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FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

LA - LOS ANGELES ASSASSINATION REPORT PART 2

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
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FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

LA - LOS ANGELES

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An INVESTIGATION SUMMARY of the SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

June 5, 1968

VOLUME IV Pages 405--587
DETECTIVE BUREAU - LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

An INVESTIGATION SUMMARY of the SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

The FINAL REPORT February 1969

SPECIAL UNIT SENATOR
DETECTIVE BUREAU – LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

VOLUME IV

CHAPTER V

INVESTIGATION OF POSSIBLE CONSPIRACY

EVENTS AT THE AMBASSADOR AND CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

During the investigation it was suggested that Sirhan had one or more co-conspirators who took positions near other exits in anticipation that Kennedy would walk to a location other than the pantry. The possibility that this might have occurred caused investigators to place special emphasis on the interviews with witnesses who said they were near Embassy Room exits. Most of these witnesses were vague and could not relate what went on in the vicinity where they were standing. Those persons described as being suspicious generally turned out to be Latins employed by the hotel; however, the majority of witnesses were unable to describe any individual at a given time or place.

Kennedy Plans After the Victory Speech

The persons who managed Senator Robert F. Kennedy's campaign, and others reported to be close to the Senator, all agreed on his plans for election night, June 4, 1968. It was intended that the Senator would speak to an overflow crowd of supporters gathered in the Embassy Ballroom of the hotel; he would then attend a party. However, his itinerary between these two functions was the subject of disagreement among his staff members.

Various members of the Kennedy staff stated that the Senator had a habit of walking through the audience at the conclusion of his speeches. Other members of his staff thought he was going to the Ambassador Room to speak to the supporters crowded in that room, while still others reported that Senator Kennedy's motorcade vehicles were waiting in front of the hotel at the

time he completed the speech. Members of the press stated that he habitually held a press conference after his speeches,

In the event an interested person had made inquiries concerning the route Senator Kennedy planned to take after the speech, he would have been informed that the Senator intended to use one of three exits; this depended upon who was asked. These exits were: (1) The main ballroom exit, had Kennedy walked through the crowd. (2) The pantry, the closest way to the press room. (3) The inside stairs to the northwest of the stage, the route to the Ambassador Ballroom.

Guards at Exits

The main ballroom exit was guarded by two uniformed hotel guards, Albert Stowers and Jack Merritt. Arthur Maddox and Fred Murphy, both hotel security men, were in the hallway near the main doors. None of these security men reported any suspicious persons loitering about the exit.

The exit to the rear of the stage, leading to the pantry, was guarded by Thomas Perez. Two other guards, Stanley Kawalec and Thane Cesar waited for and accompanied Senator Kennedy through the pantry. No one considered Sirhan to be suspicious, although he was observed to be loitering in the pantry.

The inside stairway, leading to the Ambassador Room, was guarded by Willie Bell and Curtis Lloyd, uniformed hotel guards placed at that location for crowd control purposes. They were

joined by William Gardner, Hotel Security Chief, during the speech; the three of them awaited Senator Kennedy's arrival on the Casino Level. They did not observe any suspicious persons loitering at their location.

The Kennedy Staff Anchor Desk was located at the top of this stairway. Staff members, Lucy Salinger and Louis Warschaw, were at the Anchor Desk with John Frankenheimer, a friend of the Senator. They reported that they did not observe any suspicious persons at that location.

THE POLKA DOT DRESS INVESTIGATION

Miss Sandra Serrano came to the attention of investigators on June 5, 1968, when she described a female running from the scene of the assassination of Robert Kennedy. She alleged that the female stated, "We shot him, we shot him." The person was alleged to have been wearing a polka dot dress. Miss Serrano's allegation was partially corroborated by statements of another witness, Vincent Di Pierro. A full-scale investigation and search for this suspect took place as a result.

Subsequent investigation revealed that Miss Serrano had concocted the entire story of the female suspect. Evidence also indicated that Miss Serrano could not have heard or seen all of the events that she alleged. The investigation of the "Girl in the Polka Dot Dress" follows:

Events at the Hotel

On June 5, 1968, at 12:30 a.m., John Ambrose, a Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney, was approached outside the main entrance of the Ambassador Hotel by Sandra Serrano a 20-year-old Kennedy worker. She was obviously excited and told Ambrose that prior to her learning of the shooting, a man and woman walked toward her in a hotel corridor. As they passed, the woman stated, "We just shot him." Serrano asked the woman, "Who shot who?" The woman replied, "We just shot Senator Kennedy." Serrano described the man and woman as follows:

> Female Caucasian, 22-26, 5-5, good figure, wearing a white dress with black polka dots, with a bib collar, long sleeves

and wearing heels.

Male Mexican-American, 23, wearing a gold sweater.

Ambrose, realizing the importance of her statement, directed her to detectives in the Embassy Room. While waiting for the investigators, she was interviewed by Sandor Vanocur, an NBC-TV news commentator, on a live telecast over the NBC television network. During the interview, she stated essentially the same information she had told Ambrose, but changed the location of the encounter with the couple from a corridor inside the hotel to an outside staircase. After her encounter and before meeting Ambrose, she telephoned her parents, Manuel and Amparo Serrano, at their home in Lorain, Ohio, to tell them about the shooting.

