

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
To

June 12, 1968

- ☐ The Solicitor General
☐ Deputy Attorney General
☒ Assistant Attorney General **Stephen J. Pollak**

- ☐ 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

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

June 12, 1968

ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Investigation is continuing in order to develop full background information concerning Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as well as that of members of his immediate family and associates.

With respect to a previous statement attributed to Mayor Samuel W. Yorty, Los Angeles, California, as reported by the news media on June 6, 1968, alleging Sirhan was associated with the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America, and a vehicle registered to Sirhan's brother, Adel, was observed on January 16, 1966, in the vicinity of Baces Hall, 1528 North Vermont, Los Angeles, California, where a meeting sponsored by that organization was being held, information has been developed indicating Adel Sirhan had previously been employed as a musician at the Fez Restaurant, 1508 North Vermont, adjacent to Baces Hall. Full details are being developed with respect to this phase of our investigation.

On June 9, 1968, a United Press International release datelined Cairo made reference to the arrest of one Soliman Sirhan by Iraqi authorities as an Israeli spy alleging he was a brother of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. Sirhan's mother, during an intensive interview by FBI Agents on June 10, 1968, volunteered she had heard this newscast and stated she has only five sons, Sirhan, Munir, Sharif, Adel and Saidallah, none of whom are living outside the United States. The individual to whom the United Press International referred was unknown to her.

Interviews are continuing with those individuals who were in or near the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel during the evening of June 4-5, 1968. Several have

100-120-1

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SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 5 1968	
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K.A.O.

File
mh

**ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY**

been located who were witnesses to the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and who positively identify Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as the individual who fired the shots at Senator Kennedy. This phase of our investigation is being exhaustively pursued.

According to information furnished by ambulance attendant Max Alma Behrmann, after responding to the call at the Ambassador Hotel, a distraught Mrs. Kennedy attempted to keep him from assisting the Senator stating "Keep your hands off him, I'm Mrs. Kennedy." As the Senator was placed in an ambulance, an argument ensued between Behrmann and Mrs. Kennedy as to who would accompany the ambulance and again, according to Behrmann, when he questioned Mrs. Kennedy while en route to the hospital as to what had transpired, she stated "I don't give a damn what you say," grabbed his record book and threw it out of the ambulance. Upon noting the Senator was having difficulty breathing and thereafter trying to assist him, Behrmann was told by Mrs. Kennedy "You keep your dirty filthy hands off my husband," and she struck him on the right side of his face stunning him. He further recalls Mrs. Kennedy called to a male associate who was sitting in the front seat to "Come back here and throw this ambulance man out; he's bothering me; he's asking too many questions."

It was further reported by a witness at the hospital that upon arrival there Mrs. Kennedy grabbed a camera from a newsman, knocking it to the floor, and she also swung at the newsman hitting him in the chest area. Senator Kennedy's bodyguard then jumped over the stretcher and punched the newsman in the face.

Of possible significance is the fact that among items found on Sirhan's person when taken into custody was a newspaper article by David Lawrence captioned "Paradoxical Bob" and highlighting the fact that while Kennedy vigorously opposes the war in Vietnam, he has nevertheless recommended full assistance to Israel "with arms if necessary" to meet the threat of the Soviets.

In addition, whereas press reports claim Rafer Johnson, Olympic champion, and Roosevelt Grier, professional football player, subdued the assailant, investigation reveals the first to reach the assailant were two hotel employees. They then were assisted by Grier and Johnson.

From
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
To

JUN 20 1968

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Solicitor General | () Maroney |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Attorney General | () Keuch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Attorney General | () Burns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director, Bureau of Prisons | () Korff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Pardon Attorney | () Hayden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chairman, Parole Board | () Beck |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Attorney General for Administration | () Woodhart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Immigration and Naturalization Service | () Ross |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Office of Alien Property | () Knight |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief - Accounts Branch | () Noto |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief - Administrative Services Office | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chief of Personnel | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Litigation Section, Civil Division | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Records Administration Office | |
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 89-61
157-2195

Chicago, Illinois
June 12, 1968

ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH See 116-1-23-4200

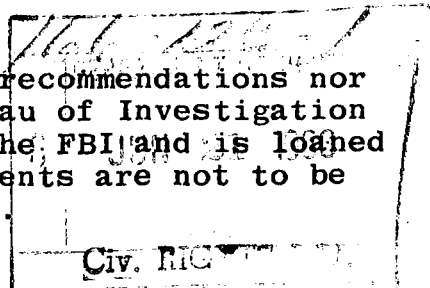
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A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 21, 1967, that Smith, using the alias of Yaree Ameer, is the acting director of the Chicago Branch of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

A characterization of SNCC is attached hereto. Sources utilized in this characterization have furnished reliable information in the past.

According to the arrest records of the Chicago Police Department, Smith has been arrested a number of times for burglary, aggravated battery, robbery and purse snatching, inciting a riot and rape.

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ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH

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ROBERT SMITH AND MICHAEL WALTON SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

One copy each of the above information is being furnished the following agencies:

United States Attorney
Chicago, Illinois

United States Secret Service
Chicago, Illinois

Region I, 113th Military Intelligence Group
Evanston, Illinois

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

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6/19/68

F
BY HDS
ON JUL 9 1968

June 19, 1968

A.R.S.

166-120-1

Mr. Edmund A. Stephan, Jr.
19 Birch Lane
Larchmont, New York

Dear Mr. Stephan:

The Attorney General has asked me to thank you for your letter of June 12.

You have misquoted Mr. Clark. He has never stated that the assassinations of Senator Kennedy and Dr. King were each the work of one man. He has stated that there is no evidence in either case of the involvement of more than one man.

This is still true.

Sincerely,

Cliff Sessions
Director of Public Information

CS:fy
cc:
Records ✓
Files

Edmund A. Stephan, Jr.
~~820 Michigan Avenue~~
~~Evanston, Illinois 60202~~

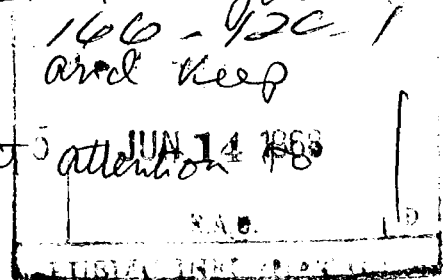
19 Such Lane
Larchmont, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Attorney General,

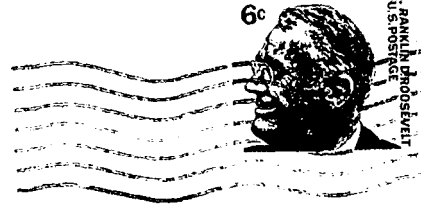
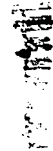
The assassination of Robert Kennedy was the work of
"one man" - how, how in Cook's name do
you know? Your batting average is .000 -
I thought you'd have learned after M.L. King's
assassination to keep quiet. (Overwhelming opinion
and evidence says it was a conspiracy.)
The prediction of "early apprehension" of King's
assassin (in spite of your personal charge of
the efforts) was two months premature - and
it was Scotland Yard's fine efforts - not yours
that succeeded. How can you continue to
make a mockery of such a high office. Once
again I respectfully request that you
step down from this job - and keep
quiet until then. Your prompt
this suggestion is wanted

Sincerely

Edmund A. Stephan, Jr.



