

F.B.I.

IV

TAPE #28976

SIRHAN B. SIRHAN

June 5, 1968, approximately 6:00 a.m.

TRANSCRIPT # 59
EXTRA COPY

1 TAPE #28976
2 TAPED CONVERSATIONS RELATING
3 TO SIRHAN B. SIRHAN
4 TAPED IN CENTRAL JAIL
5 JUNE 5, 1968, APPROXIMATELY 6:00 A.M.
6 PRESENT: OFFICER F. A. FOSTER #12863, CENTRAL JAIL DIVISION
7 OFFICER G. DELA GARZA #12985, CENTRAL JAIL DIVISION
8 OFFICER H. S. McGARRY #10884, CENTRAL JAIL DIVISION
9 TRANSCRIBED BY: STELLA C. ROTH, INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
10 ASSISTED BY: OFFICER F. A. FOSTER

11 ** INDICATES UNINTELLIGIBLE
12

13 (Background noise)

14 SIRHAN: How long would you say I was in there
15 with Jordan and Murphy?

16 FOSTER: Well, let's see here, probably an hour.
17 It's quite awhile.

18 SIRHAN: Yeah.

19 FOSTER: Quite awhile. Quite awhile.

20 SIRHAN: ** in custody.

21 FOSTER: Well--

22 SIRHAN: I thought so. **

23 FOSTER: How much schooling have you had?

24 SIRHAN: Oh, not now.

25 FOSTER: Well, no, what I mean by this, have you
26 completed high school; have you completed college or gone
to any special trade-type schools?

27 SIRHAN: No, no, no, not that. I wish I did.

28 FOSTER: Yeah.

29 (Pause)

30 FOSTER: What do you hope to get out of life?

1 SIRHAN: Well, why don't you--why don't you ask
2 me--

3 FOSTER: Are you married?

4 SIRHAN: Why don't you ask me what I had gotten
5 out of life?

6 FOSTER: Well, what had you?

7 SIRHAN: Nothing.

8 FOSTER: Why?

9 SIRHAN: They won't give me it. They won't give
10 me it.

11 FOSTER: Well, was it a mistake on your part or
12 their part?

13 SIRHAN: Oh, I don't know.

14 FOSTER: Are you married? Or were you married?

15 SIRHAN: I don't think so.

16 FOSTER: Oh, you're not divorced, huh?

17 SIRHAN: I don't know.

18 FOSTER: How do you mean you don't know?

19 SIRHAN: I thought this place was bugged.

20 FOSTER: Not this place. You try to imply too
21 many things. You're trying to think that you're the big
22 notorious criminal.

23 SIRHAN: No, no, please forgive me if I give you
24 that kind of implication.

25 FOSTER: Well, no, it's--

26 SIRHAN: **

1 FOSTER: They have--they have policemen sitting
2 like this quite a few times with different--because for a
3 lot of reasons, to protect yourself.

4 McGARRY: No. How you doing?

5 FOSTER: Oh, I'm still moving, or sittin'. Well,
6 you can talk about anything you want to. You're sure free
7 to talk.

8 SIRHAN: Thank you.

9 FOSTER: You don't have to think that you can't
10 say this or that.

11 SIRHAN: I appreciate the courtesy. Thank you,
12 Frank,

13 FOSTER: Your leg hurt you?

14 SIRHAN: Kind of.

15 FOSTER: How did you hurt it?

16 SIRHAN: I don't know.

17 FOSTER: Did you fall down or something?

18 SIRHAN: No.

19 FOSTER: When did it happen?

20 SIRHAN: I don't remember.

21 FOSTER: You don't remember?

22 (Long pause)

23 FOSTER: What's the matter?

24 SIRHAN: Huh?

25 FOSTER: What's the matter?

26 SIRHAN: Relaxing.

1 (Long pause)

2 SIRHAN: How's your **

3 FOSTER: Huh?

4 SIRHAN: How's the **

5 FOSTER: Oh, he's still working on the case. Oh,
6 yeah, he'll--his identity is broken. A man's--a man's
7 identity always comes to light at one time or another.

8 SIRHAN: Right.

9 FOSTER: Huh?

10 SIRHAN: Right. As long as the truth's out.

11 FOSTER: Oh, sure. We may--whoever it is led a
12 false impression, you know, doctor, lawyer, policeman,
13 whoever the person may be, farmer--

14 SIRHAN: **

15 FOSTER: But at one time or another either
16 immediately or maybe later people are going to know why
17 you're there, your real self, your true self, your true
18 identity. This is the first time you've been locked up
19 like this?

20 SIRHAN: **

21 FOSTER: You never been in jail like this before?

22 SIRHAN: Right now.

23 FOSTER: It's very close quarters. Makes you feel
24 like you're cut off from society, you know, and the world.

25 SIRHAN: Yeah, very. And you get claustrophobia.

26 FOSTER: Well, not so much--it doesn't bother me

1 the fact that the walls are going to come in, maybe they
2 would after I was here for awhile.

