



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

June 17, 1968

ASSASSINATION OF  
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

A United Press International release on June 13, 1968, indicated an unidentified Arab Government had passed "new and startling" information to American officials relative to Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. It is reported by correspondent John Kimche in the London Evening Standard that Sirhan had traveled in the Middle East in 1964 for seven months. He allegedly returned to the Middle East in 1966 spending five months in Cairo, Egypt, before returning to the United States in the beginning of 1967.

A Reuters dispatch on June 13, 1968, additionally reported that this individual's full name, according to Kimche, was Sirhan Bishara Sirhan Abu Khatar. This individual, according to the dispatch, was first brought to the United States in 1928 when he was four years old. He was allegedly married upon a return to the Middle East on June 27, 1957, to Leila Ussef Mikhael at Es Salt, Jordan.

Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service show that Sirhan Bishara Sirhan entered the United States on January 12, 1957. His date of birth was given as  Jerusalem, Jordan.

P11

Investigation by our Los Angeles Office reveals he took up residence with his family in Pasadena, California, immediately upon his entry into the United States attending the Pasadena city schools until graduation from the John Muir High School in June, 1963. Thereafter he attended Pasadena City College until May of 1965.

Investigation reveals that during 1964 Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was attending school and employed at two Pasadena, California, service stations. Investigation further indicates that during 1966 he was continuously in the Pasadena, California, area.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
27	JUN 5 1968
R.A.O.	

File  
mh

## ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

In addition, each of Sirhan's four brothers was interviewed by Special Agents of the Los Angeles Office of the FBI on June 13, 1968, at which time they advised Sirhan has never left the United States since his arrival in 1957. They pointed out that the word Abu Khatar, meaning "is the father of Khatar," is a term not used by Christians and that the Sirhan family is Christian.

The Department of State has advised that it has received no communication from any country in the Middle East relative to the aforementioned matter. According to the Department of State, information was received from the American Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel, to the effect that a United Press International correspondent had reportedly talked with Sirhan's father in Jordan who stated that to his knowledge Sirhan never married and the other details contained in the original story of June 13, 1968, are highly improbable.

According to the Department of State an attempt was made by that agency in London to contact Jon, also known as John, Kimche with whom this story originated. Kimche refused to identify his source but reiterated his source is usually reliable. According to the Department of State he seemed unimpressed by the possibility this might be a simple case of mistaken identity.

Kimche, according to the Central Intelligence Agency, is an able, unscrupulous free lance journalist in London who apparently supports official Israeli Zionist lines in his work. The Central Intelligence Agency reports that during early 1968 there were strong protests from American Government circles in London against his articles which appeared to be aimed at destroying relations between the United States and Arab countries.

*F O File*  
*DJG*

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

June 17, 1968

Director, FBI

**ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR  
ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Attached for you and Assistant Attorney General Stephen J. Pollak, Civil Rights Division, is one copy each of the report of Special Agent Amedee O. Richards, Jr., dated June 9, 1968, at Los Angeles, California, concerning captioned matter.

This preliminary report encompasses investigative activity through June 9, 1968. Additional reports will, of course, be prepared in this matter and will be furnished to you.

As you are aware, this Bureau, as well as the Los Angeles Police Department, has been conducting an investigation into the death of Senator Kennedy. Local prosecutive action is pending in Los Angeles, California, and is being handled by District Attorney Evelle J. Younger. It is believed that the results of our investigation would be of material assistance to Mr. Younger, and you are requested to advise if and when copies of these reports may be furnished to him.

A copy of this report will be furnished to the United States Attorney, Los Angeles, California.

Enclosure

- ① - Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General (Enclosure)

766-120-1

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		RECORD
27	JUN 5 1969	
R.A.O.		

*File mh*

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

To

June 17, 1968

- ☐ The Solicitor General
- ☒ Deputy Attorney General
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General
- ☐ Director, Bureau of Prisons
- ☐ The Pardon Attorney
- ☐ Chairman, Parole Board
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General for Administration
- ☐ Immigration and Naturalization Service
- ☐ Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- ☐ Office of Alien Property
- ☐ Chief - Accounts Branch
- ☐ Chief - Administrative Services Office
- ☐ Chief of Personnel
- ☐ General Litigation Section, Civil Division
- ☐ Records Administration Office

RECEIVED

JUN 17 1968

Deputy Attorney General

Att.: ☐ Antitrust Div. ☐ Civil Div. ☐ Civil Rights Div.  
☐ Criminal Div. ☐ Internal Security Div.  
☐ Inter-Division Information Unit

- ☐ A. No further action will be taken in this case in the absence of a specific request from you.
- ☐ B. Please advise what further investigation, if any, is desired in this matter.
- ☐ C. For your information, I am enclosing a communication regarding the holder of a diplomatic or international organization visa.
- ☒ D. For your information.
- ☐ E. Please note change in caption of this case.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc: ☒ Attorney General ☐ Deputy Attorney General  
☐ Antitrust Div. ☐ Civil Div. ☒ Civil Rights Div.  
☒ Criminal Div. ☐ Internal Security Div. ☐ IDIU

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

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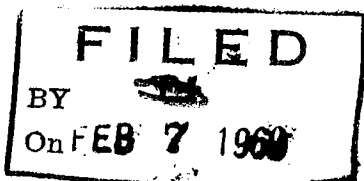
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
3	JAN 22 1969
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## ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

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6-14-68

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M  
d 166-128-1

JUN 18 1968

F.B.I.  
CIV. RIGHTS DIV.

Att: Att: Gen. Ramsey Clark

Why is that only the Kennedys' and Martin Luther Kings are getting "picked off" in this one great country of ours?