Sandra Serrano Interviews

Serrano was interviewed at Rampart Station at 2:35 a.m. on June 5, 1968. She stated that while on an outside staircase of the hotel, she observed the female and two male companions going upstairs. She thought she heard gunshots, but at the time thought they were the backfires of a car. The female and one of the males reappeared running down the stairs. The male that did not come back down the stairs was described as Mexican-American, 23-25, 5-2 to 5-5, 130-135, wearing a light shirt, possibly beige pants and needing a haircut. Serrano was certain that she could identify the female and the male companion who came back down the stairs but wasn't sure if she could identify the other male she had seen walking up the stairs.

At 4 a.m. Serrano was reinterviewed. During this interview, Serrano's statements were essentially the same as in her previous

interview. She did elaborate on the description of the polka dot dress, stating the dress was an "A-frame" style with a "bib collar" and "3/4 length sleeves." The dress was "white with black polka dots approximately 1/8" in size."

Vincent Di Pierro Corroborated Serrano's Allegations

At 4:25 a.m. at Parker Center, investigators interviewed Vincent Di Pierro. During this interview Di Pierro stated that he is employed at the Ambassador Hotel as a waiter. He stated that he was in the pantry when Senator Kennedy was shot and that he observed the shooting. He saw Sirhan on a tray stand in the pantry area at the east end of the ice machine. He observed a female wearing a polka dot dress standing next to Sirhan. Di Pierro believed the female and Sirhan were together; he observed Sirhan turn toward the female, appear to say something and she turned and smiled at him. Di Pierro described the female as Caucasian, 20-24, well built, brunette colored shoulder length hair, wearing a white dress with black polka dots.

As a result of receiving the information from Serrano and Di Pierro, the Los Angeles Police Department broadcast a teletype requesting information for the arrest of a woman in a polka dot dress. The teletype was sent at 11:50 a.m., June 5, 1968, and an identical description on a supplemental teletype was sent at 12:30 p.m. the same day. The description was as follows: Female Caucasian, 23-27, 5-6, wearing a white voile dress, 3/4 sleeves with small black polka dots, dark shoes, bouffant-type hair.

The Follow-up Investigation

On June 7, 1968, Serrano reviewed colored films taken at the

Ambassador Hotel by NBC News in an attempt to identify the suspects she had seen on the steps. She was unable to do so.

On June 7, 1968, Serrano was interviewed by F.B.I. Special Agent Richard C. Burris at her home, 2212 North Marengo Street, Altadena. Serrano told him that on June 4, 1968, at 8:30 p.m., that she left the Youth for Kennedy Pasadena Headquarters with four committee workers. At 11:30 p.m., she left the Ambassador Ballroom and went out onto an outside stairway. She sat on the fifth or sixth step of the stairs that lead up to the Embassy Room. Two or three minutes later a woman and two men started up the stairs. When the woman got near her, the woman said, "Excuse us," and Serrano moved to the side so the three could pass. For the next 20 to 25 minutes, no other person went up or down past her. After hearing some noises that sounded like an automobile backfire, one of the men and the woman ran back down the stairs. The woman yelled, "We shot him, we shot him." "Who did you shoot?" she asked. The woman replied, "Senator Kennedy."

Serrano went inside the hallway area and asked an unidentified guard if Senator Kennedy had been shot. The guard told her she must have had too much to drink. She went to a public phone booth inside the Ambassador Hotel and called her parents in Ohio. While Serrano was in the phone booth, Barbara Fleckenstein, a Kennedy co-worker, approached and asked her if it were true that Senator Kennedy had been shot and she answered, "Yes." Serrano stated that she had difficulty in explaining to her parents what had happened, because she was crying and near complete hysteria.

After leaving the phone booth, she went back to the Ambassador Ballroom and met Greg Abbott and Dave Haines, both co-workers, but was unable to get either to understand what had happened. As she walked out of the ballroom, she met Irene Chavez, a good friend, and began walking towards the parking lot. Serrano then walked up to a man (John Ambrose) and told him what she had heard the woman say. Ambrose directed her to a policeman in the Embassy Room. While she was sitting in the Embassy Room waiting to be interviewed by the police, a person asked if she were a witness and before she realized it she was being interviewed on television. Serrano was then taken to Rampart Station where she was interviewed by investigators from the Department.

On June 8, 1968, F.B.I. investigators interviewed Manuel Serrano and Amparo Serrano, parents of Sandra Serrano. They verified their daughter's statement regarding a phone call to them the night of the shooting. Amparo Serrano does not recall her daughter mentioning anything about a girl saying, "We just shot Senator Kennedy." She does remember her saying, "Why would they do anything like this?"

On June 10, 1968, Serrano viewed eight assorted dress styles in an effort to pick out a dress similar to the polka dot dress. These dresses were numbered one through eight for identification purposes. After viewing each dress, she picked out dress number six and stated it looked the same as the polka dot dress except for the sleeve length.

Di Pierro viewed the eight assorted dresses and selected dress

number four as most like the polka dot dress he had seen at the Ambassador Hotel. Di Pierro recalled talking to Sandra Serrano while they were waiting to be interviewed on the night of the shooting. During this conversation, the woman wearing the polka dot dress was mentioned but was not described by either except for saying it was white with black polka dots.

After viewing the dress Serrano was asked if she would consent to a polygraph examination to verify her statement. She answered affirmatively. She was also asked to reenact the incident on the stairs. She consented and a video tape was made of her sitting on the outside stairway leading down from the southwest corner of the Embassy Room.