3 (Pause)

4 FOSTER: You from the L.A. area?

5 SIRHAN: I don't know.

6 FOSTER: Why don't you talk to me?

7 SIRHAN: There he is. You got my literature?

8 DELA GARZA: No, they wouldn't let me do it because
9 they said, well, the other prisoners are going to want
10 literature, too, and--and we don't have enough literature
11 for the rest of the prisoners, so we can't treat--

12 SIRHAN: I--

13 DELA GARZA: --give special treatment.

14 SIRHAN: I agree. I mean, you know, I thought you
15 suggested it.

16 DELA GARZA: Yeah, well, I thought, but, you know--

17 SIRHAN: **

18 (Pause)

19 FOSTER: I don't play any punches. I tell you if
20 you can't have something or if you can.

21 SIRHAN: I agree. I like it that way.

22 FOSTER: That's the way it should be.

23 SIRHAN: No strings attached. No, I mean--no,
24 I mean--

25 (Overlapping)

26 FOSTER: No, no, I know what you mean.

1 SIRHAN: **

2 FOSTER: Yeah, I know what you mean.

3 SIRHAN: **

4 FOSTER: Probably was. He's--he's just new up here,
5 pretty nice fellow.

6 SIRHAN: You're nice, too.

7 FOSTER: Pardon me?

8 SIRHAN: You are nice, too.

9 FOSTER: Oh, yeah?

10 (Laughter)

11 SIRHAN: No, I--I mean it.

12 FOSTER: I messed around all day yesterday, worked
13 in my yard, and a--my crazy dog--I've got a Labrador, and
14 the darn thing, I went to great pains and put in some little
15 fern bushes.

16 SIRHAN: Oh, yeah?

17 FOSTER: In my yard because I wanted to have some
18 ferns, so then the other night he goes out there, and what
19 does he do? He digs up every fern bush. I think there's
20 about--how many did I put in? Four--I think it was seven.
21 I think I put in seven fern bushes, and he dug up every one
22 of them.

23 SIRHAN: Oh, man, he done all right.

24 FOSTER: I think what it is, is there's a few
25 gophers down in there.

26 SIRHAN: Oh.

1 FOSTER: Down in the ground, and I think he smells
2 'em and he starts digging. Boy, was I mad! So I had to
3 do it all over again and take him away from them.

4 SIRHAN: Boy, that's a lot of work.

5 FOSTER: Well, so then I didn't get--I didn't lay
6 down last night and take any sleep. I'll sleep today. I
7 get off work in an hour.

8 SIRHAN: I'll bet you'll be glad to get some days'
9 rest and sleep.

10 FOSTER: Oh, no, this is my first day back. I've
11 been on two days' off.

12 SIRHAN: What do you do for sports?

13 FOSTER: Oh, I like to race motorcycles in the
14 dirt some.

15 SIRHAN: That's a lot of fun.

16 FOSTER: It's kind of dangerous, but it's a lot
17 of fun.

18 SIRHAN: Right, you got to live.

19 FOSTER: I've got a scrambler right now. I'm
20 thinking of getting a Bultaco. Either a Bultaco or a
21 Husqvarna.

22 SIRHAN: Is that an English model?

23 FOSTER: A--no, a Bultaco, who in the heck makes
24 that? It might be--I don't--maybe it is an English bike.
25 I don't know. It's not a Japanese bike.

26 SIRHAN: It sounds maybe English, German or

1 Italian, maybe. Nako--

2 FOSTER: But either that or a Husqvarna. That's
3 a pretty good dirt bike, a Husqvarna.

4 SIRHAN: Where do you--where do you ride?

5 FOSTER: I go up to, oh, around Newhall sometimes.
6 There is a track out there. There's a couple out there
7 that have a ranch, and they have a pretty nice track out
8 there, and then sometimes go out by Lancaster. In fact,
9 a good buddy of mine is--and I are going out the 16th and
10 race out near Lancaster. We're going--it's a 125--125-mile
11 course.

12 SIRHAN: One hundred twenty-five mile course?

13 FOSTER: Yeah. The biggest one I've raced in was
14 250 miles.

15 SIRHAN: You're really tired.

16 FOSTER: Oh, you're shot when you're through.
17 You're tired. Completely exhausted. I like to hunt and
18 fish.

19 SIRHAN: It's a good pastime.

20 FOSTER: I like to hunt especially. I'd like to
21 go deer hunting, pheasant hunting. I haven't done any
22 pheasant hunting, I think, since the fall of '65.

23 SIRHAN: What made you become an officer?

24 FOSTER: Oh, I don't know. I've always been kind
25 of interested in law enforcement. I had a real good friend
26 back home that was a state trouper, highway patrolman, and

1 he kind of got me interested into it. And I just felt that
2 that was my way or my little bit of helping society a little
3 bit.

4 SIRHAN: Right, beautiful.

5 FOSTER: I think maybe I should have continued on
6 being a farmer or rancher. That's what my dad is, a
7 rancher.

8 SIRHAN: Oh, boy.

9 FOSTER: He's still a rancher. Good life.

10 SIRHAN: Beautiful. Outdoors.

11 FOSTER: It takes a lot of money though nowadays.

12 SIRHAN: It does. I agree.

13 FOSTER: You have to have a lot of capital, and
14 you have to have a pretty big place and not a small place.
15 That's one thing he's fortunate in having a pretty good-
16 sized place.

17 SIRHAN: Man, back in the Midwest?

18 FOSTER: It's back in South Dakota. What are you
19 going to do when you get out of this deal?

20 SIRHAN: I don't know. Try to correct whatever
21 I work for.

22 FOSTER: Yeah, I think there's always--we're only
23 human.

24 SIRHAN: Right.

25 FOSTER: You know if we're a group of machines,
26 then I pity--we'd be in worse shape than we are now.

1 SIRHAN: Well, you should--you should have been a
2 nurse or a social worker.

3 FOSTER: Our society is pretty sick, I'll agree;
4 but if we're a group of machines, whoosh!

5 SIRHAN: Why?

6 FOSTER: Well, I don't know. Can you imagine--can
7 you imagine a--everyone eating the same type of food, or
8 dressing--say I'm--I'm speaking in terms of say we still
9 have flesh and bones.