~~Why is~~ Words cannot express the shock & disgust I feel for the brutal slaying of these courageous men. Who in the hell do you think you are kidding when you say the assassins "acted alone". It is quite evident that the same conspirators were responsible for these murders. I'll never believe otherwise. It's about time we, the God-fearing people of this country were told the truth. There is a stinking, rotten "element" in this country, the extreme right-wingers, who are so low that

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FS  
AUG 19 1968

that words cannot adequately describe their lowness.

I somehow have a feeling that these "rats" have gotten in so deeply and pressed their luck so far that it will not be so easy to convince the American people that these killings were the work of a single "nut".

I could go on and on about this, perhaps even write a book, but time & energy does not permit, however I'm sure you get my message.

In closing I ask "How What effect will this have on the King & Kennedy children when they grow up?" I feel certain that this country, as a whole, will eventually pay a terrible price for these atrocities.

A fed-up housewife who  
prefers to remain  
anonymous (and bitter.)

P.S. I might add that the supreme court is the ruination of this country, also.





Attn: Gen Ramsey Clark  
Washington, D.C.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

Address Reply to the  
Division Indicated  
and Refer to Initials and Number

June 14, 1968.

Mrs. H. Newhard  
2118 Brinsmaid Place  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

Dear Mrs. Newhard:

Thank you for your recent letter to President Johnson regarding the death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

I share with you your grief and sense of profound loss that once again an assassin's bullet has struck down a member of the Kennedy family in the service of his country.

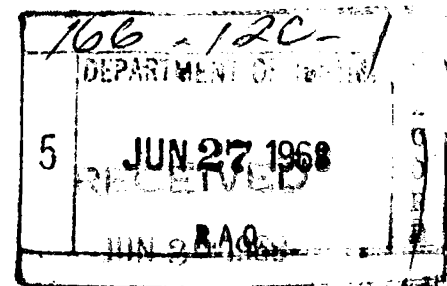
The concern which prompted your communication is appreciated and you may be assured that we are constantly alert to the activities of every faction and element which pose any threat to the security of our country and that in the event evidence is developed which reflects a violation of Federal law, the Government will take immediate and effective steps to enforce the applicable statutes.

Sincerely,

*J. Walter Yeagley*  
J. WALTER YEAGLEY  
Assistant Attorney General

*Writer did not  
furnish correct  
address. See incoming  
dated 6/6/68*

*File*

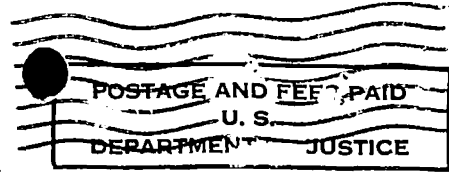


INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20530

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*Amv*



Mrs. H. Newhard  
2118 Brinsmaid Place  
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

NO SUCH STREET  
NUMBER

For  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
To

☐ The Solicitor General **June 14, 1968**

- ☒ Deputy Attorney General
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General
- ☐ Director, Bureau of Prisons
- ☐ The Pardon Attorney
- ☐ Chairman, Parole Board
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General for Administration
- ☐ Immigration and Naturalization Service
- ☐ Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- ☐ Office of Alien Property
- ☐ Chief - Accounts Branch
- ☐ Chief - Administrative Services Office
- ☐ Chief of Personnel
- ☐ General Litigation Section, Civil Division
- ☐ Records Administration Office

Att.: ☐ Antitrust Div.    ☐ Civil Div.    ☐ Civil Rights Div.  
☐ Criminal Div.    ☐ Internal Security Div.  
☐ Inter-Division Information Unit

- ☐ A. No further action will be taken in this case in the absence of a specific request from you.
- ☐ B. Please advise what further investigation, if any, is desired in this matter.
- ☐ C. For your information, I am enclosing a communication regarding the holder of a diplomatic or international organization visa.
- ☒ D. For your information.
- ☐ E. Please note change in caption of this case.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*WC*

cc: ☒ Attorney General    ☐ Deputy Attorney General

☐ Antitrust Div.    ☐ Civil Div.    ☐ Civil Rights Div.

☒ Criminal Div.    ☐ Internal Security Div.    ☐ IDIU

Enc.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

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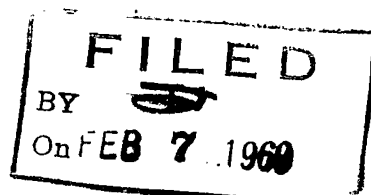
ASSASSINATION OF  
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

We are continuing interviews with individuals who were at or near the scene of the shooting at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, during the evening of June 4-5, 1968, in an effort to establish full facts relative to the activities of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

Rafer Lewis Johnson, Olympic champion who assisted in subduing Sirhan, advises that while he was holding Sirhan immediately after subduing him he held his fist to Sirhan's head and repeated the question "Why did you do it?" The assailant's only reply to Johnson was "I'll explain it."

Another witness, Jesus Perez, saw Sirhan, gun in hand, immediately after Senator Kennedy had been shot. He stated Sirhan is identical with an individual who talked to him briefly just before midnight June 4, 1968, inquiring as to whether Senator Kennedy would pass their way after his speech.

Investigation indicates that the itinerary for Senator Kennedy was modified somewhat during the evening of June 4, 1968, due to delays in receiving election returns. According to information received from Senator Kennedy's Public Relations Director for the California Campaign, the decision to take the route directly to the Colonial Room at the Ambassador Hotel was made on the stage immediately after Senator Kennedy's speech. Inquiry into this phase is continuing.



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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
3	JAN 22 1969
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ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR  
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A United Press International release on June 13, 1968, indicated Sirhan Bishara Sirhan had traveled to the Middle East during 1964 and 1966. This information allegedly originated with an unidentified Arab state. According to our investigation, it is completely unfounded since Sirhan had been, during 1964 and 1966, either pursuing his education or employed in the Pasadena, California, area.

