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4/11/1976

PRESERVE FOR SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

INVESTIGATION

Volume Number

Serial

56-156-B

Original
#00-302's
Sero. 826-1000

Bureau File Number 62-587

DO NOT DESTROY - ~~277A~~ 277 167
 PENDING LITIGATION 277 167
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See also Nos.

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See also Nos.

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A.L. Fowell 7-13-70~~

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SHAW-WALKER 18-3037

Date _____

6/28/68

Mrs. BOBBIE CAMPBELL, 1618 Crenshaw Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, was contacted at her residence and advised as follows:

She attended the reception for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel following his victory in the Indiana primaries which was about three weeks prior to his assassination. She attended this reception with her husband, HOWARD CAMPBELL, and friends, JUANITA BLANCHEY and RAYMOND BLANCHEY. They arrived at the reception about 7:30 P.M. and stayed to about 10:00 P.M.

During their stay at the reception they stood in the front of the Embassy Room near the bandstand and the speakers' platform and while there observed a man and a young woman sitting on a piano bench in the front of the bandstand which was not being used by the orchestra. The man appeared to be of Latin descent as he was olive complected and had long dark hair. The woman was in her early twenties and had long blond hair and wore a light colored dress. The man appeared to be in his early twenties and wore a gray suit with a white shirt and tie and wore dark rimmed glasses. She recalled the couple did not pay any attention to any of the speakers and were only interested in each other and were hugging, kissing and carrying on the entire time. The couple had several drinks and appeared to be enjoying each other's company and completely ignored the events of the evening and the speakers.

She stated that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY did not attend this reception but did make a long distance telephone call to the rally and his brother, Senator EDWARD KENNEDY, was in attendance and made a brief speech following his brother's victory in Indiana. The couple did not pay any attention to the speech or the telephone call.

Mrs. CAMPBELL recalled that there were several persons in attendance who appeared to be of Latin, Arab and Indian descent and she remembered that she saw one or two persons wearing turbans

On 6/25/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-826
 by SAs DAVID R. ST. CLAIR and ORLEY A. LEESON, JR./llg Date dictated 6/27/68

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about their heads. She stated that one Latin appearing individual spoke a few words to the couple but cannot recall anyone else speaking to them.

After she heard the news about Senator KENNEDY's death she was talking to JUANITA BLANCHEY and they both wondered if the young man they saw with the girl could have been SIRHAN SIRHAN.

Mrs. CAMPBELL was shown photographs of SIRHAN SIRHAN and stated she could not say if SIRHAN was the person she saw or not but that his complexion and long dark hair appeared similar.

Date _____

6/28/68

RAYMOND BLANCHEY, 6119 Brynhurst, Apartment 9, Los Angeles, advised he and his wife, JUANITA BLANCHEY, attended a victory celebration for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY following his victory in the Indiana primary about three weeks before his assassination. This celebration was at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel and he and his wife attended with BOBBIE and HOWARD CAMPBELL. They arrived at the hotel about 8:30 P.M. and left shortly after 10:00 P.M.

While at the celebration they stood near the bandstand and speakers' area as all the seats were taken. There was a piano and bench in front of the bandstand which were not used by the orchestra and seated on the piano bench was a short, olive complected man in a dark suit who was with a taller, blond haired, fair complected girl about 19 years old. This couple was "carrying on" during the entire evening. He explained they were drinking, hugging, and kissing and paying no attention to the speakers or the program. He stated they were not loud or noisy and he does not recall either of them talking to anyone else.

BLANCHEY recalled there were several other olive complected persons in attendance and one man was wearing a turban on his head.

He stated Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY did not attend this celebration but Senator EDWARD KENNEDY did attend and made a speech during which he received a telephone call from his brother which was related to the group in attendance. Shortly after this speech they left the Embassy Room and departed through the kitchen area where he noticed some of the kitchen employees appeared to be olive complected.

He advised he and his wife heard about the assassination of Senator KENNEDY while they were at work at the Terminal Annex Post Office and they heard the assassin was an olive skinned male. They discussed the possibility that the man they saw at the Indiana celebration may have been the assassin and the next day his wife called Mrs. CAMPBELL and discussed the matter following which Mrs. CAMPBELL called the Los Angeles Police Department.

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BLANCHEY was shown a photograph of SIRHAN SIRHAN and stated the photograph resembles the man he saw but he could not say the photograph was identical with this person.

Date _____

7/8/68

JUANITA BLANCHEY, 6119 Brynhurst, Apartment 9, Los Angeles advised she and her husband, RAYMOND BLANCHEY, attended a victory celebration for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY following his victory in the Indiana primaries approximately three weeks before his assassination. This celebration was held at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel and they attended with HOWARD and BOBBIE CAMPBELL, arriving at the celebration about 8:30 p.m. and departing about 10:00 p.m.

While they were at the celebration, they stood near the front of the Embassy Room where the speakers platform and bandstand area was located. There was a piano and piano bench in front of the bandstand which were not being used by the band and seated on the piano bench she observed a young olive complected male who was accompanied by a taller, fair skinned, blond haired girl. She recalls this couple because they were hugging and kissing and not paying any attention to the speakers or the program. The couple had several drinks but they were not noisy or causing any disturbance other than "carrying on" with each other.

Mrs. BLANCHEY described the man as being in his early twenties, olive complexion, long dark hair, and wearing a dark suit. She described the girl as being about 19 years old, long stringy blond hair, light complexion, and wearing a light colored dress.

Mrs. BLANCHEY stated she felt the couple acted like a "pickup relationship" because of the attention they paid to each other as she does not think if they had known each other they would have been so attentive to each other in front of such a large crowd of people.

She stated there were several dark complected persons at the celebration and she recalls one man was wearing a turban.

She advised that when leaving the Embassy Room her group left through the kitchen area where they observed several

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of the kitchen employees appeared to be olive complected.

After hearing the news about Senator KENNEDY being shot, she and BOBBIE CAMPBELL discussed the couple and wondered if the man could have been SIRHAN SIRHAN and following their discussion, BOBBIE CAMPBELL called the Los Angeles Police Department.

Mrs. BLANCHEY was shown photographs of SIRHAN SIRHAN and she stated she could not say if the man she saw was identical or not but the complexion and long dark hair were similar.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/15/68

FAYE YOUNGER, 1752 Buckingham Road, Los Angeles, advised that she was a staff member for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and she furnished the following information with respect to her knowledge of the events at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4 and June 5, 1968, where Senator KENNEDY was shot.

She worked at the Senator's campaign headquarters on Wilshire Boulevard until approximately 10:00 p.m. on June 4, 1968, and then drove to the Ambassador Hotel to participate in the rally. She parked her car on Eighth Street, south of the Ambassador Hotel, and proceeded from there to the Embassy Room. She was informed by a guard that she could not enter since the fire marshals had closed the room. She then went to the Colonial Room and was able to enter that area but her husband, KEN YOUNGER, who was with her and several other friends who did not have staff badges, could not get into this room.