10 SIRHAN: Right.

11 FOSTER: But we all looked alike, act alike,
12 dressed alike, and we like the same persons. Say all the
13 women in the world were alike and all the men in the world
14 were alike. You know, I mean it would get pretty--

15 SIRHAN: **

16 FOSTER: It would get pretty tiresome after awhile
17 for me.

18 SIRHAN: Well, if you were biased of mind in
19 thinking, like me, or that be connected of an environment
20 and social conditions, but really--

21 FOSTER: Well, I think you'd have to be a--

22 SIRHAN: You know if you're barefoot, you know God
23 made you with that, you adapt to that kind of a life, right?
24 Or conditions that would be beautiful, you know there would
25 be no conflict on things. It would be beautiful.

26 FOSTER: Well, I think if a person--if you were

1 to have that type of society and people were going to abide
2 by it, live by it, they would have to, in my opinion, be
3 someone with really much of hardly any goals, you know, he
4 didn't really care--

5 SIRHAN: Well, look at it this way--

6 FOSTER: --he just does--does what he's told to do,
7 and he really--he does his little job whether it's punching
8 this or that, and there's no real gain; because if he does
9 any more, he's not going to get any more credit.

10 SIRHAN: Well, I--I understand your point--at
11 least I think I do, but look at the animals--take the horses
12 for instance. Being a horse ** to another horse ** they all
13 look alike. They all act alike. They all think alike, you
14 know, but yet each one of them has some peculiarities even
15 regardless of their generalities. Normally each horse has
16 four legs, two legs, you know, features--physical features,
17 but yet ** mind, reason, you know, to distinguish things,
18 to evaluate animals--they're without that type of feeling.

19 FOSTER: Well, in some sense now, a--boy, I know
20 some horses--speaking of horses--seeing as how you mentioned
21 horses--

22 (Overlapping voices)

23 SIRHAN: Yeah, you know I said that, you know,
24 because you have a ranch.

25 FOSTER: Yeah, that's right, but this is really
26 true, you know, I mean--

1 SIRHAN: Right, if we didn't have that type of
2 figure we have.

3 FOSTER: Yeah, a man's guide.

4 SIRHAN: To realize different features or what have
5 you, and really you might as well look the same and con-
6 sider each other as being the same.

7 FOSTER: Well, a man's mind should be open for
8 challenge, challenges all the time.

9 SIRHAN: Right.

10 FOSTER: He should be open for new ideas.

11 SIRHAN: That's what I told Mr.--

12 (Overlapping voices)

13 FOSTER: New ideas or whatever the case may be.

14 SIRHAN: Well, Frank, you should be a public
15 speaker of some sort. Really. You got that--the idea--

16 FOSTER: I do have?

17 SIRHAN: No, not the gab. You've got beautiful
18 ideals, you know, outlooks. What other ** just think about
19 what you're saying.

20 FOSTER: Oh, I think the general trend, this I
21 think very much, the quality and the trend of the policeman
22 is getting of higher caliber.

23 SIRHAN: No, no, I mean in relationship to what we
24 were just discussing.

25 FOSTER: Oh, I thought--I don't know.

26 (Overlapping voices)

1 SIRHAN: You know what do they expound on the
2 same points?

3 FOSTER: Oh, a lot of them feel very similar ideas,
4 I'm sure. In fact, I know several fellows do. I don't
5 know how they--you know, personally, several cases feel;
6 but this is--you know, it's like any profession, there are
7 cases where there's misjust, misuse and misjustice, and
8 injustice, and everything else connected with all professions.

9 SIRHAN: I agree.

10 FOSTER: I don't care if it's the person that--
11 maybe he's just a common laborer, maybe he does--maybe he
12 washes out toilet bowls, I don't know, or the highest
13 person that can gain a position in the world, there's still
14 injustice and maybe misuse of his powers even though it's
15 his powers.

16 SIRHAN: Let me shake your hand. You're the first
17 man--please, please, you're the first man that ever said
18 that and expressed it, you know, in the same way as I feel
19 it.

20 FOSTER: How's that?

21 SIRHAN: Feeling that I--I couldn't put these
22 feelings, you know, the feeling that I have in more exact
23 and proper words, you know, the way you've expressed it.

24 FOSTER: How do you mean?

25 SIRHAN: You know misuse of authority.

26 FOSTER: Well, I--

SIRHAN: Things like that.

1 FOSTER: This happens every day. It happens as a
2 parent because I catch myself once in awhile because of a
3 parent of my little children telling them different things
4 or this or that that really if I tell them to do it a
5 different way or ask them to do it a different way, it would
6 still be accomplished and maybe there wouldn't be animosity
7 or maybe they wouldn't feel bad about it. You know this
8 is true in every aspect of life.

9 SIRHAN: Beautiful. You know, you--you still a--
10 a--how do I say it? You kind of instruct them at times,
11 you're still his God more or less, his master, his example,
12 his--you know, hell, really, his God, his master, his
13 ideals, whatever there is.

14 FOSTER: Everything he learns you teach him, the
15 traits he picks up, you know, he copies after the older
16 person.

17 SIRHAN: I'm happy for you, Frank.

18 FOSTER: You've had pretty--a--more education than
19 just high school, haven't you?

20 SIRHAN: How do you mean? How do you mean?

21 FOSTER: I mean you're pretty apt. I mean you--
22 you're not any person that is of low intelligence.

23 SIRHAN: Well--

24 FOSTER: And you speak well, and you--

25 SIRHAN: Thank you. Thank you. Well, really,
26 you're too generous.

1 FOSTER: Well, maybe--maybe you're just the victim
2 of circumstances.

3 SIRHAN: Beautiful, overintentional.

4 FOSTER: Well, you know, you can never tell. I
5 mean if--I know maybe if circumstances were different it
6 would be vice versa, I'd be on the bench and you'd be over
7 here, you know, you never know.

