

1 Q Where is that from?

2 A Well, it is mostly intake of exhibits from the  
3 branch courts and then the files of P.H. and destruction  
4 of narcotics.

5 Q Did you know, or were you aware that your  
6 office was concerned or involved in the handling of exhibits  
7 in the Sirhan Bishara Sirhan case?

8 A Yes, sir.

9 Q When did you first become aware of the existence  
10 of the Court Order by Judge Walker?

11 A Which court order?

12 Q Well, how many court orders are you aware of?

13 A Two; but I only received one.

14 Q You say you are aware of two orders but you  
15 only received one court order?

16 A Yes.

17 Q When did you see the first one that you saw?

18 A Pardon?

19 Q Let me back up.

20 When did you first become aware that there was  
21 a court order in existence in connection with the Sirhan  
22 case?

23 A When I first started working there, because I  
24 was given specific information concerning that subject.

25 Q What information were you given?

26 A I was told certain exhibits were closed, or no  
27 one was to see them, and I was also told of a court order  
28 showing that some exhibits could be seen.

1 Q Was that specifically mentioned to you in connec-  
2 tion with the Sirhan case?

3 A Yes.

4 Q All right; you were interviewed on July 16, 1971,  
5 by two investigators from my office; is that true?

6 A Yes, sir.

7 Q I have a copy of the transcript of that particular  
8 interview, and on the bottom of the first page you were  
9 purportedly quoted as saying that in the Sirhan case you were  
10 not aware at that time, and only recently became aware of the  
11 court order, "That there was officially a court order, but  
12 they were changing most of the employees, and that a court  
13 order did exist, and very few people were allowed to view the  
14 exhibits."

15 Is that your statement?

16 A Yes, sir.

17 Q Is it a fact that you were not aware at that  
18 time but only recently became aware of the existence of the  
19 court order in the Sirhan case?

20 A Repeat that question, please.

21 Q Is it true that you indicated in the Sirhan case  
22 you were not aware at that time, meaning the time you were  
23 employed in the Clerk's Office, but only recently became  
24 aware of the court order.

25 Was that a true statement?

26 A I don't understand.

27 Q There seems to be some inconsistency here.

28 You told my investigators that you only recently

1 became aware of the court order as contrasted today that you  
2 became aware of the court order when you first came into the  
3 Clerk's Office.

4 A When I first came into the Clerk's Office my  
5 instructions concerning the Sirhan case was it was to be held  
6 or to be viewed or handled different than the others.

7 Q You told it was to be treated differently from  
8 the others?

9 A Yes; through my supervisor, Mr. Buckley, that  
10 there was a court order -- I did not see the court order but  
11 that there was a court order.

12 Q When had you seen the court order, if you had at  
13 all?

14 A When the investigator showed it to me during that  
15 interview.

16 Q Now you have stated here now, as I understand it,  
17 that you became aware that there were two court orders.

18 When did you become aware of the two court  
19 orders?

20 A When he advised me.

21 Q Which Judge had signed that court order?

22 A I don't know.

23 Q Did you know Mr. Harper?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Did you have anything to do in waiting on or  
26 serving Mr. Harper, when he came into the Clerk's Office  
27 in connection with the Sirhan case?

28 A You mean me?

1 Q Yes, if you remember.

2 A Yes. The first time he came to the window to  
3 view exhibits he gave me the viewing slip and I saw the  
4 Sirhan case so I immediately went to Mr. Buckley because I  
5 knew it had to be handled differently.

6 I asked him for his identification, and he went  
7 through the regular procedure and Mr. Buckley said he was  
8 okay, that he had been there before.

9 So I got the exhibits for him, and I showed him  
10 the exhibits.

11 Q How do you know that was the first time?

12 A I don't know, but it was the first time I saw  
13 him.

14 Q Do you know the date that specific visit  
15 occurred?

16 A Well --

17 Q Could you tell by looking at the viewing slips?

18 A I think so.

19 Q All right. If you'll turn to the Grand Jury  
20 Exhibits that are in front of you.

21 Those are photographs of the viewing slips and  
22 they're all in sequential order there.

23 A No, none of these seem to be mine.

24 I think this one where it says 10-9-70, I think  
25 this one is mine.

26 Q Is that one involving Mr. Harper; to the best of  
27 your recollection?

28 A To the best of my recollection I think this is

1 mine because this is the exhibit he asked for, that he normally  
2 asked for, and I think this is my cross mark because I  
3 usually circle it and then cross it like that.

4 Q What does the circle mean?

5 A The circle means I checked it out.

6 Q That is Grand Jury Exhibit Number 22 you are  
7 referring to?

8 A Yes.

9 Q The circle means that you checked it out?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And what does the cross mark across the circle  
12 mean?

13 A The cross mark means that I checked it in.

14 Q You notice under identification it says, "O.K."?  
15 What does that mean?

16 A That is probably Ken Buckley's "O.K."

17 Q Then the first occasion, which I must assume from  
18 your testimony is October 9, 1970, that is the first occasion  
19 you handled Mr. Harper and was there some discussion with him  
20 in connection with the gun?

21 A Yes.

22 Q You notice here that the very first of the exhibit  
23 numbers is Exhibit 6, and Exhibit 6 is of the gun; is that  
24 right?

25 A Yes.

26 Q And you said you had some discussion with  
27 Mr. Harper about the gun?

28 A Yes.

1 Q What discussion was that?

2 A I brought him a picture of the gun, and he said  
3 he did not want a picture, that he wanted the gun itself,  
4 and he said that was Exhibit 6 or Exhibit 7 -- no, I mean,  
5 Exhibit 6..

6 Q What happened then?

7 A So I go to Mr. Buckley and told him I couldn't  
8 find it, and he said that I didn't look hard enough, that I  
9 had to go back there.

10 Q Did you find it?

11 A Yes; it was in a box, but it was covered up,  
12 and it was hard to find.

13 Q Did Mr. Harper indicate he wanted the gun  
14 itself?

15 A Yes; he said he knew it was there because he had  
16 just seen it in the last few days.

17 Q That was substantially what you told my  
18 investigators?

19 A Yes.

20 Q All right; let me call your attention to Exhibit  
21 20, which is dated September 1, 1970, and that shows that  
22 Mr. Harper was there.

23 Then take a look at Exhibit 21, which is 9-21-70,  
24 also for Mr. Harper.

25 Then we come to the date of October 9, 1970, which  
26 is Exhibit 22, where you waited on Mr. Harper.

27 Is it your testimony now that on October 9, 1970,  
28 when you waited on Mr. Harper Mr. Harper told you that he had

1 just seen the gun in the last few days?

2 A I don't remember if he said the last few days,  
3 he said he had seen the gun before and he knew that was the  
4 number.