She stated that she stayed in the Colonial Room only a few minutes and then went to the lower ballroom with her husband and the friends she was with. She remained in the lower ballroom with the large crowd and heard from someone in the audience, after the Senator had made his speech, that he had just been shot. She did not believe this until she heard the announcement made over the public address system.

She advised that shortly before the Senator began his speech, her husband decided that, due to heat and the crowded room, he would go home.

She was shown photographs of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and she advised that she did not see this individual at any time in the Ambassador Hotel.

On 7/10/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-829
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/alm Date dictated 7/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/15/68

FAY WHITE, 4149 Don Jose Drive, Los Angeles, telephone number 295-4780, advised that she was a volunteer worker for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and she furnished the following information with respect to her knowledge of the events of June 4, 1968, and June 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel, where Senator KENNEDY was shot:

She arrived at the hotel at approximately 10:00 p.m., June 4, 1968, and tried to enter the Embassy Room but was denied entry to this room due to the large crowd in the room. She stated that she wore her KENNEDY staff badge which should have authorized her into this room but she was told that the fire marshals had restricted additional entry into the room. She then went to the lower ballroom and entered the Embassy Room from the fire escape which ran to the west side of the Embassy Room. She remained on the west side of the room and heard Senator KENNEDY's speech from there.

She did not hear any unusual sounds after the Senator left the podium to his rear and she did not know that anything of an unusual nature had occurred until she heard a woman scream. She then recalls hearing Senator KENNEDY's brother-in-law STEPHEN SMITH ask everyone to clear the room and that is when she left the ballroom.

She was shown a photograph of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and she advised that she did not see this individual in the Ambassador Hotel at any time and she can furnish no further information with respect to the shooting.

On 7/9/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-⁸³⁰
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/alm ^{AKC} Date dictated 7/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/2/68

ROBERT ROSE, also known as Bob Rose, West Coast representative, Chicago Daily News, 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, phone 933-7571, advised that on June 4, 1968 he proceeded to the Ambassador Hotel to cover Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and the California primary elections. He heard Senator KENNEDY's speech in the Embassy Room at approximately midnight but due to the time difference between Los Angeles and Chicago where his news is published, he left the room before the speech ended. He returned to his room in the Ambassador Hotel which he recalls as being Room Number 2115 and which he had previously rented. While composing a story for his paper and watching his television he heard of the shooting.

ROSE stated he does not recall seeing anyone in a polka dot dress at any time during the evening or seeing SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN.

On 6/24/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-^U-831
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/nmb ^{DAK} Date dictated 6/24/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/2/68

SEYMOUR KORMAN, also known as Sy Korman, West Coast representative, Chicago Tribune, with offices in Los Angeles Times Building, 202 West First Street, Los Angeles, phone NA 5-2345, extension 1500, advised that on June 4 and 5, 1968 he was at the National Broadcasting Corporation Studios, Burbank, California, monitoring the news coverage of the California primary election returns. He first became aware of the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY from watching television. Immediately thereafter he hailed a taxi cab and proceeded to Central Receiving Hospital, 1401 West Sixth Street, Los Angeles, where he covered the incident for his news.

Mr. KORMAN advised that he can furnish no additional information of value with respect to the shooting of Senator KENNEDY.

On 6/21/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156 - 832
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/8/68

RICHARD S. AUBRY, Age 52, 3627 Chesapeake Avenue, Los Angeles, California, telephone number 292-6504, advised that he is a part-time employee of the Pacific Coast News Bureau, 1199 West 39th Place, Los Angeles, telephone number 732-3854, a small Negro organization operating under the auspices of owner JAMES RODNEY SMITH, age 85. He is also a substitute clerk at the United States Post Office, Terminal Annex, Los Angeles. He furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the events on June 4 and June 5, 1968, surrounding the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California:

On June 4, 1968, he went to the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel to cover Senator KENNEDY. While there, he met MAX JOHNSON, representative of the "Afro-American" newspaper published in Washington, D.C., but who is an employee of that paper's Baltimore Office. He also met BOOKER GRIFFIN, a director of the Negro Industrial Economic Union (NIEU). Prior to the speech by Senator KENNEDY, at approximately midnight, he wandered back and forth in the ballroom. He also wandered back and forth during much of the speech.

Just as Senator KENNEDY appeared in the ballroom and started speaking, he tried to make a telephone call to his employer from the press telephones in the Embassy Room to inform him that Senator KENNEDY was making a speech. There was no answer at his office, so he continued to listen to the Senator's speech. Just prior to the end of the speech, he was on the Senator's left at the edge of the stage where there was a guard. He used his press badge to get by the guard. He thought that he would proceed through the kitchen area to the KENNEDY press room, which was located at the far end of the kitchen passageway. He thought at the time that the Senator would leave the area through the main doors to his right. The Senator started to leave the platform by going to his right but then reversed his direction and went to his left. He (AUBRY) then went through the door leading to the kitchen passageway and he thinks that Senator KENNEDY was close behind

On 7/3/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156 *J. 833*
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him and that he came down the platform steps to his left.

When he (AUBRY) started to go through the kitchen passageway, he noticed approximately seven to ten individuals in the kitchen and from their white clothing and Latin appearance, he thought that they were all kitchen help. The Senator proceeded into the kitchen passageway and shook hands and greeted several individuals who clustered around the doorway waiting to meet the Senator. As he (AUBRY) continued through the kitchen area, he was bumped into by someone who jumped from one of the steam tables but he does not recall what this individual looked like or how he was dressed. The next thing he recalls is that he heard several loud noises which sounded like firecrackers. There was one distinct blast, a pause, and then five or six other blasts in rapid succession. He then determined that shots were being fired and he noticed that Senator KENNEDY was lying on the floor with his head toward the ballroom, parallel to the passageway. He does not recall seeing SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN but as soon as he noticed what was happening, he shoved a young female Caucasian who was on his left out of the passageway. He then proceeded to the passageway into the area where the KENNEDY press room was located and informed the room full of newsmen that the Senator had just been shot.

He immediately returned to the kitchen area and noticed that two of Senator KENNEDY's aides were struggling with SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN trying to get a gun away from him. He climbed onto the steam table as the struggle continued. From that observation point he noticed one of the hotel employees place a white hat or towel under the Senator's head. He climbed from the table and went close to where the Senator was lying and was beside the Senator on the Senator's left side when he noticed the Senator lower his right arm. He does not recall hearing any words spoken by him but noticed that he was conscious.

As he was kneeling close to the Senator he said a short prayer and he was then yanked from behind and physically removed from the area. He was then ushered to a small hallway which intersected the kitchen passageway and remained there while

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the police blocked off the area. From this vantage point, he noticed that the Senator was removed from the area by several ambulance drivers. Following the removal of Senator KENNEDY from the area, he (AUBRY) was asked by an officer of the Los Angeles Police Department whether he saw anything pertinent and he said, voluntarily, that he did.