8 SIRHAN: Like we were discussing with those men,
9 I don't know if you were listening.

10 FOSTER: No, I ate my lunch.

11 SIRHAN: When the Kirsche trial, you know, he was
12 doing a lot of prosecuting and things like that, but he
13 had that occasion to be in the victim's position, you know,
14 and he had several different terms and logistics like he
15 just said you might be here and I might be there.

16 FOSTER: Uh huh.

17 SIRHAN: And then things, you know, then you
18 really get out of sight, understand and decide.

19 FOSTER: Uh huh.

20 SIRHAN: What good were the reasons, the wrong or
21 heartbeat, or whatever?

22 FOSTER: Yeah. What are you? Are you Armenian?
23 The reason I ask is I have a real good friend that I work
24 for that he has a shop over in Pasadena that he's an
25 Armenian and--

26 SIRHAN: Can I sit up there now, please?

1 FOSTER: Well, why don't you just sit down there?

2 SIRHAN: Man, you should have been a minister or
3 something.

4 FOSTER: Why?

5 SIRHAN: No, I--I don't stereotype policemen.

6 FOSTER: Pardon me?

7 SIRHAN: I don't--I can't--I can't conceive of you
8 as a policeman.

9 (Laughter)

10 SIRHAN: You know, because I--you know--let's face
11 it, the average citizen always tries--they kind of stereo-
12 type a policeman, you know.

13 FOSTER: Yeah, well, sure **

14 SIRHAN: Can you deny that and say you agree with
15 me?

16 FOSTER: No, this is true.

17 SIRHAN: No, I, having one attitude here of having
18 ** say the general concensus of the stereotype policeman.

19 FOSTER: Yeah.

20 SIRHAN: Sit and talk with me. Are we disturbing
21 anybody here? **

22 FOSTER: There's no one else around here; they
23 got them next door, but we can't wake them up. In fact,
24 it's--they're all awake now because it's breakfast so
25 they're awake now.

26 SIRHAN: **

1 FOSTER: You were talking about the stereotype
2 policeman.

3 SIRHAN: Right, the stereotype policeman. They're
4 this--you know--

5 FOSTER: Uh huh.

6 SIRHAN: --stereotype. I've talked with you, and
7 you express things differently. You know, you're a complete
8 reversal, a complete opposite, opposite in such a different
9 way, you know, that you're--that it's hard for me to think
10 of you as a policeman. Am I clear?

11 FOSTER: Well, I--in some respects I hope you think
12 of me as just another human being.

13 SIRHAN: We're all puppets.

14 FOSTER: So--you know, it's--you didn't--oh, I
15 asked--I said by any chance are you Armenian because the
16 reason I asked is because you look just about identical to
17 an individual that I used to work for. Except he was older,
18 of course, and he's Armenian, real nice fellow. He came
19 over here from Armenia, I guess.

20 (Laughter)

21 FOSTER: So anyway he came over here about eight
22 or ten years ago. He's got himself a good business now,
23 doing pretty good. He just--his wife and him went for their
24 citizenship. I guess that's a hard test.

25 SIRHAN: Huh?

26 FOSTER: Your citizenship.

1 SIRHAN: Oh, you mean where the foreigners become
2 citizens?

3 FOSTER: Yeah, and study for citizenship, I guess
4 that is really hard. I've never really--I had a friend I
5 was working with out in Hollywood that his wife was a--an
6 English girl. He was in the service, and he married her
7 over in England, and he brought her home, and he said that
8 she studied for a year, or over that I guess, just constant
9 studying for everything that they have to know. I've talked
10 to several individuals that they said it was quite--I didn't
11 realize it was that hard to--to become a citizen or to pass
12 the test or whatever it is.

13 SIRHAN: I'm glad I don't have to do that.

14 FOSTER: Yeah.

15 SIRHAN: You know we don't have to.

16 FOSTER: I can see where it would be hard to go
17 into a strange country. Well, it's even that way down in
18 Mexico. I go down fishing every once in awhile, and you go
19 down there and it's a complete different world.

20 SIRHAN: Different environment.

21 FOSTER: And you go down there and you try to
22 explain something to someone and their laws, maybe they know
23 what you're talking about and they don't want to let on,
24 or maybe they completely don't know what you're talking
25 about, one of the two; and both of you are lost, and both
26 of you walk off shaking your heads and wondering what's

1 happening.

2 SIRHAN: I guess if a person's in good--in good--
3 in good--how should I say? No hard feelings because you
4 know it's a language barrier.

5 FOSTER: It's a language barrier, sure. But that's
6 where hard feelings start a lot of times, there's a
7 language barrier; because a lot of times, especially as a
8 policeman this happens.

9 SIRHAN: That's right.

10 FOSTER: Well, if you stop a Spanish person, you
11 know, a Spanish speaking person, and he--say, honestly or
12 generally doesn't understand English, and maybe a circum-
13 stance indicates, or something the policeman feels he does
14 understand English, and automatically there's a barrier
15 there because maybe the policeman feels he's lying to cover
16 up something.

17 SIRHAN: That's very--

18 FOSTER: And the person says, golly, why doesn't
19 he understand me? You know, I'm telling him the truth and
20 calling me a liar, you know, and this and that, and maybe
21 you end up parting company and the--maybe the person that
22 you were interviewing has gotten a false impression or a
23 false image or whatever the case may be of a policeman and
24 the same thing with a policeman. ** Spanish person. This
25 has happened a couple times with me where I honestly felt
26 that this person understood English, and he was using his

1 language as an advantage.

2 SIRHAN: Barrier, I think.

3 FOSTER: As a crutch.

4 SIRHAN: **

5 FOSTER: And I really sincerely believe this, but
6 there was no way that I could prove--there wasn't any
7 Spanish speaking officer available at that particular time,
8 so--

9 SIRHAN: What is it? I don't know if I can answer
10 that. What is the average mental caliber of the people
11 that come in here?

