

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/1/681

HOWARD W. WYNN, Correctional Officer, U. S. Penitentiary, advised that he is well acquainted with JAMES HOFFA inasmuch as HOFFA worked under his supervision for about nine months and he has continually been alert to HOFFA's activities. He advised he has never heard the name of (FNU) DE JOSEPH at the institution. He advised HOFFA's regular dinner companions are SAMUEL DESIST and ANTHONY PROVENZANO. He said, however, there are always a number of individuals following after HOFFA and seeking to gain his favor.

339

On 6/24/68 at Lewisburg, Pa. File # Philadelphia 62-4929
by SA DELMAR H. MAYFIELD, JR. / cad Date dictated 6/25/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/1/68

1

HOWARD TWINNING, Clerk, Records Office, U. S. Penitentiary, made available the inmate files of SAMUEL DESIST, USP #32928-NE, and ANTHONY PROVENZANO, USP #32623-NE. A review of these files disclosed DESIST is a white male, Date of Birth January 11, 1923, Place of Birth Hepzibah, West Virginia, 5'6" tall, 185 pounds, black-grey hair. He is serving 18 years for narcotics violation. PROVENZANO is a white male, Date of Birth May 7, 1917, Place of Birth New York City, 5'7" tall, 155 pounds, black-grey hair. He is serving seven years for interference with interstate transportation and was the head of the Teamsters Union in New York. TWINNING advised there is no one in his file, past or present inmates, by the name of DE JOSEPH.

TWINNING advised that a review of the Bank Robbery Releasee file disclosed one FRED COOPER as being the best possibility for the person sitting at the table with POLE. COOPER's file was reviewed and the following information was obtained:

He was originally sentenced in the Northern District of Ohio for bank robbery on September 12, 1955. He was paroled on July 1, 1962, and reincarcerated on July 25, 1963, for parole violation, with 4820 days still to serve. He was re-paroled on November 13, 1967, and planned to live with his mother, Mrs. BERTHA COOPER, at 1238 Watts Street, University City, Mo. From January 6, 1967, until his release, he was assigned to living quarters in D-1 cell block. He is described as a white male, Date of Birth March 29, 1930, Place of Birth Youngstown, Ohio, 5'7" tall, 160 pounds, brown hair and eyes, occupation - salesman.

COOPER was sent to Springfield, Mo., in August of 1958 diagnosed as "Schizophrenic reaction, chronic undifferentiated type, as manifested by a history of disorientation, confusion, bizarre effect and thought content with delusions of persecution. The delusion of somatic illness persists along with his effective flattening, retarded thought processes with

340

On 6/24/68 at Lewisburg, Pa. File # Philadelphia 62-4929

by SA DELMAR H. MAYFIELD, JR. / cad Date dictated 6/25/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

PH 62-4929

2

"loosening of associations, mild depression and lethargy."
By April 1962, he was diagnosed as still retaining fragments of unusual beliefs concerning his bodily reaction, but not to the point it would interfere with his adjustment on the outside.

¹
LA 56-156
JOS/pjc

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING RUMOR
CIRCULATING IN ISRAEL, IRAQ, AND
EUROPE IN MID-MAY, 1968, THAT
SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

On June 11, 1968, Mrs. HUBERT RITCHIE, of CORNELIA GEORGIA, advised the Atlanta, Georgia Office of the FBI that she was present in the Holy Land on a Brownell Tour from May 4 to May 20, 1968. On either May 16 or May 17, 1968, JACOB HENIGMAN, Israeli guide, advised members of the tour that ROBERT KENNEDY had been shot. The guide had no further information. The guide made the same statement on subsequent mornings in response to questioning from tour members, but never retracted his statement. Mrs. RITCHIE said there were eleven other members in the Brownell Tour No. 216 (Holy Land Portion) all of whom heard the statement made by the guide. She said these tour members were from all over the United States and she could only recall a Reverend Mc CRACKEN (phonetic) an Episcopal Minister from Cleveland, Ohio.

On June 12, 1968, Mrs. JACKIE WOOD, Brownell Tours, Birmingham, Alabama, advised the Birmingham Office of the FBI that thirteen people from throughout the United States were present in the group on the above described Holy Land Tour. This group was directed by Mr. C.E. (JACK) KERNS, 313 South Camac Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Other members of the tour group were as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. RALPH BRYCE
5925 Kayron Drive
N.E. Atlanta, Georgia;

Mrs. JUANITA Mc LAUGHIN
25151 Newton Place
Dearborn, Michigan;

Mrs. GENEVA VOIPE
25135 Newton Place
Dearborn, Michigan;

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

On June 11, 1968, Mrs. HUBERT RITCHIE, of CORNELLIA GEORGIA, advised the Atlanta, Georgia Office of the FBI that she was present in the Holy Land on a Brownell Tour from May 4 to May 20, 1968. On either May 16 or May 17, 1968, JACOB HENIGMAN, Israeli guide, advised members of the tour that ROBERT KENNEDY had been shot. The guide had no further information. The guide made the same statement on subsequent mornings in response to questioning from tour members, but never retracted his statement. Mrs. RITCHIE said there were eleven other members in the Brownell Tour No. 216 (Holy Land Portion) all of whom heard the statement made by the guide. She said these tour members were from all over the United States and she could only recall a Reverend Mc CRACKEN (phonetic) an Episcopal Minister from Cleveland, Ohio.

On June 12, 1968, Mrs. JACKIE WOOD, Brownell Tours, Birmingham, Alabama, advised the Birmingham Office of the FBI that thirteen people from throughout the United States were present in the group on the above described Holy Land Tour. This group was directed by Mr. C.E. (JACK) KERNS, 313 South Camac Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Other members of the tour group were as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. RALPH BRYCE
5925 Kayron Drive
N.E. Atlanta, Georgia;

Mrs. JUANITA Mc LAUGHIN
25151 Newton Place
Dearborn, Michigan;

Mrs. GENEVA VOLPE
25135 Newton Place
Dearborn, Michigan;

2

LA 56-156
JFH/amc

Miss ELIZABETH SINTON
29 Grant Street
Mt. Holly, New Jersey

Reverend W. Mc CRACKEN
3071 North Park Boulevard
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Mr. JOHN KROGNESS
2509 Overlook Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Mr. and Mrs. J.B. LOVE
4631 Hickory Ridge Road
Jackson, Mississippi

Miss ALICE PEEL
701 Rio Grande
Austin, Texas

Mrs. WOOD further advised that KERNS would be the individual most likely to have established contact with Israeli guide JACOB BENIGMAN.

Reverend W. CHAVE Mc CRACKEN, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 3071 North Park Boulevard, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, advised the Cleveland Office of the FBI on June 12, 1968, that he was a member of Brownell Tour No. 216 in the Holy Land during the period of approximately May 14 to May 22, 1968.

On May 16, 1968, the group lunched at the Senadar Hotel Restaurant in modern Caesarea. At approximately 1:30 p.m., he heard the rumor that an attempt had been made on the life of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Rumor further indicated that Senator KENNEDY was still alive, but in critical condition.