He was then ushered to another area of the hotel and shortly thereafter transported to the Rampart Division of the Los Angeles Police Department where he was interviewed.

AUBRY advised that in the interview with an officer of the Los Angeles Police Department he related what he saw concerning the shooting which is as indicated above. He advised that he can furnish no further information of value.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/10/68

[REDACTED] who was a volunteer worker for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel on June 5, 1968:

At approximately 5:30 p.m., on June 4, 1968, he was dropped off at the Ambassador Hotel by his parents so that he could take part in the rally for Senator KENNEDY. He was able to enter the Embassy Room during the evening through the use of a press pass which he received from SUE HARRIS, a secretary for DICK KLEIN, press relations manager for Senator KENNEDY. While in the ball room, he met ROSEMARY CLOONEY and spent the evening with her. When Senator KENNEDY made his speech he was in the press room area of the ball room and only saw the Senator on television monitors located there. Just following the speech, he heard screams of "blood" at which time ROSEMARY CLOONEY dropped to her knees. Since the crowd in the ball room was large, he did not venture closer to the scene of the shooting but went outside of the hotel where he observed Senator KENNEDY leaving the hotel on a stretcher. He saw him placed in an ambulance and observed many people, whom he did not know, kneeling and crying.

He was shown a photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, and he advised that he did not see this individual at any time while in the Ambassador Hotel and that he can furnish no further information regarding the shooting.

On 7/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-~~834~~ 834
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/2/68

JAMES C. BUSCH, age 18, 4433 Colbath Street, Apartment 24, Sherman Oaks, California, telephone number 789-5312, furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY, June 5, 1968:

On June 4, 1968, after attending the Los Angeles Dodgers-Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game with his sister, ANDREA BUSCH, and a friend, RICHARD HARVEY RITTNER, they decided to go to the Ambassador Hotel to see Senator KENNEDY. He recalls that on the inbound Hollywood Freeway, while listening to the radio, they heard the opening comments by Senator KENNEDY. He drove his car to the Ambassador Hotel and parked in the rear parking lot facing south when the speech ended. When they were ready to get out of the car, he heard the commentator on the radio state, "we are returning to KENNEDY headquarters, something has happened". He then heard some screaming and commotion over the radio followed by some statements, "is there a doctor in the house?" STEVEN SMITH then got on the air and because of his Bostonian accent they thought he was Senator KENNEDY. SMITH stated, "if you people don't clear the area, we cannot get medical aid to the Senator." He also told the people present to clear the area.

At approximately that time he observed two individuals walking quickly toward his car through his rear view mirror. Both individuals passed the car heading south on his, the driver's side of the car, and as the second individual passed, he asked him, "what happened?" This individual stated, "they shot him in the head. He's dead". He asked him how he knew this and the individual stated that he was a busboy at the hotel and that he had just shaken Senator KENNEDY's hand. He also said, "I saw the man pull out the gun and I hit the ground". He also said, "they shot him. He's dead". As he stated this he demonstrated the shooting by pulling out an imaginary gun from his left trouser waistband and placing it to his right temple.

On 7/1/68 at Sherman Oaks, California File # Los Angeles 55-156-~~2~~-835
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The other individual who accompanied the unknown male was a female caucasian who stood on the driver's side of the car just in front of the front wheel when the conversation took place. As soon as he finished asking questions of the unknown male, both the male and the female continued walking quickly toward the end of the parking lot in a southerly direction.

The three of them then went to the Ambassador Hotel and just as they arrived there from the parking lot they observed approximately five black and white patrol cars pull up. There were many people in the area and he recalls that several women were crying and that one woman was quite hysterical. They heard that more than one person had shot Senator KENNEDY so his sister ANDREA suggested that the two unknown individuals, who had just passed the car, appeared very strange to her. His sister then saw a plainclothes policeman to whom they told the story. As soon as the policeman heard the story he waved two uniformed officers to him and motioned to them the direction of the flight of the two unknown individuals whom they had seen.

After being interviewed in depth by the plainclothes policeman they went into the hotel. His sister bought him and his friend, RITTNER, a drink and they watched television at various locations in the hotel, one being the RAFFERTY headquarters. Sometime during this period he telephoned his father and told him that the area had been blocked off and that he was unable to return home at that time.

He advised that the reason they had talked to the policeman was that only two or three minutes had elapsed from the time they had heard the shooting on the radio until the time that they saw the two unknown individuals.

He has seen the photograph of JUAN ROMERO and ROMERO does not resemble the unknown male individual whom he saw.

He described the unknown individual's as follows:

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- | | | |
|-----|--------|--|
| (1) | Race | White |
| | Sex | Male |
| | Age | 30 years |
| | Height | 5'5" to 5'6" |
| | Build | Large |
| | Hair | Dark and long |
| | Eyes | No glasses |
| | Dress | Khaki pants; dark shirt or sweater with long sleeves; and a small brim hat |
| (2) | Sex | Female |
| | Race | Caucasian |
| | Hair | Shorter length dark in color |
| | Dress | Knee length coat |

BUSCH advised that he did not see Senator KENNEDY at any time during the evening nor does he recall seeing a female in a polka dot dress. He advised that the unknown female whom he saw could have been wearing a polka dot dress but he could not tell due to the coat she was wearing.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/2/68

ANDREA SUSAN BUSCH, age 23, 4433 Colbath Street, Apartment 24, Sherman Oaks, telephone number 789-5312, furnished the following information with respect to her knowledge of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY on June 5, 1968:

On the evening of June 4, 1968, she went to the Los Angeles Dodgers-Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game with her brother, JAMES BUSCH, and his friend, RICHARD HARVEY RITTNER. After returning to her apartment they decided to go to the Ambassador Hotel to see Senator KENNEDY. While driving on the inbound Hollywood Freeway at approximately Barham Boulevard, they heard the beginning of Senator KENNEDY's speech on the car radio. They parked the car in the rear parking lot of the Ambassador Hotel facing south, approximately the third row from the southern end of the parking lot.

They sat in the car listening to the closing comments of the speech and they debated as to whether they should go into the hotel since the speech was over. They then heard some confusion on the radio in a statement that someone was shot. She recalls asking, "who was shot?" but the radio did not supply the answer for several minutes.

At approximately that time an unknown male caucasian and an unknown female caucasian approached the car from the rear and her brother, JIM, put out his arm and stopped the male after the female had passed and asked him what had happened. The girl kept on going as though she did not want to be seen, however, the male was quite composed. He stated, "KENNEDY was shot. I am a waiter and I just shook Senator KENNEDY's right hand". He stated, "I saw a man shoot Senator KENNEDY and then I hit the ground". As he stated this he went through the act of simulating the removal of a gun from his left trouser waistband and the placing of it to his right temple. He pointed his finger at his right temple simulating a gun very adamantly. This individual backed away slightly as JIM was talking to him, then walked quickly toward the bushes at the south end of the parking lot.

