Vol. 6

CLASSIFICATION NO.

Volume Number 56-156H

Serials

Newspaper Clippings

SER. 948 ~

t of Justice

FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

DIPA

DATE

BUREAU

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

LA - LOS ANGELES

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #	
0056 156	H	6	948	OPEN

8/11/1200970

RRP003HBD6

4/19/1976

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

DO NOT DESTROY

LITIGATION

See also Nos.

DO NOT DESTROY THE HISTORICAL NATIONAL ARCHIVES

FD - 245 (REV. 4-13-60)

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

WRITER WOUNDED BY SIRHAN GETS $1,000

Ira M. Goldstein, a news reporter wounded in the barrage of shots which killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy June 5, 1968, Monday accepted a $1,000 settlement in his civil suit against the Ambassador.

Goldstein, 23, of Encino was covering Kennedy's primary election victory party at the hotel for the Continental News Co. when the shooting occurred. He was wounded in the left leg.

The hotel failed to provide necessary protection for Kennedy and those around him, Goldstein claimed in the suit which sought $250,000 damages.

The settlement was agreed to before Superior Judge Benjamin Landis. Trial had been scheduled for Sept. 5.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-8 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/1/72
Edition: Tuesday final
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156411-908

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED .....
SERIALIZED ..... FILED .....
AUG 1 1972
FBI - LOS ANGELES

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The Second Gun' asks who killed RFK

By Tore Dahlin

Who killed Robert Kennedy? Up until this time, it has generally been thought that Sirhan Sirhan fired the fatal bullets. Sirhan did indeed try, but there was also another assassin who shot Kennedy directly from behind.

This startling conclusion is the theme of a new film documentary, "The Second Gun," which will make its public premier at UCSB before being released generally. Theodore Charach, the investigative reporter responsible for the new probe, has agreed to appear at UCSB to answer questions from the audience after each performance.

"The Second Gun" will be screened on May 25 and 26, Friday and Saturday, in Chem 1179 at 8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased at the door or the UCen Information Booth. Cost is $1 for students and $2 for non-students.

When Charach first began his investigation, he faced understandable skepticism from the media and outright scorn from the Los Angeles officials. Then a world-renowned criminologist, William W. Harper, was given access to the bullets, and he analyzed the ballistics. He not only independently corroborated Charach's conclusion, but established in a sworn affidavit that "two .22 caliber guns were involved in the assassination."

As the investigation progressed, a great interest was growing in Charach's work. It has been the subject of articles in the New York Times, Washington Post and Los Angeles Times.

For nearly five months, the Los Angeles District Attorney conducted what amounted to a full re-investigation of the assassination. A large number of serious discrepancies pointed out by Charach, Harper and others were labeled "clerical errors" by authorities, and what could not be explained as an error was actually dismissed without any explanation at all, only that "there is no significant discrepancy."

This situation prompted the production of "The Second Gun." The producers say their film "must not be construed as questioning Sirhan's obvious guilt, nor as an argument for the theory that a large conspiracy is engaged in gunning down the leadership of the United States." The film is intended to put the audience in an imaginary jury box to take notice of the ways in which the evidence was used, bungled and lost to prove that Sirhan was a lone-killer.

"The Second Gun" features interviews with California Attorney General Evelle J. Younger, Los Angeles D.A. Joseph P. Busch, Los Angeles Police Chief Edward M. Davis, L.A. County Coronor Thomas T. Nogushi who did the autopsy on Robert Kennedy, several key witnesses including star prosecution witness Karl Uecker, and a number of journalists critical of the official investigation.

Carach also investigates the man with a gun overlooked by police officials. At the time of the shooting, an armed security guard stood right next to Kennedy. A reliable witness interviewed in the film has sworn to police officials that on the night of the shooting he saw a security guard fire his gun immediately after Sirhan. It had always been his belief the guard was shooting at Sirhan.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 6 Daily Nexus
UCSB, Santa Barbara

Date:
Edition:
Author: Tore Dahlin
Editor: Mike Gordon
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-9491

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
FBI — LOS ANGELES

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Kin of Sirhan Asks Cut in Jail Sentence

Palestinian citizen Sarif Bishara Sirhan, 40, has asked for a reduction in his six-month jail sentence imposed in federal court here for threatening to assassinate Israel Prime Minister Golda Meir.

Sirhan, brother of Sirhan Sirhan, is a gasoline station attendant. John Hornbeck, deputy public defender told U.S. District Court Judge Lawrence T. Lydick that Sirhan has established himself as a responsible person and should be given a shorter jail sentence.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 3/12/74
Edition: Tuesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title:

Character:
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

3-6-15-6-950

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAR 12 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

PO Richards

CC Bu 3/12/74

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

New RFK Probe Call By Ward

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Los Angeles County officials have conspired to prevent a new investigation of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's assassination in 1968, Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward said Friday.

Ward, a Democratic candidate for governor, said he would appoint a state commission to reopen the assassination inquiry. Ward said there were "unanswered questions" about whether the fatal bullet came from Sirhan B. Sirhan's gun.

Ward, who last week charged that San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto has not cleared himself of alleged connections with the Mafia, said at a press conference that his newest allegation have nothing to do with his campaign for governor.

"It is something people want an answer to," said Ward, who as a Los Angeles county television newsman questioned the investigation of the Kennedy assassination almost daily for several months in 1970.

Someone is protecting a position or person. People in authority in Los Angeles County have conspired to prevent the re-examination," Ward said.

He said he believes Sirhan, who is serving a life sentence for the Kennedy assassination "is where he should be."

But, Ward said, "there's an angle of fire that seems haywire, a distance of firing that seems haywire, now the bullets."

He said some criminologists, including William Harper of Pasadena, believe the fatal bullet taken from Kennedy's body did not match a bullet test-fired from the gun taken from Sirhan.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

B-12 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 4/6/74
Edition: Saturday 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character: 951
or
Classification: LA- 56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
APR 8 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

CC Bu 4-8-74

Ward again charged that two Alioto lawsuits have not proven Alioto—another Democratic candidate for governor—innocent of charges of Mafia links. Ward unveiled the text of newspaper advertisements he said he will place in San Francisco newspapers offering a $1,000 reward to anyone who can prove Alioto innocent.

Speaking of other major rivals for the Democratic nomination, Ward described Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown Jr. "a fraudulent hypocrite" and called Assembly Speaker Bob Moretti "a minor league Jess Unruh."

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Campaign Contributions

Baxter Ward, Los Angeles County supervisor, said in San Francisco that if he were elected governor he would appoint a commission to investigate physical evidence in the 1968 assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. Ward referred specifically to claims by some ballistics experts that a bullet taken from the senator's body, another which hit a spectator and a third fired from Sirhan's gun did not match. Ward, who was in San Francisco campaigning for the Democratic nomination for governor, said he would ask the Legislature to help form an investigatory commission composed of nationally recognized ballistics experts.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-2 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 4/5/74
Edition: Friday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-952

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED 4 FILED ____

APR 5 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

R. O. Richards

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

New RFK Probe Call By Ward

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Los Angeles County officials have conspired to prevent a new investigation of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's assassination in 1968, Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward said Friday.

Ward, a Democratic candidate for governor, said he would appoint a state commission to reopen the assassination inquiry. Ward said there were "unanswered questions" about whether the fatal bullet came from Sirhan B. Sirhan's gun.

Ward, who last week charged that San Francisco Mayor Joseph Alioto has not cleared himself of alleged connections with the Mafia, said at a press conference that his newest allegation have nothing to do with his campaign for governor.

"It is something people want an answer to," said Ward, who as a Los Angeles county television newsman questioned the investigation of the Kennedy assassination almost daily for several months in 1970.

Someone is protecting a position or person. People in authority in Los Angeles County have conspired to prevent the re-examination," Ward said.

