June 7, 1968

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The attached FBI report concerns the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. School records in Pasadena, California, describe the assailant, Sirhan Sirhan, as "friendly, cooperative, and well mannered". He has had little association with other members of his family, few male associates, and since an accident in 1966, he has been more withdrawn.

Attached are photostatic copies of handwritten notations found in Sirhan's room. The handwriting has not been positively identified as Sirhan's because of the lack of samples. Two witnesses who have identified Sirhan as being at the Ambassador Hotel report him to have made derogatory comments about rich people and Senator Kennedy in particular. Both witnesses were of the opinion that Sirhan was at the hotel alone.

Mayor Sam Yorty was reported as stating Sirhan was associated with the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America, a Communist youth front. A vehicle registered to Sirhan's brother was observed in the vicinity of a meeting of this organization on January 16, 1966.

FBI records fail to establish that Sirhan is a member of this organization and there are indications that the Communist Party, USA, intends to issue a public denial of Sirhan's affiliation with the Communist Party and is considering filing a suit against Yorty. FBI agents on June 5th discovered a car registered to Sirhan a few blocks from the hotel. An empty box of 22 caliber bullets were found.

The handwritten notes contained rambling and repeating references to the need for assassinating Senator Kennedy. Some vague reference is made to Ambassador Goldberg also. The notes advocate the overthrow of the President and support for the Communist cause.



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 7, 1968

### BY COURIER SERVICE

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.



Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

Ohn Edgar Hoove

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum were furnished to the Vice President and the Department of Justice.





## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 7, 1968

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

Intensive investigation is continuing in order to determine the complete circumstances surrounding the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy by an individual who has been charged by Los Angeles, California, authorities as his assailant, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

School records in Pasadena, California, described Sirhan prior to 1963 when he graduated from John Muir High School as "friendly, cooperative, well mannered, has adjusted very nicely to his new environment and making many new friends." Continuing investigation into Sirhan's background indicates, according to his brother Sharif Bishara Sirhan, the assailant had little association or communication with the rest of the family. He had few male associates and since his fall from a horse in September, 1966, had been more withdrawn.

The FBI Laboratory has conducted an examination of the hand-writing appearing on papers found after a search of Sirhan's room in the Pasadena family home which bore notations advocating the overthrow of the President of the United States and other statements alluding to the necessity of assassinating Robert F. Kennedy. The handwriting could not be identified as Sirhan's because of the lack of adequate known handwriting samples. Additional samples of Sirhan's known handwriting are being obtained for comparison purposes.

A copy of this material is attached.

Investigation is continuing in an effort to account for Sirhan's activities directly prior to the shooting of Senator Kennedy. Individuals who were in attendance at the ballroom in the Ambassador Hotel at the time of the shooting are being located and interviewed in detail. Two

#### ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

witnesses, Humphrey Cordero and Enrique Rabago, identified Sirhan as being at the Ambassador Hotel at approximately 9:30 p. m., Pacific Daylight Time, on June 4, 1968, at which time Sirhan is alleged to have made derogatory comments regarding "rich people" in general and Senator Kennedy in particular. It was alleged Sirhan stated that Senator Kennedy was going to "buy the presidency" for personal purposes, and that he (Sirhan) was looked down upon because of his clothing. Both Cordero and Rabago were of the opinion based on their conversation with Sirhan that he had come to the Ambassador Hotel alone since no one appeared to be accompanying him during their approximate ten-minute conversation with him.

Three of the five individuals who were wounded during the shooting were interviewed, but none observed the assailant. The remaining two who were more seriously wounded will be interviewed as soon as their condition permits.

Mayor Samuel W. Yorty, Los Angeles, California, was reported by the news media on June 6, 1968, as stating Sirhan was associated with the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America. The Los Angeles Police Department advised that on January 16, 1966, a vehicle registered to Sirhan's brother Adel was observed in the vicinity of Baces Hall, Sunset and Vermont, Los Angeles, California, where a meeting sponsored by the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America was being held.

FBI files based on available data failed to establish Sirhan was a member of such an organization.

A reliable source has indicated that Dorothy Healy, Los Angeles Communist Party leader, has stated the assassin is unknown as a member of the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America in the Los Angeles area. The W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America is a Marxist-orientated youth organization whose leaders in 1967 were Communist Party, United States of America, members. It was indicated that the Communist Party, United States of America, intends to issue a press release denying Sirhan has had any connection with the Communist Party and, in fact, is considering a legal suit against Mayor Yorty with respect to his allegations.

### ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

FBI Agents, on June 5, 1968, located a 1956 DeSoto registered to Sirhan Sirhan at Wilshire Boulevard and New Hampshire Avenue a few blocks from the Ambassador Hotel. An examination of this vehicle, after a search warrant was obtained, resulted in the location of one empty box of .22 caliber bullets in the glove compartment. In addition, a sales receipt was located in the glove compartment showing the purchase of four boxes of .22 caliber bullets for \$3.99 paid for in cash on June 1, 1968. A wallet containing identification in the name of Sirhan Sirhan was also located in the glove compartment.

Enclosure

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## U. S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE-DISTRICT DIRECTOR 300 NORTH LOS ANGELES STREET LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

RFK Must be disposed of like his brother was

reactioning

June 24, 1968 3:50 p.m.

The attached FBI report concerns the assassination of Senator Kennedy.

The FBI states that on June 21 after a lie detector test and interviews by the Police Department Sandra Serrano, who appeared on television shortly after the assassination identifying the "woman in the polka dot dress", admitted that her story was a complete fabrication.

Additionally, the story that Sirhan talked with a blonde woman at the gun club with whom he was apparently acquainted, proved not to be accurate.

Russell E. Parsons, who has been obtained as Sirhan's attorney, has received threats and has been advised by the Police to take the matter up with the Los Angeles County Superior Court as to whether he should have protection.



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 24, 1968

### BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

Edgar Hoo Director

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 24, 1968

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

As mentioned previously, twenty-year-old Sandra Serrano appeared on television shortly after Senator Robert F. Kennedy was shot and claimed that immediately after the shooting a woman in a polka dot dress ran by her shouting "We shot him. We shot him." According to Miss Serrano, this woman had entered the Ambassador Hotel prior to the shooting accompanied by two men, one of whom she identified as Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. Extensive investigation has failed to substantiate her story.

On June 21, 1968, after being afforded a polygraph examination and an extensive interview by the Los Angeles, California, Police Department, Miss Serrano admitted that her story was a complete fabrication.