On 7/1/68 at Sherman Oaks, California File # Los Angeles 56-155 *L-836*

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She described both of the individuals they saw as follows:

- (1) Sex Male
Race Caucasian
Nationality American
Age Early 30's
Height 5'8" to 5'9"
Weight 165 pounds
Build Stocky with large stomach
Complexion Olive
Voice Broken English
Face Clean shaven
Dress Untidy; dark clothes with sweater and a soft dark wool cap with a low crown and narrow bill
- (2) Sex Female
Race Caucasian
Age 30 years
Hair Shoulder length dark in color
Face Angular
Dress Old fashioned coat (long)

After talking with the above unknown individuals they went to the Ambassador Hotel where they observed many policemen arrive. She observed a plainclothes policeman wearing a badge so she talked to him and told him what they had observed. Before she completed her story, he interrupted her and quickly directed two uniformed officers in the direction that the unknown individuals had taken. He gave the uniformed officers some orders which she could not make out and then he returned to them at which time he continued interviewing them.

When they entered the Ambassador Hotel they went to RAFFERTY headquarters and observed a policeman being interviewed by one of the television networks. There was much confusion in the area and many women were in a hysterical condition. She recalled one chubby woman in a pink dress shouting that she wanted to go home.

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She stated that she could not tell whether the unknown female she saw was wearing a polka dot dress. She advised that she did not see anyone she knew at the Ambassador Hotel on June 5, 1968, who witnessed the shooting or who could furnish any pertinent information concerning the events leading up to the shooting.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/1/68

WALLACE FONG, JR., Staff Photographer, Associated Press, 202 West First Street, telephone number 524-2444, advised as follows:

At approximately 8:00 p.m., June 4, 1968, he went to the Ambassador Hotel to cover Senator KENNEDY and he took up a position approximately three to five feet to the Senator's left on the platform of the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel when the Senator spoke there. From that position he took several close shots of the Senator as well as some shots of the ballroom crowd. Just before the end of the speech, when Senator KENNEDY made his "V" for victory sign, he, FONG, climbed off of the platform and went to the door leading to the kitchen area where he sat on a table located there. He did not follow the Senator into the kitchen passageway nor did he hear any shots or unusual sounds just after the Senator entered that area. Approximately two or three minutes after the Senator left the platform, he observed a large wave of people coming toward him and was pushed back into the Embassy Room. Several people stated that a scuffle was in progress, and he later heard that KENNEDY was shot. He then saw two male caucasians, who he assumed to be aides of Senator KENNEDY, block off the door leading into the kitchen passageway.

In the ensuing confusion he wandered around until he saw his partner HAROLD F. FILAN at which time FILAN gave him some film to return to the office. He then observed a female caucasian whom he later learned to be ELIZABETH EVANS stretched out on a table approximately fifteen to twenty feet from the kitchen doors in the Embassy Room. He asked someone present what had happened and was told that she had been hurt in the scuffle. He observed that she had a lot of blood on her forehead and that she was holding her head. He then took several photographs of many of the people in the ballroom, and then he telephoned his office. He was told to give the

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films in his possession to FRANK WORTH, who would be in front of the Ambassador Hotel on Wilshire Boulevard. When he went to that location, The police had the area blocked off and he did not see WORTH so he returned to the hotel and after finding his partner FILAN, he gave the films to him.

He then went to his automobile which was parked in the rear parking lot of the hotel and, while he was waiting in his car, he was approached by a police officer and told to open his trunk. He then identified himself using his Los Angeles Police Department Press Pass and complied with the officer's request. The officer made a search of his trunk, and then apologized for the inconvenience telling him that a woman had seen him deposit something in the trunk. FONG stated that just before getting into his car he had taken several lenses from his pockets which he carried there and which were very bulky.

At approximately 4:00 a.m., after returning to his office he again went back to the Ambassador Hotel and shot some more photographs in the kitchen area where the shooting occurred.

He did not see Senator KENNEDY at any time after the Senator left the platform, nor did he observe a female caucasian wearing a polka dot dress at any time while at the Ambassador Hotel. He estimated that from where he was standing in the Embassy Room to where the shooting occurred the distance was approximately 35 to 40 feet.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/1/68

HAROLD F. FILAN, Staff Photographer, Associated Press, 202 West First Street, Los Angeles, telephone number 524-2444 advised as follows:

At approximately 8:00 p.m., June 4, 1968, he went to the Ambassador Hotel to cover Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. Several hours before the speech by KENNEDY in the Embassy Room he took up a position on the television stand at the back of the ballroom. He heard Senator KENNEDY speak and saw KENNEDY move to his left, then to his, KENNEDY's right, and finally depart the area through some curtains immediately to the rear of the platform. A minute or two after that he heard some balloons popping and at that time he started to load his camera.

He then heard some screaming and called to one of the cameramen on the television platform, name unrecalled, to see if he knew what was going on, and this individual stated, "there is a fight". He observed a lot of confusion at the main door of the ballroom at which time he climbed on to the stand but could not see any fight taking place. He then managed to make his way over to the ballroom doors where he heard someone state, "someone shot KENNEDY". Due to the large crowd in the ballroom he could not get any closer to the scene of the action. He tried to make his way behind the platform but he was unsuccessful in doing this.

He then saw his partner, WALLACE FONG, JR., who was also in the ballroom covering KENNEDY from a close position. He gave his film to FONG and then exited the ballroom and proceeded to a rear entrance where he thought he could take a photograph of KENNEDY being moved to the hospital. When he arrived at the entrance he observed several ambulances, but he did not see the Senator. He asked one of the policemen present whether Senator KENNEDY had been removed and he was told that he had been.

On 5/28/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-155-838

by SA DAVID H. COOK/vaa ^{PKC} Date dictated 7/1/68

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He then went back into the hotel where he again saw FONG who was unsuccessful in taking the film back to the office. He retrieved the film which he had previously given to FONG and gave it to JACK SMITH, Los Angeles Times Reporter, who stated he would take the film to the office via taxi.