Attorney General Ramsey Clark
Justice Department
Washington, D.C.



19 Birch Lane
Larchmont. N.Y.

From
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
To

JUN 20 1968

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☐ Assistant Attorney General
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6-12-68

File

BY	HDS
ON	JUL 1 1968



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 89-61
157-2195

Chicago, Illinois
June 12, 1968

RECEIVED

JUN 21 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH *See 146-1 23-4200*

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166-125-1
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.
W. H. [signature]

ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 89-61
157-2195

Chicago, Illinois
June 12, 1968

FILED
BY HSG
On AUG 1 1968

ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH *See 146-123-422*

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JUN 28 1968

Civil Section
Internal Security Division

FILE
JLW

46-123-422
JUN 21 1968
INTERNAL SECURITY DIV.
Civil Section

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ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH

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T. 7/3/68
FMV:RCN:hch
166-12C-1

6-12-68

July 16, 1968

Mr. Stephen Myosky
2408 Tiffin Avenue
c/o Eldorado Motel
Sandusky, Ohio

FILED
BY HDS
ON JUL 22 1968

Dear Mr. Myosky:

President Johnson has asked me to reply to your letter of June 12, 1968 and to assure you that the views expressed therein have been duly noted.

As I am sure you can appreciate, Federal law has only a remote relationship to the divorce question. The determination of governmental policy in this area is a matter primarily within the jurisdiction of the several states. It is accordingly suggested that you may wish to make your views known to your state legislative representatives.

Your concern in writing to the President is appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Records ✓
Chron
Nalley

rem
7/5
may
7/15
ju
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1M

RECEIVED AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
JUL 16 1968 44

Stephan Myrsky

June 12 - 1968

RECEIVED

DEAR SIR. JUN 27 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

66-12C-	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	REC'D
13 JUN 26 1968	FILE
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.	

The enclosed news item has prompted me to write this letter.

I've heard the person who shot Sen. Robert Kennedy was a product of the divorce courts.

Acts of violence - MEN IN DIVORCE ACTION - LORAIN County, Ohio.

- ① MAN shoots wife only injured AVON LAKE O
- ② MAN shoots wife's lover in bed - Sheffield Lake, Ohio - Now in Ohio Penn.
- ③ MAN cuts self, dies - LEAVING wife AND 5 children - REASON - UNREASONABLE Support
- ④ - MAN sits on bridge Cleveland Ohio - COMES down - REASON - wife filing divorce ACTION - FROM AVON Ohio - LORAIN County.

These are only a few acts of violence which occur due to divorce ACTION in LORAIN County Ohio.

By now you guessed it I'm involved in a divorce ACTION -

II.

TRUE facts AND figures-

THOUSANDS of PERSONS FROM New York, PENNSYLVANIA - Come into Ohio for their divorce - REASON their State will NOT GRANT them one.

Ohio divorce laws too easy - The LAWYERS have a sweet BACKET going. ONLY 1 IN 20 will attempt to PREVENT A divorce - REASON - If? A Couple goes back together they only get A small fee, IN Reading some of OHIO divorce laws the Courts MAKE A SPECIAL POINT that the LAWYERS ARE PAID, REGARDLESS of the MAN'S Ability to PAY.

Judge Webber - Lorain County - Domestic Relation Courts - has his own Set of Rules - No Court hearing will be Set unless there is AN Agreement, So A MAN HAS NO CHANCE for A TRIAL. A divorce decree is ALWAYS written before

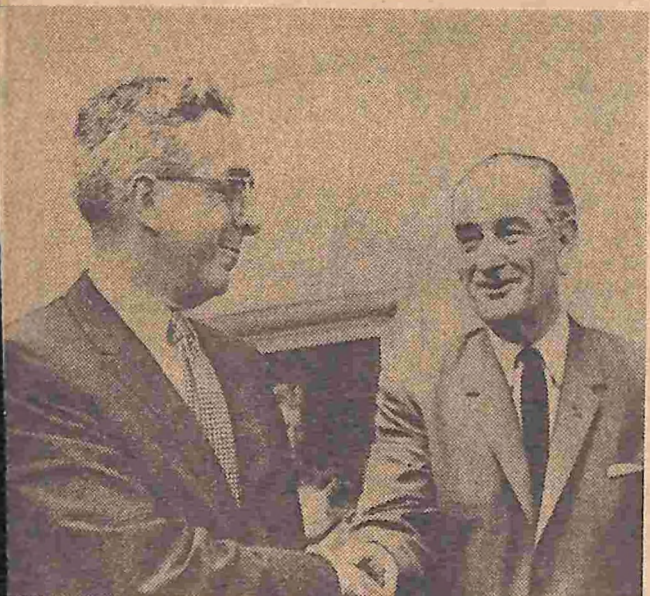
III

The hearing - All he does is listen to the wife's side - AND SIGN the PAPERS AND the divorce is GRANTED. A MAN IN OHIO - POSSIBLE OTHER STATES HAS NO RIGHTS - A dog HAS MORE LAWS PROTECTING it THAN A MAN INVOLVED IN A DIVORCE ACTION.

ACCORDING to VARIOUS NEWS ITEMS everyone is CONCERNED with the ALARMING divorce RATE, but NO ONE ATTEMPTS to PREVENT ONE.

Why ARE LAWS PASSED AND INVESTIGATED ONLY when A PROMINENT PERSON is INVOLVED? GOING BACK quite A few YEARS, "Lindberg Kidnap Act" - STRONG LAWS PASSED to TRY AND PREVENT this type of VIOLENCE.

A Complete federal INVESTIGATION Should be MADE into Ohio's Sweet Divorce RACKET.
THANK YOU Stephen Myosky - 2408 Tiffin Ave.
SANDUSKY OHIO - 44870



PRESIDENT JOHNSON talks with Dr. Milton Eisenhower, top, chairman of the commission, while at bottom, he chats with Lloyd Cutler, a Washington attorney, who was appointed executive director of the commission. (UPI Telephoto)

The JOURNAL LORAIN OHIO **Find Violence Cause, New Commission Told**

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The pressing questions have been posed.