He said he believes Sirhan, who is serving a life sentence for the Kennedy assassination "is where he should be."

But, Ward said, "there's an angle of fire that seems haywire, a distance of firing that seems haywire, now the bullets."

He said some criminologists, including William Harper of Pasadena, believe the fatal bullet taken from Kennedy's body did not match a bullet test-fired from the gun taken from Sirhan.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

B-12 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 4/6/74
Edition: Saturday 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA- 56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-953

SEARCHED.... INDEXED.... SERIALIZED.... FILED....
APR 10 1974
FBI — LOS ANGELES

A.O. Richards | aerj

Believe we covered this in your analysis jm

Ward again charged that two Alioto lawsuits have not proven Alioto—another Democratic candidate for governor—innocent of charges of Mafia links. Ward unveiled the text of newspaper advertisements he said he will place in San Francisco newspapers offering a $1,000 reward to anyone who can prove Alioto innocent.

Speaking of other major rivals for the Democratic nomination, Ward described Secretary of State Edmund G. Brown Jr. "a fraudulent hypocrite" and called Assembly Speaker Bob Moretti "a minor league Jess Unruh."

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Ward Slates Sen. Kennedy Death Probe

By City News Service

Supervisor Baxter Ward Monday announced plans to hold his own hearing into the ballistics controversy surrounding the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy.

Ward — acting as chairman of the coroner's department — asked Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner Thomas T. Noguchi to prepare a presentation. The supervisor said he has booked the Board of Supervisors hearing room for a full day session May 6.

At that time, he said, an investigation will be launched into claims by "two nationally known criminalists that the three primary evidence bullets in the Senator Kennedy case do not match up."

"I do not know if these men are correct in their contentions," Ward said, "but their suggestions are sufficiently serious that some element of government in this county is obligated to grant them a hearing...."

Ward, a candidate for governor, had earlier urged his supervisorial colleagues to call for a district attorney's report on the matter. However, District Attorney Joseph Busch said he had no intention of reopening the case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

P.1 EVENING OUTLOOK
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 4/16/74
Edition: 3 Star
Author:
Editor: Toni Frank
Title: Kensalt

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-954

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
APR 17 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

CC Bu 4-17-74

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

WARD PROBER SUGGESTS 2 GUNMEN IN RFK DEATH

Full-scale reexamination of the weapon used to assassinate Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in June 1968, is necessary to finally dispel the possibility that more than one gun was involved, a group of criminalists has asserted.

The two-gun theory surrounding Kennedy's death at the Ambassador was aired yesterday at a public hearing chaired by Baxter Ward.

Ward's hearing was promptly criticized as a "sideshow performance" and the theory termed "incredible" by an appellate judge who was chief deputy district attorney during the assassination trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan, now serving a life sentence.

The two-gun theory, explained by criminalist Herbert MacDonnell from New York, holds that the fatal bullet lodged in Kennedy's neck was of a recent manufacture and shot at a radically different angle than that which hit a bystander.

Based on photos and exhibits from the trial, MacDonell said, "I'm suggesting the bullets were not fired from the same gun."

Testimony at the loosely-structured hearing also involved alleged mishandling of the Sirhan evidence and the distance of the gun from the late senator at the time he was shot.

Former county clerk William G. Sharp was called in from retirement in San Clemente to answer charges his department allowed the public to see the evidence, thus diminishing the integrity of certain exhibits.

"Utterly silly," Sharp responded to the charges against him.

Ward said he would review the hearing transcript and make findings in a week.

But Associate Appellate Justice Lynn D. Compton urged the public to discount Ward's "amateurist and incredible effort" to raise the question of Kennedy's assassin at this point in history.

Compton said federal, state and local officials had joined in investigating the case, "aware that there would be persons who at some time in the future would come forth to criticize and second-guess our actions."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 5/14/74
Edition: Tuesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

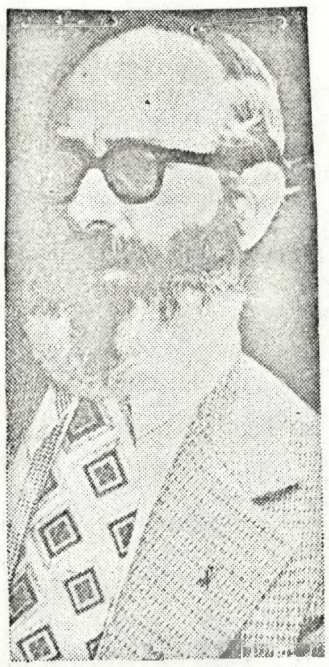
☐ Being Investigated

56-156-955

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
MAY 14 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

A O Richards Agt

CC



Herald-Examiner photo

DR. HERBERT MACDONELL

Backs two-gun theory

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

WARD REOPENS INQUIRY ON DEATH OF SEN. KENNEDY

The persistent question whether Sirhan Bishara Sirhan acted alone in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy or whether an overlooked second gunman also was involved was reopened Monday by Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward.

In a three-hour public hearing, Ward, now running for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination, summoned eight scientific experts and county officials to testify on their remaining doubts about the quality of the investigation into Kennedy's 1968 murder.

Criminologist Herbert Leon MacDonnell, director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science in New York, testified that two bullets taken from the Ambassador pantry in the early hours of June 5, 1968, did not come from the same gun.

One bullet, marked with the initials of county Coroner Thomas T.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-1 LOS ANGELES TIME
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 5/14/74
Edition: Tuesday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thoma
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angele

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-956

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
MAY 14 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

Noguchi, was taken from the body of Sen. Kennedy. The other, marked with the initial of DeWayne Wolfer, head of the Los Angeles Police Department crime laboratory, came from the stomach of ABC newsman William Wiesel, since recovered.

The bullets, MacDonnell testified, do not match each other, either in their manufacture or in the manner in which they were marked by passage through a gun barrel.

His testimony agreed with that of Lowell Bradford, a firearms identification expert from Campbell, Calif., who said he also concluded that the two bullets could "not be identified as coming from the same gun."

Both men agreed that a refiring of Sirhan's .22-caliber weapon was the essential first step in laying the question to rest.

The testimony of both men was based on their examination of the findings of Pasadena criminologist William W. Harper, who for 35 years served as a forensic expert for both prosecution and defense in local trials.