12 FOSTER: In--into jail? Gee, I don't know. Very,
13 very truthfully there are some real uneducated persons
14 here. Now some people that just never had an opportunity.
15 Some people have never wanted to take an opportunity.

16 SIRHAN: Oh, hell, how I want to.

17 FOSTER: There's so many people that come in here
18 that they--they can always blame someone else; they can
19 never, you know, maybe--maybe there is a lot of reasons
20 why someone else might be at fault for a lot of things,
21 but there's so many people blaming everything on someone
22 else. You know, they don't realize maybe--maybe I was at
23 fault a little bit, you know, maybe just a little bit I
24 was at fault. We're getting back to humans again.

25 SIRHAN: Well, really, Frank, how can one get
26 away from it?

1 FOSTER: You know they can't.

2 SIRHAN: They can't.

3 FOSTER: This is a human error. You know, the
4 mind.

5 SIRHAN: You're a hell of a guy, Frank.

6 FOSTER: Thanks.

7 SIRHAN: I mean it. I've said it so many times that
8 you must be tired of it, but I mean it.

9 FOSTER: No.

10 SIRHAN: Very sincerely. You know we sort of
11 understand each other. We have a rapport.

12 FOSTER: Since I don't know your name, I don't
13 think it's doing justice to you or right to anyone to call
14 you just John Doe.

15 SIRHAN: No.

16 FOSTER: Why?

17 SIRHAN: Well, just like we were talking to those
18 guys in the other room, it's just like a jigsaw puzzle,
19 you know, the whole thing.

20 FOSTER: Who are they?

21 SIRHAN: ** you know.

22 FOSTER: Oh, the detectives? Well, why can't you
23 tell me?

24 SIRHAN: **

25 DELA GARZA: Okay, pal.

26 (Background noise)

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FOSTER: Well, it looks like you get to go.

SIRHAN: Oh, do you have towels so I can wash my
hands?

FOSTER: Go ahead.

.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)

DATE: 8/29/68

FROM : SA R.J. LA JEUNESSE, JR.

SUBJECT: KENSALT

Re: ~~SIRHAN B. SIRHAN~~

On 8/22/68, Sergeant MIKE NIELSEN, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), SUS, made available to SA R.J. LA JEUNESSE, JR. a copy of a taped conversation relating to an interview with SIRHAN B. SIRHAN which took place on 6/5/68.

Attached hereto is a transcript of that taped recording.

RJL/jmb
(1) *[initials]*

*This is an edited version
of just interview*

56-156-Q-2

SEARCHED	INDEXED <i>12</i>
SERIALIZED <i>12</i>	FILED <i>12</i>
AUG 29 1968	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Q. O. Richards

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)(P)

DATE: 11/1/68

FROM : SA R.J. LA JEUNESSE, JR.

SUBJECT: KENSALT

RE: ARREST AND ARRAIGNMENT OF
SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

On 10/31/68, Sergeant MIKE NIELSEN, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), SUS Unit, made available a copy of an LAPD Employee's Report, DR No. 68-521 466, which is dated 10/9/68. This report deals with events participated in by the members of the LAPD immediately subsequent to 12:21 AM, 6/5/68, following the shooting of the late Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. The report deals with the apprehension of SIRHAN; his subsequent transportation to an LAPD facility and the discussion had with him by members of the LAPD.

A copy of this report is attached hereto.

RJL/jmb
(1) *9/16*

10 he included in next report
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SEARCHED _____ INDEXED *nc*
SERIALIZED *nc* FILED *nc*
NOV 5 1968
FBI - LOS ANGELES
Jo Smith

56-156-Q-3

SUBJECT SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S ARREST AND ARRAIGNMENT		
DATE & TIME OCCURRED 6-5-68 12:21 AM	LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE -	DIVISION OF OCCURRENCE Rampart Div.
TO: (Rank, Name, Assignment, Division) Lt. M. S. Pena, Supervisor Day Watch, S.U.S. Homicide		DATE & TIME REPORTED 10-9-68 8:00AM

DETAILS:

On June 5, 1968 at 12:21 AM an "Ambulance Shooting" call was broadcast to all units in the vicinity of 3400 Wilshire Boulevard. Officers Travis R. White, Arthur Placencia and Willie Nunley were the first to reach the scene. On arrival they observed Sirhan B. Sirhan lying face down on a serving table.

Roosevelt Grier, Los Angeles Ram football player, was lying on Sirhan's legs. Carl Uecker, hotel maitre d', was lying across Sirhan's back. Jesse Unruh, Speaker of the California Assembly, was assisting by keeping back an angry vengeful crowd. The officers reported that it was necessary to physically remove Grier, Uecker and Unruh prior to taking custody of Sirhan.

Officers White and Nunley handcuffed Sirhan, who offered no resistance. Reinforced by Officers Michael B. Livesey and Walter Strickel they forced their way with Sirhan through the hostile crowd. As the group moved toward the lobby, Officers Sanford S. Hansen and Daniel Jenson arrived and assisted them to the police vehicle.

Officers stated that Jesse Unruh maintained his role of protector, and shouted to the crowd, "This one is going to face trial. Nothing is going to happen to him. He is going to pay. We aren't going to have another Dallas." Unruh followed the officers to the police vehicle and insisted on accompanying Sirhan to the station.

Sirhan was placed in the right rear of the vehicle, Officer Placencia sat in the left rear behind the driver, Officer White, and Jesse Unruh sat in the right front.

Enroute to the station Sirhan relaxed after being the target of attention inside the hotel. Officer Placencia then advised Sirhan of his constitutional rights. Except for a "Yes" answer, that he understood his right to remain silent, Sirhan acknowledged his rights, by nods, punctuated by occasional mumbles.