5 Q Did you ever see someone come in with a camera,  
6 accompanying Mr. Harper?

7 A Yes.

8 Q I notice that brings a smile to your face.  
9 Are you recalling fond memories?

10 A I don't know if they are fond.

11 Q What do you recall of the gentleman with the  
12 camera?

13 A Because I was with him a long time and I got a  
14 lot of information from him.

15 He was an old reconnaissance pilot and he explained  
16 how the camera was to take a line photograph of the revolving  
17 bullet.

18 Q How much time did you spend that particular day  
19 looking at the ballistics evidence?

20 A Probably from about 10:00 o'clock to about 4:30  
21 or at least 4:00 o'clock.

22 Q Six hours?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Do you have an exhibit viewing slip for that  
25 particular day?

26 A I think we do.

27 Q Can you look in that series that you have?

28 A It would some time after that, I think.

1 Q Please check in the exhibits, please.

2 A Well, I see Exhibit 24, November 5, 1970.

3 I think that could be it.

4 Q Are you certain or uncertain about that?

5 A Uncertain.

6 Q Why?

7 A Because there are others from Mr. Harper after  
8 that.

9 These are my marks again.

10 Q On Exhibit 24?

11 A Yes.

12 Q That is the date you believe he spent approxi-  
13 mately six hours there?

14 A I would say yes.

15 Q What makes you certain they were there from  
16 10:00 to 4:00?

17 A Because I think they came in quite early in the  
18 morning and -- I know it was not late in the morning and they  
19 stayed until almost closing time because I was with them all  
20 that time.

21 Q Do you recall recording mentally any impression  
22 of this man who was this reconnaissance pilot?

23 A He was very friendly.

24 Q Did he appear to be over-friendly?

25 A I would say he was friendly but not over-friendly.

26 Q You gave a statement to my investigators on July  
27 17, 1971.

28 You recall during that statement giving them some



1 observations about this Hycon camera and employee?

2 A Yes.

3 Q You said at that time:

4 "The Hycon Camera employee was taking the  
5 photograph and he appeared to be friendly and  
6 it did not ring true with him and I picked him  
7 out as a phony."

8 Was that your statement?

9 A Yes.

10 Q Was that accurate at the time you gave it?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Now, did you have a conversation with my  
13 investigators about the exhibits could be switched under  
14 the situation that was going on at that time?

15 A Yes, I did.

16 Q What prompted that conversation?

17 A All kinds of things.

18 Q Like what?

19 A He brought this black bag and he said in a joking  
20 manner he probably could; he could probably hide his little  
21 green bottle and things like that.

22 Q So you felt that exhibits could be switched under  
23 that situation as you viewed them at that time?

24 A It's possible.

25 Q Did you ever, at any time, drop any of the  
26 ballistics evidence?

27 A Yes.

28 Q When did you do that?

1 A When Mr. Harper came to see the gun.

2 Q What happened in that regard?

3 A I dropped one of the casings on the floor.

4 Q A shell casing?

5 A Yes; I was confused at the difference between a  
6 bullet and a casing.

7 Q But you have since learned what the difference  
8 is?

9 A Yes.

10 Q During the time that they were taking these  
11 photographs, were you keeping the exhibits under close  
12 scrutiny?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Why was that?

15 A Because, well, when they were folding the  
16 camera, if they really wanted to, they could get away with  
17 some of it.

18 Q No matter how hard you looked?

19 A Yes; but not if you really kept looking.

20 Q Had there been several meetings of the supervisors  
21 leading up to new exhibit forms and new regulations regarding  
22 the exhibits?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Was that rather recently?

25 A Yes.

26 Q How recently?

27 A Within the month.

28 Q Did Mr. Harper ask you if he could look at a

1 bullet outside of the building?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Do you know a man by the name of Ken?

4 A Ken Buckley.

5 Q Is there more than one Ken?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Did you have a polygraph examination on July 7,  
8 1971, by Mr. Scarce?

9 A Yes.

10 Q I have a transcript of that polygraph  
11 examination and the conversation that took place.

12 I have it here and it reflects the following  
13 conversation:

14 "BY MR. SCARCE: QUESTION: Has Harper asked  
15 you to take a bullet from the Sirhan exhibits?

16 "ANSWER: Yes.

17 "QUESTION: You said no?

18 "ANSWER: I said no.

19 "QUESTION: He said he wanted to take it  
20 out of the building?

21 "ANSWER: Yes.

22 "QUESTION: But you said no?

23 "ANSWER: Yes; he said he wanted the bullet  
24 to photograph it but Ken told him he had to bring  
25 the equipment in there.

26 "QUESTION: And did Mr. Harper make that  
27 statement to you directly, that request to you  
28 directly?

1 "ANSWER: Well, Ken Buckley was over my  
2 shoulder.

3 "QUESTION: Tell us what happened at that  
4 time.

5 "ANSWER: I think that is the time he spoke  
6 to me, that's the first time and he wanted to  
7 take it out and take pictures on the Hycon.

8 "Ken said, 'No', that he would have  
9 to bring the equipment here to get it done."

10 That was the conversation with the polygraph  
11 operator?

12 A Yes.

13 Q Mr. Cariaga, during this time that you have  
14 been in the Clerk's Office in connectin with the Sirhan  
15 exhibits, did you have any knowledge whatsoever of any  
16 irregularities whatsoever in connection with those exhibits,  
17 irregularities of any kind?

18 A They were treated specially.

19 Q Other than that?

20 A No.

21 Q I take it you're pretty busy down there in the  
22 Clerk's Office on the 4th Floor?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Are there times when a number of people come in  
25 at the same time and ask to see various exhibits?

26 A Yes.

27 Q Is it possible, then, that an exhibit custodian  
28 clerk who obtained the exhibits apparently is requested or may

1 be called away to either answer the telephone or to help  
2 someone else out, leaving no one from the Clerk's Office  
3 actually there when people are viewing exhibits in criminal  
4 cases?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Does that situation occur rather frequently?

7 A Yes, we try to cover each other as much as  
8 possible.

9 Q I direct your attention to Grand Jury Exhibit  
10 Number 52.

11 Would you take a look at that and tell me if you  
12 have ever seen that before?

13 A It is my notebook.

14 Q It is your notebook?

15 A Yes, from Pasadena City College.

16 Q Well, let's open up your notebook.

17 Is the first page your notebook?

18 A No, sir. It sure looks like mine.

19 Q Have you ever seen that particular document  
20 before?

21 A No, sir.

22 Q This purports to be a copy of one of the Sirhan  
23 notebooks.

24 Does that refresh your recollection in any way?

25 A No, I have never seen this one.

26 Q Does the name "John Christian" mean anything to  
27 you?

28 A No, it doesn't.

1                   It does now.

2                   Q       Why does it now?

3                   A       I understand he is one of the people that viewed  
4 the exhibits.

5                   Q       Have you looked through each one of these Grand  
6 Jury Exhibits here?

7                   A       Not all of them.

8                   Q       Could you please look through them and tell me  
9 which ones you were involved with.

10                   Before you do that, will you take a look at  
11 Exhibit 24 and you will note there is no "OUT/TIME" or no  
12 "IN/TIME" on there. Is that right?