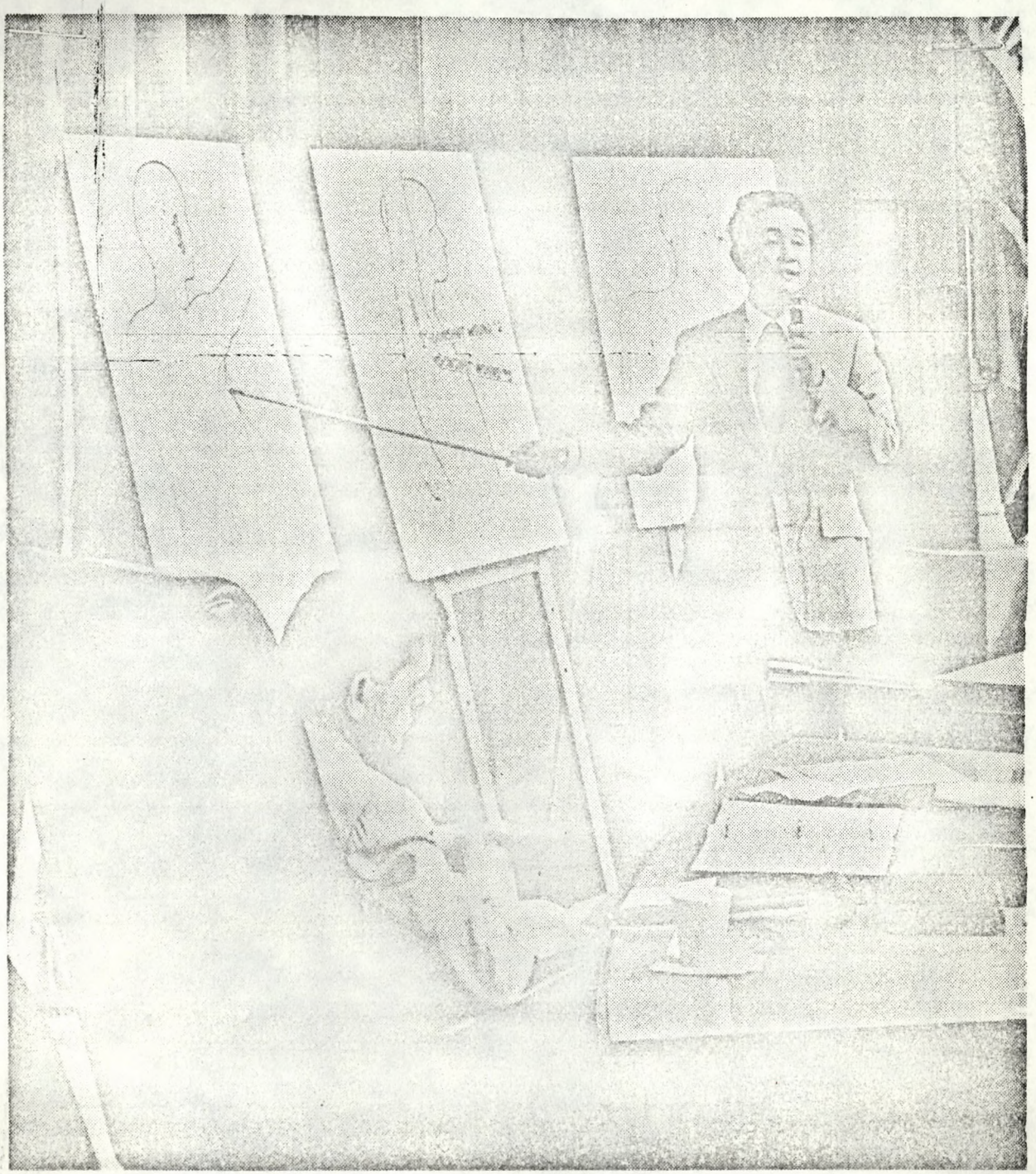
Noguchi, testifying Monday, revealed that he began two days after Kennedy's assassination to explore the possibilities of neutron activation analysis of all bullets and bullet fragments taken from the pantry to insure that all lead particles could be identified as coming from the same weapon.

But later, Noguchi said, he sought the advice of Wolfer and was told not to subject the bullets to such a test, because analysis in an atomic reactor would change the chemical composition of the slugs.

Dist. Atty. Joseph Busch, who declined Ward's invitation to testify at the hearing, declined to comment Monday but earlier he had criticized the supervisor's proceeding as an "improper forum."

After the hearing, the district attorney's office deferred to Lynn (Buck) Compton for a response. He was chief prosecutor in the Sirhan case and is now an associate justice on the state Court of Appeal.

Compton described Monday's hearing as "a sideshow performance involving persons whose motives appear to be other than to simply determine the truth."



RECALLING THE FINDINGS—Coroner Thomas T. Noguchi describing results of autopsy on Robert F. Kennedy. Listening is Supervisor Baxter Ward, who reopened inquiry into senator's death.
Times photo by Joe Kennedy

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

48

Question Raised Again on RFK Death Bullets

Los Angeles County Coroner Thomas T. Noguchi and two ballistic experts yesterday raised doubts over matching the bullets that killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy to the gun wielded by Sirhan B. Sirhan, his convicted killer.

Noguchi, at a hearing called by County Supervisor Baxter Ward to look into the controversial two-gun theory concerning the June, 1968, assassination, said the fatal shots were fired at point-blank range and not from where witnesses placed Sirhan.

Two ballistics experts, Lowell Bradford and Herbert Macdonnell, said a bullet taken from Kennedy's back did not match one which hit a bystander.

Cites Evidence

The two experts said they could not establish that the bullets come from the same gun and urged that the weapon be re-fired to clear up the controversy.

Noguchi said he based his findings concerning the range of the fatal shots on "physical evidence" showing the death gun could not have been more than one to three inches from the Senator's head when it was fired.

Witnesses to the shooting at the Ambassador Hotel testified before a Grand Jury that Sirhan was standing several feet or yards away from Kennedy.

Busch Objects

Sirhan now is serving a life sentence for the slaying.

Dist. Atty. Joseph Busch has blasted Ward's inquiry as "ridiculous," objecting to reopening the case in which Sirhan had already been convicted.

Busch said the so-called "two-gun" theory, the belief that two persons had been involved in the shooting, had been thoroughly investigated and had no validity.

Noguchi also testified that shortly after Kennedy's death, he had contacted Dr. Vincent P. Guinn, a neutron analyst, about checking the bullets in the shooting.

The coroner said the idea was dropped, however, after Wayne Wolfer, the Los Angeles Police Dept's ballistics expert, said the neutron analysis would damage the bullets as evidence.

Both Wolfer and Busch were invited to testify at Ward's hearing but did not appear.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

p. 4B Valley News and Green Sheet
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 5/14/74
Edition: West Valley
Author:
Editor: Mendenhall
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-957

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
MAY 15 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Probe Into RFK's Slaying Reopened

By United Press International

Despite opposition from the district attorney and an appellate judge, a Los Angeles County supervisor has reopened the "second gun" investigation into the possibility that it may not have been Sirhan B. Sirhan who killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Opponents of the hearings by Supervisor Baxter Ward, a former television news anchorman, accused him of seeking publicty in his campaign for governor.

County Coroner Thomas T. Noguchi and a New York criminologist, Herbert Leon McDonnell, testified at the opening session of the hearing Monday that there is evidence that more than one pistol was fired when Kennedy was assassinated, and that the bullet that entered Kennedy's brain may not have come from the pistol held by Sirhan.

Life Sentence

Sirhan is serving a life prison term for killing Kennedy in a kitchen passageway at the Ambassador Hotel on June 5, 1968.

Noguchi, who conducted the autopsy on Kennedy and removed the death bullet from him, testified that "physical evidence" shows the fatal shot was fired at point-blank range, with the pistol muzzle only one to three inches from Kennedy's head.

Many witnesses to the shooting agree that Sirhan was nowhere near that close, firing from several feet, or yards, away.

McDonnell, director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science in New York, testified that the bullet removed from Kennedy by Noguchi, and a bullet removed from a newsman wounded by Sirhan, did not come from the same gun.

Markings Differ

The other bullet was removed from ABC newsman William Weisel, who has recovered.

McDonnell said the bullet removed from Kennedy had been fired by a pistol with only one rifling groove in the barrel, while the bullet that came out of Weisel showed the marking of two grooves.

Firearms expert Lowell Bradford's testimony agreed with McDonnell. He said the two bullets "could not be identified as coming from the same gun."

The evidence that another gun may have killed Kennedy is not new. It has been the subject of previous inquiries, none of which made any determination that affected the verdict against Sirhan.

District Attorney Joseph Busch, who rejected an invitation to appear at Ward's hearing, blasted it as "ridiculous...unwise and unprecedented." The evidence "has been fully investigated and rejected" in the previous inquiries, he said.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

p.2 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA.

Date: 5/14/74
Edition: Tuesday 3 Star
Author:
Editor: Toni Frank
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-958

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
MAY 16 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

Sideshow

Associate Justice Lynn D. Compton of the state Court of Appeals, who prosecuted Sirhan as Busch's chief deputy, assailed Ward's hearing as "a sideshow performance involving persons whose motives appear to be other than to simply determine the truth."

The hearings, he said, are aimed at benefitting "persons who for political or personal reasons seek publicity and public exposure."