-- 344 0

3
LA 56-156
JFM/anc

Mc CRACKEN advised that the news prompted highly emotional reaction which partially clouds his recollection, but that his current recollection is that information regarding Senator KENNEDY came from the tour guide, JACOB HENIGMAN. Mc CRACKEN stated that the tour guide advised he had heard news "on the air" implying radio broadcast. Mc CRACKEN stated the guide indicated the news was in Hebrew language. Mc CRACKEN possessed no information regarding identity or location of station.

Mc CRACKEN stated further attempts to confirm the rumor were completely negative. He stated that no information was heard on the radio and nothing appeared in Israeli newspapers concerning this matter. Mc CRACKEN then assumed the rumor to be false and made no further inquiries concerning it.

On June 13, 1968, SYLVIA FOGELSON, 45 A Linn Drive, Verona, New Jersey, advised the Newark Office of the FBI that on May 16 or 17, 1968, she was a member of a tour, name not recalled, in Jerusalem, and while in the Jordanian section, an unknown Arab male told them that Senator KENNEDY had been shot. Mrs. FOGELSON said the man gave no further details, and was not seen again. She said she supposed it was a joke and later after Senator KENNEDY was shot decided to make this information available.

On the same date, Mrs. ELIZABETH SINTON, 29 Grant Street, Mt. Holly, New Jersey, also advised the Newark Office of the FBI that she was on the Brownell Tour in Jerusalem during mid-May 1968, but at no time heard the guide or any other person mention that Senator KENNEDY had been shot.

On June 13, 1968, JOHN KROGNESS, stockbroker with Paine, Weber, Jackson, and Curtis, 1021 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio, advised the Cleveland Office of the FBI that he was present in the Holy Land with the Brownell Tour from approximately May 14 to May 22, 1968.

KROGNESS stated that on May 16, 1968, the tour group

4
LA 56-156
JFH/amc

had lunch at the Semadar Hotel Restaurant in modern Caesarea. At approximately 1:15 to 1:30 p.m., upon leaving the restaurant, he heard a rumor from a tourist, identity unknown to him, that an attempt had been made on the life of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in Nebraska, City unknown.

KROGNES could not attribute this information to the Israeli guide JACOB HENIGMAN, however, he did inquire of HENIGMAN if he had heard any news regarding this incident, and HENIGMAN replied in the negative.

KROGNES stated that he did not hear any further comments regarding this matter, that nothing was observed in Israeli newspapers, nor did he hear any broadcast concerning same, so assumed it was a rumor and made no further inquiries.

On June 13, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. LOVE, 4631 Hickory Ridge Road, Jackson, Mississippi, advised the Jackson Office of the FBI that they had been on a Brownell Tour in the Holy Land from May 14 to May 20, 1968. On about May 15 or 16, 1968, Mr. LOVE said he heard someone in the tour group mention that ROBERT KENNEDY had been shot in the United States. He could not recall which member of the group said it but believed that one member of the group had heard it from a third party. The alleged shooting was discussed by members of the tour for about three hours on the day it was mentioned, however, no further mention of it was made on subsequent dates to their knowledge.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. LOVE had ever heard JACOB HENIGMAN, Israeli tour guide known as "JAKE", make any statement concerning the United States or the political conditions of the United States. They did not hear the guide say that KENNEDY had been shot, and neither of them believed that the guide actually made the statement.

On June 19, 1968, Mrs. JUANITA Mc LAUGHIN, residing at

4

LA 56-156
JFH/amc

had lunch at the Semadar Hotel Restaurent in modern Caesarea. At approximately 1:15 to 1:30 p.m., upon leaving the restaurant, he heard a rumor from a tourist, identity unknown to him, that an attempt had been made on the life of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in Nebraska, City unknown.

KROGNESS could not attribute this information to the Israeli guide JACOB HENIGMAN, however, he did inquire of HENIGMAN if he had heard any news regarding this incident, and HENIGMAN replied in the negative.

KROGNESS stated that he did not hear any further comments regarding this matter, that nothing was observed in Israeli newspapers, nor did he hear any broadcast concerning same, so assumed it was a rumor and made no further inquiries.

On June 13, 1968, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. LOVE, 4631 Hickory Ridge Road, Jackson, Mississippi, advised the Jackson Office of the FBI that they had been on a Brownell Tour in the Holy Land from May 14 to May 20, 1968. On about May 15 or 16, 1968, Mr. LOVE said he heard someone in the tour group mention that ROBERT KENNEDY had been shot in the United States. He could not recall which member of the group said it but believes that one member of the group had heard from a third party. The alleged shooting was discussed by members of the tour for about three hours on the day it was mentioned, however, no further mention of it was made on subsequent dates to their knowledge.

Neither Mr. nor Mrs. LOVE had ever heard JACOB HENIGMAN, Israeli tour guide known as "JAKE", make any statement concerning the United States or the political conditions of the United States. They did not hear the guide say that KENNEDY had been shot, and neither of them believed that the guide actually made the statement.

On June 19, 1968, Mrs. JUANITA Mc LAUGHIN, residing at

5
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

25151 Newton, and Mrs. GENEVA VOLPE residing at 25135 Newton, in Dearborn, Michigan, both advised they did not hear any comments or statements made by anyone during their tour of the Holy Land relative to Senator KENNEDY being shot. They both said one of the Israeli guides was called JAKE, however, they could not recall his full name. They said JACOB HENIGMAN could have been the guide whom they knew as JAKE. They said they arrived in the Holy Land on May 14, 1968, and left during the afternoon of May 22, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID ROBERT EVANS at Austin, Texas, on July 3, 1968:

Miss ALICE DENTLER PEEL, Owner, Business Services, home residence 704 Rio Grande, advised she was on tour throughout Europe and the Middle East during the period from May 12 through July 2, 1968. She stated the first portion of her tour was sponsored by Brownell Tours.

PEEL advised she departed New York on the evening of May 13, 1968, via Transworld Airlines, Flight 840, and arrived in Tel Aviv on the afternoon of May 14, 1968. She remained in Tel Aviv through May 16, 1968, and then departed by bus en route to Haifa, Israel. She indicated that the guide for the tour during this portion of the trip was JACOB HENIGMAN. PEEL advised that on the morning of May 17, 1968, she and members of the tour were on a full-day excursion and were en route to Tiberias. While at a rest stop she recalled that a member of the tour, whose identity she did not recall, asked her if she heard that KENNEDY had been shot. Miss PEEL stated this was the first time that she had heard this remark but that later it seemed that the rumor then spread like wildfire and the tour members were questioning each other as well as the guide for further details. Miss PEEL indicated that she could only assume that possibly the tour guide, JACOB HENIGMAN, had told the director of the tour, Mr. JACK KERNS, that KENNEDY had been shot. Miss PEEL stated unequivocally that at no time did she hear either the director or the tour guide, JACOB HENIGMAN, make a direct statement concerning KENNEDY.

5
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

25151 Newton, and Mrs. GENEVA VOLPE residing at 25135 Newton, in Dearborn, Michigan, both advised they did not hear any comments or statements made by anyone during their tour of the Holy Land relative to Senator KENNEDY being shot. They both said one of the Israeli guides was called JAKE, however, they could not recall his full name. They said JACOB HENIGMAN could have been the guide whom they knew as JAKE. They said they arrived in the Holy Land on May 14, 1968, and left during the afternoon of May 22, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DAVID ROBERT EVANS at Austin, Texas, on July 3, 1968:

Miss ALICE DEXTER PEEL, Owner, Business Services, home residence 704 Rio Grande, advised she was on tour throughout Europe and the Middle East during the period from May 12 through July 2, 1968. She stated the first portion of her tour was sponsored by Brownell Tours.