FILAN stated that he did not see Senator KENNEDY at any time following the Senator's speech nor did he observe a female caucasian wearing a polka dot dress either in the ballroom or in the hotel at any time during the evening.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/16/68

GEORGE GREEN, residence 6811 10th Avenue, Los Angeles, telephone No. 759-8740, employed at J. Avon Associates (real estate), 8301 South Western Avenue, telephone No. 753-3305, advised that he is the co-chairman of "New Images," a Negro organization dedicated to the enrichment of the black community with headquarters at 2714 West Vernon Avenue. He advised that he was active in the California primary campaign and that he sponsored the election of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. He furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the events of June 4 and 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, where Senator KENNEDY was shot:

At approximately 10:15 to 10:30 PM on June 4, 1968, he left his headquarters, 2714 West Vernon Avenue, and proceeded to the Ambassador Hotel to take part in a rally for Senator KENNEDY. He arrived at the Ambassador Hotel approximately 10:30 to 10:45 PM and parked his car on a street west and south of the Ambassador. He then proceeded to look for BOOKER GRIFFIN, Co-chairman of "New Images," so that he could obtain a press pass and thereby enter the Ambassador ballroom. He found Mr. GRIFFIN in the lower ballroom and together they went upstairs to the Kennedy Press Room, but they were unsuccessful in getting a pass for him (GREEN). He was able to enter the press room, which he understands is called the Colonial Room, and he went through the kitchen passageway to the rear of the press room.

While in the kitchen passageway, he observed a group of newsmen and photographers interviewing either FRANK MANKIEWICZ or Senator KENNEDY. He did not get close enough to see the individual being interviewed, however, he recalls the time to have been approximately 11:15 to 11:30 PM. It was at that time that he noticed SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN at the edge of the crowd near a tall thin person and a female caucasian. SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN was wearing blue jeans, a shirt, a jacket and desert boots.

On 7/15/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-4-839
 by ^{DHC} SA DAVID H. COOK/jmb Date dictated 7/16/68

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He appeared to be of approximately 22 years old and of Mexican-American descent. He also appeared, to him, to be approximately five feet eight inches, 140 to 150 pounds with a dark olive complexion. The tall thin person standing near him was approximately 22 years old, however, he does not recall that individual's dress nor his ethnic group. The female Caucasian was in her early twenties and she wore a polka dot dress which was white with black polka dots. She had a good figure, but he cannot further describe her and is doubtful if he would recognize her again.

He then left the kitchen area and went downstairs where he had several drinks at one of the bars located at the rear of the lower ballroom. When the Senator spoke, at approximately midnight, he was in the ballroom and saw the Senator on the television monitors located there. Immediately following the speech he exited the lower ballroom by passing a guard, who was supposed to be guarding the lower kitchen doors. He proceeded through these doors and started up the kitchen stairway when he heard what he thought at the time was two balloons popping. He arrived in the upper kitchen passageway and in the confusion realized that what he had heard were shots being fired. He jumped onto the food preparation table, which was to his right and from there observed a struggle taking place with SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN as the culprit. He observed a gun in one of SIRHAN's hands and he noticed that it was a small calibre revolver. At this time, only a small portion of SIRHAN's face was visible since someone had an arm around him. He recalls that ROOSEVELT GRIER and RAFER JOHNSON were those who were struggling with SIRHAN SIRHAN.

He stayed in the area a short while and observed Senator KENNEDY lying on the floor with his feet facing the press room. He also observed that other individuals were apparently injured in the area. A short time after the shooting, which he estimates to be approximately three to five minutes,

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several Los Angeles Police Department officers arrived on the scene. SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN was then taken away and then Senator KENNEDY was removed on a stretcher by some ambulance drivers.

Soon after the kitchen area was cleared of people, he was interviewed by the Los Angeles Police Department, as well as television Channels 4 and 5, and he recalls that he related the events of the evening essentially as related above. He advised that he can furnish no further information regarding the shooting.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/15/68

THADIS HEATH, 3668 Olympiad Street, Los Angeles, telephone number 295-2868, advised that he was a volunteer worker for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and he furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the events of June 4 and June 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel where Senator KENNEDY was shot:

At approximately 8:00 or 9:00 p.m. on June 4, 1968, he went to the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel. He stayed there until the speech, and he was on the platform, during the Senator's speech, directly behind the Senator and next to ROOSEVELT GRIER. Due to the mobility on the stand he does not recall who was close to him during the speech.

The original exit plan was for the Senator to go to his right into the press room area and then back through the kitchen area to the Colonial Room. Just prior to the ending of the speech, DICK DUTTON, one of the Senator's assistants, asked him how they would make their exit from the stage. They decided to make a corridor so the Senator could exit in that direction; however, the Senator went through the curtains directly behind him. He said he followed the Senator and was just about to proceed from the semi-room area, behind the curtains, into the kitchen passageway through a doorway when an individual with a portable television camera came into the area. He held the door for this individual and then proceeded behind the Senator who was approximately 25 feet in front of him. He noticed that the Senator shook hands with several employees in the kitchen area.

The next thing he knew was that he heard a sound which sounded like a firecracker. There was a loud sound followed by several rapid firecracker type sounds which he later learned were shots. He noticed slight wisps of smoke rise from the general area where the Senator was and that the Senator turned slightly to his left. After the first shot had been fired, he did not realize that it was a shot; however, by the third shot he then realized that shooting, in fact, was taking place.

On 7/10/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-155 *840*
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/alm *DHK* Date dictated 7/12/68

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He then observed someone grab an individual who he later learned was SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and then ROOSEVELT GRIER and RAFER JOHNSON grabbed SIRHAN. GRIER placed a "bear hug" around SIRHAN lifting him off the floor and placing him along side the ice machine in the kitchen passageway. SIRHAN was fighting very hard and put up a tremendous struggle for such a small man. He noticed that SIRHAN had a gun in his hand but that he was quickly subdued.

He observed PAUL SHRADE and noticed that he was bleeding profusely, which gave him the impression that SHRADE was injured more seriously than the Senator. Several people immediately gave attention to SHRADE following the shooting. He noticed that the area was one of general confusion, that there were individuals on the steam tables, and that calls for doctors were going out. He and several other volunteers in the crowd made a semi-circle isolating the Senator and SHRADE from the rest of the crowd. Many cameramen and television reporters were pushing and shoving, trying to get on the scene. They permitted one fat Jewish doctor to the area followed by another Jewish doctor with a medium frame then a third doctor named MILLER arrived on the scene. He could see the Senator from his position in the semi-circle around him and noticed that the Senator's eyes were open and that there was lateral mobility in them. The Senator's eyes became glazed and finally closed. He noticed several individuals kneeling by the Senator and SHRADE but he does not recall who they were.

He next recalls ETHEL KENNEDY coming into the area followed by STEPHEN SMITH, the Senator's brother in-law, and several other doctors. The doors to the area were then closed, and calls were made for ice, sheets, and tablecloths. It was then that most of the employees were cleared from the area. During this period he also observed several of the other victims who had been shot. One individual, who had been shot in the leg, was sitting in the corner while the ABC television man, who was shot, was lying on the floor. He also saw the middle aged woman, who had been shot, being led from the area with blood on her forehead. Someone went for a stretcher, or went for material to make one, but at that time an ambulance

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arrived and the Senator was removed. Another ambulance also came and PAUL SHRADE and the other victims were removed. It was then that the Los Angeles Police Department arrived in force, isolating the area. He stated that previously there were several officers in the area.