He said Ward "lacks any particular expertise" to hold such a hearing, the witnesses "are expressing privately held opinions," the evidence they rely on has been handled by many persons over the years, and the hearing will create suspicion and "delude the public."

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

A Strange and Ghoulish Inquiry

Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward is expected to seek the approval of the Board of Supervisors next week to widen the strange new inquiry he has opened into the 1968 assassination here of Robert F. Kennedy.

Ward isn't contending that the late senator's murderer, Sirhan B. Sirhan, is innocent of the crime for which he was convicted and for which he is serving a life sentence. Ward is doing his best, however, to encourage the numerous conspiracy theories that surround the election-night shooting at the Ambassador Hotel.

A basic thread linking most of these theories is that more than one gun may have been fired, and that more than one gunman may have participated in the slaying.

Ward probed for some evidence of that in the public hearing he conducted earlier this week in his dual role as supervisor and chairman of the County Coroner's Office.

Two criminologists, appearing on Ward's invitation, testified that bullets recovered from Kennedy and other wounded could not be identified as coming from the same weapon. They agreed, also, that the murder weapon, now in the custody of the California Supreme Court, should be refired to prove or disprove their conclusion and to lay at rest some of the major doubts surrounding the substance of ballistics testimony given at Sirhan's trial.

A refiring of the murder gun is possible, if the court agrees. It might settle some nagging doubts surrounding the trial evidence, and it might not.

Controversial ballistics testimony is no stranger to the assassination. The district attorney's office, the grand jury and the Los Angeles Police Department in 1971 all probed deeply into similar charges that ballistics procedures followed in the investigation and trial were faulty. The jury did criticize the county clerk's office for alleged slipshod handling of the murder weapon and the fatal bullets. But no one found evidence of a second gun or a second gunman.

Ward's ghoulish revival of the Kennedy assassination is gaining national attention, which he may think will help his campaign for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. But any serious reopening of the inquiry belongs not before the Board of Supervisors, but in the courts, where the responsibility properly lies.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-6 LOS ANGELES TIME
LOS ANGELES, CA.

Date: 5/16/74
Edition: Thursday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thoma
Title: KENSALT

Character: 56-156-959
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
MAY 16 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Case Bid Rejected

A former New York congressman's demand that the Robert F. Kennedy assassination case be reopened was denied Monday by Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch.

But Busch said he would not object to reopening the case if the convicted assassin, Sirhan B. Sirhan, requested it.

And Sirhan's attorney, Godfrey Isaac, said he would file a writ of error in hopes it would lead to a new trial for his client.

Allard K. Lowenstein, a former liberal Democratic representative who has lost three bids for reelection, cited three reasons for reopening investigation of the 1968 shooting at the Ambassador:

—Evidence indicates at least nine bullets were fired during the assassination and Sirhan's gun held only eight bullets.

—Evidence showed the gun to have been fired [illegible] inches from Sen. Kennedy's head, and witnesses said Sirhan never got that close.

[illegible] study is that [illegible] believe the evidence sustains the theory that Sirhan is the murderer of Kennedy.

Busch said he saw nothing new in Lowenstein's allegations.

[illegible] a number of eye witnesses — [illegible]

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-4 LOS ANGELES TIME
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 12/17/74
Edition: Tuesday Extra
Author:
Editor: William Bodthoma
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angele

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-960

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
7 DEC 17 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Ballistics indicated a television news producer wounded during the shooting was shot by a gun other than the one which killed Sen. Kennedy.

Busch said that Lowenstein's accusations had all been refuted during the exhaustive investigation after the shooting.

Sirhan, who is serving a life sentence at San Quentin, was captured at the assassination scene while he still held the pistol which killed Sen. Kennedy.

Lowenstein, long recognized as an independent-minded, liberal Democrat, gained notoriety in 1967 and 1968 when he promoted a "Dump Johnson" movement. He recruited former Sen. Eugene J. McCarthy to run against Johnson.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

D.A. Says Sirhan Acted Alone

Evidence that Sirhan Sirhan acted alone in killing Robert F. Kennedy is "absolutely overwhelming," Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch said here.

Speculation about a conspiracy, extra bullets and a second gun is unfounded, Busch said at a news conference yesterday in which he disputed allegations made Sunday in New York by Allard K. Lowenstein, a former New York Democratic congressman, that Sirhan did not kill Kennedy.

"This case is absolutely overwhelming," Busch said. "It's not just to a reasonable doubt. I couldn't think of a stronger case."

Sirhan is serving a life sentence at San Quentin Prison for killing Kennedy on June 5, 1968, in the Ambassador Hotel here after the senator's victory speech in the California Democratic presidential primary.

Lowenstein said his conclusion after his own year-long study is that he does not believe the evidence sustains the theory that Sirhan is the murderer of Kennedy.

Busch said he saw nothing new in Lowenstein's allegations.

"The basic fact remains that a number of eye witnesses — at close range — saw Sirhan shoot Robert F. Kennedy and did not see anyone else fire a gun in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel," Busch stated.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 12/17/74
Edition: Tuesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angele

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-961

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
7 DEC 17 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Young Pair Shouted, 'We Killed Kennedy'

By United Press International

A retired Los Angeles police officer says he talked to a couple who heard two persons say they shot Robert F. Kennedy.

But his report was overlooked in the massive investigation of the shooting, the officer said.

Former Sgt. Paul Shraga told a Los Angeles radio station Sunday that he was the first police officer to arrive at the Ambassador Hotel where Kennedy was shot.

He said that as he walked toward the hotel, an older couple stopped him and told him that they had passed a young couple who were smiling and shouting, "We shot him...we killed Kennedy...we shot him...we killed him."

Shraga said the elderly couple described the pair as "in their early 20s" and said the woman was "wearing a poka-dot dress."

Shraga, who was a command post officer at the time, said he broadcast the description for about two hours, until a senior officer told him to discontinue it. According to Shraga, the officer said, "We've got our man...let's not make a federal case out of this."

The former cop said he filed official reports of the incident, but the reports disappeared. He said his reports were never investigated by authorities looking into the shooting and were not included in subsequent books written about the assassination.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

P.5 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

Date: 12/23/74
Edition: Monday 3 Star
Author:
Editor: Robert D. Funk
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-962

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
DEC 24 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

A.D. Richards 1029

Mr. Sahan

Sirhan B. Sirhan, a Jordanian, was apprehended at the scene of the murder and was convicted of shooting the senator in 1968. Sirhan is presently serving a life sentence for murder in San Quentin prison.

Investigators originally said ballistic tests of the murder weapon were insufficient.

Shraga's story was aired by the radio station Sunday, one week after former Rep. Allard Lowenstein in New York asked that the investigation be reopened.

Lowenstein asked the Los Angeles district attorney's office to reopen the investigation in light of what he said was new evidence that a second gun had been fired in the slaying.

Los Angeles District Attorney Joseph Busch replied, however, that there was no new ballistics information in Lowenstein's statement and that he did not plan to reopen the case.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Action To Reopen Sirhan Case Slated

From Evening Outlook News Services

Beverly Hills attorney Godfrey Isaac, who represents convicted assassin Sirhan B. Sirhan, said Tuesday he will file an action in the state Supreme Court next month to reopen the case of Robert Kennedy's murder.

At the same time, the attorney said he met Monday with his client at San Quentin Prison to discuss latest developments in the case. He conveyed a Christmas greeting of hope and appreciation.

"I am grateful for the interest being shown in my case," Sirhan said through his attorney. "If I had any consciousness of the events of June, 1968, it would not have taken this long to develop evidence pointing toward my innocence of killing Sen. Kennedy."

Isaac said he would file a writ of error coram nobis in the state Supreme Court next month in an effort to have the case reopened on the basis of new information and evidence not introduced during the original trial.