PEEL advised she departed New York on the evening of May 13, 1968, via Transworld Airlines, Flight 840, and arrived in Tel Aviv on the afternoon of May 14, 1968. She remained in Tel Aviv through May 16, 1968, and then departed by bus en route to Haifa, Israel. She indicated that the guide for the tour during this portion of the trip was JACOB HENIGMAN. PEEL advised that on the morning of May 17, 1968, she and members of the tour were on a full-day excursion and were en route to Tiberias. While at a rest stop she recalled that a member of the tour, whose identity she did not recall, asked her if she heard that KENNEDY had been shot. Miss PEEL stated this was the first time that she had heard this remark but that later it seemed that the rumor then spread like wildfire and the tour members were questioning each other as well as the guide for further details. Miss PEEL indicated that she could only assume that possibly the tour guide, JACOB HENIGMAN, had told the director of the tour, Mr. JACK KERNS, that KENNEDY had been shot. Miss PEEL stated unequivocally that at no time did she hear either the director or the tour guide, JACOB HENIGMAN, make a direct statement concerning KENNEDY.

6

LA 56-156

JFli/amc

Miss PEEL stated she was not aware of the original source of the information that KENNEDY had been shot; however, she assumed that possibly the source was a broadcast over the Israeli radio. PEEL advised that tour members did question the guide, JACOB HENIGMAN, for further details; however, the guide indicated he had no further information. Miss PEEL advised that the guide, upon subsequent questioning the next day after periodically listening to the news broadcasts over the radio, replied that "No news is good news."

Miss PEEL advised that on the morning of May 18, 1968, tour members continued to question the tour guide for any further details regarding KENNEDY, however, the tour guide indicated again that he had no further information. She stated that the tour guide did periodically listen to news broadcasts on the radio and upon questioning would indicate to tour members that the broadcasts contained no news concerning KENNEDY. Miss PEEL advised she can only assume that possibly there may have been some error in reporting a news item concerning KENNEDY.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/22/68

MAX BERMAN, residing at 4629 Fulton Avenue, Apartment 202, home telephone 783-5526, furnished the following information:

Mr. BERMAN said he had previously given some information concerning Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY's assassination to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Rampart Division. He said he and his wife were on vacation during May and June, 1968, visiting various parts of the world. On May 16, 1968, they were in Caesarea, Israel, which is located near the Jordanian border. On this day at about 12:00 noon, they, along with other tourists, made a stop at the Semadar Hotel for lunch. As he and his wife entered the hotel lobby they heard a man demand that they be quiet. This man was wearing earphones and stated that Senator KENNEDY was shot in Los Angeles. BERMAN said he asked the man where he got his information and the man replied, "the BBC". This man did not give any more information. BERMAN said he then went to the hotel restaurant and told the other tourists of the news. The next day he bought a local newspaper but could not find anything in it pertaining to Senator KENNEDY being shot. He and his wife continued on their trip and arrived back in Los Angeles on June 3, 1968. He said on June 4, 1968, while watching television, he learned that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was shot at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California. Sometime later, when he heard on television that the Police Department had found a book in the house of accused assassin, SIRHAN SIRHAN, pertaining to the date Senator KENNEDY had to be shot, he felt he should call the police.

Mr. BERMAN said he was interviewed by Detective BELDING of the Rampart Division, LAPD, concerning his experience in Caesarea, Israel.

Mr. BERMAN said that his wife, ZELDA BERMAN, could furnish no further information other than he has already given.

On 7/20/68 at Sherman Oaks, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

- 349 -

by SA WILLIAM L. BOURQUE/mlh Date dictated 7/22/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 2, 1968

Mrs. BERTHA BRYCE, 5925 Kayron Drive, Northeast, Atlanta, Georgia, was interviewed at her home and advised that she recalled an Israeli guide by the name of JACOB, last name unrecalled, while a member of the Brownell Tour Number 16. Mrs. BRYCE advised, however, she was unaware of any statement made by JACOB concerning Robert Kennedy and could offer no further information in this matter.

350

On 10/2/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2412

by SA JAMES J. ROSE :bjc Date dictated 10/2/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date October 2, 1968

Mr. RALPH BRYCE, 5925 Kayron Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, was interviewed at his home and furnished the following information:

BRYCE acknowledged the fact that he was a member of the Brownell Tour Number 16 which traveled in the Holy Lands between May 14 and 20, 1968. BRYCE readily recalled the tour guide, JACOB HENIGMAN. According to BRYCE, HENIGMAN was an Israeli guide who was responsible for the above tour while in the Holy Lands.

BRYCE stated that HENIGMAN never made any mention to Robert Kennedy in his presence at any time during the above tour. BRYCE stated HENIGMAN made no mention to American politics at all, but did voice his anti-Arab feelings throughout the tour.

BRYCE stated that he recalled a Mrs. RICHIE from an unrecalled town in Georgia as having joined the above tour in the Holy Lands for two days. BRYCE was unaware of any statement made by HENIGMAN to RICHIE concerning Senator Robert Kennedy being shot. BRYCE stated that his contact by the FBI in this matter was the first time he had ever been made aware of any such statement by HENIGMAN and he could offer no further information in this matter.

351

On 10/2/68 at Atlanta, Georgia File # Atlanta 44-2412

by SA JAMES J. ROSE : bjc Date dictated 10/2/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

On June 5, 1968, PAUL KUIKA, 815 East Angelino, Burbank, California, advised SA JESSE V. MC NULTY that he received a letter from his cousin on May 29, 1968. The letter was written in the Czechoslovakian language and it was written on May 16, 1968. Mr. KUIKA said the letter stated that radio reports indicated that ROBERT KENNEDY was shot. The cousin, whom he identified as a 68 year old widow named LUDMILA VLACIL, resides at Dolcplazy, Olomouc, Moravia, Czechoslovakia. The cousin requested that KUIKA write the details to her. KUIKA said that in view of the advance information concerning the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY which actually occurred on June 5, 1968, this information might be of significance.

The above described letter was obtained from Mr. KUIKA and was forwarded to the FBI laboratory for appropriate translation. The following is the translation of the letter as furnished by the FBI laboratory:

2
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

One-page handwritten letter from:
Ludm. (ila) Vlacilova (Vlacil)
Doloplazy u (near) Olomouce
(CSSR)

To: Mrs. and Mr. (sic)
Paul Kulka
815 E. Angeleno Avenue
Burbank, California

Postmarks: (1) Dolopazy u Olomouce
5/16/68
(2) (3) Burbank, California
May 20, 1968

Translator's Note: Another address is written on the envelope:

665 Harrison Street
San Francisco
91407

*

*

*

Doloplazy 5/16/68

My dear ones,

I don't know whether I thanked you or replied to your last dear letter, but if this is the case, it was unintentional, and so now I will thank you twice. I am always very glad when I hear from you and your letters are very dear to me! The day before yesterday I received a letter from Greta Musilova which saddened me very much. Karel is gravely ill, as you know it well yourselves, and there is no hope for his recovery. The doctor gives him one year to live, and this is great suffering,

3
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

not only for him (he doesn't know it) but also for Greta. She has had more than her share of troubles already. I am very sorry for her and think of her all the time. Write to her soon, but in such a way that Karel could read it, too. So, I cannot write all about him (what Greta wrote to me). Mirek finished his course of study and now is waiting for a place (employment). He was here all of April when he finished his studies. He came down with his brother-in-law, who was going to Germany on official business, and so he stopped here, too. I was very pleased, because one never knows whether or not we will see each other again. We talked about you all. Last week he left and I wish very much that he finds something suitable; otherwise I suppose he will return (two illegible words). As you certainly know, things are a little more relaxed here. Freedom is the most precious thing one can have and we (the people) have not even suspected for the whole twenty years what an orgy has been carried on behind our backs. We hope for better times.