The only exception to this was when Unruh asked him, "Why did you shoot him?" Sirhan replied, "You think I'm crazy, so you can use it as evidence against me." At this time, Officer Placencia used his flashlight to test Sirhan's eyes for pupil reaction to light and observed that the pupils were dilated. Placencia did not complete the test by making a comparison check of anyone else in the vehicle. Placencia had two month's field experience at the time.

Upon arrival at Rampart Station, Sirhan was placed in the breathalyzer room and then moved into interrogation room B. Officer White searched Sirhan in Placencia's and Unruh's presence. Officer White found two .22 caliber cartridges, one twenty-two caliber bullet, a comb, four one-hundred dollar bills, one five dollar bill, four one dollar bills, and one dollar and sixty-six cents in change and three pieces of printed matter. The first, an

(Continued)

DATE & TIME TYPED 10-9-68 9:00AM	DIVN. RPTG. S.U.S. Homic.	CLERK k.w.	EMPLOYEE(S) REPORTING Lt. William Jordan	SER. NO. #7167	DIVN. S.O.S. HOMIC.
SUPERVISOR APPROVING <i>[Signature]</i>		SERIAL NO.			

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM No.	QUAN.	PAGE NO.	TYPE OF REPORT	BOOKING NUMBER	DR. No.	SERIAL NUMBERS
		2.	SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S ARREST AND ARRAIGNMENT		68-521466	
		<p>article by David Lawrence from the Pasadena Independent Star News dealt with Senator Kennedy's views on the Arab-Israel controversy. According to the article, Senator Kennedy was very critical of the Arabs and supported the Israel stand. The second piece of printed material contained a poem or song concerning Senator Kennedy. The third article appeared to be a newspaper advertisement inviting friends of Senator Kennedy to attend a rally on Sunday, June 2, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel.</p> <p>Officer White then used his flashlight to check Sirhan's pupil reaction time. He then compared the result by checking his partner's eyes. According to Officer White, Sirhan's eyes reacted normally. Sirhan did not display any other objective symptoms of intoxication or use of drugs.</p> <p>Sgt. John S. Locker entered, asked Unruh to step outside and then assigned Officers Fred R. Willoughby and Eugene H. Austin to guard Sirhan and prevent further contact with anyone.</p> <p>Officers Willoughby and Austin attempted to engage Sirhan in trivial and unrelated conversation, but Sirhan remained silent. Shortly thereafter, Sgt. William Jordan, Rampart Detectives entered the room for the purpose of making a taped interview. Officers Willoughby and Austin then left the room and the interview began. Sirhan refused to answer questions as to name, address, and other personal information. He was promptly advised of his constitutional rights. Sirhan asked a few questions concerning his rights and then stated that he would, "Remain silent." The interview ceased. The money was recounted in Sirhan's presence. A second search of his person by Sgt. Jordan revealed no additional property. Sgt. Jordan then left the room after asking Officers Willoughby and Austin to remain with Sirhan.</p> <p>While the officers were inside the room with Sirhan, the only conversation that took place was while Officer Willoughby was drinking a cup of hot chocolate. Sirhan asked if he could have a sip and Officer Willoughby said "No." Sirhan then asked if the drink was hot. When Officer Willoughby replied in the affirmative, Sirhan suddenly kicked out with his right foot spilling hot chocolate on himself and Willoughby. Sirhan later apologized to the officer and also mentioned to Sgt. Jordan that he was sorry for his conduct.</p> <p>Plans were made to transport Sirhan to Homicide Division at Parker Center, since the security and facilities for the investigation and detention were more adequate. Sirhan was taken down the stairway to the basement and placed in the rear seat of an unmarked police car with Sgt. Jordan on his right and Officer Willoughby on his left. The vehicle was driven by Sgt. Frank Patchett and in the front seat beside him was Sgt. Adolph Melendres. Sgt. Beryl A. Mick, Officer Austin and Jesse Unruh followed in a second vehicle. The two cars proceeded east on Beverly Boulevard and First Street to Parker Center. Both vehicles parked in the basement of Parker Center and Sirhan was taken via the freight elevator to the third floor into Homicide Division, Room 319. Maximum security was in effect in anticipation of Sirhan's arrival. Officers were stationed at the elevators, stairways, and outside each door leading to Homicide Division.</p>				

(Continued)