An employee of the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, Duarte, California, where Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was seen practicing with a revolver on June 4, 1968, claimed that Sirhan talked with a blonde woman at the gun club and it appeared the two had met previously. This woman has been identified as Mrs. Claudia Williams. She advised she was at the gun club with her husband, Ronald, on June 4, 1968, and Sirhan assisted her on the pistol range while her husband was at the rifle range. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. Williams had met Sirhan previously.

The receptionist at the office of Russell E. Parsons, Sirhan's attorney, Los Angeles, received two telephone calls on June 20, 1968, from a person claiming to be John Lawrence of New York City. This caller said he was executive secretary of the Clemency Committee for Sirhan Sirhan and that Los Angeles criminal attorneys are "Crooks" and will take Sirhan "down the river." He also said "We are out to get Mr. Parsons" and claimed that Parsons was being paid \$150,000 to represent Sirhan. He said that there are 250,000 Arabs who are militant and who are not going to let Parsons get away with it. Parsons contacted the Los Angeles Police Department and requested protection. The police suggested that he discuss

### ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

the matter with the presiding judge, Los Angeles County Superior Court. The presiding judge intends to hold a hearing to determine if Parsons needs protection. The United States Attorney is withholding a prosecutive opinion regarding a possible violation of the Federal Extortion Statute.

Our investigation into the assassination of Senator Kennedy is continuing.

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June 17, 1968 5:00 p.m.

The attached FBI memorandum concerns the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. A UPI release dated June 13, reported an unidentified Arab Government had passed new information to American officials concerning Sirhan Sirhan. Correspondent John Kimche in the London Evening Standard reported that Sirhan had traveled in the Middle East in 1964 for seven months, and had returned there in 1966 for five months before returning to the US in the beginning of 1967.

A Reuters dispatch on June 13, also reported this story and added that Sirhan allegedly married upon a return trip to the Middle East in 1957.

Investigation by the FBI reveals that Sirhan came to the United States in 1957, and that apparently Sirhan never left the United States after his arrival.

Kimche refused to identify his source but reiterated that said source is usually reliable. Kimche, according to the CIA, is an able and unscrupulous free lance journalist in London who apparently supports official Israeli Zionist lines in his work. The CIA reports that in early 1968, there were strong protests against his articles which appeared to be aimed at destroying relations between the United States and Arab countries.

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 NLJ 22 S By CTS NARA, Date 4 7/29





## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 17, 1968

## BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.





# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

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 March 19, 1944, Jerusalem, Jordan.

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.

## ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

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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.



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 18, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

-

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.



# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 18, 1968

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

The continuing investigation concerning Sirhan Bishara
Sirhan has revealed that he is a member of the Rosicrucian Order,
San Jose, California. This order is also known as the Ancient
Mystical Order Rosae Crucis (AMORC).

An official of this organization has advised that Sirhan had a "corresponding membership" and did not attend regular meetings. Several members of the Pasadena, California, chapter of this order have advised that Sirhan attended a meeting at Pasadena, California, on the evening of May 28, 1968.

Officials of the Rosicrucian Order have advised this is a world-wide fraternal organization operating on a lodge system. They advised it is nonsectarian and is not a religious order although the ethics of the order adhere to Christian principles. They further advised that the teachings of the organization do not interfere with religious freedom of members and only law-abiding citizens over 21 years of age, of good repute, and believing in a "Supreme Being" are eligible for membership. Members reportedly include a cross section of all classes of people and total world membership is claimed at approximately 90,000 people of which 45,000 are in the United States. This order reportedly traces its origin back to the "mystery schools or secret schools" in Egypt approximately 1500 years B.C., and is nonpolitical in nature.

On June 5, 1968, a search of Sirhan's automobile was conducted by the Los Angeles, California, Police Department. This search revealed a sales receipt from the Lock, Stock and Barrel gun store, San Gabriel, California, reflecting the purchase of four boxes of .22 caliber ammunition on June 1, 1968. Intensive inquiries are continuing into this as well as all other phases of this investigation.

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UPI-84

(SIRHAN)

LONDON--AN ARAB GOVERNMENT HAS PASSED "NEW AND STARTLING" INFORMATION TO AMERICAN OFFIALS ON STANDARD REPORTED TODAY.

STANDARD CORRESPONDENT JON KINCHE, WHO CLAIMS CLOSE CONTACT WITH ARAB GOVERNMENTS, SAID THE INFORMATION IS THE REESULE OF AN INTENSIVE INVESTIGATION IN SIRHAN'S BACKGROUND BY AN ARAB GOVERNMENT, WHICH HE DID NOT IDENTIFY.

KINCHE SAID THE INVESTIGATION DISCLOSED SIRHAN RETURNED TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN 1964 FOR SEVEN NONTHS, FOUR OF WHICH HE SPENT IN DAMASCUS. HE RETURNED AGAIN IN 1966 SPENDING FIVE MONTHS IN CAIRO AND RETURNED TO THE U.S. AT THE BEGINNING F 1967.

6/13-- TD1248PED

PRESERVATION COPY





## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 13, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

This is in reference to your inquiry of June 13, 1968, relative to a United Press International release to the effect that Sirhan Bishara Sirhan returned to the Middle East in 1964 for seven months and again in 1966 for five months.

Files 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 March 19, 1944, Jerusalem, Jordan.

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.

The Department of State in response to our inquiry at 2 p.m., June 13, 1968, has advised that no communication relative to this situation has been received from the Arab Nations as indicated in the United Press International release.

We are continuing our inquiries into this matter. You will be promptly advised of the results.

Sincerely yours,

@ G 6/15

June 14, 1968 3:30 p.m.

The attached FBI memorandum concerns the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Eyewitnesses are being interviewed by the FBI and little new information is reported.

A UPI release reporting Sirhan as traveling to the Middle East during 1964 through 1966, is considered false by the FBI.

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 14, 1968

### BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.





## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 14, 1968

### 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.

ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

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.

for by del

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June 13, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.





# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASBINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 13, 1968

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

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.

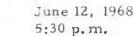
Roosevelt Grier, professional football player who was present at Senator Kennedy's speech in the Ambassador Hotel at Los Angeles, California, during the night of June 4, 1968, related to FBI Agents how he, with the assistance of hotel employees and Rafer Johnson, Olympic champion, disarmed Sirhan after 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.







The attached FBI memorandum concerns the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Information has been developed that Sirhan Sirhan's brother, Adel, had previously been employed as a musician at the Fex Restaurant, adjacent to Baces Hall. The W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America held a meeting at that location in January of 1966. Mayor Sam Yorty had earlier reported that his automobile was seen and noted at that time.