13                   A       Yes.

14                   Q       Is there a reason for that omission?

15                   A       At the time they were not exactly -- they were  
16 not strict on this procedure.

17                   Q       You say at that time they were not strict on  
18 this procedure?

19                   A       That's right.

20                   Q       They have been more strict on the procedure more  
21 recently?

22                   A       More recently they are strict on the procedure,  
23 yes.

24                   Q       When was that they became more strict on the  
25 procedure?

26                   A       About three weeks ago.

27                   Q       Who told you about that?

28                   A       Mr. Buckley, because there was a new form.

1 Q Let me call your attention to Exhibit 25.  
2 You will notice that doesn't have any time under  
3 the "OUT/TIME" or under the "IN/TIME"?  
4 A That's right.  
5 Q And that was still during the period when you  
6 weren't being so strict, is that right?  
7 A Yes.  
8 Q And the date of that is 11-16-70?  
9 A I couldn't be sure.  
10 Q Exhibit 26, are those your markings on Exhibit  
11 26?  
12 A Well, maybe the check-in marks.  
13 Q Now, let me ask you; since there are a number of  
14 employees in the clerk's office, have there been any instruc-  
15 tions as to the use of the "X" marks or the "cross" marks or  
16 the "circles"?  
17 Is that standardized in any way?  
18 Do they mean the same thing to each employee?  
19 A That is not my impression. I would not say so.  
20 Q In other words, you were free to adopt whatever  
21 type of markings you want for checking in or checking out?  
22 A Yes, but now we have a set form.  
23 Q That is within the last three weeks?  
24 A Yes.  
25 Q Are there any other of these Grand Jury Exhibit  
26 forms, these viewing slips that you are familiar with?  
27 A I don't think so.  
28 MR. HECHT: I have no further questions.

1 THE FOREMAN: Any questions to be asked of this witness  
2 by any member of the Grand Jury?

3 If so, please write them out and they will be  
4 directed to the witness through the Deputy District  
5 Attorney.

6 BY MR. HECHT:

7 Q Referring to Exhibit 36, do you use brush pens  
8 down there in the Clerk's Office, as far as the Exhibit Clerks  
9 are concerned?

10 A We have a few.

11 Q Now, on Grand Jury Exhibit Number 22, you have  
12 indicated that is Mr. Buckley's "O.K."?

13 A That is correct, yes.

14 Q And on Grand Jury Exhibit Number 24, the exhibit  
15 numbers seem to be circled in some kind of a brush pen.

16 A Yes.

17 Q Did Mr. Buckley ever engage in bringing in  
18 exhibits or copies of exhibits on this occasion that you know  
19 of?

20 A He may have, but I'm not sure.

21 Q During the time that Mr. Harper was there  
22 for six hours, you remember that day, that he was there  
23 from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., which would be six hours,  
24 was someone else relieving you during the course of that  
25 period?

26 A I think at one time I was relieved.

27 Q By whom?

28 A I'm not sure who it was.



1 I think it may have been Winston Battle.

2 Q For what period of time were you relieved?

3 A I walked away to go to the rest room and I  
4 think during lunch time.

5 Q Can you give us the name of the person who  
6 relieved you?

7 A I think it was either Julius or Winston.

8 Q Will you take a look at Grand Jury Exhibit Number  
9 52, again, Mr. Sirhan's notebook?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Once again, so the record is perfectly clear,  
12 have you ever seen that document before?

13 A No, sir.

14 Q Did you ever see what purported to be any of  
15 Mr. Sirhan's notebooks?

16 A It's very doubtful but I can't say exactly.

17 Q Did the custodian clerks themselves look at any  
18 of the exhibits or any of the evidence in the Sirhan case?

19 A Oh, yes; the autopsy pictures, that was one of  
20 the first things that I saw.

21 Q How did this come to your attention?

22 Was it a quick peek, so to speak?

23 A I don't know just who was working at the time but  
24 they showed to me the autopsy pictures when he was kind of  
25 breaking me into the County Clerk's Office.

26 Q Were you supposed to see any exhibits?

27 A Well, they told us the exhibits were there and  
28 nobody never said anything about not looking at them.

1 I had a chance to look at the one time; we would  
2 look at them when we were getting them or when we were check-  
3 ing them in.

4 Q Were you looking through the copies of the ex-  
5 hibits or the original exhibits themselves?

6 A Just what they had there.

7 Q Do you know what customer you were waiting on,  
8 at the time you looked at the exhibits?

9 A Probably Mr. Harper.

10 Q Do you remember anyone else who asked for the  
11 Sirhan exhibits?

12 A No; Mr. Harper is the only one I directly  
13 brought the exhibits to review.

14 Q Do you have any knowledge of any other employees  
15 looking at the exhibits in the Sirhan case?

16 A I would say yes.

17 Q Who are they?

18 A Well, I think everyone has looked at them.

19 Q When you say "everyone has looked at them", I  
20 sense that not everyone has waited on Mr. Harper during the  
21 time he has come in there?

22 A Yes.

23 Q Are you telling us that the employees just looked  
24 at them out of their curiosity?

25 A Yes; they would look at them, possibly, when  
26 they were taking them for viewing or bringing them back in.

27 Q That was the only time that they had a chance to  
28 look at them, even though they were accessible?

1 A Yes, but they don't have time.

2 They don't have time to just sit around and look,  
3 but when they bring them in and bring them back out, then  
4 they can look at them.

5 The only way they can look at them is if they  
6 come to work earlier. I guess they couldn't do that, because  
7 the vault wouldn't be open that early.

8 Q What time do you start work?

9 A 8:00 o'clock.

10 Q Could one look at them during his lunch hour?

11 A Yes; but he would be wasting his lunch hour.

12 Q Well, it wouldn't be a waste. It would be  
13 depending on what his interest was?

14 A Correct.

15 Q When you started working as an Exhibit Custodian  
16 Clerk, can you tell us when you first noticed the notation  
17 that appears on Exhibit Number 24, and other exhibits through-  
18 out this case, where it says:

19 "Removal of exhibits from custody of  
20 County Clerk constitutes a felony under  
21 Section 6201 Government Code."

22 Did your supervisors discuss this notation with  
23 you?

24 A I don't understand.

25 Q You see this notation that says:

26 "Removal of exhibits from custody of  
27 County Clerk constitutes a felony under  
28 Section 6201 Government Code",

1 and if you'll just glance through the exhibit reviewing slips  
2 there, you will see that appears on a number of those  
3 exhibit reviewing slips?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And that appeared on those exhibit reviewing  
6 slips at the time you went to work?