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
To

**June 14, 1968**

- 5/14
- ☐ The Solicitor General
- ☐ Deputy Attorney General
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General
- ☐ Director, Bureau of Prisons
- ☐ The Pardon Attorney
- ☐ Chairman, Parole Board
- ☒ Assistant Attorney General for Administration **Stephen J. Pollak**
- ☐ Immigration and Naturalization Service
- ☐ Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- ☐ Office of Alien Property
- ☐ Chief - Accounts Branch
- ☐ Chief - Administrative Services Office
- ☐ Chief of Personnel
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- Att.: ☐ Antitrust Div.    ☐ Civil Div.    ☐ Civil Rights Div.  
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John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc: ☒ Attorney General    ☒ Deputy Attorney General

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Enc.    (Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)

5/14



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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
27	JUN 5 1968
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# Department of State

# TELEGRAM

46

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 594

PAGE 01 STATE 182633

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ORIGIN SCA 02

INFO NEA 13, SY 03, P 04, USIA 12, L 03, SS 20, JUS 02, CIAE 00, INR 07,  
NSAE 00, RSC 01, VO 02, /069 R.

DRAFTED BY: SCA: FSMITH JR.  
APPROVED BY: SCA: FREDERICK SMITH JR  
NEA: MR BATTLE  
SY: PRS: MR TULLY  
NEA: MR HANLEY  
NEA: ARN: MR HOUGHTON  
USIA: MR CARTER  
L/NEA: MR WEHMEYER  
U: MR EAGLEBURGER  
JUSTICE: MR LYNCH  
PT MR PHILLIPS

P 132114Z JUN 68.  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 182633

SUBJECT: SIRHAN CASE.

PRESS STORIES INDICATE BISHARA SIRHAN, FATHER OF SIRHANI SIRHAN, MAY VISIT U.S. CONNECTION TRIAL HIS SON. IF BISHARA SIRHAN APPLIES FOR VISA, NOTIFY DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY. YOU MAY PROCEED WITH NORMAL PROCESSING APPLICATION BUT TAKE NO FINAL ACTION PENDING INSTRUCTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT.

GP-3. RUSK

166-125-7

11	JUN 14 1968	RECORDED
CIV. RIGHTS DIV.		FILE

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# Department of State

# TELEGRAM

46

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 594

PAGE 01 STATE 182633

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L/NEA: MR WEHMEYER  
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JUSTICE: MR LYNCH  
P: MR PHILLIPS

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P 132114Z JUN 68  
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GP-3. RUSK

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*File  
DRE*

TO : Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

DATE: June 14, 1968

*JMA*  
FROM : Director, FBI

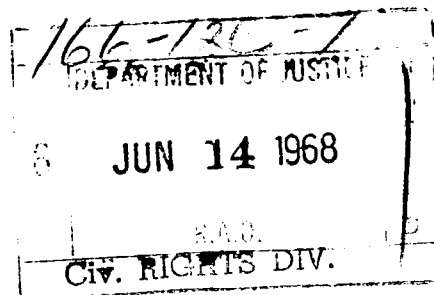
SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF  
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

In conjunction with our investigation into the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy extensive interviews are being conducted of those who were present in the vicinity of the shooting at the Ambassador Hotel at 12:15 a.m., June 5, 1968. Witnesses have been located who have identified Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as the assailant.

Among those who were in Senator Kennedy's party as it left the Embassy Room proceeding through the hotel kitchen was his wife, Mrs. Ethel Kennedy. It is reported that she was close by the Senator at the time the shots were fired.

In view of the above and inasmuch as Mrs. Kennedy has not been interviewed by Special Agents of the FBI or representatives of the Los Angeles Police Department, it is requested that you advise whether steps should be taken by this Bureau to arrange an interview of Mrs. Kennedy by the FBI.

1 - Mr. Stephen J. Pollak  
Assistant Attorney General



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*CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.*



**Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General**

**June 14, 1968**

**Director, FBI**

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Assistant Attorney General



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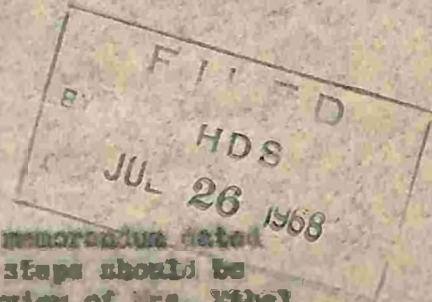
July 10, 1968

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

FMV:WBL:ebg  
166-120-1

Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General  
Criminal Division

ASSASSINATION OF  
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



This is in reference to your memorandum dated June 14, 1968, inquiring as to whether steps should be taken by the Bureau to arrange an interview of Mrs. Ethel Kennedy by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

We understand that Los Angeles Assistant District Attorney John Howard and Sergeants Fitchett and MacArthur of the Los Angeles Police Department have been in touch with a representative of the Kennedy family to arrange an interview in connection with their investigation of the pending prosecution in Los Angeles of the suspected assassin, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. We have been advised that upon completion of any interview by the Los Angeles District Attorney's office and the Los Angeles Police Department copies of the interview will be made available. We, therefore, would hold in abeyance any decision on an interview of Mrs. Kennedy by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation until the investigation has been substantially completed, and we have had an opportunity to review the results of the interview of Mrs. Kennedy arranged by the Los Angeles authorities.

W  
FV  
WBL  
7/19

cc: Deputy Attorney General

Records

Chron

Mr. Lynch

Mr. Vinson

Mr. Epstein

AAG Pollack - Civil Rights Division

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RECEIVED

Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr.  
Assistant Attorney General

June 14, 1968

Director, FBI

ASSASSINATION OF  
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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

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Assistant Attorney General

Received  
JUN 17 1968  
AAG Criminal

1. Mr. Vinson

2. CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.

66-125-1
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUN 14 1968
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.

Cy 4/1/76 CIV. RIGHTS DIV.