The mother of Sirhan says that a UPI release datelined Cairo, referring to the arrest of one of her sons by Iraqi authorities, is false. All of her sons live in the United States and the individual to whom the report referred is unknown to her.

Several more individuals have definitely identified Sirhan as the assassin of Senator Kennedy in the Ambassador Hotel.

The distraught Mrs. Kennedy had some difficulties with an ambulance attendant and some newsmen. These incidents are described. She felt the ambulance attendant was asking too many questions.

A newspaper article by David Lawrence captioned "Paradoxical Bob" was found on Sirhan. It highlighted the fact that Kennedy opposed the war in Vietnam but was for full assistance to Israel.

Two hotel employees were the first to reach the assailant and subdue him. They were assisted by athletes Roosevelt Grier and Rafer Johnson.





## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 12, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

0 -

Director

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.





File No.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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.

(47

(9)

June 10, 1968 6:30 p.m.

The attached FBI memorandum concerns the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

The interrogation of several witnesses has failed to reveal that the accused assassin, Sirhan, was in the company of any other individual at the time.

An acquaintance of the accused was with Sirhan until approximately 7:30 p.m. on June 4, and says that Sirhan gave no indication of his intentions.

An admitted member of the Communist Party acknowledged acquaintanceship with Sirhan but said that Sirhan was not a member of the W.E.B. DuBois Clubs of America, nor of the Communist Party, although he did consider him "erratic".

A ballistic report proves that the bullet removed from the Senator's head had been fired by the murder weapon at a distance from two to six inches.

Sirhan has been identified as engaging in target practice with a . 22 caliber pistol on June 4 at a local gun club.

Police are skeptical that Sandra Serrano heard the shots from her position in the room. She is the girl who claims to have heard shots and saw a man and a woman running from the scene.

On June 7, Judge Arthur L. Alarcon, Superior Court, Los Angeles, issued an order prohibiting the release of any information which might interfere with the constitutional right of Sirhan to a fair trial.





#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 10, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoo Director

Enc.

Copies of the enclosed memorandum are being furnished to the Vice President and to the Department of Justice.



File No.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 10, 1968

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

In our continuing investigation to trace the activities of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan immediately prior to the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, several witnesses have been located who observed Sirhan in the ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel moments prior to the assault. One witness, Edward Minasian, employee at the Ambassador Hotel, observed the actual shooting. None of the witnesses interviewed observed Sirhan in the company of any other individual.

A casual acquaintance of Sirhan's, Gaymoard Mistri, Pasadena, California, when interviewed related he had a chance meeting with Sirhan at approximately 6:10 p. m., Pacific Daylight Time, on June 4, 1968, at a Pasadena restaurant. He claimed to have been with Sirhan until approximately 7:30 p. m., Pacific Daylight Time. During this period, Sirhan gave no indication whatsoever of his intentions to commit the action that followed several hours later. In fact, he invited Mistri to engage in a game of pool and gave no indication that there would be a time limit or that he had a subsequent engagement.

Walter S. Crowe, Jr., an admitted member of the Communist Party, acknowledged an acquaintanceship with Sirhan, having last been in contact with him on May 2, 1968. Crowe stated Sirhan was not a member of the W. E. B. DuBois Clubs of America nor was he a member of the Communist Party. Crowe considered Sirhan "erratic" in his political philosophy since he politically favored movements that are considered by the general populace to be left of center; however, definite phases of his thinking were to the right of center, particularly on the subject of the State of Israel.

It has been reported by the Los Angeles, California, Police Department that a ballistic examination has proven that the bullet removed from Senator Kennedy's head had definitely been fired by the murder weapon at a distance from two to six inches.

Information was developed by our Los Angeles Office to the effect that Sirhan has been identified as engaging in target practice with a . 22 caliber pistol on June 4, 1968, at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, Duarte, California.

Sandra Serrano, aged 20, who appeared on television immediately after the shooting was interviewed in detail relative to her statement that she heard shots and then saw a man and woman running from the scene of the shooting. According to Serrano, as the woman who wore a polka-dot dress ran by her she yelled "We shot him - we shot him." An on-the-scene examination of the area in the presence of Serrano indicates she was across the ballroom at least 140 feet from the scene of the shooting and at the time there were approximately 1,500 people in the ballroom. Detective C. J. Hughes, Los Angeles Police Department, advised in his opinion it would have been physically impossible to hear a .22 caliber pistol being fired at a location where Serrano claims to have been, pointing out many other individuals much closer to the shooting who were inside the ballroom had not heard the shots. This phase of our investigation is continuing.

On June 7, 1968, Judge Arthur L. Alarcon, Superior Court, Los Angeles, California, issued an order prohibiting the release of any extra judicial statements, documents, exhibits or evidence so as to insure there be no interference with the constitutional right of Sirhan to a fair trial.



#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 13, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

This is in reference to your inquiry of June 13, 1968, relative to a United Press International release to the effect that Sirhan Bishara Sirhan returned to the Middle East in 1964 for seven months and again in 1966 for five months.

Files 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 March 19, 1944, Jerusalem, Jordan.

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.

The Department of State in response to our inquiry at 2 p.m., June 13, 1968, has advised that no communication relative to this situation has been received from the Arab Nations as indicated in the United Press International release.

We are continuing our inquiries into this matter. You will be promptly advised of the results.

Sincerely yours,

g. Edden Egenen



#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 13, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

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Sincerely yours,

J. Edym Edower





#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 6, 1968

BY COURIER SERVICE

Mrs. Mildred Stegal The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

For your information, I am enclosing a communication which may be of interest to you.

Upon removal of the enclosure, if classified, this transmittal form becomes unclassified.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoo Director

Enc.

Copies of this memorandum are also being furnished to the Vice President and the Department of Justice.



## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 6, 1968

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

This is to advise that Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, a Jordanian national, has been identified as the individual who shot Senator Robert F. Kennedy at 12:15 a.m., Pacific Daylight Time, June 5, 1968, in the ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel at Los Angeles, California. The Senator subsequently died at 1:44 a.m., Pacific Daylight Time, June 6, 1968, at the Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles.

After the assailant was taken into custody by authorities, he refused to identify himself or otherwise discuss this matter. He was shortly thereafter charged by the Los Angeles Police Department with intent to commit murder and held on \$250,000 bond.

His brother, Adel Sirhan, notified authorities as to Sirhan's true identity. The FBI subsequently identified Sirhan's fingerprints as being identical with those of an individual by the same name which were submitted by the California State Horse Racing Board during 1965.