7 A Yes, they did.

8 Q Did any of your supervisors ever discuss the  
9 meaning of that notation with you?

10 A Well, I believe they said something.

11 MR. HECHT: All right; I have no further questions.

12 THE FOREMAN: Any further questions by any of the  
13 members of the Grand Jury?

14 Apparently not.

15 I'd like to caution you not to discuss or impart  
16 at any time, outside of this jury room, the questions that  
17 were asked of you in regard to this matter, or your answers,  
18 until authorized by this Grand Jury or the Court to discuss  
19 or impart such matters.

20 You will understand that a violation of these  
21 instructions on your part may be the basis for a charge  
22 against you of contempt of court.

23 Do you understand that?

24 THE WITNESS: I do.

25 (Thereupon, the witness, Benito B. Cariaga, was then  
26 escorted from the Grand Jury Hearing Room by the Sergeant  
27 At Arms.)

28 MR. HECHT: That's our last witness for today.

1 THE FOREMAN: Then we'll recess now and we'll continue  
2 with this case on Monday, which will be August 23rd.

3 If everybody will try to be here by 9:30, we  
4 will see if we can't get through by the morning.

5 All right; thank you all for staying so late.

6 (Whereupon, an adjournment was taken until Monday,  
7 August 23, 1971, at 9:30 A.M.)

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LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1971

9:35 A. M.

--000--

THE FOREMAN: Let the record show the Grand Jury has reassembled and the court reporter is present.

You may call the roll, Mrs. Secretary.

(Thereupon, the Secretary complies with the Foreman's request.)

THE SECRETARY: There are twenty Grand Jurors present.

THE FOREMAN: The record will show that twenty Grand Jurors are present, being the same twenty present since the inception of this matter.

You may proceed, Mr. Hecht.

MR. HECHT: We'll call Mr. Emory Hatcher.

(Thereupon, the witness, Emory G. Hatcher, was then escorted into the Grand Jury Hearing Room by the Sergeant At Arms.)

EMORY G. HATCHER,  
called as a witness before the Grand Jury, was duly sworn as follows:

THE FOREMAN: You do solemnly swear that the evidence you shall give in this matter now pending before the Grand Jury of the County of Los Angeles shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help

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you God?

THE WITNESS: I do.

EXAMINATION

BY MR. HECHT:

Q Good morning, Mr. Hatcher.

Would you please tell us your present business or occupation?

A Clerk, United States District Court, Central Division of California.

Q Your business address?

A 312 North Spring Street.

Q How long have you occupied your present position?

A Approximately twenty months.

Q And prior to that time, what was your business or occupation?

A Prior to that time I was Chief Deputy County Clerk.

Q For how long a period of time did you actually work in the Clerk's Office of the County of Los Angeles?

A From approximately 1952, I believe.

Q Now, can you tell us what your various job titles were, prior to the time you became Chief Deputy?

A Yes. I was in the Sheriff's Department and I took a Civil Service examination for court clerk; that is a courtroom Deputy to a judge.

1 I held that position for approximately a year  
2 and a half and during that period I had relieved in the  
3 Psychiatric Courts and the Juvenile Courts and I was asked to  
4 go over to the Juvenile Courts to reorganize the Clerk's  
5 Office of that court, so I headed up the Juvenile Section,  
6 which was then a section of the Criminal Division.

7 From that point on I went to the Criminal Division  
8 which was then located here on the 6th Floor of the Hall of  
9 Justice and I was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Criminal  
10 Division.

11 Q Who was the Chief at that time?

12 A At that time Cecil J. Luskin was the Chief.  
13 Mr. Luskin was promoted to Chief Deputy County Clerk, and I  
14 followed him into that position of Chief of the Division.

15 Then when he was retired I was promoted to  
16 Chief Deputy, and I think that was in 1961, and I held that  
17 position for approximately eight years.

18 Q During the time you were in the Clerk's Office,  
19 and specifically during the time you were Chief Deputy County  
20 Clerk, did you become acquainted with and get to know  
21 Mr. Peter J. Talmachoff?

22 A Yes, I did.

23 Q We are interested during the course of this  
24 investigation in finding out about the handling of the  
25 exhibits which were introduced in the Sirhan case.

26 Just to give you a brief orientation, which I  
27 think you would need in this matter, do you recall a meeting  
28 that was held in the chambers of the Assistant Presiding Judge,



1 at that time Judge Charles A. Loring, at the conclusion of  
2 the Sirhan case?

3 A Yes, I do.

4 Q Do you recall when that meeting occurred?

5 A Well, let's see, I've been gone nearly two  
6 years, and I took a deferred retirement in December '69,  
7 so that was over two years ago -- from two to three years  
8 ago, I would say.

9 Q Would the date May 16, 1969, refresh your  
10 recollection?

11 A I'm sure that was it.

12 Q Will you tell us the circumstances leading up to  
13 your being present at that meeting?

14 A As I recall, Judge Walker telephoned the office  
15 of Mr. Sharp, and I believe at that time Mr. Sharp was absent,  
16 and of course he then asked for me, because I relieved in his  
17 absence, and he asked me to attend the meeting, which was  
18 relative to the security of the exhibits at the conclusion of  
19 the case.

20 Q Can you tell us whether or not you contacted  
21 Mr. Talmachoff to attend that meeting, or whether that contact  
22 was independently of your own personal knowledge?

23 A I'm sure, I don't recall exactly, but I'm sure  
24 I would have asked anyone concerned with the exhibits to be  
25 present at the meeting, and, as I recall, Mr. Talmachoff and  
26 Alice Nichikawa were present at that meeting.

27 Q We have a transcript of the proceedings during  
28 that conference, Mr. Hatcher, which has been introduced into

1 evidence.

2 In any event, it is our understanding that a few  
3 days after the meeting in Judge Loring's chambers, Judge Walker  
4 issued a court order in connection with the care and handling  
5 of the exhibits.

6 Do you recall that fact?

7 A I'm sure that he did because, as I recall, it was  
8 reported, because usually when I attend a conference I would  
9 make a memorandum of the conference if it was not reported.

10 Since it was reported I probably did not make a  
11 memorandum of the conference.

12 Q Incidentally, when did Mr. Sharp return?

13 A I believe he was on vacation or out of the city  
14 for a few days.

15 Q In any event, do you recall Mr. Sharp returning  
16 from the absence you made reference to?

17 A I really don't recall.

18 Q Do you recall when that was within a week or two  
19 or three weeks from the date of the meeting?

20 A No, I really don't.

21 Q In any event, did you have occasion to communicate  
22 to Mr. Sharp upon his return, the fact of the meeting and  
23 the contents of the discussion that took place in chambers?