They announced over the radio this morning that Robert Kennedy was shot - for God's sake, what is going on - and it always happens to the best ones! When you write to me, Paul, tell me about it. As I became old, I became interested in politics and in everything around me. What about your house? Have you sold it yet? Do not hurry; you would miss it and the garden, and I would lose a pleasant memory about the place where I spent a number of nice days.

Is Lilinka well? I wish you both much health for as long as possible. I already feel my years, slowly but surely.

Irena will possibly fly again with Max to the U.S. for her (?) sons (?). She wrote to me to come with Emily to Vienna for three days. We shall see. Poor people, they have it so uncertain again - such is the world - disgusting!

I give my best regards to your children, also to the Goldsneiders - Tony and Flero (?). I think of you and kiss you.

Ludka (Ludmila).

4
TA 56-156
JFM/amc

IRA KATCHEN, 384 Highland Avenue, Elboron, New Jersey, an attorney with offices at Longbranch, New Jersey, advised the Newark Office of the FBI on July 11, 1968, that on May 14, 1968, he was staying at Hotel Esplanarde in Prague, Czechoslovakia, with his son JULIUS KATCHEN, pianist. He said his son was playing in a recital on May 16 and May 18, 1968, at Prague.

On the morning of May 15, 1968, his son met some friends of his in the Hotel Esplanarde and they heard on the Prague radio that ROBERT F. KENNEDY had been shot in California. These friends were very upset and were determined to find out what the story was. About an hour later it was determined that this was not true but several people had already heard this on the Prague radio. KATCHEN advised that CHARLES GORDON, head of the Joint Distribution Committee, was killed six months ago in Prague, reportedly by Arabs. He said that he is just assuming that there may be a conspiracy between the killing of GORDON and KENNEDY. He stated he is reporting this only because he believes there is possibly some link between this and the KENNEDY assassination. He stated he has learned that a tape of this broadcast in Prague can be obtained from the manager of the Hotel Esplanarde, where he stayed.

On the same date, ANNA UHLIK, 154 Brookside Avenue, Irvington, New Jersey, also advised the Newark Office of the FBI that on May 21, 1968, she received a letter from her sister, MARIE KADLER, Village of Roster, Post Office in Malesov, County of Kutna Hara, Czechoslovakia, advising that some time prior to May 16, 1968, she had heard over a radio broadcast that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY had been shot in the head and was not expected to recover. The letter continued that the next day there was a retraction denoting error in that information over the same radio station. According to ANNA UHLIK the letter gave no further information.

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

On June 11, 1968, Colonel MERLE R. PREBLE, United States Army (Retired), and Field Representative of the National Rifle Association, Washington, D.C., furnished the following information to the Washington Field Office of the FBI.

On Thursday, June 6, 1968, Lieutenant Colonel WILLIAM PULLUM, United States Army (Retired), who is Officer in Charge, of the United States Army International Rifle Team, United States Army Advance Marksmanship Unit, Fort Benning, Georgia, told PREBLE that ten days to two weeks prior to the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY the team was engaged in international competition in Czechoslovakia with European teams from there and the Soviet Union. PULLUM said that inquiries were made either of his team or of himself, as to whether they had heard of a plot to assassinate KENNEDY prior to the team's departure from the United States. PREBLE speculated that the inquiries could have originated from a GRU representative accompanying the Soviet team.

On June 12, 1968, Lieutenant Colonel WILLIAM C. PULLUM, United States Army (Retired), who is employed as coach of the United States Army International Rifle Team, Army Marksmanship Unit, Fort Benning, Georgia, furnished the following information to the Atlanta Office of the FBI.

On May 24, 1968, he was in Stockholm, Sweden, when Colonel ROBERT F. BAYARD, Commanding Officer of the Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, came to him from a shoot in Czechoslovakia. Colonel BAYARD asked PULLUM if he had read in a paper or heard an English broadcast, which BAYARD had heard in Czechoslovakia, that KENNEDY had been shot in the neck. PULLUM said he had not heard anything of this nature and told BAYARD he thought it was a rumor. BAYARD did not relate the exact source of information in Czechoslovakia, and PULLUM could not comment concerning the source.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 7/26/681

Colonel ROBERT F. BAYARD, Commanding Officer, United States Army, Marksmanship Training Unit, Fort Benning, Georgia, furnished the following information:

Colonel BAYARD and members of his shotgun team attended the Grand Prix de Brno at Brno, Czechoslovakia, May 17-18, 1968. On one of the above dates, the head clerk at the Grand Hotel, Brno, Czechoslovakia, where the members of the team were staying, mentioned that he had heard on the radio news that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY had been shot, receiving a flesh wound in the neck and was in satisfactory condition. The same information was obtained from the head waiter in the dining room of the Grand Hotel.

The members of the unit attempted to purchase some newspaper that they could read to verify the information and the only newspaper available that they could read was an East German newspaper. A review of this newspaper failed to reflect any story concerning the alleged shooting. Colonel BAYARD and the members of his unit assumed that it was just rumor and that it had no factual basis.

Colonel BAYARD had no further information concerning the statements and was unable to furnish the names of the head clerk at the Grand Hotel or the head waiter.

- 357 -

On 7/24/68 at Fort Benning, Georgia File # Los Angeles 56-156
Atlanta 44-2412

by SA CHARLES PAUL ROSE/cjm Date dictated 7/25/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

On June 7, 1968, Mrs. ANN REEVES, 19 Patricia Lane, Trenton, New Jersey, advised the Newark Office of the FBI that on June 6, 1968, in general conversation with her next door neighbor Mrs. CATHRINE LATOOF concerning the assassination of Senator KENNEDY, Mrs. LATOOF expressed sympathy concerning Senator KENNEDY's death. Mrs. LATOOF indicated to Mrs. REEVES that while visiting her brother JOSEPH HAGE, of New York City, on June 2, 1968, in the company of ANTOINE HAGE a citizen of Haiti, a discussion arose between them concerning Senator KENNEDY's current political campaign. Her brother ANTOINE then expressed surprise concerning the activities ... of Senator KENNEDY, indicating he had heard prior to leaving Haiti that Senator KENNEDY had been shot, or would be shot.

Mrs. LATOOF discounted this statement in New York City, as Senator KENNEDY was then alive. Mrs. REEVES stated she was naturally concerned over the statements of ANTOINE HAGE on June 2, 1968, to his sister and brother, that KENNEDY was dead or would be shot in the light of subsequent events concerning the death of Senator KENNEDY on June 6, 1968.