According to the Los Angeles Police Department, the weapon used in the assassination was an eight-shot . 22 caliber Iver Johnson pistol. All eight shots were expended. Records of the California Department of Justice show this pistol to have been sold on August 10, 1965, to one Albert Leslie Hertz of Alhambra, California. It was subsequently traced by police authorities through several parties to one of Sirhan's brothers, Munir Sirhan.

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, according to records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Los Angeles, California, was born on March 19, 1944, in Jerusalem, Palestine. His current address was given as 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena, California. Immigration and Naturalization Service records show he entered this country on January 12, 1957, with his father, Bishara Salameh Ghattas Sirhan, his mother, Mary, four brothers and a sister who is now deceased. His brothers, Adel, Munir, and Saidallah, are currently shown as residing with their mother and Sirhan at 696 East Howard Street, Pasadena, California. The fourth brother, Sharif, is a resident of Highland Park, California. His father allegedly resides now in Jordan.

Our Los Angeles Office reports that Sirhan Bishara Sirhan graduated from high school in Pasadena, California. He thereafter attended Pasadena City College, a junior college, for approximately two years, but did not graduate. He formerly worked as a race horse exercise boy and during September, 1966, sustained a head injury after falling from a horse. Interviews with his family indicate his behavior has changed considerably since this injury. Records of the State of California reveal he was awarded a settlement on March 27, 1968, in the sum of \$2,000. His brother, Adel, advised the assailant has been unemployed for the past three months. When taken into custody he had \$409 in cash on his person.

During a search of his room in the Pasadena family home numerous items, including notations advocating the overthrow of the President of the United States and statements alluding to the necessity for assassinating Robert F. Kennedy, were found. According to United States Attorney William Matthew Byrne, Jr., Central District of California, who had been in contact with the office of the Los Angeles County District Attorney, this material should not be disclosed publicly prior to the trial nor should it be made available to unauthorized persons since it could have a serious adverse effect upon successful prosecution in either Federal or State court. One handwritten page bearing the date May 18, 1968, 9:45 a. m., contains numerous notations among which are "My determination to eliminate RFK is becoming more the more of an unshakeable obsession." "RFK must die - RFK must be killed. Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated." Another page contains the handwritten statement that "The so-called President of the United States

of America will be advised of their punishments for their treasonable crimes against the state. More over we believe that the glorious United States of America will eventually be felled by a blow of an assassin's bullet."

A third page contains the following statement. "Ambassador Goldberg must die die die." Repeated numerous times on this same page appears "Goldberg will be illiminated."

Page four contains the statement "Kennedy must die - Kennedy must fall," which is repeated numerous times.

Page five contains the statement that "RFK must be disposed of like his brother was."

The statement "I advocate the overthrow of the current President of the (obscene) United States of America. I have no absolute plans yet - but soon will compose some" appears on page six.

Page seven contains the statement "Well, my solution to this type of Govt. today is to do away with its leaders and declare anarchy, the best form of Govt. or no Govt."

On page eight appears the statement "I believe that I can effect the death of Bert C. Altfillisch," who was the employer of Sirhan at the time he was thrown from a horse during September, 1966.

Also appearing was the notation "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before 5 June 68."

In addition, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past and who is an active member of the Communist Party in California advised that he received information from an associate of Sirhan's to the effect he was extremely anti-Semitic in his views, was in favor of the Vietcong and supported some Communist Party ideals. Si rhan, according to this source, had been thoroughly briefed on Communist Party activities at the University of California at Los Angeles within the last two weeks. Although it was reported to this source that an attempt had been made to recruit Sirhan into the Communist Party, Sirhan allegedly has not engaged in any Communist Party activities.

Investigation by the FBI is continuing in order to determine the full facts surrounding this situation and in order to ascertain if Sirhan acted alone.

652 PM 6-6-83 EFH PRIDRITY TO THE PRESIDENT 3

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, ATT.: SECRET SERVICE (PID) DIRECTOR, FBI FR 931

### OOHPIDE HTIGE

POSSIBLE DEMONSTRATION, SENATOR RODERT F. MENNEDY'S FUNERAL, ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, NEW YORK CITY, JUNE EIGHT, MINETEEN SIXTY-

REVIEW OF RECENT HISTORY OF DEMONSTRATIONS IN MYC REVEALS THAT THE STUDENTS FOR A DEMOGRATIC SUCIETY (SDS) HAS BEEN EXTREMELY ACTIVE AT COLUMBIA AND BROOKLYN COLLEGES.

IT IS NOTED THAT THE YOUTH INTERNATIONAL PARTY (YIP) HAD ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED A DEMONSTRATION AT HACY'S DEPARTMENT STORE,

IN NYC, FOR JUNE EIGHT, NINETEEN SIXTYEIGHT. HOWEVER, THIS ACTIVITY WAS POSTPONED TO AN UNSPECIFIED DATE.

IT IS NOTED THAT THE SDS, PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY (PLP),
MES DUBOIS CLUBS OF AMERICA (DCA), AND NUMEROUS OTHER SUBVERSIVE AND NEW LEFT ORGANIZATIONS HAVE DEMONSTRATED AGAINST VISITS OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DIGNITARIES SUCH AS DEAN RUSY, ROSERT HC NAMARA, HUBERT HUMPHREY, GENERAL WESTHORELAND, AND GENERAL HERSHEY, IN NYC. END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO COON FIDENTIALS
YOUTH ASAINST WAR AND FASCISM. (YAMF)
THE YAWF, A PRO CHINESE COMMUNIST SROUP, HAS SHOWN A PROPENSITY
AND PROCLIVITY FOR VIOLENCE ON TWO PARTICULAR OCCASIONS. THE
YAWF HELD A DEMONSTRATION IN MEMARK, HEW JERSEY IN JULY, SIXTY SEVEN
DURING THE RIOT WHICH WAS OCCURRING IN THE CITY AT THAT TIME.
THEY DEMONSTRATED AT CITY HALL AND WEST ESCONTED TO THE SURVAY BY THE NEWSAM CITY POLICE.

THE OTHER INCIDENT OCCURRED IN APRIL, SIXTYRIGHT, WHEN NEWSERS OF THE YAWF DEMONSTRATED IN PROCKLYN, NEW YORK, AT THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL COURT HOUSE TO SHOW SUPPORT FOR A YAWF MEMBER WHO SURRENDERED TO THE COURT THAT DAY. AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION, THE YAVE MEMBERS ATTEMPTED TO ATTACK THE UNITED STATES HARSHALS. ONE UNITED STATES

MARSHAL INCURRED THREE FRACTURED RIES AND A FRACTURED NOSE.