24 A I would think that I would.

25 I always try to keep him informed of anything  
26 that transpires during his absence that was in any way  
27 unusual and not routine, but I may not have, depending on  
28 the pressures at that time.

1 Q Well, would it be fair to say that the Sirhan  
2 case, insofar as the operation of the Clerk's Office and  
3 the evidence that the Clerk's Office was called upon to handle,  
4 would be a reasonably important case?

5 A Most certainly, yes.

6 Q That meeting that was held in Judge Loring's  
7 chambers is not a customary procedure, is it?

8 A No, no, very unusual, I would say.

9 Q I take it you would attach some degree of  
10 importance to what was said during the conversation in  
11 Judge Loring's chambers?

12 A Absolutely.

13 Q Do you have any recollection of telling Mr. Sharp  
14 about the fact of the meeting and the subsequent court order  
15 that was issued by Judge Walker?

16 A I honestly don't have any recollection that I  
17 did.

18 I may have, but I just don't remember.

19 Q Do you recall any conversation from Mr. Sharp to  
20 you in connection with the handling of the Sirhan exhibits,  
21 between the time of the meeting in Judge Loring's chambers  
22 and the time you left the Clerk's Office to go across the  
23 street to the Federal Court?

24 A Between the time -- would you repeat the question?

25 MR. HECHT: May we have the question read?

26 THE FOREMAN: Yes.

27 (The pending question is read, as follows:

28 "QUESTION: Do you recall any conversation

1 from Mr. Sharp to you in connection with the  
2 handling of the Sirhan exhibits, between the  
3 time of the meeting in Judge Loring's chambers  
4 and the time you left the Clerk's Office to go  
5 across the street to the Federal Court?")

6 THE WITNESS: No, I don't.

7 BY MR. HECHT:

8 Q Now, was Mr. Talmachoff chief of the criminal  
9 division at the time of the meeting in Judge Loring's  
10 chambers?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Was it your expectation that any conversation  
13 relative to the duties of the Clerk's Office that was  
14 articulated at that meeting would be handled by Mr. Talmachoff  
15 rather than you personally?

16 A Oh, yes, indeed, yes.

17 Q Why is that?

18 A Because he was immediately responsible for the  
19 criminal division.

20 Q Do you recall whether or not you made any checks  
21 with Mr. Talmachoff to make sure he was implementing the  
22 conversation in chambers and the subsequent court order?

23 A I'm sure I did. I've been very concerned about  
24 the handling of the criminal exhibits since 1953 and in every  
25 budget request that was presented on behalf of the criminal  
26 division, then and after I became chief deputy, I tried to  
27 stress the importance of the criminal exhibits.

28 We didn't have adequate storage. We didn't have

1     adequate personnel to take care of the exhibits.

2             The personnel that we had was not classified  
3 properly. The way that we were storing them was not proper.

4             We invariably made a case for the improvement  
5 for the exhibit section, but we were consistently turned down  
6 until approximately the time that I left.

7             I started a classification study and requested a  
8 classification study and had done that for years. I had  
9 requested that there be a classification study by the  
10 Personnel Department of the people handling the exhibits and  
11 before I left they finally reclassified them into various  
12 types of exhibit custodians at a higher salary.

13             These new people were going to come in and be  
14 appointed to this position when I left.

15             Then about 1968 I brought in a management trainee  
16 by the name of John Walker who holds some position now with  
17 the Criminal Division, and he was to look into the entire  
18 exhibit problem and make recommendations as to the handling  
19 of the exhibits.

20             These things were started before I left.

21             I'm sure there have been improvements.

22             I will say that it was a huge problem, a tre-  
23 mendous problem.

24             From the time I first went there we had about  
25 5,000 criminal filings a year. I think when I left there was  
26 about 35,000 or 40,000 cases and it is a tremendous warehousing  
27 problem.

28             The chief administrative office finally realized

1 that it is a problem, a tremendous problem.

2 Q Let me ask you this, Mr. Hatcher, Judge Walker  
3 has testified earlier in this proceeding and my memory of his  
4 testimony -- let me give you some background as to this  
5 matter.

6 You recall the meeting that was held in Judge  
7 Loring's chambers was concerned with the evidence that had  
8 been introduced in the trial and, therefore, had come into the  
9 possession and care of the Clerk's Office after the trial.

10 During that meeting a number of things were said  
11 with respect to the packaging of the critical exhibits and I  
12 recall Judge Walker's testimony said that he had an expectation  
13 that these exhibits would be packaged.

14 Can you tell us if you made any personal  
15 efforts to make sure that the recommendations of the hearing  
16 were followed through, particularly in this expectation by  
17 Judge Walker?

18 A That they would be packaged?

19 Q Yes.

20 A We have very few facilities whereby exhibits could  
21 even be locked in within certain storage areas.

22 I believe some arrangements were made to store  
23 them in locked cabinets within the storage vault areas.

24 I don't even know at the present time where it  
25 was stored.

26 I do know that we had provided certain cabinets  
27 that could be locked within certain storage areas.

28 Q That would relate to the storage or the storing

1 of the exhibits?

2 A Yes.

3 Q I have in mind and my question goes as to the  
4 packaging, at least of the critical exhibits.

5 A No, that was not done unless something was  
6 specifically ordered sealed by the Court.

7 If that was done it would have been placed in  
8 some sort of a container and actually sealed with some sort  
9 of tape and then placed in an appropriate place.

10 Q Do you recall any conversation between yourself  
11 and Mr. Talmachoff after the meeting in Judge Loring's  
12 chambers in connection with the court's articulation of its  
13 desire to have certain exhibits specially packaged?

14 A I don't recall anything, particularly following  
15 the meeting.

16 I would have discussed the meeting with Alice and  
17 Pete.

18 Q When you say "Alice", you mean Alice Nishikawa?

19 A Yes.

20 Q And when you say "Pete", you mean Peter J.  
21 Talmachoff?

22 A Yes.

23 MR. HECHT: I have nothing further of this witness.

24 THE FOREMAN: Are there any questions to be directed  
25 to this witness by any member of the Grand Jury?

26 If so, please write them out and they will be  
27 directed to the witness through the Deputy District  
28 Attorney.

1 BY MR. HECHT:

2 Q Did it ever come to your attention that the  
3 1968 Grand Jury at the end of their term had an audit report  
4 that was part of the Grand Jury Report, making reference to  
5 the function and duties and responsibilities of the County  
6 Clerk's Office?

7 A Yes, certainly.

8 Q And as you sit here now, do you recall the  
9 specific findings by the Grand Jury and the recommendations  
10 made by that same Grand Jury?

11 A Not specifically. I do know that the Grand Jury  
12 was concerned about the handling of the exhibits and I do know  
13 that we had taken many steps to try to rectify the situation.