Last week, District Attorney Joseph Busch refused to independently reopen the investigation into the Kennedy assassination. Former New York Congressman Allard K. Lowenstein and former United Auto Workers West Coast Director Paul Schrade had urged a reopening of the case Dec. 15.

Busch, however, said any action on reopening the case should come from Sirhan's attorney.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Pg. 7 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

Date: 12/25/74
Edition: Wednesday
Author:
Editor: Robert D. Funk
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA- 56-156*
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-963

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
DEC 26 1974
FBI—LOS ANGELES

McDahon

Schrade, a supporter of Kennedy's presidential bid, was one of those wounded in an Ambassador Hotel pantry on the night of June 5, 1968, when the senator was assassinated.

Lowenstein said recent analysis of the investigation has shown there is now reasonable doubt on who the assassin of Sen. Kennedy was.

He called for a new look at five areas after subsequent evidence allegedly indicated that more than one gun was fired with a total of nine bullets being found, instead of the eight in Sirhan's weapon.

Busch disputed that claim last week, asserting that only one gun was fired and that by Sirhan, and that it involved only eight bullets.

The five areas of investigation suggested by Lowenstein were:

—A test firing on Sirhan's gun for bullet comparisons.

—A convening of an independent panel of ballistics experts to go over the evidence.

—Administering a neutron activation test on the bullets.

—Releasing or undertaking an official trajectory study to clarify if there were more bullet holes made during the shooting than could be explained.

—Releasing the 10-volume report of the official investigation by the team of Los Angeles police officers known as "Special Unit—Senator".

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Second-Gun Theory May Reopen Sirhan Case

By JOHN McDONNELL
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

The conviction of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as the lone assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy may be reopened to consider what Sirhan's lawyer calls "deliberately suppressed" evidence.

The generally-accepted conclusion has been that Sirhan, and Sirhan alone, fired the volley of .22 caliber shots that mortally wounded the senator as he walked through the kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel the night of June 4, 1968, after appearing at a primary election victory party in the hotel's ballroom.

Most believe Sirhan was alone — police, Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch, a trial jury, the U.S. Supreme Court, and a vast majority of the public.

But since Sirhan's conviction in 1969, there has been a small group of people — experts and laymen — who are just as convinced that a second gun was fired that fatal night, and that somebody other than Sirhan pulled the trigger.

The Jordanian immigrant's lawyer, Godfrey Isaac of Beverly Hills, contends in a writ filed on behalf of Sirhan with the state's Supreme Court last week that this "second gun" may have been in the hands of a part-time security guard who was assigned to beef up security in the hotel kitchen.

Isaac's writ uses all the elements of the second-gun theory, citing ballistics studies made by independent criminalists that conclude that Sirhan couldn't possibly have fired the fatal shot.

Isaac is hoping that the court will order an evidentiary hearing which will weigh the evidence, ultimately leading to an overturn of his client's murder conviction.

While not involved in the writ as of now, the District Attorney's Office could be asked to supply an answer to Isaac's serious charges, and if it reaches the hearing stage, then the prosecutor would probably put on a fullblown defense of its investigation and trial procedure, according to court observers.

Isaac's espousing of the second-gun theory is closely tied to his charge that police and prosecutors "deliberately, intentionally, and knowingly suppressed" evidence that didn't fit in with their theory that Sirhan acted alone.

Bloecker
Birch

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-8 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 1/19/75
Edition: Sunday Latest
Author: John McDonnell
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angele.

[X] Being Investigated

56-156-964

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED ..... mk
SERIALIZED mk FILED mk
JAN 20 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

In his high court petition, Isaac said there are reasons to believe that the fatal bullet may have been fired by Thane Eugene Cesar, who was moonlighting at the time for Ace Security Guard Service, supplementing his regular job at Lockheed Aircraft Corporation.

Isaac's reconstruction of the assassination scene puts Cesar behind Kennedy as the senator walked through the kitchen. The guard was close enough, Isaac contended, to suffer powder burns and admitted that he pulled his gun, but didn't fire his pistol when the shooting began.

But, Isaac continued, "for reasons known only to the Police Department, Cesar's gun was never examined to determine if it had been fired, nor did the prosecution call Cesar to testify before the grand jury or at the trial."

The lawyer said that Donald Schulman, an employe of television station KNXT, was nearby and shortly after the shooting told interviewers that he recalled seeing a uniformed guard firing his handgun.

Schulman never was called to testify either, Isaac said, adding, "He was deliberately ignored by the police to avoid any conflict in their presupposed theory of one gunman."

As to the weapon Cesar admitted drawing from his holster; some reports have said it was a .38 caliber pistol, and others have claimed that it was a .22 mounted on a .38 frame. The only bullets ever recovered from victims or at the scene were .22s.

Isaac claimed in his court paper that the security guard owned a .22 cadet revolver that he sold to a man in Arkansas on Sept. 6, 1968, three months after the shooting. Shortly afterward, the gun was stolen and has never been recovered.

Cesar could not be reached for comment. He quit Lockheed in April of 1971 and Ace Security Guard Service said he hadn't worked there for two years and that his current address is unknown.

Turning to the question of ballistics, Isaac's petition argued that Sirhan could not have fired the fatal bullet.

That slug had five grooves, whereas Sirhan's bullets had six, the lawyer maintained. Moreover, he said, all of the shots that hit Kennedy were from back to front, right to left, and upward, and were fired from 6 inches away or less. Witnesses at the trial put Sirhan in front of Kennedy and never closer than several feet away, Isaac argued.

Isaac filed affidavits made by two criminologists, William W. Harper of Pasadena, and Herbert L. MacDonnell, director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science in Corning, N.Y., to support his contention that two different guns were involved.

The two said that a bullet taken from Sen. Kennedy's neck was substantially different from the one removed from William Weisel, an ABC-TV newsman who also was shot at the scene.

And Isaac also raised the possibility of nine shots being fired that night, although Sirhan's pistol held only eight bullets.

"The police failed and refused to account for what appeared to be two bullet holes discovered in the center divider between the kitchen pantry doors," Isaac argued. "None of this evidence was ever presented at trial since it disproved the prosecution's case and it supports a conclusion of more than one gun being fired."

Isaac also cited testimony by Dr. Thomas Noguchi, Los Angeles County coroner, at a hearing held last May be Supervisor Baxter Ward.

The testimony concerned the number of grooves found in a bullet that was removed from Sen. Kennedy. These grooves are one identifying characteristic of a bullet and the gun that fired it. Noguchi said he counted five grooves in 1968 but in another inspection last April 19, he counted six, according to Isaac.

Dist. Atty. Busch, while remaining convinced that Sirhan acted alone, has pledged to cooperate fully with any new investigation ordered by the state's Supreme Court.

"Now the issue is before the proper forum instead of being a topic of a TV talk show or some politician's public hearing," he said.

One of the prosecutor's aides who scanned Isaac's petition said there was nothing new offered, nothing that would change the prosecution's mind.

Earlier, Busch had offered this comment on the case: "The two-gun theory is a fictitious theory, but we can't stop people from taking things out of context and making them inconsistent with the facts.

"There is no question in our minds that Sirhan Sirhan was the murderer of Robert Kennedy and that he acted alone. I'm not going to let this kind of speculation be given credence. It's ghoulish to me."

Sirhan Sirhan: convicted assassin.

This was Sirhan's gun. Was it one that killed Sen. Robert Kennedy?

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

High Court Rejects Sirhan Plea

BY ROBERT KISTLER
Times Staff Writer

The state Supreme Court Thursday turned down without comment an attempt by Sirhan Bishara Sirhan to reopen investigation into the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, for which Sirhan was convicted almost six years ago.

In denying two petitions filed by Beverly Hills attorney Godfrey Isaac, the high court effectively eliminated any chance for a new trial in state courts for Sirhan, now serving a life sentence at San Quentin Prison.