Elements of the Investigation Conflict

On June 19, 1968, investigators interviewed Captain Cecil R. Lynch of the Los Angeles Fire Department. Lynch stated that the night of the assassination he was assigned to enforce occupancy and fire regulations at the Ambassador Hotel. During the time Senator Kennedy made his victory speech in the Embassy Room, Lynch began checking various stairways and exits for possible violations of fire regulations. Lynch stated that he checked the stairs Serrano alleged to have been seated on moments before Senator Kennedy was shot, and at that time no one was seated on the stairs.

On June 20, 1968, 11:30 a.m., sound-level tests were conducted at the Ambassador Ballroom. A .22 caliber Cadet model revolver was used, with .22 caliber ammunition which matched the brand

and lot used in the assassination. The test weapon was fired in the Embassy Room pantry at the same location that Senator Kennedy was shot. The weapon was held horizontal to the floor with the muzzle pointed towards the west door of the pantry. A series of one, four and eight shots were fired. During these tests, there were no functions occurring in the Embassy Room, Sunset Room or the Boulevard Room. The tests were conducted with the exit door from the Sunset Room both open and closed. The sound-level tests indicated it would have been impossible for Serrano to have heard the shots. The sound-level meter indicated a ½ decibel change when the test shots were fired. The minimum sound-level change discernible by a person with normal hearing is 2 decibels.

Serrano's Polygraph Examination

Investigators invited Serrano to take a polygraph examination. The polygraph examination was given by Sgt. Hernandez #7101 on June 20, 1968. The following report of the polygraph examination was submitted by Hernandez:

Sandra Serrano - Date of Examination - June 20, 1968

Allegation: Miss Serrano stated that on the late evening of June 4, 1968, she was sitting on a rear stairway approximately half-way up between the landing connecting the Sunset Room and the Embassy Ballroom of Ambassador Hotel. She stated that shortly before midnight she observed two males and one female walk up the stairway and enter the Embassy Ballroom. Miss Serrano described one of the men as being Sirhan and described

the woman as wearing a white dress with black polka dots.

Miss Serrano stated that approximately ten to fifteen minutes after she observed these people enter the Embassy Room, she heard approximately eight to ten gunshots in succession; that a couple of minutes after the shots she observed the girl in the white and black polka dot dress and one of the men running down the stairway where she was still sitting. She noted that Sirhan was not with them. The girl in the polka dot dress was yelling, "We shot him, we shot him." Miss Serrano asked, "Who did you shoot?" and the girl answered, "Kennedy, we shot Kennedy." Serrano stated she later identified photographs of Sirhan Sirhan as the man who entered the Embassy Ballroom, but who failed to return with the other man and the girl in the polka dot dress after the shooting.

Conclusion: Polygraph examination disclosed that Sandra Serrano has never seen Sirhan Sirhan in person; further, that Miss Serrano fabricated, for some unknown reason, the story about the girl in the polka dot dress. Responses to relevant questions indicate that no one made statements to Miss Serrano telling her that they had shot Kennedy or that she heard any gunshots during the late evening of June 4 or early morning of June 5, 1968. Miss Serrano was informed of the results of the polygraph examination.

Results: Miss Serrano was interrogated extensively and ultimately she admitted that the story about Sirhan Sirhan, the girl in the polka dot dress and the gunshots was not true. She

stated that she had been sitting on the stairway at the time that she had mentioned and that she did hear a car backfire a couple of times, but she knew that the sounds did in fact come from a car, and were not gunshots. She said that while she was sitting on the stairway, approximately four or five people came running down the stairway screaming that Kennedy had been shot. She stated that no one at any time told her that "They had themselves shot Kennedy."

Miss Serrano stated that she had no knowledge of any polka dot dress until after the assassination and just prior to her being interviewed. She states that she was sitting waiting to be interviewed when she heard a kid making reference to a girl in a polka dot dress.

She talked to the young man and each of them inquired of the other about the description of the dress and the girl. According to Miss Serrano there must have been a mutual agreement between them as to the description of the girl and the polka dot dress. Miss Serrano stated that later when she was being questioned by the police, she felt that she should know more than she actually did, and eventually the statements which were attributed to her were publicized on TV and in newspapers. She said that she knew the statements were not true; but, that she could not change them because it would make her look like a fool.

Reinterview With Di Pierro

On July 1, 1968, Vincent Di Pierro was reinterviewed and given a polygraph examination by investigators. The polygraph operator determined that Di Pierro had been untruthful

about what he saw at the hotel. Di Pierro was advised of the statements of Miss Serrano. He admitted that he had discussed the polka dot dress with Serrano prior to his original interview. He stated that he had been confused the night of the assassination and that he had not seen a girl talking to Sirhan in the kitchen. Di Pierro advised investigators that he had not seen the girl in the polka dot dress but that he may have seen a girl somewhere in the hotel who caused him to think he had seen the girl Serrano mentioned.

Events Occurring in Response to the News Release Regarding the Girl in a Polka Dot Dress

On June 6, 1968, 3 p.m., Mrs. Edith Goldstein discovered a paper sack containing a gray dress with white polka dots, miscellaneous feminine undergarments and cosmetics. The sack was found lying in the alley at the rear of 1835 Crescent Heights Boulevard, Los Angeles. The property was booked found evidence at Rampart Station. Investigators interviewed Mrs. Ruby Nishio at 1835 Crescent Heights Boulevard, and the occupants of the neighboring homes, but were unable to obtain any further information.

On June 7, 1968, the contents of the sack containing a polka dot dress found by Edith Goldstein were processed for fingerprints by Latent Prints Section. Numerous fingerprints were found and photographed. These fingerprints were only adequate for elimination purposes.