He recalls that when the shooting occurred, someone made the comment that either he, she, or they were getting away. He does not recall seeing a female Caucasian dressed in a polka dot dress in the area. He noticed also that all the kitchen help appeared to be Spanish-Americans. He was shown a photograph of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and he advised that several weeks prior to the shooting of Senator KENNEDY, the Senator spoke at Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles and that the stage area from which Senator KENNEDY spoke had seven permanent chairs on it. Several of the chairs, to the Senator's left as he addressed the audience, were vacant. As the Senator addressed the audience, a white male in his early 20s, 5 feet 3 inches - 5 feet 6 inches tall, 130 - 145 pounds, swarthy complexion, and dressed in blue jeans and a white "T" shirt came onto the stage and occupied one of the permanent chairs to the Senator's left. He stated that this individual bears an extremely close resemblance to SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and in his opinion could be identical to him. He stated that at this speech many newsmen were present and that he is certain that films were made of the speech, and that perhaps a review of those films would identify the individual as described above.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/26/68

ARTHUR KEVIN, also known as Art Kevin, KHJ-TV Channel 9, 5515 Melrose Avenue, phone HO 202133, advised as follows:

He was at the Ambassador Hotel June 4 and 5, 1968 doing live radio broadcasting to New York for his station, KHJ, which he described as being an independent network. He had two microphones set up in the Embassy Room, one on the platform and the other in the back of the room. After Senator KENNEDY gave his speech to those assembled in the Embassy Room around midnight he switched the broadcast to his microphone in the rear of the ballroom and began recapping the speech to the listening audience from notes that he had taken. Just a minute or two after he got into his recap he heard several sounds like balloons popping. He heard several such reports but he does not recall how many. He then switched his program to the news election service at the Biltmore Hotel so that he could find out what had happened since he also heard shouts in the area that Senator KENNEDY had been shot.

He tried to get closer to the scene of the action but he could not because of the large number of people assembled in the ballroom. The police arrived very quickly on the scene and he estimated that within six or seven minutes from the time he heard the shots the police had the area blocked off in a commendable fashion.

He did not see SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN at any time during the period preceding the shooting nor does he recall seeing a female Caucasian in a polka dot dress at any time during the evening.

He advised that he has tapes of what occurred in the ballroom following Senator KENNEDY's speech but he does not at this time consider anything of pertinent value since he was removed somewhat from the actual incident.

On 6/24/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-²¹
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/11g Date dictated 6/26/68 ⁸⁴¹

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/26/68

SANDRA METTETAL, Reporter, City News Service, 417 South Hill, Los Angeles, California, Room 460, phone 625-7601, advised as follows:

On June 4, 1968, she was assigned to cover Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel. At approximately 10:30 P.M. she went to the Embassy Room and sat on the platform to insure that she would be close to Senator KENNEDY when he addressed the rally. At approximately 11:00 P.M. she went out the main door of the Embassy Room to get a drink and visit the restroom. When she was returning she was told by a guard that she could not enter the Embassy Room through that door but had to proceed through the Colonial Room. She did this and then proceeded through the kitchen area on her way to the Embassy Room and in passing through this area she observed between five and ten individuals there. Since she was not looking for anyone she did not pay too much attention to these individuals but she had the impression that they were all employees of the hotel. She does not recall seeing SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN there or a female Caucasian wearing a polka dot dress.

In order to gain access to the platform she had to enter a closed door, which was opened for her by one member of a small singing group, which frequently leads Senator KENNEDY's rallies in singing the song "This Man is My Man". This group comprised one male Negro, two Caucasian males and one Caucasian female, and the males were dressed in orange trousers and white sweaters. She stated that the area behind the curtains, on the platform, was a semi-room with a piano. The singing group was practicing here.

She waited on the platform and assisted an unknown male Caucasian with dark hair in his early 20's, who she stated is employed by Continental Recordings. She helped him set up his microphones as well as another individual by the name of STEVE BELL, who she stated is an ABC radio reporter.

On 6/24/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-9 842
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/llg ^{DKC} Date dictated 6/26/68

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When Senator KENNEDY made his speech she was on the platform to Senator KENNEDY's left. When he finished his speech she rushed to the phones to call her office. As she was doing this she observed Senator KENNEDY leave the platform through some curtains which were on the rear of the platform. A few minutes later while still on the phone she first learned that something was wrong when a woman screamed "Oh my God". She then heard others in the general area state that Senator KENNEDY had been shot and this was followed by other screams and shouts.

She advised that she could not get closer to the scene of the shooting in the kitchen area due to the large crowd, and she can furnish no further information regarding the shooting.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/15/68

MICHAEL RHODES, 4342 Nogales Drive, Tarzana, telephone number 987-2736, advised that he was a volunteer worker for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. He was interviewed at his residence in the presence of Officer MORGAN, Los Angeles Police Department. He furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the events of June 4 and June 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel where Senator KENNEDY was shot:

He arrived at the Ambassador Hotel at approximately 8:30 p.m. on June 4, 1968, with his wife NINA RHODES. They went to the press area of the Embassy Room and spent the evening there following the primary election returns. When the Senator made his victory speech, he heard this speech from the press room area.

Following the speech, he recalls that the Senator exited the platform to his rear through some curtains leading into the kitchen passageway. His wife NINA followed the Senator in the hopes of personally congratulating him on his victory. He was approximately ten feet behind his wife and had a view of the kitchen passageway, when he suddenly heard a popping sound which he thought sounded like a string of lighted firecrackers going off. His wife then turned and started to run toward him at full speed, so he thought that the Senator had changed directions, as this was the type of crowd reaction that often times occurred with the Senator. He was at the doorway leading to the rear of the podium when he grabbed his wife and yanked her into the doorway. She was screaming, "He's killed" and he immediately told her to "stop that kind of talking" since she had no idea whether it was true or not.

When the firecracker sounds had gone off and he observed his wife running toward him and various screams and shouts he suddenly realized that shots had been fired. His reaction was that the shots must have come from an automatic weapon since they were so rapid.

On 7/9/68 at Tarzana, California File # Los Angeles 56-156 *843*
 by SA DAVID H. COOK/alm ^{DK} Date dictated 7/12/68

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He took his wife back to the press room area where she eventually calmed down following the shooting and during the period when the Los Angeles Police Department arrived on the scene to secure the area of the shooting.

He recalls earlier in the evening he had been through the kitchen passageway three or four times but everyone seemed to belong there. He stated that on one occasion when he went to the lobby to get some drinks he informed the guard to remember him when he returned. At that time, several young KENNEDY supporters pushed by the guard. He stated that in his opinion, the security there was rather lax.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/15/68

NINA R. RHODES, 4342 Nogales Drive, Tarzana, telephone number 987-2736, advised that she was a volunteer fund raiser for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and she furnished the following information with respect to the events at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4 and June 5, 1968. She was interviewed at her residence in the presence of Officer MORGAN, Los Angeles Police Department:

At approximately 8:30 p.m. on June 4, 1968, she went to the Ambassador Hotel with her husband MICHAEL RHODES and reported to the press staff area located west of the stage in the Embassy Room. She wore an off-white, short, Russian cossack type dress and during the course of the evening, she followed the election results with PIERRE SALINGER, FRANK MANKIEWICZ and various other KENNEDY staff members.