On June 7 1968, Mrs. CATHRINE LATOOF, 17 Patricia Lane, Trenton, New Jersey, advised the Newark Office of the FBI, that she and her brother left Trenton, New Jersey, on Sunday afternoon June 2, 1968, for New York City, as JOSEPH HAGE was to have surgery at a New York Hospital on East 68th Street. While in New York City on June 2, 1968, she and JOSEPH were joined by their brother ANTOINE HAGE, who had recently arrived from Haiti to visit his brother prior to his operation.

Mrs. LATOOF denied knowing any statement that her brother ANTOINE indicated to her and her brother on June 2, 1968, that he was surprised to hear that Senator KENNEDY was alive and that prior to leaving Haiti, ANTOINE had heard that Senator was shot or was going to be shot.

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

The Oklahoma City Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation received a letter from Mrs. EZELL NELSON, Route 1, Amber, Oklahoma, on June 20, 1968. Mrs. NELSON enclosed a personal letter which was written by her son, ABBOTT O. NELSON, Post Office Box 3028, Baghdad, Iraq. The following is a quotation from the letter which was dated June 8, 1968:

"My Dear Mother and Daddy:

"About two weeks ago we heard a rumor that Robert Kennedy had been shot. This second time was not a rumor....."

The remainder of the letter was personal between Mr..NELSON and his parents.

Mrs. NELSON stated that her son was thirty-five years of age and a graduate of the University of Oklahoma, in 1955, with a degree in Public Relations in the School of Journalism. She said he was employed by C. BREWER, who has the contract with the Hawaiian Agrinomics (International), home office in Honolulu, Hawaii, for the Iraq project. She said the Iraq project is known as the Amarah Sugar Project, Post Office Box 3028, Baghdad, Iraq, and her son was employed as the Public Relations and Social Director for the project near Amarah, Iraq.

LA 56-156
JFM/lmm

On June 10, 1968, JIM ADAMS, Instruction Pilot for the Boeing Company, Seattle, Washington, advised the Seattle Office of the FBI that he and a colleague, DON SUPSINSKAS, Instructor, Flight Engineer for Boeing were engaged in making a survey of United Arab Airlines, in May 1968.

ADAMS said he and SUPSINSKAS boarded a United Arab Airlines flight in London for Cairo, by way of Paris and Rome. All crew members were described as being Egyptians. Outside of Paris, the captain of the flight, FALAH OMAR, and a crew member asked ADAMS and SUPSINSKAS what they knew of an attempted assassination on ROBERT KENNEDY. ADAMS said that he and SUPSINSKAS did not know of any attempt. He said when he reached Cairo, he found no information regarding an attempt on the life of ROBERT KENNEDY in Cairo newspapers. He said these newspapers in Cairo were printed in the English language. ADAMS said he reached Cairo at 2:00 a.m. on May 12, 1968. He had no further information to offer regarding this matter.

1
LA 56-156
JFM/amc

On September 12, 1968, JOSEPH STRONG, International Sales Manager, Spencer Laboratories Division, Raytheon Company, Wayside Avenue, Burlington, Massachusetts, advised the Boston Office of the FBI as follows:

On May 18, 1968, he was a passenger on an Alitalia Airlines flight from Rome, Italy, to Beirut, Lebanon, arriving at the above destination around 3:30 p.m. on that date. He recalled that there was only one other first-class passenger on the above flight. He was furnished a business card by this man reflecting his identification as follows:

Said Abdel-Malek
Sales Manager in Nigeria for
Middle East Airlines
Okunola House
17 Martins Street
Lagos, Nigeria

Business Telephones: 26832
24420

Residence: Post Office Box 1117

Telephone: 27057

STRONG stated ABDEL-MALEK was reading an Arabic language newspaper, apparently purchased by him in Rome prior to the flight, and he commented to STRONG about an article in the paper reporting a rumor to the effect that United States Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY had been shot. Strong stated that he himself was unable to read the article inasmuch as he could not read or translate Arabic.

STRONG stated he recalled commenting about the article to an unidentified American male later on May 18, 1968, in a bar in Beirut, but he never read or heard anything further in newspapers or on radios concerning the rumor in the days immediately following May 18, 1968.

¹
LA 56-156
JOS/rem

MISCELLANEOUS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 9/17/68

Mrs. FRANCES EVANS, 11125 Hibbing, Cerritos, California, advised she attended an adult education class in Introduction to Philosophy from September, 1967, to January, 1968, at Fullerton Junior College. The instructor was KIM NAFFA. In addition to the class there discussion groups held at various places made up of interested individuals. NAFFA had many Arab friends that attended the discussion that were not members of the class. They discussed current problems in the mid-East and their problems with the Zionists and the like.

Generally those in attendance at these discussion groups had the viewpoint that there is a revolution now in progress in the world and on the campuses, which they favored. In general these people, if not pro-communist, were at least one world advocates.

NAFFA did not appear as radical as some of the people present but supported the Arab viewpoint.

During November, 1967, at one of the discussion groups held at NAFFA's home at 408 Barry Place, Placentia, California, after the group had concluded, three or four Jordanians stopped in from Pasadena. Some were studying at Pasadena City College. One of those from Pasadena spoke with quiet desperation about how his father's land and home had been taken from them twice by the Zionists. He commented to the effect "to heck" with Philosophy, if the communists would help them why not go with them.

She said that later on after Senator ROBERT KENNEDY was shot, she saw a photograph of SIRHAN SIRHAN on TV. She said that she is 99 per cent sure that this was the person she saw at NAFFA's who talked about how his father's land and home had been taken.

On 9/17/68 at Cerritos, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
- 363 -
by SA RICHARD J. NELSON/pjc Date dictated 9/17/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 9/17/68

Mrs. FRANCES EVANS, 11125 Hibbing, Cerritos, California, advised she attended an adult education class in Introduction to Philosophy from September, 1967, to January, 1968, at Fullerton Junior College. The instructor was KIM NAFFA. In addition to the class there discussion groups held at various places made up of interested individuals. NAFFA had many Arab friends that attended the were discussion that were not members of the class. They discussed current problems in the mid-East and their problems with the Zionists and the like.

Generally those in attendance at these discussion groups had the viewpoint that there is a revolution now in progress in the world and on the campuses, which they favored. In general these people, if not pro-communist, were at least one world advocates.

NAFFA did not appear as radical as some of the people present but supported the Arab viewpoint.

During November, 1967, at one of the discussion groups held at NAFFA's home at 408 Barry Place, Placentia, California, after the group had concluded, three or four Jordanians stopped in from Pasadena. Some were studying at Pasadena City College. One of those from Pasadena spoke with quiet desperation about how his father's land and home had been taken from them twice by the Zionists. He commented to the effect "to heck" with Philosophy, if the communists would help them why not go with them.

She said that later on after Senator ROBERT KENNEDY was shot, she saw a photograph of SIRHAN SIRHAN on TV. She said that she is 99 per cent sure that this was the person she saw at NAFFA's who talked about how his father's land and home had been taken.