CHECK DISTRIBUTION SHEET

The original of the item below is being held by the Check Clerk in the Records Administration Office. **RETAIN THIS FORM IN YOUR DIVISION UNTIL DISPOSITION OF ITEM IS TO BE MADE.** When disposition is to be made, complete the INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISPOSITION below. This form should be placed on top of all correspondence. K. R. S.

Date Rec'd. 6-13-68

File No. 166-12C-1

Assignment CIV. RIGHTS DIV.

**ADMINISTRATIVE DIV.**  
**BUDGET & ACCOUNTS**

DRAWN ON:

( ) CHECK

( ) MONEY ORDER

PAYABLE TO:

( ) CASH

( )

DRAWER OR  
REMITTER:

NO:

DATED:

AMOUNT: \$ 2.00

CCNDITIONS:

DISTRICT:

RECEIPT NO:

U. S. ATTY. NO:

TYPE CLAIM:

AGENCY & FILE:

**FILE**

IN RE:

Supervisor

Communications Section

388162

**REPTD AND MAILED**  
**COMMUNICATIONS SEC.**

**OCT 14 1968**

INSTRUCTION FOR DISPOSITION

TO: Records Administration Office,  
Attention: Check Clerk, RM. 6310, EXT. 3162

August 22 1968

Mail check to

Vera Raymond  
4540 Pennsylvania Ave Apt. #301  
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Deliver check to Budget and Accounts Office for deposit to

**FILED**  
BY **IJB**  
On **NOV 2 1968**

Signed

Quella M. Stegish  
Civil Rights

Division

Received by:

Division



T: 9/4/68

6-13  
OCT 1 1968

SJP:GAG:mj:amc  
DJ: 166-12E-1

Mr. E. Ernst Schaefer  
3411 Magnart  
Houston, Texas 77027

Dear Mr. Schaefer:

President Johnson has referred to this Department your correspondence dated June 13, 1968, concerning the possibility of a conspiracy in the assassination of Senator Kennedy. We apologize for the delay in responding.

Immediately following the tragic death of the late Senator, the Attorney General on June 5, 1968, made the following remark:

Every angle of this matter will be fully investigated. No resource will be spared. According to the information I have at this moment, we have no evidence of a conspiracy; only the evidence of this individual act. But every lead will be followed. No stone will be left unturned.

The rules with respect to pre-announced publicity preclude further comment, but you may be assured that all investigative aspects have been and are being fully pursued.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN J. POLLAK  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

By:

CAROL A. WATKINS

Attorney  
Western Section

cc: ~~RE~~Records  
Chrono  
GUTIERREZ

pcd  
9/26  
9-30  
HSA

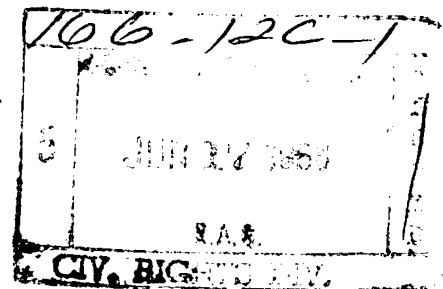
FILED
BY IJ B
On OCT 14 1968

Corres. Unit

E. ERNST SCHAEFER  
3411 Marquart  
Houston, Texas 77027.

June 13, 1968

The Honorable Ramsey Clark  
United States Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.



My Dear Mr. Clark:

Having read in the newspapers and seen on television so much about the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, I cannot help but express some ideas of mine to you.

I wish to repeat again that my entire knowledge of this case comes only and alone from the publicity itself.

We know the following facts:

1. The assassin was born in the Jordanian held part of Jerusalem.
2. He left Jerusalem at the age of approximately 1 or 2 years.
3. He has lived in this country approximately 20 years.
4. He apparently is a member of some Arabic Student Organization.
5. He had in his pocket a piece of paper on which was written that Sen. Kennedy had to be killed before June 5.
6. He states he felt he had to kill the Senator because of his remarks that weapons and arms will have to be supplied to the State of Israel for her protection against expected Arab aggression.
7. His father, in Jerusalem, stated in one interview by a press correspondent, that he was sorry about the assassination of the Senator, and a few days later he revised his statement after "he was set straight", saying that he felt his son was justified in this act of murder. (I suspect some sort of brain-washing by the Arab Terror Organization).
8. The assassin had about \$400.00 in cash on him when he was captured, which could not have been his own money from the income of the small job he was holding at that time.

If I put all the above bits of information together, I seem to come to this conclusion:

How did the assassin know exactly which way Sen. Kennedy would leave the ballroom after his last speech? (it said in the paper that he was waiting for the Senator in the hallway of the hotel); why was Sen. Kennedy selected to be killed when each one of the hopeful candidates for the Presidency expressed about the same ideas and views, including Sen. McCarthy, V.P. Humphrey, Gov. Rockefeller and Mr. Nixon?

The Honorable Ramsey Clark, U.S. Attorney General, Washington, D.C.

How did the assassin know that Sen. Kennedy would come into this hallway?

As outlined above, the assassin was a member of an Arabic Student Organization and we have seen in this country that students in general are getting somewhat restless and young people from the Middle-East, due to their temperamental build up, even more so.

We also know for a fact that amongst the Arabian countries there is a very radical and chauvinistic organization: El-Fatah, which not only makes constant raids into Israel but also threatens everybody who does not cooperate with them, including even King Feisal of Transjordan.

I cannot help but feel that a good deal of the Arabic Student Associations in this country are under the very strong influence of this Terror Organization and have been forced to interfere directly with the inner-political affairs of our country, by selecting prominent figures for assassination. Therefore, it seems impossible to me that only ONE man was assigned to kill the Senator.