14 Q The question submitted by one of the Grand Jurors  
15 goes on to ask:

16 What steps do you recall were presently taken in  
17 regard to the Grand Jury's Report and recommendations?

18 A We obtained new space. I was instrumental in  
19 obtaining space in the old Municipal Court Building, next to  
20 this building.

21 There were two large areas and we made arrange-  
22 ments that those doors be secured more securely and the windows  
23 to the space be also secured.

24 There was no prime space available and that was  
25 just the best that we could get.

26 We obtained one other smaller area, one small room,  
27 as I recall, in the basement to the Hall of Justice and I'm  
28 sure that was the result of the Grand Jury's recommendations.



1 I also designated Mr. Walker and called him in  
2 as a management trainee to work on this problem but actually  
3 I had been aware of the problem for years.

4 Also, the reclassification of the exhibit  
5 handlers arose out of that, or maybe it was spurred along  
6 by the Gand Jury recommendation.

7 Q Let me ask you this question, Mr. Hatcher.

8 What provisions were made, if you know, to have  
9 continual instruction and indoctrination for the new exhibit  
10 handlers or exhibit custodian clerks, when this new classifica-  
11 tion had been approved?

12 A I don't recall when it was approved. I don't think  
13 that any of them had been filled before I left.

14 I think it was about the time I left that the  
15 positions were filled.

16 Q Why do you believe that your continual requests  
17 for a form of improvement of the exhibits in the criminal  
18 division were not accepted and why were these improvements  
19 so late in coming?

20 A Well, we go through a regular budget process.

21 Each division must submit a budget request to the  
22 chief deputy county clerk.

23 He meets with the chief of the division and reviews  
24 the requests.

25 I had met with Mr. Talmachoff and others in the  
26 division that had any knowledge of what was requested and  
27 certainly having been chief of the criminal division I knew  
28 what the situation was.

1 I brought up what I felt was needed in the  
2 criminal division and we made the proper budget request.

3 Then following this procedure, we then wrote  
4 the budget request which went to the chief administrative  
5 office.

6 Q Did you incorporate what you have just made  
7 reference to in your budget request?

8 A Yes, I was always partial to the criminal  
9 division, that was my baby, you know.

10 Then the budget analyst from the chief administra-  
11 tive office would come over and we would spend maybe a week or  
12 so reviewing all of these requests and, of course, there were  
13 a number of things that were going on in the chief administra-  
14 tive office in the area of personnel.

15 The personnel department would have to review  
16 this and pass upon the request and also upon the reclassifica-  
17 tion of divisions and it simply took some time for them to  
18 come around to it.

19 Q When you say "we", who do you mean?

20 A Well, myself, Mr. Talmachoff and Mr. Sharp and  
21 the other people involved.

22 The problem, the whole problem, if I may speak  
23 freely --

24 Q Yes, I invite you to do so.

25 A As I see it, it is a tremendous warehousing  
26 problem and I was always concerned with it.

27 I don't know whether these people or the Grand  
28 Jurors have seen the physical storage areas, but they are

1 inadequate and they always have been inadequate.

2 The handling of the exhibits has always been  
3 inadequate.

4 Most of the exhibits come in prior to the trial  
5 and they are very important because the condition of the  
6 particular exhibits can determine guilt or innocence.

7 In my opinion they come in, and most of them come  
8 in prior to the trial and they should be handled more  
9 carefully and more emphasis should be placed on their  
10 handling.

11 They should be sealed in some way. There are all  
12 sorts of packaging available on the market today, as you know,  
13 because if you buy groceries you can hardly open them up.

14 There have been these advances in the area of  
15 plastics and I think these exhibits should be sealed so that  
16 there won't be any change in their condition.

17 In this state I believe that exhibits are a public  
18 record--- unfortunately.

19 I don't think they should be a public record, at  
20 least until the trial is over and the person is convicted. I  
21 believe at least until that time that access to the exhibits  
22 should be restricted.

23 I don't think anyone ought to view these exhibits  
24 without a prior order of the court.

25 Q How do you handle it in the Federal Court across  
26 the street?

27 A You can bet your bottom dollar that I reviewed the  
28 Federal procedures and we are more careful, but we only have

1 10 percent of the volume that Los Angeles County has.

2 Fortunately we have the personnel to handle  
3 them properly and we have them all in vaults with very  
4 limited access and we could not let people see them without  
5 an order of court.

6 We can do it because we don't have the volume.

7 Q Do you know how many felony cases are filed  
8 through indictment or through any other process in the  
9 Federal Courts.

10 A Well, I can't say throughout the country. There  
11 are 93 Districts and our district has about 3,000 a year.

12 Q And you are one of the busier offices?

13 A Yes, we're about the second largest in the  
14 country.

15 Q What I'm suggesting is that Los Angeles County  
16 files more felony cases each year than the entire United  
17 States Federal Jurisdiction handles?

18 A I don't know the figures, but it would approach  
19 them, I am sure.

20 Q In the table of organization where did you stand  
21 as it relates to Mr. Talmachoff's present position?

22 Here is a chart.

23 You will notice that we have the County Clerk up  
24 here and then we have the Chief of the Criminal Division, that  
25 is Mr. Talmachoff, and it is my understanding you were right  
26 beneath the County Clerk in the Chief Deputy position?

27 A That's correct; but I will say there has been a  
28 change since I have been Chief Deputy. Now they have an

1 Assistant Chief Deputy.

2 There are five major divisions who had chiefs  
3 that report directly to the Assistant Chief Deputy or the  
4 Chief Deputy now.

5 Q One of the questions asked by one of the Grand  
6 Jurors is, do you have any information on whether your  
7 suggested reclassification of exhibit custodian clerks has  
8 improved the caliber of such personnel?

9 A I would say yes, although I don't have any  
10 actual knowledge but I'm certain that the caliber of the  
11 personnel would improve -- even only because the personnel  
12 would stay longer.

13 Now, they are getting better salaries and there  
14 is a greater incentive to go up the ladder of promotion.

15 Q One of the Grand Jurors asks the following  
16 question:

17 Do you have any reason or do you recall any  
18 reason for not specifically checking to make sure that Mr.  
19 Talmachoff carried through with all the suggestions and  
20 recommendations made during the conference in Judge Loring's  
21 chamber?

22 A I may have.

23 I really don't have any recollection; it's been  
24 quite a long time ago.

25 Q One of the Grand Jurors asks the following  
26 question:

27 Are you personally a good friend of Mr. Sharp's?

28 A We have never socialized except at official

1 functions through the office.