Now comes the difficult part: Determining whether there is "something in the environment of American society" that produces violence.

That in essence was the assignment President Johnson handed yesterday to his new 10 - member National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence.

AT A WHITE HOUSE meeting with the members, the President signed an executive order giving the panel its official title, providing it with money and a staff, and giving it a year to report back on its findings and suggested remedies.

Johnson announced creation of the commission last Wednesday after the shooting of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles. While that act was not mentioned at the meeting, the President's clear mandate was to determine whether there are basic flaws in the American way of life which give rise to such political murder.

Flanked at either end of the Cabinet room by bronze busts of two assassinated presidents, John F. Kenne-

dy and Abraham Lincoln, Johnson urged the members to make a "penetrating search" that will benefit not only America but other countries at a time when violence is an "international phenomenon."

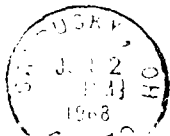
BEGINNING WITH Chairman Milton S. Eisenhower, president emeritus of Johns Hopkins University and brother of former President Eisenhower, Johnson went around the table extracting from each member promises to go to work immediately without prejudging the issues.

Johnson suggested the commission explore, among other things, these questions:

—"Is there something in the environment of American society or the structure of our institutions that causes disrespect for the law, contempt for the rights of others and incidents on violence? If there is, how can we correct it?"

—"Has permissiveness toward extreme behavior in our society encouraged an increase in violence?"

Stephen Myosky
2408 Tiffin Ave
c/o Eldorado Motel/
Sandusky, Ohio
44870



To The President of the U.S.
L. B. Johnson
Washington, D. C.

For
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 To

June 12, 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 12, 1968

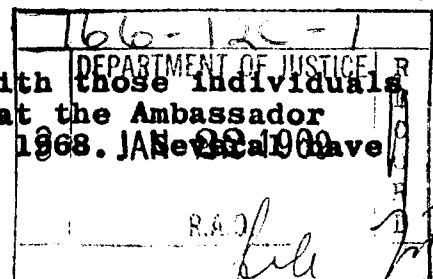
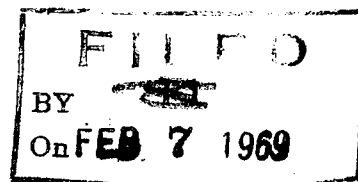
ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Investigation is continuing in order to develop full background information concerning Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as well as that of members of his immediate family and associates.

With respect to a previous statement attributed to Mayor Samuel W. Yorty, Los Angeles, California, as reported by the news media on June 6, 1968, alleging Sirhan was associated with the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America, and a vehicle registered to Sirhan's brother, Adel, was observed on January 16, 1966, in the vicinity of Baces Hall, 1528 North Vermont, Los Angeles, California, where a meeting sponsored by that organization was being held, information has been developed indicating Adel Sirhan had previously been employed as a musician at the Fez Restaurant, 1508 North Vermont, adjacent to Baces Hall. Full details are being developed with respect to this phase of our investigation.

On June 9, 1968, a United Press International release datelined Cairo made reference to the arrest of one Soliman Sirhan by Iraqi authorities as an Israeli spy alleging he was a brother of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. Sirhan's mother, during an intensive interview by FBI Agents on June 10, 1968, volunteered she had heard this newscast and stated she has only five sons, Sirhan, Munir, Sharif, Adel and Saidallah, none of whom are living outside the United States. The individual to whom the United Press International referred was unknown to her.

Interviews are continuing with those individuals who were in or near the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel during the evening of June 4-5, 1968. *Several have*



**ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY**

been located who were witnesses to the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and who positively identify Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as the individual who fired the shots at Senator Kennedy. This phase of our investigation is being exhaustively pursued.

According to information furnished by ambulance attendant Max Alma Behrmann, after responding to the call at the Ambassador Hotel, a distraught Mrs. Kennedy attempted to keep him from assisting the Senator stating "Keep your hands off him, I'm Mrs. Kennedy." As the Senator was placed in an ambulance, an argument ensued between Behrmann and Mrs. Kennedy as to who would accompany the ambulance and again, according to Behrmann, when he questioned Mrs. Kennedy while en route to the hospital as to what had transpired, she stated "I don't give a damn what you say," grabbed his record book and threw it out of the ambulance. Upon noting the Senator was having difficulty breathing and thereafter trying to assist him, Behrmann was told by Mrs. Kennedy "You keep your dirty filthy hands off my husband," and she struck him on the right side of his face stunning him. He further recalls Mrs. Kennedy called to a male associate who was sitting in the front seat to "Come back here and throw this ambulance man out; he's bothering me; he's asking too many questions."

It was further reported by a witness at the hospital that upon arrival there Mrs. Kennedy grabbed a camera from a newsman, knocking it to the floor, and she also swung at the newsman hitting him in the chest area. Senator Kennedy's bodyguard then jumped over the stretcher and punched the newsman in the face.

Of possible significance is the fact that among items found on Sirhan's person when taken into custody was a newspaper article by David Lawrence captioned "Paradoxical Bob" and highlighting the fact that while Kennedy vigorously opposes the war in Vietnam, he has nevertheless recommended full assistance to Israel "with arms if necessary" to meet the threat of the Soviets.

In addition, whereas press reports claim Rafer Johnson, Olympic champion, and Roosevelt Grier, professional football player, subdued the assailant, investigation reveals the first to reach the assailant were two hotel employees. They then were assisted by Grier and Johnson.

ROUTING SLIP

TO	
NAME	BUILDING AND ROOM
1. <i>Bill Lynch</i>	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL | <input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION | <input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME | <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN | <input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION | <input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME | <input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____ | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____ | | |

REMARKS

FROM

NAME

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL

BUILDING, ROOM, EXT. DATE

From
Dir
Federal Bureau of Investigation
To

June 12, 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
☐ Office of Alien Property
☐ Chief - Accounts Branch
☐ Chief - Administrative Services Office
☐ Chief of Personnel
☐ General Litigation Section, Civil Division
☐ Records Administration Office

Attention: ☐ Antitrust Division
☐ Civil Division
☐ Civil Rights Division
☐ Criminal Division
☐ Internal Security Division

RECEIVED
JUN 12 1968
Deputy Attorney General

- ☐ 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.