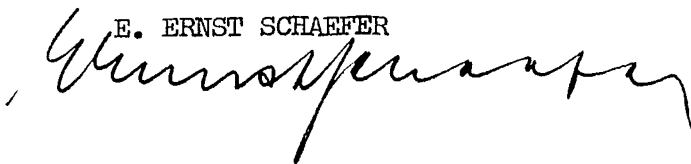
The fact that in his pocket was the slip of paper stating that Sen. Kennedy had to be killed before June 5 (the outbreak of last years Middle-East war) seems to indicate even stronger that the whole plot must have been organized in some way and I firmly believe that other persons were posted in the crowd also to shoot at the Senator had he moved to a different location.

It is quite possible that all my ideas and ways of thinking are completely wrong but I definitely believe that this avenue should be thoroughly investigated to prevent similar cases in the future that might come from the same direction.

I will appreciate very much if you would be kind enough to advise me, if I am entirely out of order or not by this my communication to you.

Very respectfully yours,

E. ERNST SCHAEFER

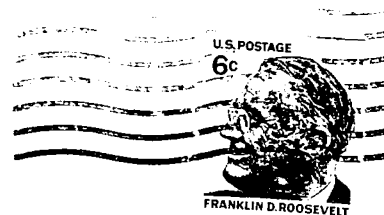


EES/vm

**E. ERNST SCHAEFER & CO.**

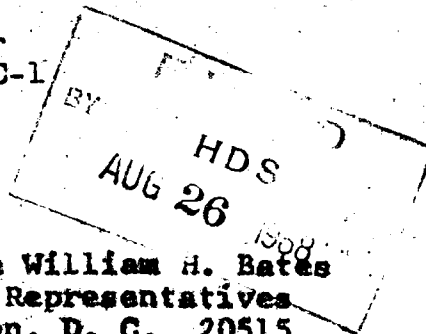
3411 MARQUART

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027



The Honorable Ramsey Clark  
United States Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

T: 8/6/68  
SJP:lg:slr  
DJ 166-12C-1



Honorable William H. Bates  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

AUG 22 1968

Dear Congressman Bates:

This is in reply to your memorandum of June 25, 1968, enclosing a constituent's letter regarding the possibility of a conspiracy in the assassination of Senator Kennedy. I apologize for my delay in responding.

Immediately following the tragic death of the late Senator, the Attorney General on June 5, 1968 made the following remarks:

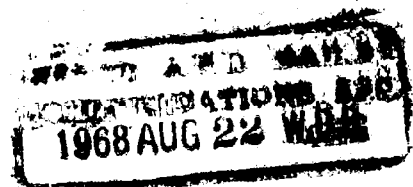
Every angle of this matter will be fully investigated. No resource will be spared. According to the information I have at this moment, we have no evidence of a conspiracy; only the evidence of this individual act. But every lead will be followed. No stone will be left unturned.

The rules with respect to pre-trial publicity preclude further comment, but you may assure your constituent that all investigative aspects have been and are being fully pursued.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN J. POLLAK  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

cc: Records  
Chrono  
DAG  
Pollak  
Corres. Unit  
Western Section



PLEASE EXPEDITE

THIS MAIL SHOULD BE

ANSWERED WITHIN 48 HOURS

Receipt was acknowledged

6-26-68

Correspondence Section  
Records Administration Office  
Administrative Division

**Congress of the United States**

**House of Representatives**

**Washington, D.C.**

25 June 1968 196

Office of the Attorney General  
Department ~~of~~ Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The attached communication  
is sent for your consideration.  
Please investigate the statements  
contained therein and forward me  
the necessary information for re-  
ply, ~~returning the enclosed corre-~~  
~~spondence with your answer.~~

Yours truly,

*Len*  
William H. Bates. **M. G. L. E. W.**  
**CIV. RIGHTS DIV.**

I am enclosing a letter which I rec'd  
from a constituent, Mrs. Lenora Salvucci  
and I would appreciate any information  
which you might be in position to give  
me relative to the matters discussed  
herein.

WHB/ow

June 13, 1968  
Mrs. Lehora Salvucci  
31 Richard Street  
Lynn, Massachusetts 01

Congressman William Bates  
Cannon House Office Building  
Washington D.C.

Dear Congressman Bates,

I realize that at this time, you and other congressmen must be flooded with mail, mostly pertaining to the passage of a strict gun control bill. Though this concerns me, this letter does not relate to the gun matter.

Mr. Bates, I am worried and frightened about the tragic events of the past five years and the fact that "assassination" is becoming a household word. I cannot, I will not, slip back into the workaday, business as usual routine without expressing my feelings to the person who is my link to the power structure in Washington. That person is you.

Ever since President Kennedy's death, there have been numerous books and articles written which contradicts the findings of the Warren Commission. These discrepancies, pointed out first and foremost by Mr. Mark Lane, are so poignant that it absolutely mystifies me that no one in Washington has bothered to delve into the matter further.

In the light of recent events and I am speaking primarily of the murder of Robert Kennedy, it is quite apparent that many, many people are uttering "conspiracy". With all my heart, I believe this to be so and nothing has been said or written to make me change my position.

But, Mr. Bates, I am only one person. A twenty-five year old housewife who can only grit her teeth, wave an angry fist in the air and curse the person or persons behind these murders.

Mr. Bates, I assume you do not live in a vacuum. I assume you must be aware of the tension and frustration re-created once more with Robert Kennedy's murder. Tell me, Mr. Bates, are all the other people in Washington aware of this?

I firmly believe that the basic foundation which Americans build their free lives upon is trembling as if to signal an approaching earthquake. That foundation is trust. Trust in the men who run our government from President Johnson on down. Trust that enables us to live our daily lives without worrying (until now, perhaps) that something awful is strangling the throat of Justice and is threatening



the basic tenets of the democracy which most Americans believe in so strongly.

Mr. Bates, let me ask you some questions. Perhaps, you have heard them before.

Point 1. District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans claims he has evidence which would prove there was a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy.