On 9/17/68 at Cerritos, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
- 363 -
by SA RICHARD J. NELSON/pjc Date dictated 9/17/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 10/4/68

Mrs. FRANCES (ALFRED E. EVANS, JR.) EVANS, 11125 Hibbing Street, Cerritos, California, was recontacted and advised that the group discussions at the home of KIM NAFFA were actually by invitation and she could not recall anyone from her Philosophy class being there the night that she believed SIRHAN appeared. She said that she also did not believe that JOHN CANNON, Geography Department, California State, Fullerton, or TED VJARDIS were there as they usually left promptly when the discussion broke up. The group of Jordanians came in after the discussion actually broke up. EVANS noted that NAFFA's wife was Miss Jordan of several years ago and that it was generally recognized that NAFFA is known to probably all Jordanians in this area although it was possible NAFFA did not know SIRHAN. She also said that SIRHAN was not a member of her class nor a member of the discussion group; he just showed up with some other Arabs from Pasadena.

On 9/30/68 at Cerritos, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
- 364 -
by SA RICHARD J. NELSON/pjc Date dictated 9/30/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

7/31/63

Date _____

SAMUEL TOLCH, 7041 Coldwater Canyon, North Hollywood (764-7631) was interviewed at his place of employment, Nardoni Bail Bonds, 948 North Vignes (624-7731), and furnished the following information:

In May 1963, exact date unrecalled, he attended a gathering in support of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles. According to TOLCH, this function was originally scheduled to include an appearance by Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, but featured Senator EDWARD KENNEDY when ROBERT KENNEDY was detained campaigning in San Francisco, California.

Shortly after arriving at the Embassy Room at approximately 9:30 p.m., TOLCH observed a dark-complexioned white male individual standing near a hallway leading from the Embassy Room to the kitchen area, approximately 15 feet from the side of the stage. TOLCH further described this individual as being 25 - 30 years of age, approximately 5'5", 140 pounds, thin build, very curly dark hair, and wearing blue jeans and a light colored pullover knit type shirt. Between 9:30 and approximately 11:30 p.m. when TOLCH left the hotel, he walked by the area near the kitchen hall three or four times and observed this individual standing in the same location. According to TOLCH, this individual appeared to be by himself. At no time did TOLCH observe this individual talk with anyone or circulate among the crowd.

TOLCH further advised that, following the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and the publication of photographs of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN in local newspapers, he observed a photograph of SIRHAN and immediately recognized it as very closely resembling the above described individual he observed at the Ambassador Hotel in May 1963.

TOLCH was shown additional photographs of SIRHAN, including a photograph taken June 5, 1963, by the Los Angeles Police Department, and, after viewing same, advised that he is certain in his own mind that the individual he observed is identical to the photographs of SIRHAN.

On 7/26/63 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA RICHARD J. RAYSA/eb - 365 - Date dictated 7/31/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2
LA 56-156

TOLCH indicated that he does not know of anyone else who observed the above described individual, noting that he went to the hotel by himself.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

8/7/68

Date _____

HARRIET LESSNER, 4318 Colbath, Sherman Oaks, California, was interviewed at the Sawyer School of Business, 5352 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, at which time she furnished the following information:

In mid-May 1968, she volunteered to work for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in the Sherman Oaks area. About ten days before the assassination of Senator KENNEDY, she attended, along with her father and four year old daughter, a rally at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California.

Just as she was entering the hotel with her daughter, she had conversation with an unknown white male concerning the excitement of her daughter at the prospect of shaking hands with Senator KENNEDY. In the course of this exchange, the man said, "Wouldn't it be something if she lives to tell about it." She thought this comment was very strange and simply said to the man that she certainly hoped her daughter would. After saying this to the man, she went on into the hotel to await the appearance of Senator KENNEDY.

While in the hotel waiting for Senator KENNEDY, she heard rumors that he was to come through the kitchen entrance into the Cocoanut Grove Room. In an effort to get close to the Senator, she went to the area of the kitchen entrance where she again observed the same man who had spoken to her concerning her daughter. The man was wearing a dark jacket and at the time she thought the jacket rather heavy in view of the fact the room was quite stuffy. Also, the man did not have on a tie and did not appear to be dressed for the occasion. Senator KENNEDY did not come through the kitchen entrance and when he did enter the room she lost sight of the man and did not see him again that night.

After the assassination of Senator KENNEDY, she observed photographs of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN on television

On 8/5/68 at North Hollywood, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA RICHARD P. DOUCETTE/jmb - 367 - Date dictated 8/6/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

²
LA 56-156

and in the newspapers and was positive that this was the same man who had spoken to her in front of the Ambassador Hotel on the night of the KENNEDY rally.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.Date July 30, 1968

Mrs. CONSTANCE CHANCELLOR, Mt. Riga, Salisbury, Connecticut, was interviewed on July 26, 1968, in Salisbury, where she is vacationing, concerning the Latin type person who inquired of JAMES MC MANUS on May 30, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, regarding Senator KENNEDY's schedule.

Mrs. CHANCELLOR stated she had no recollection whatsoever of being present at the time the inquiry was made of MC MANUS and she was unable to furnish any further information concerning this.

369

On 7/26/68 at Salisbury, Conn. File # NH 62-2477

by SA WILLIAM V. GRICKIS/clf Date dictated 7/29/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

8/1/68

Mrs. MIRIAM NEVILLE DAVIS was interviewed at her place of employment, Child Care Center, 111 East Dyer, Compton, California. She advised that she resided at 825 West Elm Street, Compton, telephone No. 635-7820, and that she was born on September 10, 1921, at Bessemer, Alabama.

Mrs. DAVIS advised that on Sunday, June 2, 1968, she was at the Ambassador Hotel on Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles as a hostess for a reception in honor of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY sponsored by Assemblyman LEON RALPH. She stated that she arrived at the hotel at approximately 7:30 PM and that she and the rest of the individuals at the reception awaited the arrival of Senator KENNEDY in the Cocoanut Grove ballroom until approximately 9:00 PM, at which time Senator KENNEDY arrived. He spoke approximately for five minutes and then left, leaving the hotel by at least 9:30 PM.

Mrs. DAVIS advised that after Senator KENNEDY had left and the crowd had begun to disperse she and her daughter and husband went into the kitchen area on the same floor as the Cocoanut Grove ballroom looking for a place to get a drink of water. She stated that as they approached the kitchen they saw a man sitting on a bar inside the kitchen in dark pants and a T-shirt and she described him as a short, swarthy, bushy-haired individual. Mrs. DAVIS advised that she at first thought this man was a waiter and asked him where the water was and he replied that he did not know. By this she got the impression that he might not have been an employee of the hotel.

Mrs. DAVIS advised that after the assassination of Senator KENNEDY on June 4, 1968, when she saw the pictures on the television and in the newspaper, of the man known as SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, she immediately recognized him as the same man that she had seen in the kitchen. She stated that she was fairly certain that it was the same individual and if it was not that it was someone who certainly looked exactly like SIRHAN.

She advised that she did not attend the rally at the Ambassador Hotel on the night of the assassination and that she did not see the individual in the kitchen at any other time except when the picture appeared in the newspaper.

On 7/31/68 at Compton, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
- 370 -

by SA E. RHEAD RICHARDS, JR./jmb Date dictated 7/31/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

9/20/63

Date _____

ANTHONY SHIH, a resident of 51 Lurline Street, San Francisco, California, was located and interviewed at the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB). SHIH advised that at the present time he has no local residence, having just arrived at Santa Barbara, California. He stated that on the evening of June 5, 1963, when Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was assassinated at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, he was also in Los Angeles. SHIH stated that as a matter of fact he was en route to the Ambassador Hotel when several blocks from the hotel he heard the announcement on his automobile radio that Senator KENNEDY had been shot. SHIH stated that he did not know the accused assailant, SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. SHIH stated he had no personal knowledge regarding the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

He advised that it was his understanding VALARIE SCHULTE, a student at UCSB, and NANCY WEBBER, who is now NANCY WALLACE, a former student at UCSB, were in or around the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, when Senator KENNEDY was assassinated.