THE YAMF MEMBERS HAVE APPEARED ON THE SCENE WHENEVER IT
APPEARED THEY COULD FAN THE FLAME OF DISCONTENT AND ARE CAPABLE OF
ACTS OF VIOLENCE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. THE YAWF DID NOT APPEAR
AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL IN MYC, DURING THE FUNERAL OF CARDINAL
SPELLMAN WHICH PRECIDENT JOHNSON ATTENDED. SPELLMAN UNICH PRESIDENT JOHNSON ATTENDED. END PAGE TUD

PAGE THREE (G D N P I D E N T I A L)

TO DATE THREE IS NO INFORMATION ANY ORGANIZATION CONTEMPLATES ANY DEMONSTRATION AT SENATOR KENNEDY'S FUNERAL. RETARDLESS OF THE ABOUT, IN VIEW OF THE RECENT ACTIVITIES OF SDS, OTHER LEFTIST AND RACIAL GROUPS IN MYC WHO ARE OPPOSED TO THE M.S. POSITION IN VIETNAM, STRONG POSSIBILITY EXICTS THAT DECONSTRATIONS COULD TAKE PLACE ON SHORT NOTICE AND ON THE SLIGHTEST PROVOCATION IN THE EVENT A MICH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL ATTENDS THE FUNERAL. IN THE EVENT SUCK AN OFFICIAL SHOULD ATTEND THE PUNERAL, IT IS RECOMMENDED HIS ITINEFARY NOT BUT PUBLISHED IN ACVANCE, AND HIS APRIVAL AND DEPARTURE AT MYCHE AS CONFIDENTIAL AS POSSIBLE. 35 16300-

DECLASSIFED Anthority NLJ 84-58 (#4) by visting NARA Dam 2.2405



Wednesday June 5, 1968 6:30 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR

#### THE PRESIDENT

The Los Angeles Secret Service Office reported that as of 5:20 P.M. EDT, the prognosis regarding brain damage as to its function was critical.

Clinton J Hill SAIC - USSS OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



## SECRET UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

V.



March 26, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

I thought the President might be interested in knowing that United States Senator Robert F. Kennedy of New York, before he announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for President, is reported to have attempted to contact Martin Luther King, Jr., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Atlanta, Georgia. According to this source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, Senator Kennedy and King were not able to make direct contact, but one of King's advisors was in contact with an aide of Senator Kennedy and it was agreed that "they" should have "off-the-record lines open."

The above information is not being furnished the Attorney General. You will be promptly advised of any further developments in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13292, Sec. 3.5 NLJ 05-54

By ist NARA, Date 10. 35-05

SECRET
Group 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

15





#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

March 29, 1968

BY LIAISON



Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter dated March 25th from Chief Dana L. Hummer of the Topeka, Kansas, Police Department. In view of its contents, you may wish to show it to the President.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

# (A)

## DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

TOPEKA, KANSAS 66603



March 25, 1968

United States Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Honorable John Edgar Hoover

Director

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On March 15 it was announced Senator Robert Kennedy would visit Topeka and speak at the Ramada Inn. On this date, a group of people in charge of security, our own Police Department, Highway Patrol, and the National Guards, met in Governor Robert Docking's office to formulate plans to give proper security to the Senator, now a candidate for President of the United States. The number of personnel was agreed upon, 15 from the Highway Patrol, 5 from this Department, and several from the National Guard unit. At this meeting no word had been heard from the advanced group of Kennedy advisors.

On Saturday the 16th, we were advised to meet in the Governor's office again, as Kennedy's advanced men had arrived and wanted to go over the security plans. Where in the original plans we had uniformed officers placed to keep the crowd back, and plain-clothesmen near the Senator while making his speech from an outdoor swimming pool area, the Kennedy group immediately stated they wanted no security in uniform near the Senator in order to create emotional appeal, and also permitting the crowd to swarm in and around him for the photographers, thus creating disorder.

Approximately forty Highway Patrolmen were placed in civilian clothing, including the Colonel.

Early Sunday morning they requested a loud speaker system be used in order to bring the crowds out to the airport. The granting of such a request takes City Commission action, or in an emergency the Chief of Police has the right to grant such a request. The officer on duty refused such a request, as it was on Sunday, and we have a policy of not permitting political candidates to drive

DUBLIC CURRENT

through our city with loud speakers. However, the Kennedy group persisted and convinced our intelligence officer, who was working with the Kennedy advanced men, to grant such a request. This forced us to place additional men at the airport, but again the orders were to the uniformed officers not to get close to the Senator. And when the Senator was brought to the Remada Inn under these conditions, even though the crowd was not overly large, this created a bedlam.

The following day Colonel Clarence Blake and Major Donald O'Toole, who were assigned to the Governor's party, which included the Senator, were asked by the advanced guard of the Kennedy staff, not to wear their military uniforms when they visited both Kansas State and Kansas University.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that I have strong feelings about law enforcement permitting the political candidates to request security and then tell us how they want these officers dressed for the sole reason of permitting their candidate to get this type of exposure in order to create emotional appeal so the newspapers and TV can play it up.

I realize this is minor compared to the problems we have today, but thought you might be interested in this information.

DANA L. HUMMER Chief of Police

burs very truly,

DLH:gd



## THE WHITE HOUSE

June 20, 1967 7:25 p.m.

Mr. President:

A confidential source has reported that Senator Robert F. Kennedy was in contact on June 18, 10:07 p.m. with Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin. Kennedy offered to arrange a reception for Premier Kosygin if he wanted to see "certain people" or to have a small dinner at his apartment. Kennedy indicated he would like to exchange ideas and views with Kosygin in a more serious vein. He offered the services of his wife in looking after Kosygin's daughter.

A similar source reported that a few minutes after the President completed his speech on June 19, a Counselor of the USSR Embassy in Washington, temporarily in New York City, contacted the Soviet Embassy requesting the telephone number of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. This source advised that the Counselor, Yuli M. Vorontsov, contacted Kennedy's office that day. He advised that the Ambassador wanted the Senator to know that Kosygin was grateful for this suggestion. The Premier said that at this point he is tied up with UN affairs and that concrete arrangements for a later date can be made. It was indicated that Vorontsov would be in touch with the Senator in a day or two.