The contents of the sack containing the polka dot dress found

by Edith Goldstein were analyzed for human hair and blood by Scientific Investigation Division. On June 18, 1968, no human hair or blood was found, and it was concluded that the clothing was new and had not been worn. The stains were probably caused by the clothing coming in contact with the lipstick and liquid face make up. The lipstick had no top and the liquid face make up showed evidence of leakage.

1. Cheryl Wessels was taken into custody at the County Jail at 1:30 p.m. on June 5, 1968, as the result of an informant's call naming her as the then-outstanding girl in the polka dot dress. She was released when it was learned she was at home during the time of the shooting.

2. Cathey S. Fulmer telephonically contacted the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department on June 7, 1968, and informed them she believed she was the girl in the polka dot dress wanted by this Department. Fulmer told detectives she was at the Ambassador on June 4/5, 1968, and was wearing a green dress with a orange polka dot scarf around her neck. Fulmer stated after the shooting she ran from the main entrance of the Embassy Room yelling, "They shot him." Serrano was certain that Fulmer was not the woman she had seen on the stairs after she viewed Fulmer in the lobby of Parker Center.

3. On June 7, 1968, investigators were notified that Laurel Koons was interviewed by the Vallejo Police Department on June 6, 1968, at 9:10 p.m., regarding the shooting of

Kennedy. She told the Vallejo investigator that she was being accused by friends of being the girl in the polka dot dress. She explained that she was in San Diego the night of the shooting visiting her boyfriend Michael Teague who was aboard the U.S.S. Worden. She was described as a female Caucasian, 38, 5', 140, hazel eyes, long black hair with a slightly crooked nose. Due to Laurel Koons' physical description, it was apparent she was not the woman allegedly seen by Serrano.

Michael Teague (U.S. Navy) was interviewed and stated that Laurel Koons was with him in San Diego from May 31 or June 1, 1968, until June 3, 1968. On June 3, 1968, Teague went to sea and remained at sea June 4 and 5. He knew that Miss Koons had a ticket for the return flight to Vallejo but does not know for what date or on which airline.

4. On June 14, 1968, at 7 p.m., Muriel C. Lee informed the desk officer at Parker Center that she thought she was the woman that was involved in the Kennedy assassination. Investigator interviewed Mrs. Lee and learned that on the night of the assassination she was wearing a black long sleeve dress and a large white hat similar to a "Chef's" hat. Her physical description is female Caucasian, 48, 5-5½, 120, black hair, hazel eyes. Mrs. Lee felt she might be the woman sought by the police because she had been in the pantry area prior to and after the shooting. She stated she did not run from the pantry yelling anything. It was determined by investigators

that she was not the woman that Serrano allegedly had seen due to the totally different description of her clothing and her physical description.

5. Kris Sumpter was interviewed by investigators on June 18, 1968. She told investigators that she went to the Ambassador Hotel on June 4, 1968, and was wearing a white blouse with small black polka dots and a black skirt. She stated she was coming up a flight of stairs from the Ambassador Ballroom when Senator Kennedy was shot. Her description is female Caucasian, 21, 5-1, 150, brown, brown. Due to her location at the time of the shooting, her physical description and the clothing she was wearing, she was not the woman allegedly seen by Serrano on the steps.

6. A telephone call was received on June 19, 1968, from John Anthony, a producer for KTVU-TV San Francisco. He stated that he had obtained information from an informant, whom he refused to name, that a Joan London was seen the night of the shooting. It was alleged that Joan London was wearing a polka dot dress at the time.

On June 19, 1968, Ceasar Chavez, President of the Farm Workers Union, was interviewed, and he stated that he was at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the shooting. Chavez knows a Joan London that lives in San Francisco and states that he did not see her that night. The Joan London that he knows is 60 years old and writes for the Delano Farm Workers newspaper.

Due to the description of Mrs. London and her advanced age, it was concluded that she was not the woman allegedly seen by Serrano.

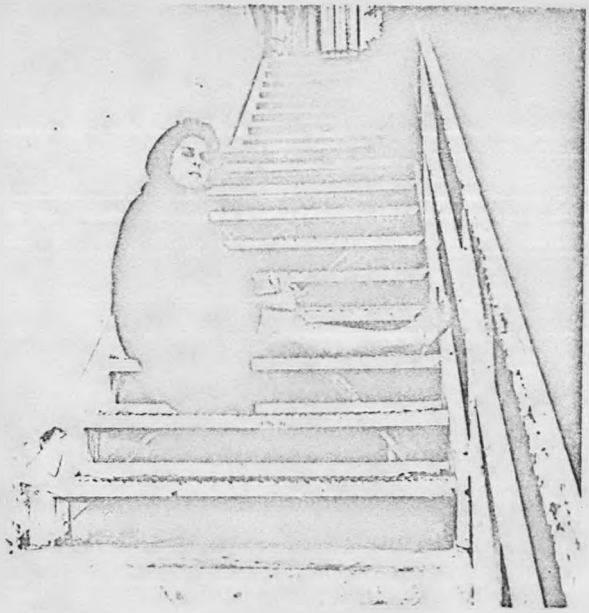
Actual Girl in Polka Dot Dress

Though Sandra Serrano and Vincent Di Pierro admitted that they did not actually see a girl in a black and white polka dot dress, a girl with a polka dot dress was in the pantry area when the shooting occurred. Valerie Schulte, a Kennedy Girl, was wearing a bright green dress with gold polka dots at the Ambassador Hotel the evening of June 4, 1968. Miss Schulte is blond and slender, and she does not fit the description which Serrano supplied investigators in any way.

