

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

REPORT SAYS SIRHAN ALONE KILLED KENNEDY

A special counsel appointed to investigate the murder of Robert F. Kennedy nine years ago says Sirhan B. Sirhan acted alone in assassinating the senator, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The paper reported it obtained a delayed 60-page report scheduled for release Tuesday by the district attorney's office and prepared by special counsel Thomas F. Kranz.

"Special Counsel Kranz has found no evidence, or possibility of evidence, of any coverup by law enforcement agencies to protect their own reputation or preserve the original conviction," the report said.

"Kranz has found no indication that there was more than one assassin, who may have fired more than one gun, with more than eight bullets.

"Special Counsel Kranz is convinced, from all the evidence, that there was no second gunman, and that the original trial court verdict was correct."

In explaining the delay in the long-awaited report, Kranz cited cutbacks in the district attorney's office.

"In the minds of the public," he said, "the very nature of a political assassination is such that our pop culture will undoubtedly produce new theories and scenarios."

Kranz, who was appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to investigate the June 5, 1968, killing, acknowledged it is impossible to prove a negative: That Sirhan's gun and no other gun killed Kennedy.

"Nevertheless," Kranz said, "the overwhelming evidence underscores the fact that Sirhan Sirhan was the sole assassin."

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

P-7 EVENING OUTLOOK
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Editor: Robert D. Funk

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Reynolds

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Opening of File on Sen. Kennedy Urged

The Los Angeles Police Department should open to the public its 10-volume file on the Robert F. Kennedy assassination to bolster confidence in the murder investigation, the Board of Supervisors was told Tuesday.

Thomas F. Kranz, special counsel appointed by the board on Aug. 12, 1975, to make another investigation of the slaying, made the recommendation as he presented his 135-page report, the gist of which was:

"My basic conclusion is that Sirhan Sirhan acted alone in the murder of Sen. Kennedy. I found no evidence of a second gunman or of any conspiratorial activity.

"I believe that all of the law enforcement agencies involved conducted thorough and complete investigations and that the findings of both the trial and appellate courts that Sirhan Sirhan is guilty are completely justified."

But Kranz said that "one of the key elements which has undermined confidence in the investigation" is the secrecy surrounding the extensive police file on the case.

This file should be opened to public inspection "following appropriate deletion of irrelevant information which might be embarrassing to innocent people," the special counsel said.

Because of the "tragic magnitude" of the Kennedy murder, Kranz said, "I do not believe that people will ever be totally satisfied with the conclusions which have been reached."

Kranz also recommended that the county "should seriously consider establishing an independent crime laboratory which will serve police departments throughout the county."

Such a laboratory, he said, would "remove any suggestion that criminalistic investigations of crimes are in any way subject to police pressure."

Kranz criticized in his report conditions that allowed destruction of ballistics and other evidence that would have positively resolved the question of a second gun in the Kennedy case.

The special counsel said, however, that he found no evidence of any deliberate efforts to hide or destroy evidence.

The supervisors scheduled a public hearing on the Kranz report for 12 p.m. May 17.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn urged Kranz to make another effort to interview Sirhan at Soledad Prison. Kranz said Sirhan previously had rejected his request for a meeting.

"I think historians who will record this event will say, 'Why didn't somebody talk to Sirhan?'" Hahn said.

"You have time yet to go visit him. We might find out more from talking to him than from all the reports we can produce."

Kranz said he would contact Sirhan's attorney again today and try once more to set up an interview.

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

II-2 LOS ANGELES
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LOS ANGELES, CA

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Editor: William Thomas
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| FBI - LOS ANGELES | |

Richard [signature]

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County Supervisors Ward & Hahn To Visit Sirhan In Soledad

BY GREG ROBERTS

On what will almost be the ninth anniversary of the assassination of the late U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, which occurred on June 5th, 1968, convicted RFK assassin Sirhan B. Sirhan is slated to be paid a visit in-person by L.A. County Supervisors Baxter Ward and Kenneth Hahn, at Soledad state prison, where Sirhan is incarcerated.

According to secretary Mrs. O.Z. Smith of Supervisor Kenneth Hahn's office, the joint Ward-Hahn visit and special interview of the alleged RFK assassin is expected to take place on Thursday, June 2nd, 1977, at 11:30 a.m.