When the Senator made his speech at approximately midnight, she heard it from the press room area. She estimates that everyone knew that the Senator was going through the kitchen area approximately 15 minutes before his speech ended, since a tall blond man, name unknown, came over to the press area and asked PIERRE SALINGER which way he wanted the Senator to leave the stage. SALINGER indicated that he wanted the Senator to turn to his right, proceed through the staff press area, then through the kitchen area to the Colonial Room, the site of the main KENNEDY press room in the Ambassador Hotel. She thinks that SALINGER chose this route because he wanted to congratulate the Senator personally on his victory and have other key members of his staff also congratulate him. She recalls that previously when she had heard of the Senator's victory, she had asked Mr. SALINGER if she could personally congratulate the Senator when he finished his speech and Mr. SALINGER stated that she could. The Senator did not take the indicated route, however, but exited the podium back through the curtains to the rear of the stage which lead to the kitchen passageway. When this happened, Mr. SALINGER said "Go, baby" indicating that she should follow the Senator

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 by SA DAVID H. COOK/alm Date dictated 7/12/68

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quickly through the kitchen passageway.

She grabbed LUCY SALINGER's hand, who she stated was a KENNEDY volunteer and a Los Angeles resident, and together they ran into the kitchen passageway. She stated this area slanted downward in the direction they were running and that it was cluttered with all sorts of cables. She tried to focus her attention on the Senator's head, thereby making it easier for her to determine his whereabouts. She had just left the entrance to the kitchen and noticed the Senator shaking hands with various kitchen employees and continue proceeding down the hallway when she suddenly heard a sound like a firecracker and she saw a red-like flash three to four feet from the left of the Senator's head. She estimates that she was approximately ten feet from the Senator when she observed this. She instantaneously realized that she was there and that shots were being fired. She later recalled hearing eight distinct shots. Everything appeared to her like still frames in a stop-action movie. She recalls seeing the Senator's head and suddenly everyone dropping to the floor. After the first shot the remaining ones sounded like a lighted string of firecrackers. They appeared to be very high in the air for when she saw the flashes, she had to look up and the flashes appeared higher than the heads of the group of people in front of her. From her position, which was behind and slightly to the left rear of the Senator, the flashes were slightly to the left front of the Senator. When the shots were fired, she also noticed a cameraman violently throw himself against the wall. She also heard people screaming, and she recalls the words, "Get out of the way. Let's get out of here".

The individual who fired the shots at the Senator appeared to her to be wearing a powder blue jacket and he seemed to be framed against the walls which were also powder blue. When she saw him, he seemed to be turned from her so that she saw part of his back and left side as he was in what she described, as a semi-crouch position. She originally recalls that she told the Los Angeles Police Department that she saw the blue jacket in a sea of white. Two days later she

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found out that SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN was wearing a powder blue jacket. She stated she could not identify the individual who fired the shots because she did not see his face, but she thinks that she could identify the jacket he was wearing. What she does know, however, was that this individual was not a Negro.

Following the shooting, she does not exactly recall what happened in the kitchen area. She vaguely remembers that she was on the floor and that people were stepping on her. Her husband told her that she left the area on a dead run and shouted, "He's killed" as she proceeded back toward the Embassy press area. It was as she was leaving the kitchen passageway when her husband grabbed her and told her not to make those kind of statements. She recalls that she lost her purse in the kitchen area and before leaving, she heard someone say, "Get towels and ice".

She later heard people shouting from the kitchen area, "They got 'em", several times from several individuals.

She described the general area being filled with hostility, women shouting and screaming, and general confusion.

She advised that she considers that security in the area was very lax in that the guard in the kitchen portion of the Embassy Room seemed to allow any unauthorized individuals through that area. In this regard, many individuals who were authorized to enter the area were denied access.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/2/68

RICHARD HARVEY RITTNER, age 18, 5132 White Oak Avenue, Encino, California, Apartment No. 108, telephone number 788-2286, furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel on June 5, 1968:

On the evening of June 4, 1968, he went to Dodger Stadium and saw the Los Angeles Dodgers-Pittsburgh Pirates baseball game with friends JIM and ANDREA BUSCH. He returned to his home where he changed his clothes then went to JIM's house in Sherman Oaks, from where the three of them departed en route to the Ambassador Hotel to see Senator KENNEDY. On the inbound Hollywood Freeway at approximately Barham Boulevard they heard the beginning of the speech. After arriving at the Ambassador Hotel they parked their car in the rear parking lot directly south of the Ambassador Hotel facing south. They decided not to enter the hotel since the speech was still going on and there was a very large crowd in the vicinity and they thought that the ballroom would be very crowded. Immediately following the speech they heard alot of confusion on the radio, and then they heard someone try to clear the room. Then, STEVEN SMITH came on the air and started telling everyone to please clear the room. They thought at that time that he was Senator KENNEDY because of his accent. Then another individual, who they later learned was a priest, came on the air and stated, "we need medical attention for the Senator. Please clear the room".

At that time two individuals came walking quickly by their car heading south. One, a male caucasian of Mexican extraction was asked by JIM what had happened, and this individual stated that he worked at the hotel as a waiter; that he had just shaken hands with Senator KENNEDY; and, that someone had just shot Senator KENNEDY and that he was dead. As this individual was stating that Senator KENNEDY had just been shot, he demonstrated this by simulating a gun with his right hand and pointed it to his head. He also stated that he had ducked to the floor to get out of the way of the bullets.

On 7/1/68 at Encino, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-845

by ^{DHC} SA DAVID H. COOK/vaa Date dictated 7/1/68

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He, RITTNER, was seated on the passenger side of the BUSCH car next to the window and he saw this individual through the front window. A female caucasian, who was with the unknown male, was standing on the passenger side of the BUSCH car next to RITTNER but she did not say anything.