Miss Schulte was important in this investigation, however, because she observed the shooting of Senator Kennedy. Witnesses placed Schulte outside the pantry in the anteroom behind the ballroom podium prior to the shooting. She walked beside Kennedy as he went into the pantry, but she dropped behind him as he moved quickly foreward. She was walking on one crutch and wearing a leather support on her right leg. She was several feet behind Kennedy when the first shot was fired.

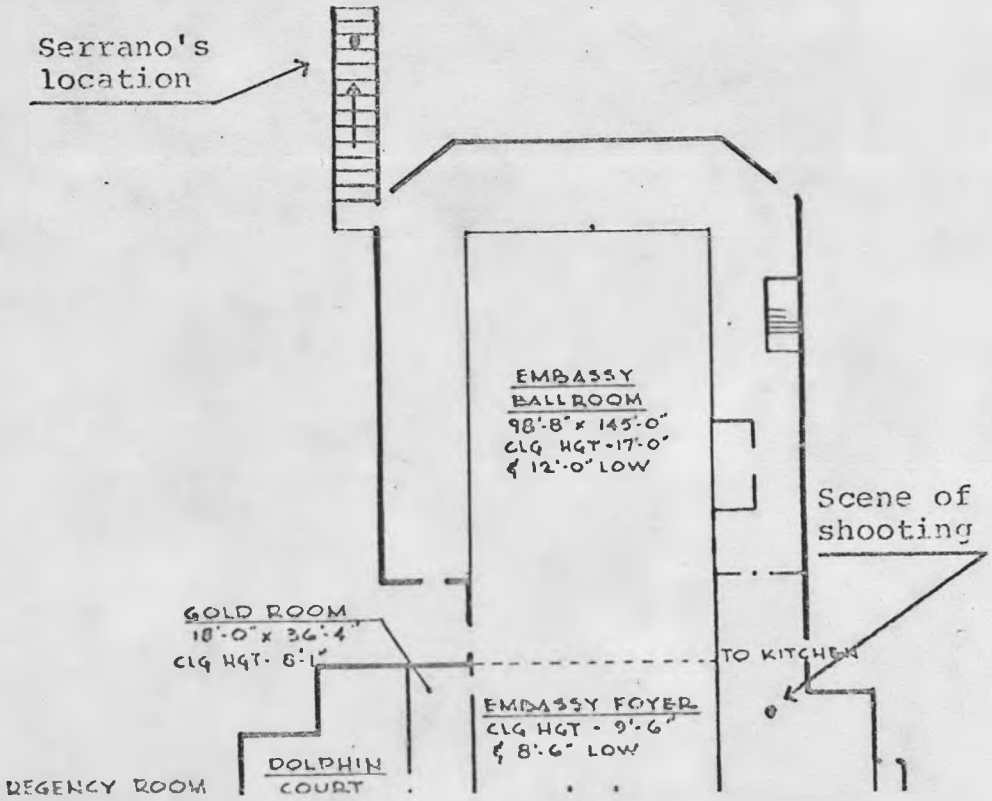
Investigators speculated that Vincent Di Pierro may have seen Schulte and confused her appearance in his mind. He was also in the kitchen at the time of the shooting. It was proven through witnesses' statements that Schulte could not have been close enough to Sirhan to speak to him, and it was obvious that she was not the suspected person.

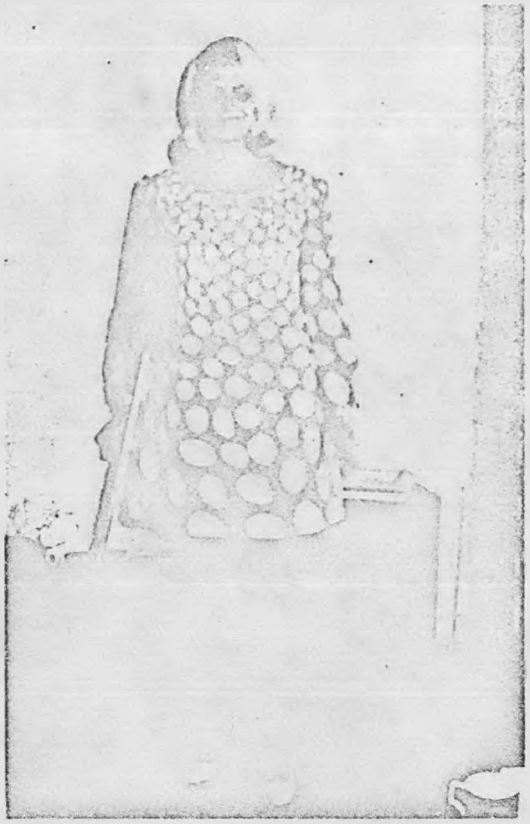
The investigation proved that a basis never existed for Serrano's allegation that there was a woman in a polka dot dress; or, that a conspiracy between Sirhan and such a woman had occurred. Nevertheless, Valerie Schulte coincidentally was present in the pantry area at the time of the shooting.



Sandra Serrano

Sandra Serrano stated that she was seated on this stairway, as she is depicted above, when she heard shots and then a woman wearing a polka dot dress ran down the stairs yelling, "We shot him." The investigation proved that Serrano could not have heard the shots from the kitchen, and a Fire Department Inspector stated that Serrano was not on the stairway after the shooting. The Polka Dot Dress Investigation was subsequently proven to be a hoax.