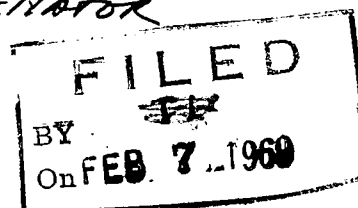
**Copies were also furnished to the Attorney
General and Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.**

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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

6/12/68

RE ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY



JUN 12 1968
Deputy Attorney General

SUMMARY RE FEMALE IN POLKA DOT DRESS

SANDRA SERRANO, AGE TWENTY, INTERVIEWED BY SANDOR
VANOCUR, NBC NEWS, APPROXIMATELY ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS AFTER
KENNEDY SHOOTING. AUDIO TAPE OBTAINED. DURING TV INTERVIEW
SERRANO CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN WOMAN AND MAN COMING DOWN STAIRS
SHORTLY AFTER SHOOTING AND THE WOMAN SAID, "WE SHOT HIM - WE
SHOT HIM." SERRANO CLAIMED SHE ASKED "SHOT WHO?" AND WOMAN
SAID "SENATOR-KENNEDY". SERRANO CLAIMED WOMAN WORE WHITE
DRESS WITH BLACK POLKA DOTS.

66-12C-1	RECORD
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
JAN 22 1969	
RAC	

SERRANO SUBSEQUENTLY CLAIMED TO BE SITTING ON FIRE ESCAPE
STEPS OUTSIDE AMBASSADOR BALLROOM. AMBASSADOR HOTEL HAS A NUMBER
OF BALLROOMS AND BANQUET ROOMS, EACH OF WHICH HAS DIFFERENT
NAME AND LOCATION IN HOTEL. EMBASSY BALLROOM, WHERE KENNEDY APPEARED,
IS ON SECOND FLOOR IN RELATION TO FRONT ENTRANCE OF HOTEL.
END PAGE ONE

file
we

PAGE TWO

LA 56-156

DIRECTLY BELOW THAT BALLROOM ON FIRST FLOOR IS AMBASSADOR BALLROOM. VICTIMS WERE SHOT IN KITCHEN AREA LOCATED ON NORTH SIDE DIRECTLY OFF EMBASSY BALLROOM. SERRANO CLAIMS SHE WAS SITTING OUTSIDE OF BUILDING ON FIRE ESCAPE STEPS LOCATED ON FLOOR BELOW ON SOUTH SIDE OF AMBASSADOR BALLROOM. AT TIME OF SHOOTING ABOUT ELEVEN HUNDRED PERSONS WERE IN EMBASSY BALLROOM AND APPROXIMATELY SIXTEEN HUNDRED IN AMBASSADOR ROOM. IN ADDITION A BAND WAS PLAYING IN AMBASSADOR ROOM AND TV SETS WERE STATIONED THROUGHOUT AMBASSADOR ROOM TO ENABLE KENNEDY SUPPORTERS TO VIEW HIS VICTORY SPEECH IN EMBASSY ROOM ABOVE.

SERRANO CLAIMED SHE SAT ON STEPS APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN THIRTY PM AND FEW MOMENTS LATER, TWO MEN AND A WOMAN WALKED UP STEPS PAST HER TO EMBASSY BALLROOM. SERRANO'S OPINION WAS THAT THESE PEOPLE WERE POSSIBLY TOGETHER SINCE WOMAN SAID "EXCUSE US" AND THEY WALKED PAST HER IN GROUP. SERRANO STATED SHE DID NOT KNOW IF ONE MAN AND WOMAN WERE TOGETHER AND THE ADDITIONAL MAN MERELY WALKED IN WITH THEM COINCIDENTALLY OR IF ALL THREE WERE TOGETHER. ACCORDING TO SERRANO, APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES LATER, SHE HEARD WHAT SHE THOUGHT TO BE SIX CAR BACKFIRES OR SHOTS. ACCORDING TO AUDIO TAPE OF TV INTERVIEW WITH VANCOUR, NBC NEWS, SERRANO MADE NO MENTION OF

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

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EITHER HEARING CAR BACKFIRES OR SHOTS JUST PRIOR TO THE WOMAN COMING DOWN THE STAIRS.

ABOUT THIRTY SECONDS AFTER BACKFIRES OR SHOTS SAID WOMAN AND ONE OF THE MEN RAN DOWN OUTSIDE FIRE ESCAPE STAIRS PAST HER. SERRANO CLAIMS DOES NOT KNOW WHERE THEY WENT OR IN WHAT DIRECTION. SHE IS UNABLE TO SHED LIGHT AS TO WHETHER THEY RAN TOWARD PARKING LOT, BACK INTO HOTEL AT ANOTHER ENTRANCE, OR IF THEY RAN TO ATTEMPT TO CONTACT POLICE DEPARTMENT OR CALL AN AMBULANCE. WOMAN YELLED IN PASSING AS SET OUT ABOVE. SERRANO INSISTS WOMAN USED WORD "WE" RATHER THAN WORDS "HE" OR "THEY". ALTHOUGH INSISTING WORD WAS "WE" SHE STATES "WE" COULD HAVE MEANT WE AS A GROUP, OR WE AS SOCIETY IN GENERAL. SERRANO CLAIMS NOT TO HAVE SEEN DIRECTION WOMAN AND MAN RAN AFTER PASSING HER SINCE SHE LOOKED BACK UP STEPS, SAW NOTHING, AND THEN WALKED BACK INTO HALLWAY AREA OF AMBASSADOR BALLROOM. JUST INSIDE, SHE ASKED UNIFORMED GUARD IF IT WAS TRUE THAT SENATOR KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT. ACCORDING TO SERRANO, GUARD ACCUSED HER OF HAVING TOO MUCH TO DRINK, ALTHOUGH SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE HAD ONLY ONE DRINK. SHE THEN ASKED A GROUP OF FIVE OR SIX PEOPLE IF IT WAS TRUE. SHE HEARD ONLY A COUPLE OF COMMENTS FROM THE GROUP, ONE BEING "YOU'RE CRAZY" AND THE OTHER BEING

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

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THE EXPRESSION "OH MY GOD."

FOURTEEN AMBASSADOR SECURITY GUARDS INTERVIEWED TO DATE, AND NO GUARD LOCATED WHO RECALLS THIS INCIDENT OR ASSIGNED DOORS TO THESE STAIRS. ONE ADDITIONAL GUARD WHO HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE TO DATE IS BEING LOCATED FOR INTERVIEW.