"It's just my own personal opinion, but I wouldn't be surprised if he (Sirhan) wasn't able to make it to meet the supervisors, because I wouldn't be surprised if he was dead by then," Mrs. Smith had remarked, perhaps conveying a viewpoint on the subject of Sirhan the accused RFK killer, starting to talk factually and truthfully as best he can about the Bobby Kennedy murder, that could be on the minds of many people at this point.

Of course, on the other hand, if "they" do decide to do anything to harm Sirhan while he is in custody, that might trigger the mechanism which would really force authorities to begin to let the cat out of the bag, or at least initiate a real investigation of the Robert Kennedy assassination.

At the time RFK was killed, he had just claimed victory in the Calif. Democratic Presidential primary election contest of that day, whereby it was then possible for RFK to not only attain the Democratic Presidential nomination in Chicago in the summer of 1968, against the wishes of President Lyndon Johnson, but defeat Republican Richard ("Tricky Dick") Nixon and his corps of corrupt Watergators, in the 1968 general election.

(The assassination of Robert Kennedy should not be confused with that of President John F. Kennedy, who was killed while travelling in a motorcade while en route to a speaking engagement in Dallas, Texas, on Nov. 22nd, 1963)

News of the proposed Sirhan Sirhan meeting with supervisors Ward and Hahn was first announced by Sirhan's lawyer, Atty. Godfrey Isaac of Beverly Hills, during the County Supervisors public meeting with the critics of the "lone assassin" version of the RFK assassination, last Tuesday afternoon, May 17th, 1977.

Following the presentation of the report of the L.A. Dist. Atty.'s special counsel on the RFK assassination which former special counsel Atty. Thomas Kranz presented to the County Supervisors on behalf of D.A. John Van de Kamp on April 5th, which predictably had characterized the RFK assassination as the work of a lone-assassin, the County Supervisors had offered the many RFK death probe critics "equal time" of sorts, which they accepted.

"In addition to the brief appearance made by Atty. Godfrey Isaac, who came to the Board of Supervisors with Sirhan's mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, and Munir Sirhan, one of Sirhan's brothers, other critics of the D.A.'s handling of the RFK assassination investigation who spoke on May 17th were fellow RFK victim Paul Scharade, former New York Congressman Allard K. Lowenstein and wily Dr. Robert Joling, a past president of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, a leading firearms and ballistic expert.

Whereas Paul Scharade, who had been wounded during the shooting, stated publicly that he felt the D.A. and special counsel Kranz had conducted a "very shoddy" investigation in connection with the probability that the RFK assassination team had been forced to use at least two guns, Al Lowenstein delivered an eloquent, and peppery, point by point refutation of the D.A.'s "lone-assassin" version.

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

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JAS

As Lowenstein talked, and recounted the fact that the L.A. County Coroner, Dr. Thomas Noguchi M.D., and Dr. Noguchi's staff had stated during the RFK autopsy that had been killed by a fatal head shot fired at point blank range, no more than an inch-and-a-half from RFK's right side, Dept. Dist. Atty. Dinko Bozanich and D.A.'s special investigator William R. Burnett Jr. sat quietly in the back of the board of Supervisors hearing room.

"Now we're told by Mr. Kmaz that there was a 'lunge' on the part of Sirhan, and that is supposed to explain how this fatal shot which directly resulted in RFK's death," Lowenstein said.

"Yet, all of the eyewitness who were asked by the police, or by authorities either before or during the Sirhan trial, as to what they saw with regard to the distance between RFK and Sirhan, generally said that Sirhan never got closer than 3 feet to Kennedy at any time.

"None of them said that they saw Sirhan 'Lunge' at Kennedy, and yet you (Kranz) have the gall to assert they even said that, and years after they never said there was a 'lunge' on Sirhan's part," Lowenstein continued.

Later, neither Dep. D.A. Bozanich, who is Van de Kamp's real deputy assigned to the RFK case, or Inves. Burnett would make any comments about what Lowenstein had said, and nor would the D.A.'s men venture any opinions about an explosive affidavit signed by former L.A. based FBI agent William A. Bailey, which Dr. Joling read into the record for the benefit of the county supervisors, and the cause of turth about the RFK assassination as a whole.