Marvin

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5
NLJ 22-74
By CTS NARA, Date (18/23)

#### SECRET



#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 20, 1967

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

It is believed that the President will be interested in the following developments:

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised on June 18. 1967, that Senator Robert F. Kennedy was in contact with Anatoliy F. Dobrynin, Soviet Ambassador to the United States, at 10:07 p.m. Kennedy said that as a Senator from New York and as someone who has been involved before, he would like to make arrangements to see Premier Aleksei Kosygin. If Kosygin wanted to see certain people, Kennedy could arrange a reception or a small dinner party at his apartment. Dobrynin advised that a reception would be difficult. Kennedy indicated he would like to exchange ideas and views with Kosygin in a more serious vein. His wife, Ethel, would be glad to do anything for Kosygin's daughter (Mrs. Ludmila Gvishiani). Dobrynin indicated he would contact Kosygin and call Kennedy on June 19, 1967. Kennedy stated he would be traveling and suggested the call be made to his Washington, D. C., office and a message left with Mr. Vello (phonetic).

A similar source reported that a few minutes after the President completed his speech on June 19, 1967, Yuli M. Vorontsov, a Counselor of the USSR Embassy,

SECRET

GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5
NLJ 22-14
By CTS NARA, Date (e/R/13)

#### SECRET

Mrs. Mildred Stegall

Washington, D. C., temporarily in New York City, contacted the Soviet Embassy, requesting the telephone number of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

This source also advised that Vorontsov contacted the office of Senator Robert F. Kennedy on June 19, 1967. Vorontsov advised with respect to Senator Kennedy's telephonic request of Ambassador Dobrynin for a possible appointment with Premier Kosygin, the Ambassador wants the Senator to know that Kosygin is very grateful for this suggestion. The Premier said that he is tied up with United Nations affairs at this point and that concrete arrangements for a meeting can be made at a later date. It was indicated that Vorontsov would be in touch with the Senator in a day or two.

Sincerely yours,

-SECRET-

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation United States Department of Justice Washington, D. C.

June 22, 1967

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

I thought the following information might be of interest.

We recently learned that Jack Lynn, former Vice President of Metro Media and Screen Gems, Inc., was telephonically contacted by a William Vanderhold, a personal friend, who requested that Lynn attend a conference on June 8th at the New York Office of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Lynn was told that Mr. Kennedy wishes to obtain a weekly television program which Lynn will produce. He was also told that in the event Senator Kennedy decides to run for the presidential nomination in 1968, that Lynn will be in charge of the radio and television media throughout the campaign and at the national convention.

Yesterday we learned that a meeting was to be held in Senator Kennedy's New York Office on the same day during which the final terms of agreement would be reached for the production of a weekly thirty minute television show to feature Senator Kennedy. It was also anticipated that the arrangement would permit the Lynn Company to have control over other television or radio invitations for Senator Kennedy to speak.

Sincerely yours,



7 JUN 22 AN 11 22

#### SECRET



#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

February 8, 1967

BY LIAISON

Honorable Marvin Watson Special Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watson:

The attached memorandum dated February 8, 1967, containing information concerning United States Senator Robert F. Kennedy and the French Government may be of interest to the President.

The information in the attachment is also being furnished to the Acting Attorney General and to the Secretary of State.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

Group 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

DECLASSIFIED

E.O 13292 Sec. 3.5

NLJ D5-59

BY LOL NARA Dale 10-35-05



1997 FEB 8 PM 3 33

### - SECRET



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

February 8, 1967

EMBASSY OF FRANCE WASHINGTON, D. C.

On February 6, 1967, a confidential informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available the following information relating to a discussion between an individual known as Joe (last name unknown) and Mr. Jean Baube, Press Counselor, French Embassy, Washington, D. C.

Joe felt that United States Senator Robert F. Kennedy was very shrewdly obtaining some very prominent publicity. Baube stated that nothing would come that way, particularly if there were serious peace feelers. Baube added it was not up to the French to give Kennedy something that would not be given to the American Government. Baube explained that he made this point with "the Post" (possibly "The Washington Post," a daily Washington, D. C., newspaper) but it did not stop "them" (the Post) as all "they" did was to carry "it" in their "Newsweek" story, (a weekly news publication).

Baube indicated to Joe that the French do not want to mediate in this matter and the French are not the postman for one side or the other. Baube continued that he was certain that when Hanoi is ready, Hanoi will speak directly to the United States. Baube felt that if the "story" was something to create publicity then it had been badly done.

SECRET

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification





#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

September 13, 1966

BY LIAISON

Honorable Marvin Watson Special Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Watson:

A person of questionable reliability claims to be aware of a meeting held September 6, 1966, in the apartment of Senator Robert Kennedy at New York City. The meeting was held for the purpose of discussing Senator Kennedy's plan to form a crime investigating unit in New York State to investigate racket activities, excluding union activities. During this meeting, Kennedy allegedly indicated to Matthew Connelly, former secretary to President Truman, that a position might be available for him in the planned crime investigating unit if Connelly could control his drinking.

Other persons who reportedly were at this meeting were: Monroe Goldwater, attorney, New York City; Arthur Leidisdorf, accountant, and wife; Jane Sheldon, former secretary to Connelly; Senator Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut; Parker Westbrook, Assistant to Senator Fulbright; Sam Levine, not otherwise identified; and Sybil Christopher, former wife of actor Richard Burton.

During the conversation between Kennedy, Ribicoff and Westbrook, reference was allegedly made to President Johnson as "Uncle Cornpone."



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#### Honorable Marvin Watson

In addition to the above, this person also has advised that one Lenore Lemmon, who is reportedly a former prostitute residing at 401 East Sixty-fifth Street, New York City, is a confidante of Frank Erickson, a well-known New York hoodlum as well as of Edward Bennett Williams, a prominent attorney in Washington, D. C.

The foregoing information has been furnished to the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,



THE INSIDE STORY OF HOW BOBBY KENNEDY WILL SUCCEED PRES. JOHNSON

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#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

August 20, 1964

BY LIAISON

Honorable Walter W. Jenkins Special Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

Information has been developed from a highly confidential source in New Jersey that northern New Jersey racket figures are attempting to obtain the cooperation of a female switchboard operator at the forthcoming Democratic Convention in Atlantic City, New Jersey, to furnish a list of telephone numbers called by Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy during the Convention.

An official of the New Jersey Bell Telephone Company has advised that, in addition to 23 switchboard operators to be employed at Convention Hall, there are 753 such operators in the immediate Atlantic City vicinity who handle long-distance calls. It was also determined that individual state delegations will employ operators for their own switchboards.

Though the above-mentioned New Jersey Bell Telephone Company official commented that it would not be possible for any one operator to record all calls made by a particular individual, we are advising the Attorney General for his information.

We are making discreet inquiries in an effort to determine the identity of the switchboard operator in question, and you will be furnished any further significant developments in this matter.