He described these individuals as follows:

- | | | |
|-----|--------|---|
| (1) | Race | Mexican |
| | Sex | Male |
| | Age | 25 to 35 years |
| | Height | 5'9" to 5'10" |
| | Weight | 170 to 190 pounds |
| | Dress | Dark stingy brim hat;
Blue shirt, khaki trousers,
dark cardigan sweater;
untidy appearance |
| (2) | Sex | Female |
| | Race | Caucasian |
| | Hair | Shoulder length brown in color |
| | Dress | Long dark coat |

After JIM talked to the unknown male individual they went toward the Ambassador Hotel where JIM's sister, ANDREA, saw a plainclothes policeman to whom they told the story concerning the eyewitness. They then went into the hotel where they saw some of the television coverage of the event on channel two from the RAFFERTY headquarters. He recalls that approximately 1:40 a.m., he telephoned his father to tell him that KENNEDY had been shot and that he, RITTNER, was all right. He recalls hearing a story being passed around that a boy from Encino was shot and he didn't want his father to think that he was the boy. He recalls that they stayed at the hotel until approximately 4:00 a.m., when he and JIM BUSCH went home together after stopping off for coffee. JIM's sister, ANDREA, met some friends at the hotel and went home with them.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/10/68

KAY THOMSON, 3010 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles, California, telephone Number 382-3397, who was the coordinator of Citizens Groups for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and who is now employed in like capacity for ALAN CRANSTON, Democratic Senatorial candidate for the State of California, furnished the following information concerning her knowledge of the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

On June 4, 1968, she arrived at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel with her husband, ROBERT THOMSON, and prior to the speech by the Senator, she concerned herself with making arrangements for many volunteers to enter the ball room who had not been issued passes. During the speech, she and her husband were located in the southwest corner of the ball room, and shortly after the speech ended, the crowd seemed to surge toward the area just to the right of the platform and then it surged back. She did not hear any unusual noises at the time but she did hear a woman scream "He's dead," after which this woman became generally disturbed. She then heard THAD HEATH call from the platform area for a doctor. She also heard DAVID STEINER do the same thing. STEPHEN SMITH, Senator KENNEDY's brother-in-law, then took the microphone and asked the crowd in the ball room to please leave the area. With her husband, ROBERT, and several other individuals whose names she does not know, they attempted to clear the assembled individuals from the Embassy Room. When this was done, she and her husband returned immediately to their apartment where they followed the proceedings on television.

She was shown a photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN and she advised that she did not see this individual at any time while at the Ambassador Hotel and that she can furnish no further information regarding the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

On 7/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-846
 by ^{DAK} SA DAVID H. COOK/sro Date dictated 7/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/10/68

ROBERT E. THOMSON, 3010 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles, California, telephone Number 382-3397, furnished the following information with respect to his knowledge of the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel on June 5, 1968:

He arrived at the ball room of the Ambassador Hotel at approximately 8:00 p.m. on June 4, 1968, and waited there until Senator KENNEDY started his speech. He recalled standing between the television platforms located on the west and south walls of the Embassy Room. Shortly after the Senator's speech, at approximately midnight, he thought he heard balloons popping, and he assumed that the balloons he heard were those that were used as decorations over the platform area from which the Senator spoke. Just after this, however, he heard someone say that the Senator was shot and he noticed that this reaction spread across the room. At that time he realized that the sounds he had thought were balloons popping must have been shots.

Shortly thereafter he observed a middle aged lady being escorted from the kitchen area with blood streaming down her face. Following this, he and his wife attempted to clear the ball room in support of instructions from the Los Angeles Police Department. After the ball room was cleared, he and his wife, KAY, left the Ambassador Hotel and returned to their home where they watched the remaining events on television.

THOMSON was shown a photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN and advised that he did not observe this individual at any time while at the Ambassador Hotel. He stated he could furnish no further information of value concerning the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

On 7/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156 *847*
 by ^{DAK} SA DAVID H. COOK/sro Date dictated 7/9/68

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Date _____

6/24/68

On June 16, 1968, EVERETT BUCKNER, SR., 129 East Bennett, Glendora, California, telephone 963-5583, telephonically contacted the Los Angeles Office of the FBI. At that time, BUCKNER stated that he had not furnished full information concerning SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN previously to interviewing officers, because his employer desired that he not talk about this matter. He stated he would like to talk with SA GEORGE M. KLING, whom he had talked to previously and furnish full information.

As a result of this information, BUCKNER was contacted by SA KLING and SA CHARLES W. BADGLEY at his residence in Glendora, California.

BUCKNER advised that he had been fired from his job as Range Officer for the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, 4001 Fish Canyon Road, Duarte, California on June 16, 1968 by LLOYD HAGER, Manager of the gun club. BUCKNER stated he was given no reason for his dismissal and he had no idea why he was fired.

BUCKNER was asked specifically what additional information he had in this matter as a basis for his telephonic contact with the Los Angeles Office. In response, BUCKNER stated that he actually had no additional information and could provide no information other than what he had furnished on previous interview.

During the course of this interview with BUCKNER, interviewing Agents were cognizant of the odor of alcohol on BUCKNER's breath and BUCKNER's mannerisms were indicative that he had in fact been drinking.

On 6/17/68 at Glendora, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-~~2~~ 848
 by SA CHARLES W. BADGLEY and SA GEORGE M. KLING, ^{GMK}/mmc Date dictated 6/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/12/68

On June 10, 1968, at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, 4001 Fish Canyon Road, Duarte, California, brass was obtained from a trash barrel and from the ground behind firing position number 1 and packaged as follows:

In view of statements made by range officer EVERETT BUCKNER to the effect that SIRHAN SIRHAN was shooting in the vicinity of gun positions number 1 and 2, brass was obtained from that area by Special Agents GEORGE M. KLING and CHARLES W. BADGLEY and sealed in a box marked accordingly. This box weighs seven pounds four ounces sealed.

The brass was raked with a grass rake, swept with a broom, then shoveled into a wire screen to sift out dirt, rocks, and other extraneous materials.

On 6/10/68 at Duarte, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
 by SAs GEORGE M. KLING and CHARLES W. BADGLEY/GMK/rah Date dictated 6/12/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/17/68

LARRY JOHNIE BOOKER, 712 $\frac{1}{2}$ East Vernon, telephone No. 232-4609, advised he was born May 6, 1928, at Portland, Oregon, and has Social Security No. [REDACTED].

Mr. BOOKER advised he is currently employed as a maintenance laborer at the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire and that on the day before the shooting of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY, he worked from 3 AM till 4:30 PM, June 4, 1968. Mr. BOOKER advised that at the time of the shooting on June 5, 1968, he was at home.

Mr. BOOKER advised the photograph of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN is unknown to him and he did not observe this individual in the vicinity of the Ambassador Hotel the several days preceding the shooting.

On 7/12/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-850
 by SA DWIGHT W. MORRISON/sdb Date dictated 7/17/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/3/68

[REDACTED] advised he was born [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] and is single. He has been employed as part time help at the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, in room service, which job is being terminated on June 28, 1968.

Mr. [REDACTED] advised that on June 4, 1968 he worked at the above hotel between the hours of 8:00 a.m and 4:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. and he was not in the hotel when the shooting incident occurred during the early morning of June 5, 1968.

In addition he advised that to his knowledge he had never seen SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN at any time prior to the shooting.

On 6/27/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156-851
 by SA DWIGHT W. MORRISON/nmb Date dictated 6/27/68

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