AFTER SPEAKING TO ABOVE GROUP, SERRANO CLAIMS SHE LOCATED PUBLIC TELEPHONE TO CALL PARENTS IN OHIO, TO TELL THEM OF SHOOTING. SHE ESTIMATED CALL MADE APPROXIMATELY TWELVE FIFTEEN AM (PDT). CANNOT RECALL IF SHE PAID FOR CALL OR IT WAS COLLECT DUE TO FACT SHE WAS EXTREMELY UPSET AND EMOTIONALLY DISTRAUGHT. SERRANO WAS ASKED WHY SHE MADE LONG DISTANCE CALL TO PARENTS WHEN FACT THAT SENATOR KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT WAS NOT CONFIRMED BY HER. SHE EXPLAINED THAT BASED ON EXPRESSION ON FACE OF WOMAN SHE SAW, SHE WAS CONVINCED THAT IT HAD HAPPENED. SERRANO ADMITS TO NEAR COMPLETE Hysteria AT TIME AND UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY EXPRESS WHAT SHE THOUGHT SHE HAD SEEN. PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY RECORDS REFLECT COLLECT TELEPHONE CALL MADE AT TWELVE TWENTY-SEVEN AM FROM PUBLIC PHONE AT AMBASSADOR HOTEL TO LORAIN, OHIO, SERRANO'S PARENTS' PHONE.

END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

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MANUEL AND AMPARIO SERRANO, LORAIN, OHIO, PARENTS OF SANDRA SERRANO, ADVISED SHE TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THEM AT APPROXIMATELY SIX PM (EDT) JUNE FOUR LAST TO CONGRATULATE HER BROTHER UPON HIS GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL. SHE CALLED AGAIN AT TEN THIRTY PM (EDT) STATING SHE WAS AT KENNEDY CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS AND KENNEDY WAS GOING TO WIN CALIFORNIA PRIMARY ELECTION. SANDRA THEN CALLED MOTHER COLLECT APPROXIMATELY THREE THIRTY AM (EDT) (TWELVE THIRTY PDT) JUNE FIVE LAST AND, ACCORDING TO MOTHER, WAS HYSTERICAL. SANDRA TOLD MOTHER SENATOR KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT, BUT DID NOT KNOW WHETHER KENNEDY WAS DEAD AND STATED HE HAD BEEN SHOT AFTER HIS SPEECH. MOTHER SAID SANDRA WAS HYSTERICAL DURING ENTIRE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION AND UNABLE TO RECALL SANDRA MENTIONING ANYTHING ABOUT OBSERVING ANYONE CONNECTED WITH SHOOTING. MOTHER CLAIMED SANDRA KEPT REPEATING, "WHY WOULD THEY DO ANYTHING LIKE THIS. HE WAS SUCH A GOOD MAN." SANDRA ASKED TO SPEAK TO HER FATHER, BUT HE DECLINED SINCE HE WAS TOO UPSET AFTER HEARING OF SHOOTING. SANDRA AGAIN CALLED MOTHER APPROXIMATELY EIGHT AM (EDT) JUNE FIVE LAST, AND AT THIS TIME ACCORDING TO MOTHER STATED SHE HAD BEEN ON "TERRACE" AT AMBASSADOR HOTEL PRIOR TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S SPEECH AND HAD SEEN TWO MEN AND A WOMAN AND DESCRIBED THE MEN

END PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

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AS "MEXICAN-AMERICAN" AND THE GIRL AS WHITE. AFTER SHOOTING, SHE TOLD MOTHER SHE OBSERVED ONE OF THE MEN AND THE SAME GIRL RUNNING PAST HER DOWN OUTSIDE FIRE ESCAPE STAIRS. ACCORDING TO MOTHER, SHE DID NOT ELABORATE FURTHER NOR DID SHE FURTHER DESCRIBE THESE INDIVIDUALS. PARENTS DESCRIBED SANDRA AS "GOOD GIRL WHO DOES NOT SMOKE OR DRINK, LEVEL HEADED AND MENTALLY AND EMOTIONALLY MATURE." SHE GRADUATED FROM LORAIN HIGH SCHOOL MAINTAINING C PLUS AVERAGE. SHE WENT TO LIVE WITH AUNT AND UNCLE IN ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA, IN JANUARY OR FEBRUARY, SIXTY-SEVEN AND EMPLOYED BY INSURANCE COMPANY IN LOS ANGELES.

ON JUNE SEVEN LAST, SERRANO TAKEN TO AMBASSADOR HOTEL TO REENACT INCIDENT DESCRIBED BY HER. SHE LOCATED OUTSIDE FIRE STAIRS SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE SAT ON. THESE ARE METAL FIRE STAIRS RUNNING ALONG SOUTH SIDE OF BUILDING AND ONE FLOOR BELOW EMBASSY BALLROOM. MIDDLE PART OF THE STAIRS HAVE FIRE DOORS LEADING INTO THE AMBASSADOR BALLROOM AND TOP OF THE STAIRS LEAD TO FIRE DOORS ENTERING EMBASSY BALLROOM WHERE KENNEDY GAVE SPEECH. BOTTOM OF THE STEPS LEAD TO SERVICE PARKING AREA.

PERTINENT TV FILM COVERAGE MADE AVAILABLE TO SERRANO. SHE OBSERVED NO ONE SHE FELT RESEMBLED MEN OR WOMAN SHE SAW ON STAIRWAY.

END PAGE SIX

PAGE SEVEN

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SERRANO DESCRIBED WOMAN AS WHITE FEMALE, TWENTY-THREE TO TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, FIVE FEET SIX INCHES, MEDIUM BUILD, ONE TWENTY-FIVE POUNDS, DARK BROWN HAIR, EAR LENGTH (BOUFFANT STYLE), WORE WHITE VOILE DRESS WITH QUARTER-INCH BLACK POLKA DOTS ABOUT ONE AND ONE-HALF INCHES APART. SHE WORE BLACK SHOES, NO PURSE, DID NOT WEAR GLASSES AND CARRIED NOTHING IN HER HANDS. SERRANO CLAIMED THIS WOMAN HAD A "FUNNY NOSE" WHICH SHE DESCRIBED AS THE "BOB HOPE" TYPE AND FELT SHE COULD IDENTIFY HER AGAIN. SHE DESCRIBED MALE INDIVIDUAL SHE SAW GOING UP AND DOWN STAIRS AS WHITE MALE (LATIN EXTRACTION), FIVE FEET FIVE INCHES, TWENTY-ONE TO TWENTY-THREE YEARS, OLIVE COMPLEXION, BLACK HAIR, LONG AND STRAIGHT HANGING OVER HIS FOREHEAD AND NEEDING A HAIRCUT. HE WORE DARK PANTS, LIGHT SHIRT AND GOLD OR YELLOW CARDIGAN TYPE SWEATER. NO GLASSES AND HAD NOTHING IN HIS HANDS. SHE WAS NOT SURE IF SHE COULD IDENTIFY THIS MAN AGAIN. SERRANO DESCRIBED OTHER MALE, WHOM SHE SAW ONLY GO UP THE STAIRS, AS A WHITE MALE (MEXICAN-AMERICAN) ABOUT TWENTY-THREE YEARS, FIVE FEET THREE INCHES, CURLY, BUSHY HAIR, WEARING LIGHT COLORED CLOTHES. SHE SAID AFTER SEEING PICTURE OF SIRHAN IN NEWSPAPERS AND POLICE DEPARTMENT PHOTOGRAPHS JUNE SIX LAST SHE FELT CERTAIN SIRHAN WAS IDENTICAL TO THIS PERSON.