Valerie Schulte

Valerie Schulte was wearing a polka dot dress the night of the assassination and was in the pantry at the time of the shooting. Though she did not fit the description given by Sandra Serrano and Vincent Di Pierro, it was speculated that Di Pierro may have developed the polka dot idea because he saw Schulte. It was proven that Miss Schulte was involved in no way with the assassination.

KHAIBAR KHAN

Investigation into the activities of Khaibar Khan brought about allegations of his complicity in the Kennedy assassination. Khan's involvement centered about his participation as a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters on June 1 through June 4, 1968. His Middle-Eastern appearance and peculiar behavior caused workers at the headquarters to feel that he had been involved somehow in the assassination.

It was alleged by witnesses that Khaibar Khan had been seen talking to Sirhan Sirhan at the Kennedy Headquarters. Sirhan was alleged to have been wearing a gun at the time. During the investigation, statements by Khan indicated that he himself may have seen Sirhan at the headquarters on June 4, 1968.

The investigation concluded that Khan had probably mistaken another person for Sirhan, and that witnesses had been incorrect about their assertions that Sirhan had been seen at the headquarters. The following is an account of the investigation regarding Khaibar Khan.

Khaibar Khan first came to the attention of investigators on June 13, 1968, as a result of a check of volunteer cards at the Kennedy Headquarters, 5615 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles.

The Office Manager of the Kennedy Headquarters, June Isackson, was contacted on June 13 regarding Khan. She stated that Khan, also known as "Goody," appeared at the headquarters and volunteered to work for Senator Kennedy. Isackson described

Khan as a well-mannered somewhat over-dressed person, who appeared to do strange things. She felt that for some unexplained reasons Khan was not sincere and that he was a "phony." Isackson stated that Khan had told her he was a friend of the Kennedy family and of the Senator.

Khan was allegedly responsible for bringing fifteen to twenty volunteer workers prior to Election Day. All of these workers were individuals of Middle-Eastern descent. Investigation revealed that a total of twenty-four volunteer cards were written in the same handwriting and contained the same address: 10455½ Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles.

Bernard Isackson, husband of June Isackson, was also a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Headquarters. He related similar feelings toward Khan, stating that he was "very overbearing and that he seemed to be trying to impress someone." Mr. Isackson stated that Khan would meet volunteer workers entering the headquarters and escort them to the desk to register. He would then register them as personal friends and have them use his own address: 10455½ Wilshire Boulevard.

Larry Strick, a volunteer worker, was interviewed and stated that he had observed Khan in the company of Sirhan at the campaign headquarters on June 2, 1968. Subsequently, Strick was reinterviewed, and he retracted his former statement and explained that he was not positive that the person he saw in the campaign headquarters on June 2, 1968, in the company of Khan was Sirhan Sirhan. When Strick was shown several mug

shots, he was unable to identify Sirhan's photograph.

Mrs. Estelle Sterns was a volunteer worker who also claimed to have seen Sirhan with Khan. She related that Sirhan, Khan and another male Jordanian approached her desk on June 4, 1968, at 9:00 a.m. She related that Sirhan and the male Jordanian were carrying guns in shoulder type holsters. Khan, Sirhan and the male Jordanian then engaged her in a conversation regarding sports, and Sirhan invited her out for a cup of coffee. Mrs. Sterns' account was the subject of a separate investigation and report.

Mrs. Eleanor Severson was also a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Headquarters. In her interview she related that she worked at the same desk with Mrs. Sterns, and that she arrived at the Kennedy Headquarters on June 4, 1968, at approximately 8:30 a.m. She stated that she never left the desk until late in the afternoon. At no time did Mrs. Sterns talk to two young Jordanian men, nor was she asked to go out for coffee or a drink. There was no one at the desk with guns. In Mrs. Severson's opinion Mrs. Sterns was a "feather brain," and an excitable lady, who could not find enough reasons to make herself important to others. She believed that Mrs. Sterns made up the story to gain publicity.

Mrs. Severson stated that, to her knowledge, the only time a conversation took place between Mrs. Sterns and Khan was on June 3, 1968. This conversation consisted of sports, in particular golf, and nothing more.

Mrs. Charles Henebray, who also worked at the Kennedy Headquarters, was interviewed. Mr. Henebray reported for work at 7:40 a.m. on June 4 and worked until 8:00 p.m. During this time he met three individuals of Middle-Eastern extraction. They were Khan, Miss Maryam Kouchan and Khan's son. At no time did he observe any individuals with guns.

Interview with Talat Khan

On June 14, 1968, investigators went to 10455½ Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, to contact Khaibar Khan. They were met by Mrs. Talat Khan who explained that she was the ex-wife of Khan and had been divorced from him since 1961. Mrs. Khan did not know the residence or business address of Khan and stated that Khan still used her address and phone number as his own. She stated that she had four children, three of whom had worked in the Senator's campaign.

Mrs. Khan stated that she knew little of Khan's activities and only knew that he was some type of a honorary chairman of a group that is anti-Iranian. She stated that he had been involved in some construction deals with the Shah of Iran, and since that time he had been a political exile from that country.

Interviews with Khaibar Khan

The following information was received from Khaibar Khan during five separate interviews from June 18, 1968, through July 28, 1968. Interviews took place at various locations including parks, coffee shops and various motels. Khan insisted that investigators be assigned assumed names in order to set up

appointments. Khan felt that this would be advisable since he feared for his security. He advised investigators that he had the nickname of "Goody" because his last name was at one time "Goodarzian." He had legally changed his name, but his friends still knew him by that name.

