendant (27), but the fish faces the other way.

Read back; confirmed correct. Signed *Heng* statement giver Signed *Wichai* recorder

CERTIFIED COPY
Wichai
Pol. Lt. Wichai Saithan

Cut Sheet 8 · Envelope B · Exhibits 29-30 (seized from Mr. Heng's bedroom, search of 23 Aug)

✂ cut along the dashed lines

Exhibit 29 Found in Mr. Heng's bedside drawer, under the pill bottle · a page from the shop's account book, in Mr. Heng's handwriting (confirmed by an expert)

DRAFT WILL

Written in my bedroom, No. 45 Soi Fon

Wednesday 20 August 2025

*I, Heng Heng-Ankul, leave building No. 45 and the Heng-An Osot pharmacy to **Pao, my first son**, by Janpen. This building is never to be sold.*

My savings to be divided equally between Ming and Lee.

Signed, Heng

Lawyer appointment Mon 25th · don't let Mei find out first

Talat Kao Hospital · Pharmacy

Name **Mr. Heng Heng-Ankul** HN 41277

Sleeping pills (as prescribed)

Take **1 tablet at bedtime**

Quantity **30 tablets** · dispensed **1 Aug 25**

Causes drowsiness. Do not give to anyone else.

Exhibit 30 **Label on Mr. Heng's pill bottle (bedside drawer)**

Counted Sat 23 Aug, 11:00: **5 tablets** left in the bottle · bottle not cracked, cap tightly closed

Counted twice: 5 tablets. — W.