Isaac had maintained in his petition that Sirhan was wrongly convicted by false ballistic testimony and argued a "second gun" theory in which he urged the Supreme Court to order the firing of Sirhan's .22-caliber pistol in an effort to clear up questions that have arisen about the ballistics in the case.

In addition to filing a writ of habeas corpus for Sirhan's release, Isaac had filed a companion petition for error coram vobis, requesting the high court to consider evidence beyond the trial record.

Had the court approved the second petition, a hearing would have been ordered to determine whether Isaac's asserted "new evidence" was sufficient to order a new trial.

Isaac, in summarizing grounds for the petitions, had stated:

"Evidence that tended to show that Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was not killed by the bullet from Sirhan's gun was deliberately, intentionally and willingly suppressed by the prosecution and their agents."

The petitions asserted that outside ballistic experts had determined that the bullet taken from the senator's body substantially differs from one removed from William Weisel, an ABC-TV newsman, who also was shot in a pantry of the Ambassador.

In addition, Isaac had maintained that trial evidence which led to Sirhan's April 17, 1969, conviction of first-degree murder showed that there were five grooves on the bullet taken from Kennedy, but that bullets purchased by Sirhan had six grooves.

Birch

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-30 LOS ANGELES TIME
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 2/14/75
Edition: Friday Final
Author: Robert Kistler
Editor: William F. Thoma
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-3965

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
FEB 14 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Contacted at his office, Isaac said he was "disappointed" by the ruling because he believed the evidence presented in his petitions "showed scientifically that Sirhan could not have committed the act."

"It is difficult to accept as final," Isaac said, "a determination (on new evidence) made without a court hearing." It was such a hearing which the Supreme Court denied Thursday.

He said he would send Sirhan a telegram later Thursday, informing him of the court's actions.

Reached by telephone in Honolulu where he is attending a meeting of the National District Attorneys Assn., Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch said:

"I think what the court is really saying is that they (Sirhan's supporters) haven't established any evidence which would reopen the investigation into the conviction of Sirhan Sirhan.

"What the court's decision means, I think, is that this newly discovered evidence is conjecture, speculation, that type of thing. As lawyers, we just can't accept it.

"It may make for good publicity, but when you get down to its relevancy and admissibility, there is no merit to it."

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Denied Retrial

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — The California Supreme Court on Thursday turned down the petition of Sirhan B. Sirhan, convicted assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, to reopen the case and grant him a new trial.

The court's action came in a brief ruling which said it denied a petition for a writ of habeas corpus.

Sirhan's attorney, Godfrey Isaac, filed the petition Jan. 13 telling the court his client's guilt is in question because of new information which was not brought out at the original trial.

Sirhan is now serving a life sentence at San Quentin Prison.

The petition said that the prosecution knowingly suppressed ballistics evidence which tended to show that Kennedy was not killed by Sirhan's gun in June 1968 was "deliberately and knowingly supressed by the prosecution."

It said that testimony of ballistics experts, if taken literally, showed that the bullet from the gun of Sirhan did not shoot or kill Kennedy.

The attorney also had claimed that the projectory of the shot that killed Kennedy indicated that Sirhan could not have fired the bullet.

In December Los Angeles Dist. Atty. Joe Busch rejected a request by former New York Rep. Allard Lowenstein and United Auto Workers official Paul Schrade to reopen the case.

Lowenstein had contended his personal analysis raised reasonable doubt about who the assassin was.

The petition said that five grooves were found in the bullet taken from Kennedy's body and the bullet possessed by Sirhan had six grooves.

Birch

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 2/14/75
Edition: Friday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED .....
SERIALIZED ..... FILED .....
FEB 14 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU
56-156-966

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Conspiracy Market

"Who Killed Bobby Kennedy? You Decide . . . Is the Sirhan Conviction Another Watergate Cover-Up?" Promo for "The Second Gun."

Allard Lowenstein, pounding the TV gumbeat circuit since last December in a campaign to re-open the Robert Kennedy assassination case, has a new exhibit to help his cause along: a fastbuck motion-picture "documentary," put together quick as you can say "Watergate plot," and now showing at your neighborhood theater (PG).

Lowenstein being a true believer, we can infer that were he huckstering "The Second Gun," all proceeds therefrom would go into a Sirhan Sirhan defense fund. But, to my knowledge, Lowenstein has no financial interest in the film and the producers haven't indicated they have any intention of aiding the cause other than by reaching into the hearts, minds and pocketbooks of mass audiences sated with porno flicks.

No doubt Lowenstein will find that observation an unwarranted aspersion on his theory, along the lines of prior criticism of the cause made in this space. Why, he asked Bill Buckley on a recent "Firing Line" show, can't we discuss the evidence in the Robert Kennedy assassination case without "epithets"? (I had charged him with having out Mailered Norman Mailer in kooky conspiracy stories.)

For his part, host Buckley, in a column written after the show, expressed hope that Lowenstein's cause be taken seriously enough that the Sirhan weapon be refired by Los Angeles police. This, says Lowenstein, would erase any doubts expressed about the Sirhan conviction.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-8 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 4/30/75
Edition: Wednesday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character: EDITORIAL COMMEN
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-967

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
APR 30 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

There is a bootstrap logic to that argument, since — until Lowenstein and his moving-making colleagues began promoting their conspiracy conjurations — there had really never been any "doubts" expressed about the Sirhan case.

Indeed, even Sirhan's attorney, Emile Zola Berman, told the trial court — as quoted by Buckley in a 1969 column — "There is no doubt . . . that (Sirhan) did, in fact, fire the shot that killed Sen. Kennedy."

The Sirhan trial was, as that old Buckley column reminded me, of considerable length. The defendant was hardly the victim of a rush to judgment. So slowly, in fact, did the wheels of justice turn — despite overwhelming eyewitness evidence of Sirhan's having murdered Kennedy — that Buckley was brought to comment on "the almost infinite elongation between the time of murder and the execution of sentence."

"Isn't the whole thing approaching farce?" Buckley asked in 1969. Now, half a dozen years later, come Lowenstein and the conspiracy-flick promoters to complete that journey.

"Sirhan was not tried fairly," they argue. "Refire the gun to dispel all doubts." But refiring the gun would not, of course, dispel the doubts of those who will never be satisfied with "facts" that do not fit the ideological mold that shapes their world view. Or, in the case of the fastbuck flick operators, the size of their bank accounts.

Lowenstein, as Buckley says, may indeed be a man of pure motive. But pure motive, alas, is a rare commodity these days, even on the Watergate-plot market. Thus, Bobby Kennedy's assassination is about to make some quick-film hustler a bundle; a development certain to inspire other socially-conscious independent producers to explore the possibilities of a "documentary" based on the theory that Jack Ruby did not really kill Lee Oswald, there having been a "second gun" at that scene also.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

New Probe in Slaying of Sen. Kennedy Demanded

Drive by Ex-Congressman Lowenstein Backed by Criminalist Who Says Bullets May Differ

BY JOHN KENDALL
Times Staff Writer

Nearly seven years after Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was killed, former New York Congressman Allard Lowenstein returned to Los Angeles Friday to again demand that the assassination case be reopened.

"We're going to get these things done at some point," he said. "The American people are not going to tolerate stonewalling on the issue of who murdered one of the most significant people in our history."

Lowenstein's campaign to reinvestigate aspects of the senator's death took him to Harvard, Stanford and Berkeley in three days and he was to appear at UCLA Friday night.

"It's beginning to sound like a broken record," commented Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch. "All I can say is, 'Play it again, Allard'."

Busch has repeatedly denied that there is evidence to justify reopening the case.

Before appearing at a press conference at the Greater Los Angeles Press Club Friday, Lowenstein had been in Sacramento, talking to legislators about the case.