Sincerely yours,



#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 15, D. C.

August 14, 1964

BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable Walter W. Jenkins Special Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

A confidential source has advised that the Attorney General reportedly will reside aboard his family yacht, which will be moored at the United States Coast Guard Station, Atlantic City, New Jersey, during the forthcoming Democratic National Convention. He also advised that Raymond Cohen, former Secretary-Treasurer of Local 107, Teamsters Union, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who resides at Brigantine, New Jersey, (a suburb of Atlantic City) moors his yacht, the "Audrey," at the Atlantic City Marina, which is located opposite the Coast Guard Station.

According to our source, Cohen and James Riddle Hoffa, President of the Teamsters Union, plan to have members of that Union picket the Coast Guard Station while the Attorney General is there and generally harass him and his family.

This information is being furnished to the Attorney General and Secret Service.

Sincerely yours,

V

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



#### CONFIDENTIAL-

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

24

WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

July 2, 1964 BY LIAISON

Honorable Walter W. Jenkins Special Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

Enclosed is a memorandum dated June 26, 1964, containing information concerning Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's trip to Poland, according to a reported "confidential story" which is allegedly being circulated in official circles in the United States.

The enclosed memorandum contains other information received by confidential sources from Polish Government officials that may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

Group 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5
NLJ 11-45

By CK NARA, Date 475/12



In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

June 26, 1964

#### POLISH EMBASSY INTERNAL SECURITY - PO

On June 25, 1964, a confidential informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, learned from Henryk Zwiren, Correspondent, Polish Press Agency, Washington, D.C., that a "confidential story" is circulating in official circles in the United States to the effect that the purpose of Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's trip to Poland, outside of personal reasons, is to make contact with representatives of the Chinese People's Republic to lay the groundwork for possible discussions or negotiations on the situation in Southeast Asia. The source also learned from Zwiren that according to this story, the possibility was stated that Mr. Kennedy might be appointed as Ambassador to Poland upon his return to the United States in order that he might continue such talks; and further, that Mr. Kennedy might discuss a modification of Poland's proposition regarding the Laos situation. The informant was unable to elaborate on these points.

On June 26, 1964, another confidential informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, learned from Ryszard Frackiewicz, First Secretary (Press), Polish Embassy, Washington, D.C., that Steve Rosenfeld inquired as to the purpose of Robert F. Kennedy's trip to Poland. According to the informant, Frackiewicz indicated that Mr. Kennedy's trip is unofficial and stressed it was taken at American initiative and that Mr. Kennedy is scheduled to see their Minister of Justice (Marian) Rybicki, while he is visiting Poland. The informant added Frackiewicz also indicated Mr. Kennedy might visit a children's hospital in Krakow, which was developed with American aid, but to his knowledge, there are no plans for Mr. Kennedy to meet with other high (Polish) Government officials.

The 1964 Washington, D.C., City Directory lists a Stephen S. Rosenfeld as an editorial writer for the "Washington Post."

CONFIDENTIAL
Group 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

DECLASSIFIED E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.5 NLJ 17-45 NABY 4/15/22 THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

July 13, 1964

MR. PRESIDENT:

For your information.

Bill Moyers

This document consists of \* pages

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Of Copies, Series A

Policy Planning Council
SECRET EXDIS

3947 254

July 6, 1964

To:

M - Undersecretary Harriman

From:

S/P - Lee Stull 4

Subject:

Recent Visit to Poland of the Attorney General

Reference: Your request

In my judgment the subject trip was an ill-prepared and even dangerous exercise which came off very well largely because of:

- The Attorney General's skill in public relations, grasp of the larger picture, and receptivity to advice;
- 2. The determined and, on occasion, courageous efforts of a handful of Embassy officers to respond to the challenge of the situation as it developed despite disorientation and lack of guidance; and
- 3. Irish luck (e.g., it would have been all too easy for a Polish child to have been trampled or run over in the crush of crowds -- thereby souring the entire visit).

The Department seemingly failed to perceive until the 11th hour that the visit posed a major problem with important operational and policy opportunities and pitfalls. The trip was considered "just a private visit" with no apparent sense of urgency, no imaginative effort to identify the objectives and no felt need for careful preparation, escort services or other special measures. The alert flag should have been hoisted the moment (June 15th) it was known that the Attorney General was even thinking of going to Eastern Europe: that is the nature of the area and of the man.

The initial evaluation in the Embassy's telegram No. 8 of July 1 (Tab A) and in Arthur Olsen's article in the New York Times, July 5 (Tab B) are, taken together, essentially correct. In sum the visit:

(1)

SECRET EXDIS

- (1) injected a dynamic, tough and unpredictable element into the complaisant Polish regime picture of the possibilities of minimizing influence and maximizing benefits in its relations with the United States;
- (2) reminded the American public usefully of the special quality of the American presence in Eastern Europe in general and in Poland in particular;
- (3) articulated an objective of European reconciliation in association with the U.S. which reasonable men in Poland could embrace with enthusiasm (i.e., arrival and departure statements (Tab C), toasts, and private conversation with officials and two press backgrounders);
- (4) challenged the Polish regime to discard its outmoded concepts, in particular its opposition to German reunification, and to work constructively for the achievement of European security for East and West;
  - (5) reasserted the role of religious ties in Poland's association with the West;
  - (6) bruised working relations at the Embassy-Ministry level (probably only temporarily since the strains were almost exclusively among professionals unlikely to harbor grudges);
  - (7) reaffirmed that Americans in general and the Kennedy family in particular are immensely popular in Poland (essentially a matter of convincing the convinced);
  - (8) steamrollered an Embassy already short-staffed and in certain important respects unprepared for an exercise of this kind:
  - (9) demonstrated anew the importance of U.S. controlled radio media in reaching the Polish people despite the regime's obstructions;

(10)

#### SECRET EXDIS

-3-

- (10) underlined the minority character of the Polish regime without however pressing it toward non-existent alternatives:
- (11) stimulated (presumably) some Polish reassertion of initiative in East-West relations (perhaps along the lines of further Rapacki-Gomulka type proposals);
- (12) foreshadowed a possible US follow-through in Eastern Europe in terms of policy articulation and supporting action programs;
- (13) informed the Attorney General on many important aspects of the European security problem as regards its Polish-German facets.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. Press the current effort to articulate a US conceptual framework for Eastern Europe in the sense of the attached policy study (Tab D).
- 2. Instruct EUR to broaden the pending response to NASAM 304 (Tab E) to include the full range of possible political, economic and cultural actions.
- 3. Follow up on the Attorney General's current interest in Eastern Europe: (a) by obtaining his support in such matters as the removal of travel restrictions on Eastern European diplomats; (b) by using his prestige to inform the American public through speeches and articles on the realities of US policies on Eastern Europe; (c) by keeping him informed through passing appropriate materials (Tab F), proposing occasional briefings and inviting him as appropriate to participate in Departmental consideration of policy in the area.
- 4. Begin action to generate support for legislation necessary to facilitate US relations with Eastern Europe (e.g., Most Favored Nation treatment, export controls, Battle Act, etc.).