Khan mentioned that he was reluctant to furnish his address as he anticipated reprisals from members of the Iranian government because of his opposition to the Shah. This opposition stemmed from testimony which Khan stated that he made before the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations in 1963. Khan stated that at these hearings he had been personally introduced to Senator Robert Kennedy and had since that time supported the policies of the late President John F. Kennedy and Robert Kennedy.

Khan also stated that in 1963 he had registered as a representative of a Foreign Principal with the Registration Section of the Internal Security Division of the United States Department of Justice. This registration had been in connection with the organization which had supported Khan's claims of irregularities in the handling of U.S. foreign aid to the poor of Iran. Khan referred investigators to a copy of the April 12, 1965, issue of "The Nation" which contained an article about his activities and allegations concerning the misuse of U.S. foreign aid funds in Iran.

Khan stated during his interview that between June 1 and June 4 he had been wearing a cast for an injury which he received while

leaving his ex-wife's apartment in March of 1968. The injury occurred when unknown suspects attacked him. Khan reported the incident to West Los Angeles Detectives, but to date the case was unsolved.

The following is Khan's account of his activities at the Kennedy Headquarters:

His first visit to the headquarters was on June 1, 1968, in the afternoon. Khan registered under his true name and met Marguerite Sweeney who was supposedly in charge of volunteer workers. Kahn was assigned to answer telephones and during the next four days was responsible for registering several persons at the headquarters. Khan confirmed that he advised these people to use his address and phone number.

Khan and his half sister, Maryam Kouchan, both worked at the headquarters on June 2, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Khan and his daughter, Miss Shirria Khan, worked at the campaign headquarters on June 3, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

On June 4, 1968, at 2:00 p.m., Khan came to the headquarters accompanied by Maryam Kouchan and his son, Phillipe Khan. During the day's activities, Khan observed a female Caucasian, twenty-three to twenty-six years, wearing a short dress with polka dots. The female appeared to be talking to a male Caucasian, dark complexion, short in height, wearing a blue "McGregor" type windbreaker, white shirt and tight trousers. They appeared to be talking to one another since they were facing each other and their lips were moving. Due to the

distance Khan could not overhear any conversation.

Khan was shown a group of photographs, one of which was that of Sirhan Sirhan. Khan then selected the photograph of Sirhan Sirhan and stated that this possibly was the same person he had seen on June 4, 1968, inside the headquarters, but that he could not be positive.

Due to the fact that Khan possibly saw someone resembling Sirhan, he was asked if he would attend a lineup. Khan declined the invitation and also refused to volunteer to take a polygraph examination.

Khan further stated that he did not wish to get mixed up in an affair involving the Arabian countries and the Jewish state that might come as a result of the assassination. He stated he did not actually see the young girl talking to the person thought to be Sirhan on June 4, but that they were face to face, and that he would not testify in a court of law unless he was one hundred percent sure.

At approximately 8:00 p.m. on June 4, 1968, Khan and Miss Kouchan left the headquarters. They met a young man in his early twenties who had asked Miss Kouchan if they were going to the Ambassador Hotel. When he was informed that they were not, but were heading toward West Los Angeles, the young man asked for a ride. He was in the car when Khan came out of the headquarters. The young man asked Khan if he would give him the campaign button that he was wearing so he might use it to get into the Ambassador Hotel. Khan declined and the man became

persistent. The man wanted Khan to go back to the headquarters and get him a Kennedy button or a press pass or something which would enable him to get into the party at the Ambassador. Khan again refused.

Khan drove the young man to the vicinity of Westwood and Wilshire Boulevards. The young man gave Khan a piece of paper with his name and address on it. This was given to Khan in case he could acquire additional campaign passes or buttons that Khan could send to the young man. The young man's name and address as written on the paper was: Michael Wayne, 1430 South Hipoint Street, #105, Los Angeles, California 90035.

Michael David Wayne was subsequently detained at the Ambassador Hotel immediately after the assassination. He had been observed running from the vicinity of the shooting. It was determined that he was only a souvenir hunter and not involved in the assassination.

Khan was advised that two volunteer workers, Larry Strick and Estelle Sterns, thought they had seen Sirhan Sirhan on June 2 standing near the information desk at the headquarters at about 2:00 p.m. When Strick had asked the man thought to be Sirhan if he could help him, the man replied, "No thanks, I'm with him," and pointed in the direction of Khan.

Khan said that he had no recollection of this incident or of seeing Sirhan at that time. He feels that the only time he could have seen Sirhan was on June 4.

Khan was further advised that co-workers at the headquarters had stated that Khan had brought in a number of young people of Middle-Eastern descent as volunteer workers, and that Sirhan may have been part of this group.

Khan related that he brought his four children and his half sister. He told them to bring their friends and anyone who might be a potential volunteer for Kennedy. There were a number of persons who had responded and used his address, and this probably showed a connection with either himself or his address. Khan did not know the names of these individuals, but felt that they were probably of Iranian descent.

On June 27, 1968, investigators learned from Khan that he had been arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for remaining in this country over the specified time, and that a Deportation hearing had been set for July 19, 1968. Khan's record indicated an arrest in Los Angeles under the name of Mohammad Ali for 647(f) P.C. on January 13, 1967.

Khan's children were interviewed and acknowledge that they worked at the Kennedy Headquarters, but when shown the photographs of Sirhan they made no identification.