Question. Why has the United States government imposed an injunction on this man in relation to the Clay Shaw trial? Why are they so adamant in their refusal to aid Jim Garrison?

It seems to me, Mr. Bates, that the United States government should be eager to do everything in their power to see that truth is allowed to reach the surface. Even if Mr. Garrison's claims and evidence is far-fetched (and I emphasize "if") I should think the government would want to do everything it could to disprove this evidence by allowing Garrison to lay his cards on the table in a court of law.

Isn't there anyone in Washington who can help this come about? I think it would put the minds of many people at ease. This way, the speculation becomes increasingly dangerous. It includes the claim that there are people in our government who were and are involved in this awful thing.

Because no one in power seems to be doing anything about this, it seems like, 1. There is a stranglehold on the people in power imposed by someone, or, 2. The people in Washington don't want "to rock the boat".

Point 2. It seems there are two men; one in California and one in Texas in whom Mr. Garrison is most interested. But neither Governor of those states will sign extradition papers.

Question Assuming that the government intended to assist Mr. Garrison, isn't there some way they could overrule the heads of those states?

The thing that puzzles me is why Governor Connolly won't aid any way he can since he himself was almost a victim on November 22, 1963. (More speculation on my part. Or was Governor Connolly intended to be a victim at all?)

Do you see, Mr. Bates, how dangerous this wave of uncertainty can become?

I ask you again. Isn't there anyone in Washington who is willing to break all the barriers and fully investigate the two Kennedy murders?

Point 3. Invaluable information pertaining to the murder of President Kennedy has been locked away somewhere and cannot be revealed until the year 2039, 75 years from now. I can assure you that in my own circle of friends, this is a "real bugaboo".

Question. Who, in 75 years, will care as much as we the people who are living now? More to the point, what, in 75 years, will anyone be able to do about it?

This is a haunting mystery. If there was anyone in power who cared enough for the truth, this material would be de-classified. And what would it prove, Mr. Bates? Would it prove, perhaps, how far away from the facts the Warren Commission strayed to reach its conclusions?

I think Americans want to know for sure, and to their full satisfaction what the truth is behind these murders. I seriously doubt that many people are either sure or satisfied with the results of that Commission. Not when so much is pointed out which contradicts it. Not when so little is done to fully investigate every possible angle and that includes assisting and co-operating with the district attorney from New Orleans.

Mr. Bates, on the basis of what I have said, I firmly believe that the same people behind the murder of President Kennedy also conspired to do away with his brother. I believe that those conspirators were afraid that if Robert Kennedy became president, he would then be in a position to either publicly or privately investigate every facet of his brother's death. I believe that someone or some persons fed poison into the mind of Sirhan Sirhan about Kennedy's stand on our commitment to Israel. Eugene McCarthy also stressed our commitment to Israel as have other politicians. But Robert Kennedy was singled out. One reason for Sirhan to kill Kennedy and one reason for someone else to have Kennedy killed.

Mr. Bates, all I am is a concerned and worried citizen. There is nothing I want more than to believe in the integrity and honesty of my government but in the past five years there have been serious accusations made against it by dissenters of the Warren Commission.

I think it has cast a dark shadow over the entire country. I think the only way to lift this shadow is for someone or some people to aid Mr. Garrison. If his claims are indeed valid, it will only mean that the American people will finally have the satisfaction of seeing evil men punished. The government owes this to the American people. We put the men there who make up our government. We are not their slaves and this is not 1980, the year of Big Brother!

If Mr. Garrison's claims are nonsense and are found to be so, in a court of law, then only Mr. Garrison will ~~be~~ look the part of a fool.

Until Mark Lane's telling questions are explained and answered to the satisfaction of all and until the evidence of Jim Garrison is presented and either proved or disproved in a court of law beyond a shadow of a doubt, then I am afraid, Mr. Bates, that we are in for more bloodshed. I cannot see how this can be avoided. If there is, in fact, a conspiracy, Mr. Bates, will there have to be another assassination to prove it? There will be other men who will represent everything the Kennedys stood for. Are "they" going to kill them all? Can't we find out now, for certain, in a court of law?

I find it hard to believe that out of all the men who make up the power structure in Washington, there is not one who disagrees with the findings of the Warren Commission. I find it hard to believe that there is not one man in power who will dig and dig for the truth about these murders and present this truth to Americans and to the world. Do you know of such a one, Mr. Bates, who would be willing to go all out?

The truth, no matter how shattering it may be, is always ultimately accepted. It becomes easy to live with truth once it is accepted but first it must be known, for certain. However, it is very difficult to live with uncertainty and wonder and speculation. Living under these conditions makes people tense, uneasy and frustrated. It makes them speculate wildly and perhaps dangerously. It shakes their trust. Nobody likes to be deceived.

Mr. Bates, almost five years have passed since President Kennedy's death and still and more vehemently the contradictions of the conclusions of that death still persist and now, with the death of his brother, I believe more and more people are completely dissatisfied with what has been done to offset those contradictions. Namely nothing. "Conspiracy" is being tossed around more and more and who can blame anyone for being suspicious?

Mr. Bates, I implore you, as an American citizen and as a man in power, if there is anything, anything you can do to allay the fears and worries of many people concerning the Kennedy murders, please do it. If there are people in Washington or anywhere else that you know have the power to fully investigate these two murders honestly and with the objective of bringing the whole truth to light, I beg you to intervene.

I say the murders of John and Robert Kennedy are linked. I say the same forces behind the first murder were behind the last. And, I say desperately, that too much time has already passed by.

Obviously, there are many, many contradictions to the Warren Report which I have not stated. It took many books to do that and you probably know them all. I don't know if you do or not.

Mr. Bates, Mark Lane made a statement on, Tuesday June 4, that Robert Kennedy had in some way been in touch with the office of Jim Garrison. According to Mr. Lane, Mr. Kennedy also believed his brother's death to be the work of conspirators. Six hours after Mark Lane made this public, Robert Kennedy was shot.