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM No.	QUAN.	PAGE No.	TYPE OF REPORT	BOOKING NUMBER	DR No.
		3.	SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S ARREST AND ARRAIGNMENT		68-521 466
					SERIAL NUMBERS
<p>Sirhan asked for a drink of water and then refused it when it was offered to him, insisting that Sgt. Jordan taste the water first. When he was asked the significance of his actions Sirhan refused comment. Sirhan then complained of injuries to his left leg and left hand. The Central Jail physician, Dr. Elwin C. Lanz, examined Sirhan's injuries and his diagnosis was as follows: swelling of the left ankle, probably sprain, no fracture. Contusion of the left index finger, hematoma of the forehead, and a minor abrasion of the face. Dr. Lanz recommended that Sirhan keep his weight off his left foot as much as possible.</p> <p>Sirhan was next taken to Room 318, where he was interviewed by District Attorney Investigator George Murphy, Sgt. Melendres, Sgt. Jordan, and Deputy D. A. John Howard. Sirhan was again advised of his constitutional rights by Mr. Howard and asked his name. Sirhan indicated he would remain silent. (tape #28916, 2:05 AM)</p> <p>At 2:15 AM Sirhan was walked from Homicide Division via the stairway directly to the Felony Booking Section of Central Jail. His escort included Inspector Howe, Sgt. Jordan, Sgt. Jess Buckles, Officers Louis Estrella, John Dill, and Fred Willoughby. Sirhan was disrobed and skin searched and objected to bending over and spreading his buttocks. When the reason for this form of search was explained, he complied. He was booked on the charge of 217 PC -- Assault with Intent to Commit Murder. The custodial Officer, Martin Dismukes recalled that Sirhan would give no information and was processed under the name of John Doe. Dismukes opined that Sirhan was very composed and more at ease than some jail visitors he had observed in the past.</p> <p>Officer Kenneth E. Jones fingerprinted Sirhan at Central Jail. Sirhan made no comment and refused to fill the handwriting exemplars or answer any questions. Officer Guadalupe De La Garza supplied Sirhan with jail clothing and noted that Sirhan was upset about the trouser waist being too large, appearing quite concerned with his appearance. Officer De La Garza supervised Sirhan while he took his shower and commented on the slow, deliberate and thorough manner in which Sirhan showered. De La Garza commented that Sirhan was very composed while taking his lengthy shower.</p> <p>Sirhan then asked Officers Frank Foster and Kenneth Jones if he could make a telephone call to Mr. John Howard of the District Attorney's Office. The officers supplied Sirhan with a dime and the call was completed to the District Attorney's Office. Sirhan asked for Howard and was apparently told that he was still at Parker Center. Officer Jones called Homicide Division and gave Howard the message. Sirhan was then placed in cell J-1, accompanied by Officer Frank A. Foster, who remained in the cell with Sirhan.</p> <p>Howard, Melendres, and Jordan interviewed Sirhan inside interrogation room #1 in Central Jail at 3:15 AM.</p> <p>As before, Sirhan was advised of his rights. The main concern of the interrogators was to identify him. This interview is on tape and a verbatim transcript has been typed. Tape #28918, 3:15 AM to 3:45 AM. On this tape some general conversation took place, but Sirhan remained</p>					

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ITEM No.	QUAN.	PAGE No. 4.	TYPE OF REPORT SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S ARREST AND ARRAIGNMENT	BOOKING NUMBER	DR No. 68-521 466
<p>silent concerning the Kennedy shooting. The conversation circumvented the shooting and Sirhan's arrest. Sirhan appeared interested in the Jack Kirschke murder case. During the interview he was relaxed, polite, and composed. He alertly responded to questions regarding the Kirschke case. At the conclusion of the interview, Sirhan was returned to his cell with Officer Foster. Foster's conversations with Sirhan were lengthy and occurred before and after the first jail interview by Howard, Melendres, Jordan and after the last interview with Murphy and Jordan. Tape #28976, a verbatim resume has been prepared from the tapes made of the conversation.</p> <p>The subject matters of these conversations were general and covered various topics including the Boston Strangler, children, horses, and Foster's duties at the jail. Sirhan indicated that he has, in his words, "got nothing out of life", "they won't give it to me".</p> <p>The last interview occurred in Central Jail interrogation room 1 at 4 AM. Present with Sirhan were District Attorney Investigator George Murphy and Sgt. Jordan. Murphy suggested the interview since he felt Sgt. Jordan had established rapport with Sirhan and that Sirhan might tell Jordan his name. This complete conversation is on tape #28917 and a verbatim statement has been prepared. Jordan summarized his opinion of the interview as follows: "Sirhan was in good spirits and quite stimulated. He acted like he was playing a game and enjoying it. He appeared anxious to match wits with Murphy and myself. He wanted to talk and was happy to talk about anything other than the Kennedy case. We talked about gardening, types of employment, books, literature, family, children, golf, barbers and the Kirschke case. The only statement concerning the case occurred when I told Sirhan his car had been found. Sirhan replied, 'How did you know it was a 1958 Chrysler? The key? Beautiful!' I was impressed by Sirhan's composure and relaxation. He appeared less upset to me than individuals arrested for a traffic violation. I thought that his mind was keen and that he fancied himself somewhat of an intellectual." At the end of the interview, Sirhan was returned to his cell with Officer Foster.</p> <p>At 6:00 AM information was received that arrangements had been made to arraign Sirhan in Division #40 at 7 AM. Security measures were discussed by Inspectors John Powers, Dale Speck and Merton Howe. It was decided to use a private camper for transportation to the Hall of Justice. Inspector Howe assigned two-man teams in vehicles from Metropolitan Division at each corner between Parker Center and the Hall of Justice.</p> <p>At 6:45 AM, Sirhan was taken by Sgt. Jordan, Officers Louis Estrella, Amador Ramirez and Marion Pearse down the inside stairway to the ground floor of Central Jail. Sirhan was then walked out into the jail yard and placed in the enclosed rear section of a truck camper borrowed from Sgt. Donald Day, Detective Headquarters Division. Sirhan was accompanied in the camper by Sgt. Jordan, Officers Pearse, Ramirez, and Estrella. Sgt. Day drove the vehicle. The camper left the jail yard, proceeded on San Pedro north to Temple Street and west on Temple to the Hall of Justice. Powers and Howe followed in a second vehicle.</p> <p>During the half mile trip, Sirhan asked Officer Estrella his name and</p>					SERIAL NUMBERS

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ITEM No.	QUAN.	PAGE No.	TYPE OF REPORT	BOOKING NUMBER	DR No.	SERIAL NUMBERS
		5.	SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S ARREST AND ARRAIGNMENT		68-521 466	
<p>when Officer Estrella replied, Sirhan stated, "A beautiful sounding name." The vehicles, upon reaching the Hall of Justice, drove to the rear of the parking lot, and into the fenced driveway leading to the passageway in the basement. Sirhan was escorted to the elevator and the group, accompanied by George Stoner, George Murphy and other District Attorney's Investigators, went directly to the seventh floor and Division 40.</p> <p>Sirhan was placed in the prisoners section of Division 40, guarded by four officers. Deputy Sheriffs entered, sealed off Division 40 and the hallway outside, and checked the identification of everyone present. At 7:25 AM Sirhan was arraigned by Judge Joan Dempsey Klein. The Los Angeles County Sheriffs then took custody of Sirhan.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lt. William Jordan #7167</p>						

ADDENDUM

1. Copies of Medical Treatment Record from RH340-3-67 for John Doe (Sirhan B. Sirhan).
2. Statements of officers interviewed during investigation and statement of Dr. Elwin C. Lanz.