Although the LAPD was responsible for the RFK murder investigation, the FBI under the direction of former FBI Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Wesley G. Grapp, former FBI intelligence division supervisor William Nolan, senior RFK case agent Amade O. Richards Jr., and former FBI case agent Roger La Jeunesse, the FBI conducted a parallel RFK death probe, upon request U.S. Att. Gen. under the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as stated in agent Richard's official report.

In an affidavit submitted to Atty. Vincent Bugliosi at Glassboro, New Jersey, on Nov. 14th, 1976, one of the many L.A. FBI office agents who had participated in the RFK death probe, former agent William Bailey told some of what Bailey knew about the death of RFK.

"On or about June 5-6, 1968, I, William A. Bailey, employed at that time as a special agent of the FBI (assigned to the Los Angeles office) was present in the preparation room of the Ambassador Hotel, approximately 4-6 hours after the attempt on Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's life. The (kitchen) pantry was referred to as the Preparation Room.

"At that time I was assigned to interview witnesses present at the time of the shooting.

"I was also charged with the responsibility of recreating the circumstances under which same took place.

"This necessitated a careful examination of the entire room and its contents.

"At one point during these observations I (and several other agents) noted at least two small caliber bullet holes in the center post of the two doors leading from the Preparation Room. "There was no question in any of our minds as to the fact that they were bullet holes and were not caused by food carts or other equipment in the Preparation Room.

"I resigned from the FBI in Jan., 1971, and have been employed as an assistant Professor of Police Science at Gloucester County College, Sewell, New Jersey, since that time.

"The above statment is in my printing and was furnished freely and voluntarily to Mr. Vincent Bugliosi on Nov. 14th, 1976, at Glassboro State College, New Jersey," and the affidavit was in turned signed by former FBI Special Agent William A. Bailey.

After Dr. Joling had read the ex-FBI agent's sworn affidavit into the record, Supervisor Baxter Ward stated that he had been aware of the Bailey affidavit prior to Dr. Joling's having read it formally to the Board of Supervisors on May 17th, 1977.

"I would like to take this opportunity to inform my colleagues that we had telephoned agent Bailey at his office back in New Jersey, and we tape recorded the call with his permission, and the former agent did assert that the affidavit in question is wholly legitimate and truthful," Ward told the other supervisors present.

At this point, it should be noted that Sirhan had been apprehended while firing 8-shot .22 caliber pistol, and that the official version of the assassination specifically does not account for the recovery of any one or two (or more) bullets having been taken out of that center post of the two doors leading from the pantry, at the Ambassador Hotel, adjacent to the Embassy Room, where RFK had claimed victory.

Nor does the official LAPD version account for the so-called "ninth bullet" which was discovered by LAPD sergeants Robert Rozzi and Charles Wright, amongst other LAPD officers on June 5th, 1968, which was recovered from the doorframe of the door in the backstage.

As it has been reported in the past, Sgt. Robert Rozzi told onetime Manson Family prosecutor Vincent I. Bugliosi in a Nov. 15th, 1975 sworn affidavit, that the object he and Sgt. Wright had observed several hours after the assassination was what "appeared to be a small caliber bullet lodged in the hole", and uniformed LAPD sergeants R. Rozzi and C. Wright were subsequently photographed by the Associated Press pointing to the bullet.

What is particularly significant about former FBI agent Bailey's sworn statement is that he is yet another official source attesting to the fact that there were at least two bullet recovered from the center divider in pantry doors of the Ambassador kitchen.

Curiously, photographic evidence of these two "Bailey bullets" was published in the old Art Kunkin-published L.A. Free Press beginning in May-June, 1969, when John Kennedy Assassination Truth Committee researchers Mrs. Lillian Castellano and Floyd B. Nelson published photographs which had been taken on the spot by John A. Clemente as well as by A.P. photographer Wally Fong.

Once again, the Clemente photos had showed the two RFK assassination bullets recovered from the Ambassador kitchen pantry, which former FBI agents Bailey and Iboott, and present-day FBI agent Robert Pickard and L.A. FBI Administrative Division supervisor Al C. Greiner had seen on June 5th, 1968, whereas the Wally Fong photo of sergeant R. Rozzi and C. Wright hovering over the 9th bullet was recovered from the doorframe in the back of the stage).