END PAGE SEVEN

PAGE EIGHT

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VINCENT DE PIERRO, WHO WAS NEXT TO SENATOR KENNEDY WHEN KENNEDY SHOT, CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN A WOMAN IN WHITE POLKA DOT DRESS STANDING NEXT TO SIRHAN IN KITCHEN AREA BEFORE SIRHAN SHOT KENNEDY.

SIX POLKA DOT DRESSES SIMILAR TO EACH OTHER OBTAINED AND PLACED WITH POLKA DOT DRESS OBTAINED FROM FRIEND OF SANDRA SERRANO WHICH SERRANO BELIEVES SIMILAR TO ONE OBSERVED AT HOTEL. SERRANO SAID POLKA DOT DRESS WORN BY THE WOMAN SHE SAW AT HOTEL WAS "JUST LIKE" DRESS HER FRIEND HAD EXCEPT HER FRIEND'S DRESS WAS SLEEVELESS AND THE DRESS WORN BY THE WOMAN SHE SAW HAD THREE-QUARTER LENGTH SLEEVES. THESE SEVEN DRESSES WERE HUNG IN A ROW AND SEPARATE VIDEO TAPE RECORDINGS MADE OF DE PIERRO AND SERRANO AS EACH PICKED OUT TYPE POLKA DOT DRESS OBSERVED BY THEM AT HOTEL AND EXPLAINED WHY OTHER DRESSES DID NOT FIT. DE PIERRO AND SERRANO VIEWED THE DRESSES SEPARATELY AND WERE UNAWARE OF WHICH DRESS THE OTHER HAD SELECTED. VIDEO TAPE RECORDING ARRANGED BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY JOHN HOWARD, WHO WILL BE PROSECUTING SIRHAN SIRHAN. DE PIERRO WAS VERY DEFINITE IN PICKING OUT POLKA DOT DRESS THAT WAS SLEEVELESS, HAD LOW CUT NECK, LARGE POLKA DOTS, WHEREAS SERRANO WAS DEFINITE IN PICKING OUT THREE-QUARTER LENGTH SLEEVES,

END PAGE EIGHT

HIGH TOP BECK LINE AND SMALL POLKA DOTS. DUE TO COMPLETE
CONTRAST AND DEFINITE VIEWS OF EACH WITNESS, HOWARD STATED
HE IS CONVINCED THAT WOMAN SERRANO CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN ON
THE STAIRWAY WAS DEFINITELY NOT SAME WOMAN DE PIEMBO CLAIMED
TO HAVE SEEN NEXT TO SIKMAN BEFORE SHOOTING. WM. GARDNER,
DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, AMBASSADOR HOTEL, WHO WAS PRESENT IN
EMBASSY ROOM AND AMBASSADOR ROOM NIGHT OF SHOOTING, ADVISES
AT LEAST TWENTY FEMALES WERE IN CROWD WEARING WHITE DRESS WITH
BLACK POLKA DOTS. FOR INFO BUREAU, HOWARD NOTED IT WOULD HAVE
BEEN PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR WOMAN ALLEGEDLY SEEN NEXT TO
SIKMAN IN KITCHEN AREA BY DE PIEMBO TO CROSS CROWDED BALLROOM
AND EXIT DOOR WHERE SERRANO CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN IN THIRTY
SECONDS. IT IS NOTED SERRANO CLAIMS TO HAVE SEEN MAN AND WOMAN
IN POLKA DOT DRESS THIRTY SECONDS AFTER HEARING WHAT SHE BELIEVED
TO BE SHOTS OF CAR BACKFIRES.
SERRANO TAKEN TO LOCATION IN KITCHEN AREA OF EMBASSY
BALLROOM WHERE SHOOTING OCCURRED. SHE WAS SHOWN STAGE ON WHICH
SENATOR KENNEDY GAVE SPEECH AND IT WAS EXPLAINED TO HER BY LA
HOWARD AND BUAGENT THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN HUNDRED
PEOPLE IN EMBASSY BALLROOM PLUS NUMEROUS PIECES OF TV EQUIPMENT.
END PAGE NINE

END PAGE TEN

IT WAS POINTED OUT TO HER SHE CLAIMED TO HAVE CALLED PRIOR TO
SHE HAD SEEN SOMEONE SHE BELIEVED TO BE CONNECTED WITH THE SHOOTING.
IN HER TELEPHONE CALL AT TWELVE THIRTY SEVEN AM THAT SHE THOUGHT
WERE GUN SHOTS. SHE WAS ASKED WHY SHE HAD NOT TOLD HER PARENTS
SAID SHE THOUGHT IT WAS SIX BACK FIFES AND NOT SURE IF THEY
HEARD A GUN SHOT IN HER LIFE AND CLAIMED SHE HAD PREVIOUSLY
WHERE SHE CLAIMED TO BE SITTING. SERRANO STATED SHE HAD NEVER
SEEING LOCATION WHERE SENATOR KENNEDY WAS SHOT IN RELATION TO
WAS ASKED IF SHE STILL CLAIMED SHE HAD HEARD GUN SHOTS AFTER
DURING SUBSEQUENT INTERVIEW BY PROSECUTORS AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS,
HE MUST HAVE BEEN ON A DIFFERENT FLOOR OF HOTEL. SERRANO,
THIS WAS NOT WHERE SENATOR KENNEDY GAVE HIS SPEECH. SHE CONTINUED
SPOKE, SERRANO ACCUSED HOWARD AND SUBAGENT OF LYING TO HER AND INSISTED
LEFT FROM WHERE SHOOTING OCCURRED. WHILE ON STAGE WHERE KENNEDY
FLOOR BELOW. THIS DISTANCE IS APPROXIMATELY ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY
AND TO STEPS SHE CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN SITTING ON WHICH IS ONE
SERRANO WALKED FROM STAGE ACROSS EMERGENCY BALCONY TO FIRE EXIT
(THE LEGAL CAPACITY FOR THIS ROOM IS SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY PEOPLE)

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PAGE TEN

END PAGE ELEVEN

CONNECTED WITH CASE.