On 9/16/63 at Santa Barbara, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
371
by SA ROBERT X. RYAN/eb Date dictated 9/17/63

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

9/24/68

Date _____

STANLEY M. GRUBE, Administrator of Corona Community Hospital, home address 245 East Mission Road, Corona, California, advised that he was not at the Ambassador Hotel on the night that Senator ROBERT KENNEDY was shot. He said he checked in the day after the shooting which was the day Senator KENNEDY died. He was at the Hotel only one night and attended a convention of the American College of Hospital Administrators. He was not at the Ambassador Hotel on the night of June 4 through 5, 1968.

On 9/23/68 at Corona, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA LANFORD L. BLANTON/lel Date dictated 9/23/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

8/28/68

1

Date _____

PAUL KHOURY, 175 North Sierra Bonita Avenue, Pasadena, was reinterviewed by SA JOHN M. CALLAGHAN regarding a study of mysticism with SIRHAN SIRHAN. He provided the following information:

He stated that at no time was he ever involved in a study of mysticism with SIRHAN SIRHAN.

KHOURY reiterated that he had only met with SIRHAN SIRHAN on three occasions and that each of these meetings was extremely brief and consisted of little more than saying "hello".

He could not provide any information regarding a person named PAUL who allegedly studied mysticism at one time with SIRHAN SIRHAN.

On 8/19/68 at Pasadena, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA JOHN M. CALLAGHAN/jmb Date dictated 8/23/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

¹
LA 56-156
JMC/jan

The following interviews were conducted in connection with an allegation that SIRHAN SIRHAN was a member of the Organization of Arab Students (OAS).

The statements of ZIYAD IRRAHAIM HUSANI, OAS President, United States and Canadian Chapters and M. SAFOUH AL-AKHRASS, Western States Area Representative of OAS denying any affiliation of SIRHAN SIRHAN with OAS have been previously reported.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/3/68

BASSAM F. HOUALLA, 329 North Chapel Street,
Alhambra, California, furnished the following information:

He is the Chairman of the Organization of Arab Students (OAS), California State College at Los Angeles Chapter. Immediately after the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, he conducted a check of his organization's records to determine if SIRHAN SIRHAN had ever been affiliated with that organization. This check did not reflect that SIRHAN SIRHAN had ever been a member or that SIRHAN SIRHAN had ever been on the organization's mailing list.

HOUALLA also contacted FAWAZ ZAIDAN, spokesman for the OAS, Pasadena City College Chapter, and ZAIDAN related that SIRHAN SIRHAN was not a member of the Pasadena Chapter nor was SIRHAN SIRHAN on the Pasadena Chapter's mailing list. ZAIDAN also related that SIRHAN was unknown to the membership of the Pasadena City College Chapter. HOUALLA explained that the OAS Chapter at Pasadena City College is an informal organization comprised of students attending night classes at the college.

According to HOUALLA, the National Headquarters of the OAS, 2929 Broadway, New York, New York, issued a memorandum to all OAS Chapters shortly after the shooting of Senator KENNEDY, advising that SIRHAN SIRHAN was in no way associated with OAS. M. SAFOUH AL-AKHRASS, 911-9th Street, Albany, California, Apartment 57, is the area representative of the National Headquarters of OAS and he, too, shortly after the assassination of Senator KENNEDY, disclaimed any association of SIRHAN SIRHAN and the OAS.

7/2/68 Alhambra, California Los Angeles 56-156
On _____ at _____ - 375 - File # _____
by SA JOHN M. CALLAGHAN/cag 7/3/68
by _____ Date dictated _____

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

7/11/68

Date _____

FAWWAZ H. ZEDAN, 820 Orange Grove Place, South Pasadena, furnished the following information:

He is the chairman of the Pasadena Chapter of the Organization of Arab Students (OAS). This chapter is described by ZEDAN as predominantly a social group and is composed largely of Arab graduates of Pasadena City College. However, this chapter is not officially recognized or affiliated with Pasadena City College.

ZEDAN stated this chapter does not maintain a mailing list and held only three meetings last year. At these meetings, which were held at Pasadena restaurants, the main activities were of a social nature and a formal agenda was not followed.

ZEDAN disclaimed any knowledge of SIRHAN SIRHAN and stated that SIRHAN SIRHAN was not a member of the Pasadena Chapter of the OAS. Nor did SIRHAN SIRHAN ever attend any meeting of the Pasadena OAS.

ZEDAN does believe, however, that his brother, FAWZI ZEDAN, was acquainted with SIRHAN SIRHAN as they were fellow students at Pasadena City College. FAWWAZ ZEDAN could not describe the extent of his brother's relationship with SIRHAN SIRHAN.

On 7/9/68 at Pasadena, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

- 376 -

SA JOHN M. CALLAGHAN/jmb
by _____

Date dictated 7/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 7/17/68

FAWZI ZEDAN, 555 Tamaric Drive, Pasadena, furnished the following information:

He arrived in the United States from his native Syria on December 5, 1963, at the port of New York under a student visa. He immediately journeyed to California and enrolled at Pasadena City College (PCC) for the Spring semester of 1964.

During the Fall semester of 1964, he met SIRHAN SIRHAN, a fellow PCC student, in the school cafeteria where Arab students frequently congregated. He described his relationship with SIRHAN as a casual acquaintanceship, which was limited solely to the PCC campus or Bob's Coffee Shop which neighbors the PCC campus.

ZEDAN believes SIRHAN SIRHAN left PCC about February 1965, however, SIRHAN would frequently drop by the school cafeteria to pass the time of day with Arab students. On those occasions when ZEDAN observed SIRHAN entering or leaving the cafeteria, SIRHAN was always alone, and ZEDAN did not believe that SIRHAN ever visited the cafeteria to see any particular person.

ZEDAN last saw SIRHAN SIRHAN approximately five days before the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. SIRHAN came into Bob's Coffee Shop while ZEDAN was waiting to be seated, and they engaged in a brief conversation. SIRHAN kidded ZEDAN about still being a student at PCC after five years, and ZEDAN explained that he had graduated but still liked to spend his spare time at Bob's. SIRHAN, who was alone, appeared calm and relaxed to ZEDAN but declined ZEDAN's invitation to coffee and left the restaurant.

ZEDAN reiterated that his friendship with SIRHAN SIRHAN was very casual and based largely on the fact they were of a common ethnic background. On only one occasion did they ever discuss any subject that was not of a light

On 7/11/68 at Pasadena, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
- 377 -
by SA JOHN M. CALLAGHAN/eb Date dictated 7/11/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2
LA 56-056

nature. Approximately five months after the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1967, SIRHAN approached ZEDAN in Bob's Restaurant and stated, "Well, they lost." Not having seen SIRHAN since prior to the conflict, ZEDAN did not understand SIRHAN's comment, and he asked SIRHAN what he meant. SIRHAN explained, "Back home." ZEDAN then understood SIRHAN to be referring to the conflict but did not comment, except to answer, "Yes." In ZEDAN's opinion, although SIRHAN was smiling, the tone of his (SIRHAN's) voice was bitter, but the conversation ended then, as SIRHAN left the restaurant. Again SIRHAN SIRHAN was alone.