He was supported in his appearance in Los Angeles by Dr. Robert J. Joling, president of the American Academy of Forensic Science and associate professor of medical jurisprudence at the University of Arizona. Joling said he was acting as an individual not an academy president.

With the aid of a slide exhibit, Joling talked about evidence in the trial of convicted assassin Sirhan B. Sirhan and said there is sufficient difference of opinion to warrant further investigation of the case.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 5/10/75
Edition: Saturday Final
Author: John Kendall
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

56-156-968

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAY 12 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

In sum, Joling said a photograph of a bullet found in Kennedy's neck and a slug removed from another victim wounded in the pantry of the Ambassador shortly after midnight on June 6, 1968, indicates the bullets may not match. The criminalist said the bullet taken from the senator's body appeared to have one ring, called a cannelure, around it, while the other bullet and a test bullet appeared to have two cannelures.

Yet, Joling went on, all the shells taken from Sirhan's .22-caliber gun were made by Cascade Corp. of Lewiston, Ida., and Cascade only makes long rifle minimag ammunition with two cannelures.

Joling admitted that the photograph, taken by Pasadena ballistics expert William W. Harper, was not conclusive proof of a difference in the bullets but he suggested it was enough to warrant examination of the evidence again.

He favored the appointment of a panel of outside experts to settle questions raised about the bullets.

"It doesn't take any time or any money to do the things we ask," Lowenstein said.

He specified those steps as the firing of Sirhan's gun, analysis of the bullets' chemical composition, examination of ceiling panels in the hotel pantry and investigation of Kennedy's shoulder pad to determine the path of a bullet which pierced it.

"If all three holes in those ceiling panels are entry holes," Lowenstein said, "that's the ball game. That's three bullets that went up into the ceiling and seven were recovered from the victim so that's 10 bullets."

Sirhan's gun held eight bullets.

Lowenstein insisted that he and Joling and those who support reopening the case have not reached any preconculsions but only want to settle once and for all the rumors that there was more than a single assassin.

He said he had not always pressed so vigorously for reopening of the case and, in fact, had resisted questions raised while he was a congressman.

His renewed interest began, Lowenstein said, when he discovered that "many of us had thought that we had been naive about the kinds of things that had gone on in the United States."

He said he began looking into the case with the expectation that he would find nothing but that when he found difficulties, authorities had no answers.

"I said, 'How could we have eight bullets do all this when seven were recovered and here were three holes in the ceiling panels and one in his coat and one in his chest?'

"How could these bullets inflict all those holes?

"And then when I discovered that the answers I was getting were not accurate answers and there was an effort to stonewall, that whetted my feeling that we have to pursue the question to find out what in fact occurred."

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sacramento Action On Slaying Sought

From Evening Outlook News Services

Former New York Congressman Allard K. Lowenstein says he's looking toward Sacramento for reopening of the Robert Kennedy assassination investigation and accused local officials of "stonewalling" on providing requested information about the case.

Lowenstein, who spoke to an estimated 300 people at UCLA law school Friday night, has been pushing for reopening of the investigation since last year. Appearing with him Friday was a new ally in the drive, Dr. Robert J. Joling, president of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

The two men were joined at an earlier Los Angeles press club news conference by Chuck Warren, an aide to Democratic National Committeeman Fred Firth, who said he is on loan to Lowenstein to coordinate a California effort to reopen the Robert Kennedy probe.

Warren said "several assemblymen" are interested in their efforts and indicated they might urge Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Joseph Busch to reopen the probe.

If that fails, he said, there is a drive afoot to get the state Assembly's Criminal Justice Committee headed by Alan Sieroty, D-Santa Monica, West Los Angeles, to set up a subcommittee with full subpoena power to reopen the case.

Busch was not immediately available for comment, but a spokesman noted that the district attorney's feeling has been that if a court orders reopening of a probe, he will be glad to comply.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

P. 2 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

Date: 5/10/75
Edition: Saturday 3 Star
Author:
Editor: Robert D. Funk
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-9691

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED ..... ✓
SERIALIZED ..... ✓ FILED ..... ✓
MAY 12 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Attorney Godfrey Isaac, who represents convicted assassin Sirhan Sirhan, recently made such an appeal to the state Supreme Court, but was turned down.

Isaac had basically the same information as Lowenstein and others who have advocated reopening the case — that ballistic testimony at Sirhan's trial in 1969 was in conflict with more recent scrutiny of trial exhibits by an outside criminalist. The evidence indicates a second gun may have been involved in the assassination Lowenstein said.

Joling, associate professor of medical jurisprudence at the University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson and a former practicing attorney, said the state Supreme Court refusal was based on legal grounds that the information offered by Isaac was not "new evidence."

The information was available at Sirhan's trial, he said.

Although Lowenstein advocates a refiring of Sirhan's gun as part of the reopening of the case, Joling said not even that is necessary.

The disputed evidence has to do with microscopic photographs of three slugs introduced into evidence at the trial.

Joling said a simple examination of the trial exhibits — the slugs — by an independent group of two or three criminalists would be conclusive in determining the question of the markings.

Lowenstein has recently been speaking at college campuses throughout California pushing his effort to reopening the investigation.

Lowenstein spent Thursday at UC Berkeley and Stanford University.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Receives 1986 Parole Date From State Board

SAN QUENTIN (UPI)—Sirhan Sirhan, convicted of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was granted a parole date of Feb. 23, 1986, by the California Adult Authority Tuesday.

Sirhan, who originally was sentenced to death, would end up serving a total of 16 years, 9 months under the parole date.

"He was extremely well behaved all the time he has been in prison — absolutely no problem," said Philip D. Guthrie, assistant director of the state Department of Corrections.

"The Adult Authority considered that while he killed a very well known figure they had to treat him as if he killed an ordinary person," Guthrie added.

Sirhan was sent to San Quentin Prison five years ago Friday for slaying Kennedy June 5, 1968, in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles shortly after Kennedy claimed victory in the California Democratic presidential primary election.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 5/21/75
Edition: Wednesday Final
Author:
Editor: William F. Thoma
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-970

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Sirhan was convicted of first-degree murder and five counts of assault with a deadly weapon in a shooting that also wounded a Los Angeles labor official, Paul Schrade.

The 1986 parole means Sirhan will be released from prison at that time unless he commits a "serious" breach of prison rules or is involved in a prison crime, Guthrie said.

Granting of a parole date is part of a new policy of Gov. Brown's Administration to set "determinate" sentence dates for California convicts.

Sirhan, 31, was among the 107 persons on Death Row spared as the result of a 1972 state Supreme Court decision that held capital punishment unconstitutional.

Voters later provided for the restoration of the death penalty, but it was not retroactive to those spared.

The parole announcement followed by five months the filing of a petition with the California Supreme Court by attorney Godfrey Isaac of Los Angeles to reopen the assassination investigation on the grounds of a "second gun" theory.

Isaac, currently Sirhan's lawyer, contended that a second gun was fired by a hotel security guard and one of the bullets may have struck Kennedy.

Kennedy, surrounded by aids and well-wishers, had walked through a set of swinging doors into the pantry filled with hotel workers and was standing next to a dishwasher when a reported eight shots fired. He died 25 hours later at a hospital.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

SIRHAN'S PAROLE SET

To Go Free in 11 Years, Board Says

Kennedy's Death Nets 16 Years

SAN QUENTIN (AP)—Sirhan B. Sirhan, the convicted assassin of U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, is scheduled for parole on Feb. 23, 1986, the California Adult Authority said Tuesday.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

21/75
dnesday Latest

Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-991

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ✓ FILED ✓
MAR 31 1975
FBI LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Philip Guthrie, a deputy director of the State Department of Corrections, said releasing Sirhan on that date would give him a prison sentence of 16 years, nine months.