TO MAKING VIDEO TAPE SHE INSISTED ON HAVING SOMEONE PRESENT NOT
AS TO WHAT SHE CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN. SERRANO AGREED BUT PRIOR
MIGHT BE VIDEO TAPED TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDING ON ANYONES PART
SHE WOULD, AND WAS THEN ASKED BY HOWARD TO RE ENACT INCIDENT SO IT
EXAMINATION IN EFFORT TO VERIFY WHAT SHE HAD SEEN. SHE INDICATED
THAT HER. HOWARD THEN ASKED SERRANO IF SHE WOULD TAKE POLYGRAPH
ACCUSED THOSE CONDUCTING INTERVIEW OF LYING TO HER AND TRYING TO
BECOME VERY EMOTIONAL, CLAIMED SHE COULD NOT EXPLAIN WHY, AND
UP STAIRS WAS SERRANO WAS OF SIGNIFICANCE. AT THIS POINT, SERRANO
POINTED OUT TO HER THE FACT SHE CLAIMED ONE OF THE MEN GOING
AND ONLY TOLD ABOUT THE WOMAN AND WAS COMING BACK DOWN. IT WAS
ANYTHING ABOUT SEEING THIS WOMAN AND TWO MEN GOING UP THE STAIRS
WAS ASKED WHY IN HER INTERVIEW WITH VANCOUR SHE DID NOT SAY
HAD SEEN SOMEONE CONNECTED WITH SHOOTING WAS NOT MENTIONED. SHE
COMMUNICATING WITH HER MOTHER. THEREFORE, FACT SHE THOUGHT SHE
WAS UNABLE TO TALK TO FATHER AND SHE HAS ALWAYS HAD DIFFICULTY
VERIFYING THAT SERRANO KENNEDY HAD BEEN SHOT. SERRANO SAID SHE

LA 56-156

PAGE ELEVEN

PAGE TWELVE

LA 55-156

SEVERAL HOTEL EMPLOYEES WERE ARRANGED FOR BY HOWARD AND REFUSED BY SERRANO FOR NO EXPLAINABLE REASON. FINALLY, TWO EMPLOYEES FROM KITCHEN WERE ACCEPTABLE TO SERRANO TO WITNESS TAPED INTERVIEW. SERRANO CLAIMED TO BE TOO UPSET TO TAKE POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION AND EFFORTS BEING MADE THIS DATE BY HOWARD TO HAVE SUCH A TEST ADMINISTERED BY LAPD.

ALL AVAILABLE PHOTOS TAKEN FROM ALL SOURCES HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO SERRANO FOR POSSIBLE IDENTIFICATION OF PERSON SHE ALLEGEDLY SAW ON THE BACK STEPS. SHE HAS NOT IDENTIFIED THE PHOTO OF THIS PERSON IN ANY OF THESE PHOTOS. LIEUTENANT CHARLES HUGHES, RAMPART STATION, LAPD, ADVISED IN HIS OPINION, BASED ON THE DISTANCE SHE WAS FROM THE SHOOTING AND IN VIEW OF THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE AND UNUSUALLY HIGH NOISE LEVEL, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR SERRANO TO HAVE HEARD ANY SHOTS.

LAPD ISSUED APB RE WOMAN IN POLKA DOT DRESS IN AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY SUCH A WOMAN REPORTEDLY SEEN BY SERRANO. PUBLIC APPEALS HAVE BEEN MADE THROUGH VARIOUS NEWS MEDIA FOR THE PERTINENT WOMAN TO CONTACT THE LAPD. TO DATE LAPD REPORTS ONLY THREE HAVE COME FORWARD AND ALL THREE PUBLICITY SEEKERS AND NOT CONNECTED IN ANY WAY.

INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION CONTINUES.

END

RJP

FBI WASH DC

From
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
To

JUN 20 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
☐ Office of Alien Property
☐ Chief - Accounts Branch
☐ Chief - Administrative Services Office
☐ Chief of Personnel
☐ General Litigation Section, Civil Division
☒ Records Administration Office

() Maroney
 () Keuch
 () Burns
 () Korff
 () Hayden
 () Beck
 () ~~Brookhart~~
 () Knight
 () Noto

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.
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☐ 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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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 89-61
157-2195

Chicago, Illinois
June 12, 1968

ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH

On June 9, 1968, Detective Dale Buehler, Area One Homicide, Chicago Police Department, advised that on Saturday, June 8, 1968, at approximately 10:00 AM, two male Negroes, subsequently identified as Robert Smith, also known as Yaree Ameer, and his half-brother Michael Walton, entered Supreme Grocery Store, 343 East 51st Street, Chicago, and without any warning shot the owner of the store who was bent over arranging a display in the store. Three witnesses observed Smith and Walton enter the store, approach the owner, and without uttering a sound fire two shots from a .38 caliber revolver, striking the head of Abder Rayyan, described as a male Arab, age 51, alien from Jordan, who has been in the United States for five years. He died fifteen minutes later. Detective Buehler further advised that an Aaron Meyers is being held as a material witness, inasmuch as he drove the car which carried Smith and Walton both to and away from the scene of the murder.

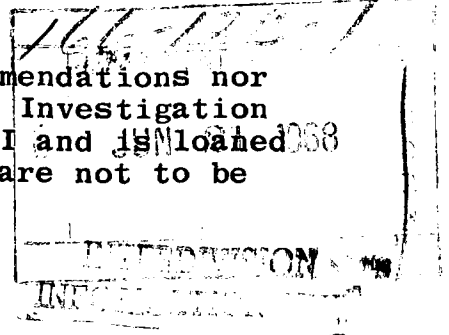
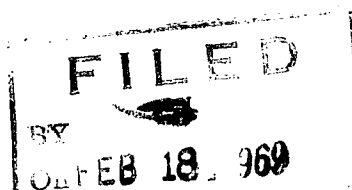
A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on September 21, 1967, that Smith, using the alias of Yaree Ameer, is the acting director of the Chicago Branch of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

A characterization of SNCC is attached hereto. Sources utilized in this characterization have furnished reliable information in the past.

According to the arrest records of the Chicago Police Department, Smith has been arrested a number of times for burglary, aggravated battery, robbery and purse snatching, inciting a riot and rape.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (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.

FILE-M.M.R.



ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ROBERT SMITH

On June 10, 1968, local Chicago radio stations, in reporting of the killing of Abder Rayyan, of Jordanian nationality, indicated that the motive for the killing might be one of revenge or a demonstration of emotion by the Negro assailants over the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy by the Jordanian Arab national. One newscast stated that Aaron Lee Meyers, mentioned above as being held as a material witness, has been charged with murder and two other male Negroes were being sought.