ZEDAN concluded that he was not aware of any close friends or acquaintances SIRHAN SIRHAN might have had. SIRHAN was not a member of the Pasadena Chapter of the Organization of Arab Students (OAS), and SIRHAN did not attend any of the functions sponsored by the OAS.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 8/13/68

STEPHEN FISCH, 329 Conway Avenue, Los Angeles, California, telephone 272-6738, who is employed as a stock boy at the Safeway Grocery Company, 9467 West Olympic Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California, telephone 272-7119, advised the following:

Mr. FISCH acknowledged that he had telephoned the Los Angeles office of the FBI, July 24, 1968, to advise that he had taken photographs of certain crowd scenes during the appearance of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at Temple Isaiah, 10345 West Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, on the evening of May 20, 1968. He had agreed to make available the negatives of the pictures taken for FBI examination.

Mr. FISCH furnished seven film negative strips which he had taken. He requested that when any examination the FBI may wish to make of the negatives was completed that the negatives be returned to him at his residence address.

Mr. FISCH stated that based on photographs he had seen of SIRHAN SIRHAN in various news media, he had no recollection of seeing any individual resembling SIRHAN SIRHAN at the Isaiah Temple at the time of Senator KENNEDY's speech.

On 8/6/68 at Beverly Hills, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

- 379 -

by SA LESLIE F. WARREN/eb Date dictated 8/8/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 7/29/68

On July 22, 1968, Mrs. GLORIA ILAN, Office Secretary of Temple Isaiah, 10345 West Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, telephone 879-2191, advised the following:

Mrs. ILAN said that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY had given a speech at Temple Isaiah on the evening of May 20, 1968, sometime between 8:00 and 10:00 p.m. The only films, which she had knowledge of being taken of Senator KENNEDY at that time, were individual shots which contained the bust of Senator KENNEDY. There was some news coverage of the speech and undoubtedly there were some pictures probably taken by the news media of the affair, although Mrs. ILAN had no details as to what specific coverage may have been utilized at the meeting. She said that she would further check into the matter and see if she were able to come up with any known film which might have been taken of the stage area surrounding Senator KENNEDY at the time of his speech.

Mrs. ILAN, on July 23, 1968, said that she had been unable to come up with any source of any film which may have been taken of the stage area during Senator KENNEDY's speech.

She agreed to remain alert for such film.

On 7/22/68 and 7/23/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
- 380 -

by SA LESLIE F. WARREN/eb Date dictated 7/23/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

10/2/68

1

Second Lieutenant JEROME E. DYER, ^{Date} ~~United States Air~~
Force, Serial Number FV 3205909, stated he is presently assigned
to the 479th Tactical Fighter Wing, George Air Force Base, Cali-
fornia. DYER advised he resides at 19989 Highway 18, Apple Valley,
California, phone 242-2693.

DYER stated he was on leave from the Air Force during
the first part of June, 1968, and was visiting friends in Elmira,
New York. He said he traveled from New York to Los Angeles on
American Airlines, flight number unrecalled, arriving in Los
Angeles about 2:00 a.m., June 5, 1968. He said he took a bus from
Los Angeles International Airport to the Los Angeles bus depot and
a cab from the depot to the Ambassador Hotel.

DYER advised further that the cab driver drove past the
hospital where Senator KENNEDY was hospitalized. He said there
was a small crowd in the area around the hospital.

DYER said he arrived at the Ambassador about 2:30 a.m.,
June 5, 1968, and left for Apple Valley, California about 7:00 a.m.
the same date. He said he did not observe anything at the hotel
that appeared unusual during the short time he was a guest.

- 381 -

On 9/19/68 at George Air Force Base, File # Los Angeles 56-156
California

by SA CURTIS H. HOLT/kap Date dictated 9/23/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to
your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/19/681

Mr. C. H. MC INTYRE, 3845 Los Feliz, Los Angeles, California, advised of the following information:

Mr. MC INTYRE advised that he was not at the Ambassador Hotel the night Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was assassinated. He advised he had worked at the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters all day on June 4, 1968, and decided not to attend the events at the Ambassador Hotel that evening.

Mr. MC INTYRE stated that he could supply no information regarding the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

On 9/17/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

- 382 -

by SA GEORGE M. KLING/lav Date dictated 9/17/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1
LA 56-156
JMC/mab

The following interviews of Mr. ADRIAN HOLBERT and Mrs. RUTH HOLBERT, were prompted by an unidentified caller who telephoned the Los Angeles Police Department on June 7, 1968 and advised that he had observed a Rambler automobile bearing California license FOB 091 parked behind the Ambassador Hotel on 7th Street. The caller did not specify what day or night he observed the Rambler, however, he described the occupant as a caucasian or Latin male accompanied by two caucasian or Latin women.

Records of the Department of Motor Vehicles reflect California license FOB 091 was registered to FLORENCE N. SUMMERS, 372 North 1st Street, Blythe, California. On June 28, 1968, MIKE SUMMERS, son of FLORENCE N. SUMMERS, advised he had traded a 1962 Rambler, bearing California license FOB 091, to Ralph's Chrysler Plymouth, 9250 Lakewood Boulevard, Downey, California, on or about May 11, 1968.

On July 22, 1968, PATTY THOMPSON, Ralph's Chrysler Plymouth, advised a 1962 Rambler bearing California license FOB 091 had been sold to Burton's Auto, 14208 Hawthorne Boulevard, on May 12, 1968.

On July 22, 1968, MARY PASSNO, Burton's Auto, advised a 1962 Rambler bearing California license FOB 091 had been sold to RUTH HOLBERT on May 16, 1968.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

8/2/68

Date _____

Mrs. RUTH HOLBERT, 702 East 121st Street, Los Angeles, California, furnished the following information:

On May 15, 1968, she purchased a 1962 Rambler, California license FOB 091, from Burton Motors, 31st and Figueroa Streets, Los Angeles, paying cash. She purchased this automobile for her private use and only under unusual circumstances does she lend the car to her husband, Mr. ADRIAN HOLBERT, who is the only other member of her family currently residing with her. She maintains the only set of keys for this car. Mrs. HOLBERT stated that on the night of June 4, 1968, she attended choir practice at the Triangular Church of Religious Science, 1938 South Western, Los Angeles, from approximately 8:00 PM to 9:30 PM. After choir practice was completed she immediately returned home and parked the car in front of her residence. At 6:30 AM, June 5, 1968, she left her house for work at the John Wesley County Hospital, 2826 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, and used her automobile for transportation thereto. At that time, Mrs. HOLBERT did not recall anything unusual about her automobile and she is of the opinion that it was parked in the same space she had left it the night before.

Mrs. HOLBERT emphatically denied that either she or her automobile were in the vicinity of the Ambassador Hotel on the night of June 4, 1968, and she could not provide any information regarding the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

On 7/30/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA's RICHARD P. DOUCETTE and
JOHN M. CALLAGHAN/JMC/jmb Date dictated 8/2/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.