Incidentally, the book "RFK Must Die!", by Robert Blair Kaiser makes reference to the continuing FBI investigation of former agent Bailey, and fellow FBI agent Robert Pickard, now of the FBI's Santa Maria substation, by Kaiser's reconstruction of the FBI's intelligence investigation of the "woman in the polka dot dress", whom the LAPD had issued an All Points Bulletin (APB) for in connection with the assassination.

According to Kaiser, who had access to all of the FBI reports which had been made available to the L.A. Dist. Atty. and which were subsequently provided in xerox form to the Sirhan defense lawyers, present-day FBI supervisor Richard C. Buris, on June 7th, 1968, was busy interviewing Sandra Serrano, the witness who had said on national television on June 5th, 1968, that she had witnessed the "woman in the polka dot dress" immediately after the RFK assassination repeatedly exclaim while fleeing the Ambassador with at least one man, "We've shot him! We've shot him! We've shot Senator Kennedy!". Miss Serrano told NBC-TV's Sander Vanocur.

Meanwhile, as for FBI agents Bailey and Pickard, author Bob Kaiser had continued, "But what had happened to the girl in polka dot dress?"

"And to her (male, Mexican-American, about 23-years-old) friend in the gold sweater?"

"Thomas Vincent DiPierro had seen a girl in a polka dot dress before the shooting, a fact that FBI agents Bailey and Pickard were confirming that very moment from DiPierro himself.

"We'll maybe, Miss Serrano wasn't as hysterical as Sander Vanocur reportedly believed", Kaiser had stated (paperback edition page 120).

Otherwise, in supplementing the written affidavit of former FBI Special Agent Bailey to the effect that he and his fellow FBI agents had seen the tenth and eleventh bullet holes in the center of the post of the two doors leading from the Preparation Room! it was in 1976 that FBI Director Kelley released a battery of FBI reports on the RFK assassination, in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

In addition to the hundreds of pages of often censored FBI reports on the RFK assassination, Director Kelley also released approximately 39 FBI photographs which had been taken at the RFK murder site by FBI photographers, under the supervision of FBI agent Al C. Greiner, now number 3 man in the L.A. FBI offices, but then the L.A. photographic squad supervisor.

However, what then happened to these and other portions of the overall physical evidence and scene of the RFK assassination site at the Ambassador Hotel was that the LAPD's Scientific Investigation Division (SID) under the direction of LAPD Civilian supervisor DeWayne Wolfer, took control of these and other items, and carted off to Parker Center police headquarters, for standard ballistics and other examinations.

Suspiciously, as Asst. LAPD Chief Daryl Gates, the present-day most likely successor to Police Chief Ed Davis when he retires in Dec., 1977, explained to the L.A. City Council in 1975 as to what happened to these items, "None of those items were ever introduced at Sirhan's trial.

"Therefore, after Sirhan's April 17th, 1969 conviction on murder charges, they were routinely destroyed on June 29th, 1969," Gates had said at the same month Mrs. Castellano's KATC group published Clemente's photographs, and the A.P. photo, which brought the issue up publicly.

Unfortunately, neither Mrs. Castellano or anyone else outside of law-enforcement had access to the FBI photos, and neither the late FBI director J. Edgar Hoover or the L.A. FBI SAC, Wesley Grapp, were in the habit of permitting agents to grant interviews with the L.A. Free Press.

According to veteran RFK assassination researcher Jonn G. Christian, he and former Special FBI agent William W. Turner have completed a book, "The Death Of Robert F. Kennedy: Conspiracy & Coverup", which is slated to be published by Random House in the fall of 77 (edited by Random House editor Jason Epstein and the book is expected to include a Forward by Vincent T. Bugliosi, author of the bestseller, "Helter Skelter" about the Manson Family). "In the book, there will be a lot more information about who really killed William W. Harper of Pasadena and Senator Robert Kennedy, and why he was killed, and it wasn't Sirhan acting alone, we tell you that much right now", Christian explained in a recent interview.

As for how former FBI Agent Bailey happened to meet Bugliosi, Atty. Bugliosi was not available at his Beverly Hills office, but a Random House press release said, "In Nov., 1976, Bugliosi was approached during an East Coast speaking engagement by a man who identified himself as a former FBI agent who was assigned to the L.A. FBI office at the time of the RFK assassination.

"William A. Bailey (later) executed a signed statement for Bugliosi which confirmed that the FBI had, in fact, conducted a careful examination of the entire room and its contents, and that Bailey's three-man team of investigators had, in fact, positively identified bullet holes in addition to those accounted for by Los Angeles police officials," the Random House press release dated May 17th, added.