On June 10, 1968, Detective Dale Buehler, Area One Homicide, Chicago Police Department, advised Aaron Lee Meyers had not been charged with murder but was being held as a material witness. He further stated that warrants have been issued for both Robert Smith and his half-brother, Michael Walton, charging them with murder.

On June 11, 1968, Sergeant John Mc Mahon, Area One Homicide, Chicago Police Department, advised that the whereabouts of Smith and Walton are unknown at this time and intensive investigation is being conducted to locate these persons.

On June 12, 1968, Sergeant Mc Mahon advised that Smith and Walton are still being sought for the murder of the grocery store owner. Furthermore, a warrant has been issued on June 12, 1968, for Sally Miller, described as a female Negro, who also was reportedly in the vehicle which carried Smith and Walton to and away from the scene of the crime.

ROBERT SMITH AND MICHAEL WALTON SHOULD BE CONSIDERED
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

One copy each of the above information is being furnished the following agencies:

United States Attorney
Chicago, Illinois

United States Secret Service
Chicago, Illinois

Region I, 113th Military Intelligence Group
Evanston, Illinois

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Literature distributed by the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), headquartered at 360-362 Nelson Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia, describes itself as not being a membership organization, but rather an agency attempting to stimulate and foster the growth of local protest movements. SNCC was born out of the sit-in movement which erupted across the South beginning on February 1, 1960. A conference at Raleigh, North Carolina, that Spring, brought together many of the demonstrating Southern students in a loose network of militant youth which was officially named SNCC in October, 1960.

A source has advised that in May, 1966, Stokely Carmichael was elected National Chairman by the Central Committee. In May, 1967 Carmichael was replaced as Chairman by H. Rap Brown, with Carmichael assuming the position of Recruiter and Organizer for the SNCC. In August, 1967, at the invitation of Fidel Castro, Carmichael participated in the Organization of Latin American Solidarity Conference which was held in Havana, Cuba. Subsequent thereto, Carmichael traveled to Hanoi and other sections of North Vietnam. He returned to the United States in December, 1967, at which time his passport was picked up because of travel to unauthorized countries.

A source advised that when Carmichael was elected Chairman of SNCC, the organization embarked on a program of eliminating Caucasians from its ranks. With the election of H. Rap Brown as Chairman in 1967, it embarked on a worldwide struggle for human rights and to take a firm stand against violations of these rights by the American Government and to strengthen its programs of opposition to the draft and to the United States involvement in Vietnam.

Literature distributed in February, 1968, identifies SNCC as an organization in the revolutionary vanguard. It advocates that to be successful it is necessary to develop a revolutionary ideology and revolutionary program.

On August 13, 1967, while addressing a group in the Watts area of Los Angeles, California, H. Rap Brown said "You better shape up America, or we'll burn you down." Later in February, 1968, in a publicized note Brown wrote, "America, if it takes my death to organize my people to revolt against you and to organize your jails to revolt against you and to organize your children, your God, your poor, your country, and to organize mankind to rejoice in your destruction and ruin, then here's my life."

From [REDACTED]
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 To

Chi. Robert Smith
 JUN 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
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☒ Records Administration Office

(☒) Maroney
 (☐) Keuch
 (☒) Burns
 (☒) Korff
 (☐) Hayden
 (☐) Beck
 (☒) Brookhart
 (☒) Foss
 (☐) Knight
 (☐) Noto

Att.: ☐ Antitrust Div. ☐ Civil Div. ☐ Civil Rights Div.
☐ Criminal Div. ☐ Internal Security Div.
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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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FBI WASH DC*

FBI CHICAGO

1622AM URGENT 6-13-68 RFJ

TO DIRECTOR (100-44870) (62-587), MEMPHIS AND WFO

WFO VIA WASHINGTON

FROM CHICAGO (157-2195) (89-61)

ATTN. NCIC

ROBERT SMITH, RM-SNCC.

KENSALT

REACTION TO ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY. RM.

DETECTIVE DALE BUEHLER, AREA ONE, HOMICIDE,
CHICAGO PD ADVISED JUNE TWELFTH LAST THAT MURDER WARRANT HAS BEEN IS-
SUED FOR SALLY B. MILLER IN CONNECTION WITH KILLING OF ABDER RAYYAN,
ARAB ALIEN FROM JORDAN IN U.S. FOR PAST FIVE YEARS, MURDERED IN HIS
GROCERY STORE ON JUNE EIGHT LAST.

WARRANTS WERE PREVIOUSLY ISSUED FOR ROBERT SMITH, KNOWN AS
YAREE AMER, AND HALF - BROTHER MICHAEL WALTON. WITNESSES OBSERVED SMITH
AND WALTON ENTERING GROCERY STORE OF ABDER RAYYAN AND FIRING TWO SHOTS
FROM A THIRTYEIGHT CALIBER REVOLVER STRIKING RAYYAN IN HEAD.

SALLY B. MILLER HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A PASSENGER IN VEHICLE
CARRYING SMITH AND WALTON TO AND FROM SCENE OF KILLING.

END PAGE ONE

memo
6/14

PAGE TWO

RESIDENCE OF MILLER, FOUR NINE TWO NINE SOUTH PARK AVENUE, WAS SEARCHED BY CHICAGO PD YESTERDAY. RECOVERED DURING SEARCH WAS GROUP PHOTOGRAPH CONTAINING PICTURES OF SMITH AND STOKELY CARMICHAEL AMONG OTHERS. ALSO RECOVERED WERE TWO M - ONE RIFLES BEARING SERIAL NUMBERS TWO SIX ZERO ZERO FOUR FOUR FIVE AND ONE ONE EIGHT TWO TWO NINE THREE. WEAPONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BEING STOLEN IN THEFT FROM TILDEN VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, FOUR SEVEN FOUR SEVEN SOUTH UNION STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ON FEBRUARY TWO NINE, LAST.

ACCORDING TO AN INFORMANT OF CHICAGO PD, WHO IS RELATIVE OF MILLER, SMITH RECEIVED PAYMENT FOR ABOVE KILLING FROM UNKNOWN SOURCE. SUBSEQUENT TO KILLING, SMITH, WALTON AND MILLER PURCHASED NEW CLOTHING AND RETURNED TO MILLER'S RESIDENCE WHERE THEY GATHERED ADDITIONAL BELONGINGS. THEY SUBSEQUENTLY DISAPPEARED WITHOUT LEAVING INFORMATION CONCERNING FUTURE DESTINATION.

END PAGE TWO