This is what prompts me to believe that his death was the result of someone being afraid that he might re-investigate the findings of the Warren Commission or perhaps in some way help Jim Garrison which, in turn, would result in the truth. These are thoughts which run through my head and which I can't get rid of. I doubt that I'm the only one. It just isn't fair to leave a whole nation in doubt.

Please, Mr. Bates, for the security and well-being of the American people, let us search and seize the truth in every hidden nook and cranny. Let us do everything we can to re-instate in the American people a feeling of trust and confidence in our government. For without this trust and confidence, Mr. Bates, there cannot be security and nothing lasts long that is not secured tightly. I am convinced that a complete and honest re-assessment of the first Kennedy murder and the recent one, would help instill this in the American people.

After this letter, Mr. Bates, there is little else I can do. You are in a far better position than I. Now what can you do?

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Lenora Salvucci*

Mrs. Lenora Salvucci  
31 Richard Street  
Lynn, Massachusetts 01905

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Attorney General  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.



*William W. Bates*

M. C.

For  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
To

June 13, 1968

- ☐ The Solicitor General
- ☒ Deputy Attorney General
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General
- ☐ Director, Bureau of Prisons
- ☐ The Pardon Attorney
- ☐ Chairman, Parole Board
- ☐ Assistant Attorney General for Administration
- ☐ Immigration and Naturalization Service
- ☐ Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs
- ☐ Office of Alien Property
- ☐ Chief - Accounts Branch
- ☐ Chief - Administrative Services Office
- ☐ Chief of Personnel
- ☐ General Litigation Section, Civil Division
- ☐ Records Administration Office

Att.: ☐ Antitrust Div. ☐ Civil Div. ☐ Civil Rights Div.  
☐ Criminal Div. ☐ Internal Security Div.  
☐ Inter-Division Information Unit

- ☐ A. No further action will be taken in this case in the absence of a specific request from you.
- ☐ B. Please advise what further investigation, if any, is desired in this matter.
- ☐ C. For your information, I am enclosing a communication regarding the holder of a diplomatic or international organization visa.
- ☒ D. For your information.
- ☐ E. Please note change in caption of this case.

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc: ☒ Attorney General ☐ Deputy Attorney General  
☐ Antitrust Div. ☐ Civil Div. ☐ Civil Rights Div.  
☒ Criminal Div. ☐ Internal Security Div. ☐ IDIU

Enc. (Upon removal of classified enclosures, if any, this transmittal form becomes UNCLASSIFIED.)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 13, 1968

RECEIVED

ASSASSINATION OF  
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

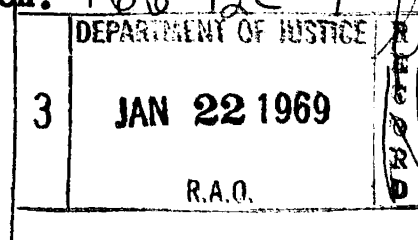
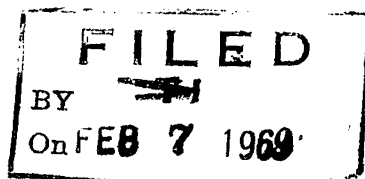
Deputy Attorney General

Interviews with witnesses into the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy continue, as well as interviews with associates and former employers of the accused assailant Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. Approximately 207 employees of the Ambassador Hotel have been interviewed to date.

Roosevelt Grier, professional football player who was present at Senator Kennedy's speech in the Ambassador Hotel at Los Angeles, California, during the night of June 4, 1968, related to FBI Agents how he, with the assistance of hotel employees and Rafer Johnson, Olympic champion, disarmed Sirhan after the shooting. Another individual, Louis Shelby, a restaurant owner where Adel Sirhan had been employed, described the assailant as an extremely frustrated individual and one who was convinced the United States was involved in the furtherance of Zionist goals.

Chief Deputy District Attorney, Los Angeles County, Lynn Compton, has advised our Los Angeles Office that a review of investigation conducted by the investigative staff of the District Attorney's office and the Los Angeles Police Department fails to indicate that there is any evidence to support Sirhan was associated with anyone else or conspired with any other person in the assassination of Senator Kennedy.

With respect to the prosecution of Sirhan, it has been reported that Mr. Wilbur Littlefield, Chief Trial Deputy in the Office of the Public Defender, has been named to represent Sirhan. The news media indicates Sirhan reportedly desires two private attorneys to defend him but alleged he has stated he could not afford to retain private counsel. Littlefield was placed in charge of the case after a meeting of the Los Angeles Bar Association. 166-12C-1



T. 8/6/68  
ReT. 10/9/68  
SJP:lg:bmp  
DJ 166-12C-1

OCT 14 1968

Mrs. Vera Raymond  
4540 Pennsylvania  
Apartment 301  
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

Dear Mrs. Raymond:

President Johnson has referred to this Department your correspondence of June 6, 1968, enclosing a check for \$2.00 for the defense of Sirhan Sirhan. I apologize for my delay in responding.

I am sure you can understand that it is not possible for President Johnson personally to answer all the correspondence he receives. The President wants you to know, however, that he appreciates your taking the time to write him about your views.

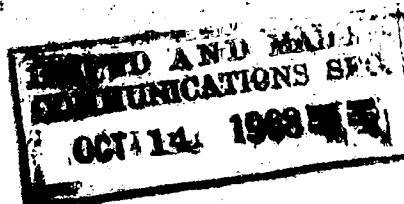
The rules with respect to pre-trial publicity preclude further comment, but you may be sure that all investigative aspects have been and are being fully pursued.