Further evidence of at least 10 or 11 gunshots having had been fired during the murder had been taped-recorded by an ABC-TV network tape-recording device, which had been left "on" after the RFK victory rally, even though that ABC-TV equipment was not broadcasting live at the time of the RFK assassination.

In the hours immediately after the RFK assassination, ABC-TV commentators Howard K. Smith and the late Bill Lawrence played that sound-tape several times over the ABC network, which was played over channel 7 in L.A.

Each time Smith and Lawrence played the tape back, they counted at least 10 or 11 "sounds" which they each said were definitely gunshots, and no more than 12 or 13 gunshots, which they could be sure of.

As time during the early morning hours of June 5th 1968, proceeded, and Howard Smith eventually realized that one gunman could not have fired "that many" shots with the .22 vslint pistol authorities had confiscated, Smith never had the sound-tape of the assassination played again.

"Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone in Dallas," Smith began saying as he had sounded a little nervous, whereas Bill Lawrence had said that he thought that it was possible that a conspiratorial group or groups were responsible for at least some of the major assassinations of the sixties.

In addition to the excellent research of Mrs. Castellano, Jonn G. Christian and Bill Turner, amongst many others, another veteran RFK researcher named Theodore R. Charach, who has been investigating the RFK assassination since those fatal moments when RFK was slain (He died on June 6th, 1968).

"If it wasn't for you, none of this (controversy) would be happening," Atty. Bugliosi has told Charach, who while doing research for his movie, "The Second Gun", got firearms experts such as William W. Harper of Pasadena and several others to examine the RFK bullet, and see if they were all really fired from Sirhan's gun or not (they concluded the bullets could not be positively matched to Sirhan's gun).

In the March and April, 1977 editions of KNAVE Magazine, publisher Russell Gay and managing editor Alan Smith published a lengthy article by investigative reporter Ted Charac, entitled, "Why Sirhan Could Not Have Killed Robert F. Kennedy" (back issues available from KNAVE, 120 East 56th St. New York, N.Y. 10022).

Whereas the Charach article in KNAVE includes many valuable photos, one of the most interesting appears in the April, 1977 edition on page 92, which came with the caption, "Unidentified girl at lower left, wearing what appears to be a white voile dress with dark 'polka dots'." "Police put out an all points bulleting for her but came empty-handed," the Charac-KNAVE caption said.

And, on page 95 of the same edition of KNAVE, there is another photo of what appears to be the same woman, accompanied by the Charac-KNAVE caption, "Unidentified woman in polka dot dress holding what appears to be a microphone to her mouth.

"Witnesses claimed she was in contact with an Arab-looking man on the podium behind RFK during the Senator's victory speech at the Ambassador Hotel before the tragedy," the Charach-KNAVE caption noted.

At this time of writing, one doesn't know if the FBI's Intelligence Division or the LAPD's Public Disorder Intelligence Division (PDID) or Major Crimes Section (MCS) was ever able to identify the woman in the polka dot dress, but the LAPD's A.P.B. of June 5th, 1968, stated "prior to shooting, suspect observed with female cauc. 23-27, 5-6, wearing a white voile dress, ¾ inch sleevesl with small black polka dots, dark shoes, bouffant type hair.

"This female not identified or in custody," the LAPD's A.P.B. had said

Hence, o D.A. John K. Van de Kamp, we say let's find out now who else was firing weapons at RFK at the Ambassador on June 5th, 1968, as well as who supervised the on-the-scene team of assassins, as well as the identities of their sponsors or financial backers, and how they were able to sabotage the overall LAPD investigation with relative ease.

Assuming convicted assassin Sirhan Sirhan isn't conveniently killed at Solidad, maybe Sirhan will tell County Supervisors Ward and Hahn whom he thinks set him up as the "patsy" in the RFK murder.

And so the RFK case is not closed after all.



One can see the late Sen. Robert Kennedy only minutes before he was murdered. According to RFK researcher Ted Charac, the woman in the polka dot dress (above-left-circled) was a confederate of Sirhan Sirhan's, who appears to be standing to her left. The LAPD's A.P.B. allegedly neglected to identify a girl fitting the description of the woman above. (Photo courtesy Ted Charac and KNAVE magazine).