He said the actual length of Sirhan's life term was "at the top range for first-degree murders.

"The board is acting in a way that is consistent with standards they have established for various crimes," Guthrie said of the board's action Tuesday in a meeting at San Quentin Prison.

"While he killed a very well-known man, they have to regard that in the same way they would a less well-known figure."

The announcement came nearly six years after Sirhan entered the California prison system. He is currently being held at San Quentin, in Marin County north of San Francisco.

He was convicted of gunning Kennedy down in the kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on June 5, 1968, following the senator's victory in California's Democratic presidential primary.

Sirhan, 31, was originally sentenced to die for the crime, but that sentence was thrown out by a State Supreme Court decison outlawing capital punishment.

His sentence was changed to life imprisonment, which allows for parole after at least seven years.

Guthrie said the parole date would stand unless Sirhan had some "extreme behavior problem" before then.

Sirhan's mother, Mary, was unavailable for comment.

SIRHAN SIRHAN

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Assigned Date For Parole

SAN QUENTIN, Calif. (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan, once condemned to die for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has been a "model prisoner" and if he keeps it up he will be released in 1986 under a new California parole policy.

The state Adult Authority determined Tuesday that Sirhan should be released after serving a total of 16 years and nine months for the first-degree murder of Kennedy, the 1968 California Democratic nominee for president.

The parole board acted under a new policy of the administration of Democratic Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. to establish specific release dates for all California inmates who now serve "indeterminate" sentences.

Sirhan, 31, attended the parole board hearing at San Quentin Prison, where he is held in a cell in the facility's maximum security block.

A prison spokesman described the wispy Palestinian Arab as a model prisoner who will be paroled on Feb. 23, 1986, provided he obeys behavior rules and commits no "serious offenses."

Sirhan's attorney, Godfrey Isaac of Beverly Hills, said he talked with Sirhan after the board hearing and Sirhan indicated he would fear for his life after he is freed.

"I'm concerned for his life," Isaac said. "I have talked with Sirhan and he was also concerned for his life when he previously had not been."

George Stitzel of Los Angeles, one of the jurors at Sirhan's murder trial, voiced amazement at the board's action, declaring: "If he gets out, he could do it again."

Birch

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

P. 4 EVENING OUTLOOK
SANTA MONICA, CA

Date: 5/21/75
Edition: Wednesday 3 Star
Author:
Editor: Robert D. Funk
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-972

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAY 22 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

But Philip D. Guthrie, assistant director of the Department of Corrections, termed Sirhan "extremely well behaved all the time he has been in prison — absolutely no problem."

Guthrie said the parole board "considered that while he killed a very well known figure, they had to treat him as if he killed an ordinary person."

Sirhan was sent to prison nearly six years ago for the June 5, 1968, slaying of Kennedy moments after the New York Democrat claimed victory in the California primary election over Sen. Eugene McCarthy of Minnesota.

Sirhan was sentenced to die in the gas chamber, but the state Supreme Court struck down the death penalty in 1972 as unconstitutional. Sirhan and 105 other death row convicts were spared, although capital punishment was later ordered restored by the voters.

The parole announcement followed by five months the filing of a petition with the California Supreme Court by Isaac to reopen the assassination investigation on the grounds of a "second gun" theory.

Isaac, currently Sirhan's lawyer, contended that a second gun was fired by a hotel security guard and one of the bullets may have struck Kennedy.

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Unruh Calls Sirhan Parole Ruling Asinine

SACRAMENTO (AP). — State Treasurer Jesse Unruh, who stood near U.S. Sen. Robert Kennedy when he was shot to death, denounced the state Wednesday for giving Kennedy's convicted assassin a parole date.

Unruh was the California Legislature's powerful Assembly speaker when Kennedy was assassinated as he celebrated his victory in the 1968 California presidential primary June 5, 1968.

Sirhan Sirhan, the 31-year-old man convicted of shooting Kennedy, was nearly torn apart that night by the crowd at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Unruh said.

The California Adult Authority Tuesday gave Sirhan a parole date of Feb. 23, 1986, and Unruh, who headed Kennedy's 1968 California presidential campaign, said:

"What I have to consider one of the most asinine explanations I have ever seen for any government explanation — is that Sirhan had to be treated no differently than anyone else."

Unruh, who did not actually see the shooting, said he had talked to Gov. Edmund Brown Jr. to let him know how upset he was by the parole board's action.

In an interview with reporters on the parole board action, Brown said he did not want to intrude on "what is basically a quasi-judicial decision."

In another development, Sirhan was moved from San Quentin to Soledad Prison Wednesday. Philip Guthrie, a prison spokesman, said Sirhan "is absolutely no problem because of the kind of guy he is."

Birch

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 HERALD EXAMINER
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 5/22/75
Edition: Thursday Latest
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-973

SEARCHED ..... INDEXED
SERIALIZED ..... FILED
MAY 22 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU

Sirhan will be placed in a self-contained unit along with inmates who fear for their safety, Guthrie said.

Meanwhile, in Pasadena, Sirhan's mother says her son won't be harmed if he is paroled because "when they find out my son's shot did not kill the senator, there'll be nothing to be mad about."

Mary Sirhan's comments referred to a statement by her son's lawyer that if Sirhan is released, "law and order thinkers" may try to kill him.

Sirhan's attorney Godfrey Isaac of Beverly Hills, said Tuesday that he was "concerned with his (Sirhan's) life. I talked with Sirhan and he is also concerned with his life, where he had previously not been.

Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch said Tuesday he planned to seek a meeting with Gov. Brown to discuss the administration's parole policy under which Sirhan will be released.

"I doubt that Gov. Brown meant to establish a policy which would parole Sirhan Sirhan in 1986," Busch said. "Such a policy could also affect charles Manson and other prisoners who were meant by juries to be imprisoned for life."

FD-350 (Rev. 7-16-63)

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Panel Went by Book on Sirhan Parole

BY WILLIAM ENDICOTT
Times Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO—James H. Hoover, a six-year member of the California Adult Authority, arrived at San Quentin this week oblivious to the fact that the first prisoner he would see for a parole hearing would be Sirhan Sirhan.

"I didn't know until I sat down and looked at the calendar," he told The Times. "I was really surprised. I had forgotten all about the case."

The first thing he did was call Raymond C. Brown, vice chairman of the Adult Authority.

"He notified me because he knew this would be a hot one, that it would be controversial," Brown said. "He told me, 'We're going to set a date on him.'"

Brown, in turn, called Chairman Raymond K. Procunier, who was in San Luis Obispo.

"He just whistled," Brown said.

Hoover and an Adult Authority staff representative, Gene Luttrell, spent two hours with Sirhan on Monday, then called him back for an hour Tuesday when a second board member, Manuel Quevedo Jr., also sat in.

Satisfied there was no reason to deny him a parole date, Hoover and Quevedo then signed the document legally setting his release for Feb. 23, 1986.

"If we deny any case, we've got to have reasons for the denial," Hoover said, "whether it's Sirhan or anybody else."

He would not comment on details of the hearing but said "there was not a dang thing to do" but give him a date. "I can't think of any guy in the system, unless he's crazy, you couldn't do this for."

Prison sources described Sirhan as "sort of shocked—overwhelmed by the amount of time he still has to serve in prison."

He was escorted from the parole hearing, which was held in the prison's maximum security block where he has been housed for nearly six years, to see his mother, Mary, who was at San Quentin for a visit.

Convicted in 1968 for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, the Jordan Palestinian Arab originally

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 LOS ANGELES TIMES
LOS ANGELES, CA

Date: 5/22/75
Edition: Thursday Final
Author: William Endicott
Editor: William F. Thomas
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA-56-156*
Submitting Office Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

56-156-2974
SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
7 MAY 22 1975
FBI - LOS ANGELES
R.L. Richards

ORIGINAL TO THE BUREAU