5

- 5. Rebuke Radio Free Europe for the attempt of its representatives in London to obtain a direct Kennedy-to-Polish people statement during the Attorney General's stop-over at the London airport on July 1, and
- 6. Commend the Embassy officers listed below for their contributions, as noted, to the success of the trip.
  - 1. William A. Buell, Jr., Acting DCM (1st Secretary, Political Officer, 0-3).
    - (a) Was single most informed and in-charge officer.
    - (b) Fronted for Embassy with Attorney General and Foreign Office.
    - (c) Usually interpreted public remarks.
    - (d) Night and day operation, standing up well to pressure.
  - 2. Philip W. Arnold, Press Attache (CR-5).
    - (a) Produced Polish press forum under difficult circumstances;
    - (b) Serviced Western Press effectively;
    - (c) Was generally useful and willing, interpreted some public remarks, steady and quick.
  - 3. John D. Scanlan, 2nd Secretary, Consul 0-5.

Willing, hard worker, able interpreter, generally useful with student contacts.

In sum, the task at hand is to channel the Attorney General's evident strong interest in Eastern Europe into constructive directions, and to coordinate the Attorney General's activities in this field with those of the Department and the White House.

#### Attachments:

Tab A - Telegram No. 8, 7/1/64.

Tab B - New York Times article, July 5, 1964.

Tab C - Arrival and departure statements.

Tab D - Policy Study.

Tab E - NASAM 304

Tab F - List of Materials given to Mr. Nolan, for the Attorney General, July 3, 1964.

S/P:LStull/ebd

SECRET EXDIS



STATEMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL KENNEDY DELIVERED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE UPON DEPARTURE FROM WARSAW, JULY 1, 1964.

My family and I are grateful for this memorable visit to Poland. I want to thank the Polish Government for the courtesies extended. I also want to thank the Polish people for their warm reception and for the many moving things they have said of President Kennedy and of the United They have given me, once again, a vivid impression of their courage, vitality and toughness of purpose. most striking way they have expressed anew the historic ties of affection that bind Poland and the United States together. The bond that links our two countries is a reality of great potential. It puts Poland in a special position in the world -- for Poland has political ties with the Soviet 'Union and personal ties with the United States. Poland, therefore, has a unique opportunity to contribute to European security and to easing tension between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Our objective is clear. It is to facilitate the reconciliation of Eastern and Western Europe in association with the United States. This is the only sure guarantee against nuclear war whether by design or accident. It is also the surest means of fostering common prosperity.

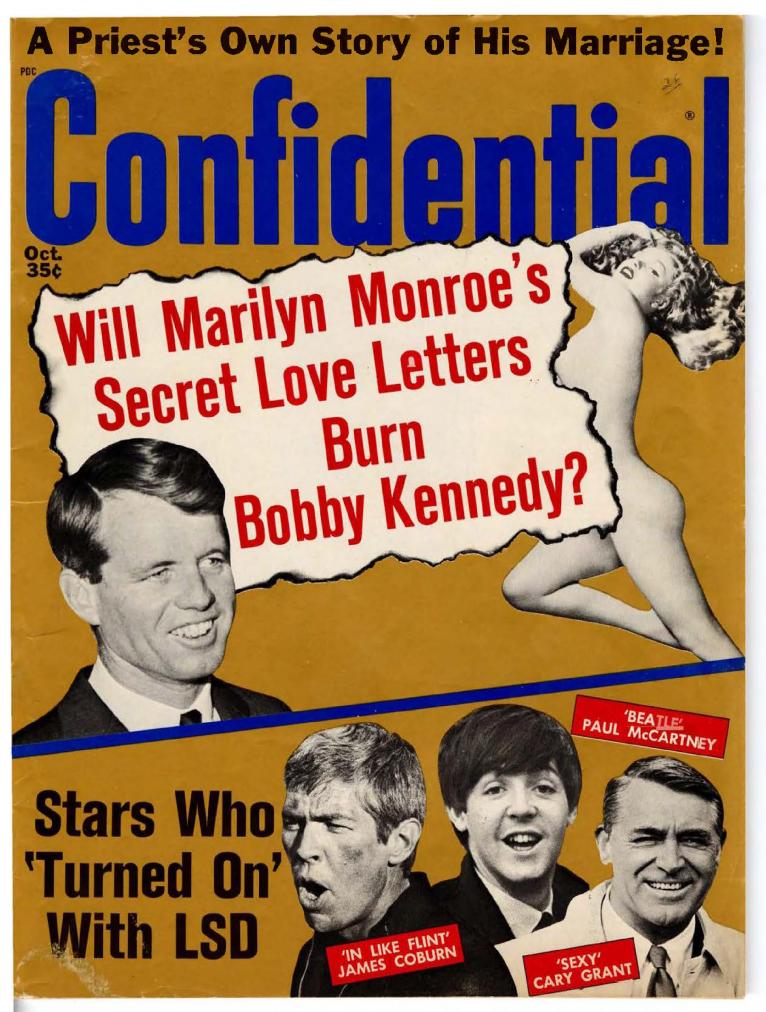
The task is not easy. Among many problems, Europe is now divided by a deep and unnatural division - the division of Germany. That division is reinforced by the legacy of old hatreds. It is further reinforced by inertia born of uncertainty -- for no one now sees clearly the path ahead.

But as President Kennedy said in his inaugural address:

"Let us begin." Just because we cannot see clearly the end of the road, that is no reason for not setting out on the essential journey. On the contrary, great change dominates the world, and unless we move with change we shall become its victims.

I believe that now is the time to work earnestly on the great problems ahead - the security of Poland and Eastern Europe; of Germany and Western Europe; of the Soviet Union and the United States. For these problems will not go away by themselves. Unless we meet them now they will grow more acute and unmanageable.

This, then, is why I have come to Poland and why I visited Germany last week. I seek to promote understanding and to foster a determination to meet the challenges that face all of us in Europe. We need your help in building those open "bridges of reconciliation" that President Johnson called for last month. Together, I am confident we can succeed. Let us begin.



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