CITY OF LOS ANGELES — RECEIVING HOSPITAL
MEDICAL TREATMENT RECORD

1968 JUN -5 AM 2:01

NAME (Last, First, Middle) SIRHAN SIRHAN BISHARA				ADDRESS Refused Answer				CITY		ZIP
PATIENT NUMBER		SEX (M) F	RACE	BIRTHDATE	AGE	BIRTHPLACE	M.S.W.D.		OCCUPATION	
ACCIDENT LOCATION						ACCIDENT (Date and Time)		EMPLOYER		
STATEMENT OF ACCIDENT								EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS		
HOW ENTERED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WALKED <input type="checkbox"/> WHEELCHAIR		<input type="checkbox"/> STRETCHER		<input type="checkbox"/> CARRIED IN		BROUGHT IN BY		EMPLOYER'S PHONE
<input type="checkbox"/> CITY AMBULANCE		<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE AMBULANCE		<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE CAR		<input type="checkbox"/> POLICE CAR				
REMARKS Examined in home Ple Booking										
HOW LEFT HOSPITAL		AMBULANCE		CALLED BY		WHERE TAKEN				
<input type="checkbox"/> WHEELCHAIR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WALKED <input type="checkbox"/> CARRIED										
RELATIVES OR FRIENDS NOTIFIED		BY WHOM		ACCOMPANIED BY						
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										
INDUSTRIAL INJURY		INSURANCE CARRIER		SOCIAL SECURITY NO.						
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										
IS PATIENT INSURED		SPECIFY TYPE (Blue Cross, Kaiser, CPS)		MEMBER NUMBER		GROUP NUMBER		CODE / SCHED		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										
NAME OF SUBSCRIBER				SURGEON ON DUTY LANZ		NURSE ON DUTY				

RM 350-3-67

CITY OF LOS ANGELES — RECEIVING HOSPITAL
MEDICAL TREATMENT RECORD

Bkg. #495139

1968 JUN -5 AM 2:01

NAME (Last, First, Middle) John Doe - suspect				ADDRESS Refused Answer				CITY		ZIP
PATIENT NUMBER		SEX (M) F	RACE	BIRTHDATE	AGE	BIRTHPLACE	M.S.W.D.		OCCUPATION	
ACCIDENT LOCATION						ACCIDENT (Date and Time)		EMPLOYER		
STATEMENT OF ACCIDENT								EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS		
HOW ENTERED		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WALKED <input type="checkbox"/> WHEELCHAIR		<input type="checkbox"/> STRETCHER		<input type="checkbox"/> CARRIED IN		BROUGHT IN BY		EMPLOYER'S PHONE
<input type="checkbox"/> CITY AMBULANCE		<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE AMBULANCE		<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE CAR		<input type="checkbox"/> POLICE CAR				
REMARKS Examined in home Ple Booking										
HOW LEFT HOSPITAL		AMBULANCE		CALLED BY		WHERE TAKEN				
<input type="checkbox"/> WHEELCHAIR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WALKED <input type="checkbox"/> CARRIED										
RELATIVES OR FRIENDS NOTIFIED		BY WHOM		ACCOMPANIED BY						
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										
INDUSTRIAL INJURY		INSURANCE CARRIER		SOCIAL SECURITY NO.						
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										
IS PATIENT INSURED		SPECIFY TYPE (Blue Cross, Kaiser, CPS)		MEMBER NUMBER		GROUP NUMBER		CODE / SCHED		
<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO										
NAME OF SUBSCRIBER				SURGEON ON DUTY LANZ		NURSE ON DUTY				

RM 350-3-67

CLINICAL RECORD

WAS PATIENT ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS INTELLIGENTLY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Blood Pressure	EMERGENCY CARE	TOTAL CHARGES	Statement/Receipt No.
WAS PATIENT UNCONSCIOUS? <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETELY <input type="checkbox"/> PARTIALLY	Pulse	Treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Tetanus <input type="checkbox"/>		Ambulance Call Record No.

Opinion and/or Findings: *Swelling of L. ankle - Probable Sprain. No Fractures.
Contusion of left index finger
Hematoma of forehead
Minor abrasion of face.*

Treatment and Advice: *Limited Weight bearing L. foot*

Narcotic Admin.	Time/By	Repeat/By	Condition on Discharge
Surgeon's Signature <i>E. C. Lang MD</i>	Patient's Signature if Complete Exam Refused		

CLINICAL RECORD

WAS PATIENT ABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS INTELLIGENTLY? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	Blood Pressure	EMERGENCY CARE	TOTAL CHARGES	Statement/Receipt No.
WAS PATIENT UNCONSCIOUS? <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETELY <input type="checkbox"/> PARTIALLY	Pulse	Treatment <input type="checkbox"/> Tetanus <input type="checkbox"/>		Ambulance Call Record No.

Opinion and/or Findings: *Swelling of L. ankle - Probable Sprain. No Fractures.
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Treatment and Advice: *Limited Weight bearing L. foot*

Narcotic Admin.	Time/By	Repeat/By	Condition on Discharge
Surgeon's Signature <i>E. C. Lang MD</i>	Patient's Signature if Complete Exam Refused		