2 Q One of the Grand Jurors asks the following  
3 question:

4 To your knowledge, how active is Mr. Sharp in  
5 administering and reforming his department?

6 A I think Mr. Sharp is interested in reform.

7 He let me pretty well run the department from  
8 a business point of view.

9 Q You understand the question is not "how  
10 interested" but "how active".

11 A May I have the question again?

12 Q Yes.

13 The question is:

14 How active is Mr. Sharp in administering and  
15 reforming his department?

16 A I would say decreasingly active in recent years.

17 Q Why?

18 A Why?

19 Q Yes, sir.

20 A Well, I think he had a good deal of confidence in me,  
21 I feel that he felt that I did especially well in certain areas  
22 because I am a lawyer and he was not a lawyer.

23 I think I understood some of the things that he  
24 didn't understand and could better implement the changes but he  
25 was a good boss and I kept him informed of the most important  
26 and significant matters that occurred while I was running the  
27 department.

28 Q Who replaced you when you left the Clerk's Office?

1 A Mr. Cabell.

2 Q Was Mr. Cabell one of the chiefs of the  
3 divisions in the Clerk's Office?

4 A He was not.

5 Q Was he in the Clerk's Office when you were  
6 Chief Deputy?

7 A No.

8 Q Can you tell us how it was that Mr. Cabell was  
9 brought into the Clerk's Office, as distinguished from  
10 promoting someone within the department to the top position  
11 of chief deputy, if you know?

12 A I really don't know.

13 As I recall, it was an open competitive  
14 examination, open to the entire county at large and I  
15 understand that a number of people within the County Clerk's  
16 Office applied for the position and were interviewed.

17 This was a change because Mr. Luskin came from  
18 within the department as, of course, I did.

19 Mr. Sharp held the position prior to that and  
20 I believe he was administrative assistant prior to his being  
21 promoted to chief clerk.

22 Q One of the Grand Jurors asks the following  
23 question:

24 During your administration, during your tenure  
25 as chief deputy in the Clerk's Office, you testified in  
26 substance you had some differences, perhaps even difficulty,  
27 in putting matters in order. Do you think that the people  
28 that followed you, or do you have any information in that

1 regard as to whether the people that followed you had the same  
2 problem, such as Mr. Cabell?

3 A No, I really don't know. I have kept contact  
4 with them and I've gone to lunch with some of them  
5 occasionally and I'm certainly interested as to some of the  
6 reforms that were instituted prior to my leaving but I can't  
7 really answer that specifically.

8 Q Mr. John Walker, whom you indicated you brought  
9 in, and I'm referring to another question by a Grand Juror,  
10 did he do the job you anticipated that he would do?

11 A Prior to my leaving I thought that John had done  
12 an excellent job. I personally inspected some of the areas  
13 that the Grand Jury has been concerned with and I noted a  
14 marked improvement.

15 He had looked into many heretofore unexplored  
16 areas and came up with some excellent recommendations and  
17 some of them would have been expensive to implement.

18 Packaging all those exhibits would be a tremendous  
19 proposition, but I think it has to be done.

20 MR. HECHT: I have nothing further.

21 THE FOREMAN: Any further questions?

22 Apparently not.

23 I don't feel that I have to admonish you concern-  
24 ing the secrecy of your testimony before the Grand Jury.

25 THE WITNESS: Not at all.

26 THE FOREMAN: I don't think so.

27 Thank you for coming in.

28 (Thereupon, the witness, Emory G. Hatcher, was then



1 escorted from the Grand Jury Hearing Room by the Sergeant  
2 At Arms.)

3 MR. HECHT: Mr. Hall.

4 (Thereupon, the witness, Dale P. Hall, was then  
5 escorted into the Grand Jury Hearing Room by the Sergeant  
6 At Arms.)

7  
8  
9 DALE P. HALL,

10 called as a witness before the Grand Jury, was duly sworn  
11 as follows:

12 THE FOREMAN: You do solemnly swear that the evidence  
13 you shall give in this matter now pending before the  
14 Grand Jury of the County of Los Angeles shall be the  
15 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help  
16 you God?

17 THE WITNESS: I do.  
18  
19

20 EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. HECHT:

22 Q Mr. Hall, what is your business or occupation,  
23 sir?

24 A I'm a Criminal Custodian Clerk.

25 Q How long have you been in the County Clerk's  
26 Office?

27 A Two and a half years.

28 Q During all of the two and a half years that you

1 have worked in the Clerk's Office have you worked here on the  
2 4th Floor of this building?

3 A Yes.

4 Q Have you been concerned during that prior period  
5 of time with the handling of exhibits?

6 A No, I have not.

7 Q What did you do before you did that?

8 A Well, I worked in the Criminal Records Section  
9 for approximately nine months.

10 Q All right; how much time have you been  
11 a Criminal Exhibit Custodian?

12 A Oh, it will be a year in September.

13 Q Mr. Hall, your office has submitted approximately  
14 10 questions to you and various other custodian clerks a  
15 number of weeks ago and they have supplied me with a type-  
16 written list of questions and what purports to be your  
17 answers.

18 Will you take a look at these questions and  
19 answers and tell me if you recognize if those are your answers  
20 to those questions?

21 A Which ones?

22 Q I think your answers may have been typewritten  
23 by the Clerk's Office.

24 A Okay.

25 Q These are your answers?

26 A Yes.

27 Q All right; will you please note Question 4,  
28 "What special instructions were given in regard to viewing the

1 Sirhan case exhibits?"

2 And your answer was, "None that I recall".

3 A Right.

4 Q Was that a correct statement on your part?

5 A Yes.

6 Q All right, question Number 9.

7 "Do you remember anything unusual or different  
8 or special, the way the exhibits, meaning the Sirhan exhibits,  
9 were stored, handled or I guess the word is viewed?"

10 Your answer is:

11 "Yes, the number of gentlemen viewing the  
12 exhibits were five or more. That, to me, was unusual."

13 Was that correct?

14 A Yes.

15 Q When you say five or more, do you mean that on  
16 occasion there would be more than five or more people at  
17 a time?

18 A Yes.

19 In one instance there was five or more  
20 people viewing the exhibit.

21 Q There was one time there were five or more people  
22 viewing the exhibit?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Had you brought out certain exhibits for these  
25 people to view?

26 A No, I don't think I did.

27 Q How did it come to your attention?

28 A I was just working in the section. We have other

#27

1 duties and I happened to notice all the people around, which  
2 was very unusual.

3 They were outside the section with photography  
4 equipment, and I'm not certain who they were, but the whole  
5 side of the office was lit up.

6 Q Did you see that just in passing?

7 A No.

8 Q You came out and you were wondering what was  
9 going on?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Did you see any other personnel from the Clerk's  
12 Office in the same group that was looking at the exhibits?

13 A Well, at the time we had a viewing desk outside  
14 of the section and a person would watch from inside the window  
15 and observe what was going on.

16 Q Did you see any observations being made of the  
17 people watching the exhibits?

18 A It was, we always, I or others, watching what is  
19 going on. But with that many people I would say it's quite  
20 difficult. There were five people standing around the  
21 exhibits.