Since neither the White House nor this Department has facilities with which to dispose of the check, I am returning it to you herewith.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN J. POLLAK 2 1968  
Assistant Attorney General  
Civil Rights Division

cc: Records  
Chrono  
Pollak  
Corres. Unit  
Western Section






THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1968

Respectfully referred to the  
Department of Justice for  
appropriate reply.

*Whitney Shoemaker*

Whitney Shoemaker  
Assistant to  
the President

VERA RAYMOND		816-931-8386		No. 454		18-12	
4540 PENN. <del>10-17-100</del>						1010	
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64111				June 6, 1968			
DAY TO THE ORDER OF		<i>The President of the USA</i>					
		<i>Two and 1/100</i>				DOLLARS	
		TRADERS					
		NATIONAL BANK					
		KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI		<i>Vera Raymond</i>			

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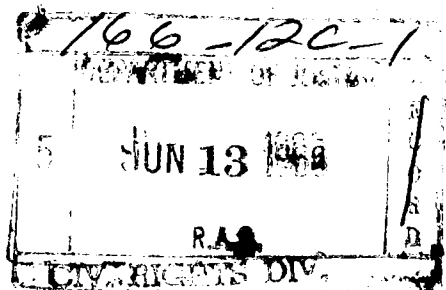
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1968

Respectfully referred to the  
Department of Justice for  
appropriate reply.

*Whitney Shoemaker*

Whitney Shoemaker  
Assistant to  
the President



BUDGET

B. P. ... ..  
2007

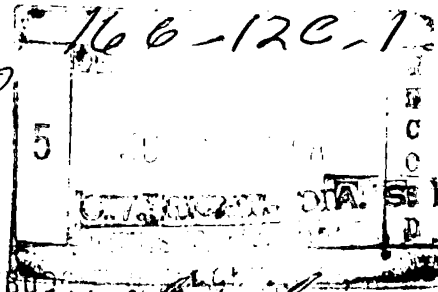
...

82<sup>00</sup> check and

June 6, 1968.

The President of the  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20000

J



Dear Mr. President:

You will find enclosed  
my check for \$200 (Two and  
no one Hundredths Dollars). This  
money is being sent to be  
directed to the attorney who  
will help defend the man who  
shot Kennedy. While we cannot  
condone the act, we must have  
some help for the people of  
these United States.

This money may seem  
an insignificant sum to you  
but to me it represents money  
from a life's savings. I have  
just been rated "ineligible" for  
government service in the US



I.

Civil Service Commission in the  
St. Louis region; I have been  
denied 2 of my children for 6  
years even though they were given  
to me along with adequate  
money for their support and  
alimony for my livelihood in  
judgment rendered in Androscoggin  
County, Maine. I have not had  
my children — I have  
not received the other provisions  
of the judgment.

We Americans must  
show mercy. We Americans  
must help fellow Americans.

Very truly yours,

Wm Raymond  
4540 Pennsylvania  
N.C., Mo. 64111

Social Security No.   
Army Serial No 

P.S. My sincere sympathy to all the  
Hounded & Persecuted. The Lord will help them

from the Lord's Table in 1948.

Mrs Vera Raymond  
4540 Pennsylvania  
Apt 301  
RCN 06411



**AIR MAIL**

JUL 7 1968

**AIR MAIL**

**AIR MAIL**

The President of the  
United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20000  
U.S.A.

CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION

( / ) Assistant Attorney General

( ) First Assistant

( ) Second Assistant

( ) Executive Assistant

( ) Central Section ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

( ) Eastern Section ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

( ) Northeastern Section ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

( ) Southern Section ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

( ) Western Section ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Attorney

( ) Other: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

( ) \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO: ( ) Correspondence Unit

( ) Editorial Unit

( ) Section Docket Clerk

INDEX TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

CROSS REF: \_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS: \_\_\_\_\_



# Department of State

# TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 374

DOCKETED

PAGE 01 SINGAP 02210 110950Z

JUN 13 1968

#4-037-145

22  
ACTION EA 15

INFO L 03, H 02, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, SY 03, SCS 04, SCA 02,

FBI 01, JUS 02, PPT 02, SS 20, NSC 10, RSR 01, P 04, USIA 12, /089 W

R 110930Z JUN 68  
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2106

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SINGAPORE 2210

SUBJ: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. FOLLOWING IS REPORT AS BEING CONCEIVABLY OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION KENNEDY ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION. ON JUNE 8 US CITIZEN JOHN A. SWEDE (PASSPORT F 248994) CALLED ON EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER TO REPORT CONVERSATION MAY 17, 1968 WITH WAITER AT AMBASSADOR HOTEL BAGDAD. DURING DINNER HOTEL WAITER APPROACHED SWEDE AND WIFE TO ASK IF THEY HAD HEARD SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WAITER ASSERTED HE HAD POSITIVELY HEARD KENNEDY SHOT IN HEAD BUT NOT YET DEAD. SAID HE HAD HEARD REPORT ON SPECIAL GOVERNMENT RADIO BROADCAST THAT DAY.

2. SWEDE INDICATED HE HAD NO REASON BELIEVE THIS PREMATURE REPORT HAD ANY CONNECTION WITH SUBSEQUENT TRAGEDY BUT WORTH MENTIONING TO US AUTHORITIES. IF REPORT OF ANY INTEREST HE CAN BE CONTACTED IN LOS ANGELES AFTER HIS RETURN ABOUT JUNE 20. ADDRESS GIVEN AT 1631 CAMDEN AVENUE, LOS ANGELES 90025, TELEPHONE 4771989. ALTERNATIVELY MAY BE REACHED AT PARENTS' HOME 12751 MARLBORO STREET, LOS ANGELES, 90049, TELEPHONE 4720972.

GALBRAITH

JUN 12 1968

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 02210 110950Z

22

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FBI 01, JUS 02, PPT 02, SS 20, NSC 10, RSR 01, P 04, USIA 12, /089 W

R 110930Z JUN 68  
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2106

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