22 Q Do you know that they were examinig the exhibits  
23 in the Sirhan case?

24 A I think they were because one gentleman I had  
25 given the exhibits to before for him to view and he was out  
26 there and I assumed it was the Sirhan case.

27 Q And the rest of your answer is, referring back to  
28 the portion of the answer supplied by me:

1 "Also the entire corner was lighted with photo  
2 lighting equipment."

3 Is that a correct statement?

4 A Yes.

5 Q Would it be fair to say that this appeared to be  
6 a big production, you couldn't avoid seeing it?

7 A Yes.

8 Q While you were waiting in the waiting room did  
9 my associate bring out to you these exhibit viewing forms?

10 A Yes.

11 Q Did you select just one?

12 A Yes.

13 Q You recall having some connection with this  
14 Grand Jury Exhibit Number 16?

15 A Yes.

16 Q How do you know you had some contact with that  
17 exhibit?

18 A Well, I can see the time in and the time out,  
19 and that is my writing and my initial by the time in.

20 Q Referring to the initials "D.H." by "IN/TIME"  
21 on this Exhibit 16?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And that deals with a man by the name of  
24 Ted Charach?

25 A Right.

26 Q Can you tell by looking at that review form you  
27 were the person that actually brought the exhibits to  
28 Mr. Charach or the copy of the exhibits, whatever he looked

1 at?

2 A No, I didn't because I checked it back in.

3 At the time one person would check the exhibits  
4 out and another person would check the exhibits in.

5 Therefore, I can't be sure looking at the form --  
6 I could have checked the exhibits out but there are no  
7 initials put on there.

8 Q I see.

9 Can you tell me what your best memory is as to  
10 why these forms weren't filled out in their entirety?

11 I'm not looking for fault on your part; I would  
12 just like to find out why.

13 A Well, just the lack of follow-through.

14 Q What do you mean by "lack of follow-through"?

15 A Lack of follow-through of the complete procedure.

16 Q Did you ever have any instructions from --

17 A I might say at one time we were told to use the  
18 forms completely and then later on it was completely changed  
19 where the procedure was changed and then we were told to fill  
20 out the forms completely.

21 Q Did someone say you didn't have to fill them out  
22 completely any more?

23 A No one told us specifically, I guess; everybody  
24 just slacked up on it.

25 Q I see.

26 Have you ever received any instructions from  
27 Mr. Talmachoff or any of the supervisors on the 4th Floor  
28 of the Clerk's Office, as to how a request to see the Sirhan

1 exhibits would be handled by yourself?

2 A No, I did not.

3 Q Have you looked at any of the documents in the  
4 Sirhan guide envelope?

5 A You're referring to the viewing forms, et  
6 cetera, things like that?

7 Q Anything that may appear in there?

8 A I have seen the guide envelope, yes.

9 Q Did you ever see Judge Walker's Court Order in  
10 that guide envelope?

11 A No, sir.

12 You see, we had to pull the white slip to verify  
13 the exhibits when we check them back in.

14 Q How would you, if, for instance, there was a  
15 special case that required unique handling, like the Sirhan  
16 case, how would you know about that?

17 A Well, the first time I did handle it there was  
18 one gentleman that always came in, and everything was to be  
19 referred to the supervisor the first time.

20 Q Who was that?

21 A Mr. Buckley.

22 Q Go ahead.

23 A He would always say -- that one guy came in about  
24 three or four times a week, and he would say, "Let him see the  
25 exhibits."

26 So everybody was taking it for granted that the  
27 exhibits could be viewed.

28 Q Are you talking about the original exhibits?

1 A Right; to my knowledge.

2 Q Showing you Exhibit Number 47. Do you recognize  
3 the man?

4 A That's right. I think he had on glasses when I  
5 saw him.

6 Q That was the one that you say was coming in about  
7 twice a week?

8 A Approximately three or two times a week, he would  
9 come in and view the exhibits.

10 Q When he would be there, and somebody was getting  
11 the exhibits, would you know what he wanted to see, or would  
12 he have to fill out a form?

13 A I'm quite sure he filled out a form. That  
14 picture looked like him, but he had glasses on.

15 Q Do you remember a day in which that gentleman  
16 and others were there photographing and taking pictures?

17 A Yes.

18 Q You remember that day?

19 A Right.

20 Q Those people were not being watched to any great  
21 extent, were they?

22 A They were being watched. Buckley said there were  
23 five people standing around and there was all the confusion  
24 and that's why we had to watch them.

25 Q Do you recall having an interview with me, as a  
26 matter of fact, on Wednesday, June 9, 1971, in the District  
27 Attorney's Office?

28 A Yes.



1 Q Do you remember there was a reporter there who  
2 was taking down everything?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And there was a tape recorder going?

5 A Yes.

6 Q I have had a transcription made of our conference  
7 and I would like to invite your attention to Page 6, Line 21,  
8 or let's go to Page 6, Line 14.

9 The questions are by me.

10 "QUESTION: What was said and what did  
11 you do?

12 "ANSWER: I think once or twice I saw it.

13 "QUESTION: Let's see. There was a group  
14 of people out there that were photocopying or  
15 taking pictures?

16 "ANSWER: They had the cameras, all that  
17 sort of thing.

18 "QUESTION: You were actually watching them  
19 and what they were doing?

20 "ANSWER: Not to any great extent.

21 "QUESTION: What do you mean by that?

22 "ANSWER: Not just standing the whole time  
23 they were out there.

24 "We would see them for a while and then  
25 someone else would be there.

26 "QUESTION: What do you mean 'someone else  
27 would be there'?

28 "ANSWER: Like I would stand there and a

1 person would relieve me.

2 "QUESTION: Why would a person relieve you?

3 "ANSWER: Well, we have our duties around  
4 there, the whole thing wouldn't be devoted to one  
5 individual. The phone would ring and we had to do  
6 some other jobs.

7 "QUESTION: Is it possible the phone was  
8 ringing and you had to see someone else and so  
9 there would be nobody there with them watching the  
10 exhibits?

11 "ANSWER: That is possible."

12 Is that a correct answer?

13 A Yes.

14 Q Now, I notice you pulled out just one of the  
15 exhibit review slips.

16 That was Grand Jury Exhibit Number 16 and we  
17 asked you about that.

18 Now, can you recall waiting on other people who  
19 were there to see the Sirhan evidence?

20 A Actually that's the only person I recall.

21 That gentleman here, that's the only person I  
22 can remember.

23 Q Was it ever brought to your attention by the  
24 people you worked for, your supervisors, that a court order  
25 was needed by anyone who wanted to see any of the original  
26 exhibits in the Sirhan case?

27 A Not prior -- no, not until this investigation.

28 Q Mr. Hall, can you give me any assurance that during