Miss Maryam Kouchan was shown the photographs of Sirhan, and she identified Sirhan as a person she possibly had seen at the headquarters on June 2, 1968. She first observed this person at approximately 2:00 p.m. when he opened the door to the headquarters for her. Approximately two hours later inside the headquarters, she again observed this person thought to be

Sirhan standing near the women's rest room. He was alone and appeared to be exiting via the rear doors. She did not see him talking with anyone during any of this time. Miss Kouchan was invited to attend a lineup to positively identify the person she observed as Sirhan. Miss Kouchan refused to attend the lineup and to take a polygraph examination. She stated that she could not be absolutely sure without seeing Sirhan in person.

Allegations of witnesses that they had seen Sirhan with Khan were discounted by the statements of other witnesses. Khan, upon further reflection, was unable to state that he had seen Sirhan at the headquarters. Miss Koucham likewise would not positively identify Sirhan as being in the headquarters. Based upon the statements of witnesses and the involved parties, investigators concluded that Sirhan was probably not in the Kennedy Headquarters prior to the assassination. They further concluded that Khan was not involved in any way with Sirhan.

ESTELLE STERNS

Mrs. Estelle Sterns was a volunteer worker at the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters prior to the assassination. She alleged that she had observed Sirhan Sirhan at the campaign headquarters on June 4, 1968 at 9 a.m. She also alleged that Sirhan and another man had been wearing guns on that occasion.

Intensive investigation into the whereabouts and activities of Sirhan on June 4th determined that he was at home at the time that Sterns alleged that she saw him. Mrs. Sterns refused to admit that she had not seen Sirhan and after agreeing to submit to a polygraph examination she refused to appear for the test. Interviews with witnesses revealed that Sterns was a very erratic person and indications were that she fabricated her allegation to bring attention to herself. An account of the Estelle Sterns investigation follows:

On June 19, 1968, Mrs. Estelle Sterns came to the Rampart Detective Division to report an incident regarding Sirhan. She stated that on June 4, 1968, at 10 a.m., Sirhan, two other males and a female had entered the Kennedy Campaign Headquarters at 5615 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles and engaged her in a conversation. Sterns was a volunteer worker in charge of fund raising and she occupied the first desk next to the front door of the headquarters.

Sterns described the men as young dark complexioned Jordanians; the female was described as young and Jordanian. The older of

the two other males asked Sterns her name and if he could have Senator Kennedy's itinerary. The male made a $3.00 contribution, walked to the rear of the headquarters and left.

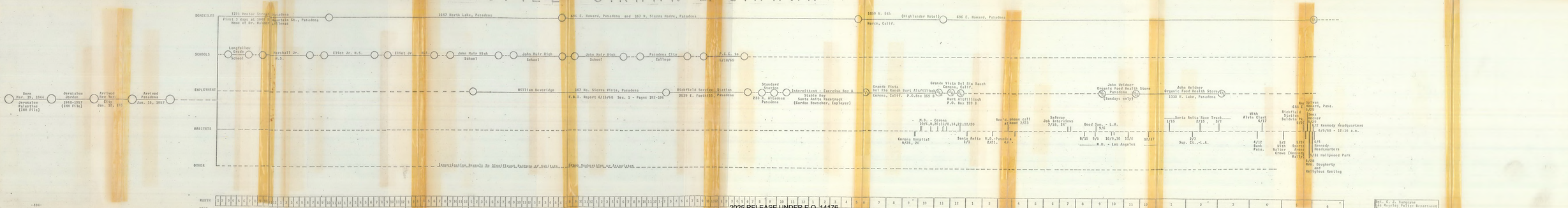
Sirhan and the other male began talking to Sterns. She offered to get coffee for Sirhan when he asked if there was any in the headquarters. Sirhan declined the coffee and asked Sterns if she wanted to go out with him for coffee or a drink instead. Sterns stated that she declined and the conversation changed to Senator Kennedy's itinerary.

During this part of the conversation Sterns observed that Sirhan and the other male each had a gun in a shoulder holster under their coat. When she asked them about the guns Sirhan replied, "Oh, that is just for self protection, what with all this racial trouble in and around Watts." Sterns said that it was far from Watts to the headquarters. Sirhan said, "Well, we have them and anyway we have permits for the guns."

Sirhan and the male left at this time. The girl had remained outside the doorway the entire time of the conversation.

Sterns related two additional incidents relating to the assassination. She stated that on June 5, 1968, at approximately 12:30 a.m., she was awakened from bed by the ringing of her phone. She answered and a female voice said, "Is that you Estelle?" When she answered the voice said, "It's all over with." Sterns got up, turned on the television and learned of the shooting of Kennedy.

A PROFILE — SIRHAN B. SIRHAN



Det. C. A. Turpyne
Los Angeles Police Department
September 23, 1968

Sterns stated that on June 6, 1968, at approximately 5:30 p.m., she received another phone call. A muffled male voice with a Middle-Eastern accent stated, "Under no circumstances give out any information to anybody as to the number of people, or their activities at your desk on Tuesday." (June 4, 1968)

Due to the serious nature of Sterns' allegation investigators asked that Mrs. Sterns submit to a polygraph examination. She was explained the functions and purpose of the test and readily agreed to take it. The separate investigation of Sirhan's activities on June 4, 1968, had shown that he could not have been at the Kennedy Headquarters at 9 a.m. Interviews with Sterns' co-workers revealed that she had not spoken to Sirhan at 9 a.m., on June 4, 1968. On June 26, 1968, Sterns refused to appear for her polygraph examination stating that she was too busy working in her new job in a political campaign to take the examination.

Mrs. Adele Leopold, a volunteer who worked in the headquarters with Sterns, stated that she was at the desk adjacent to Sterns on June 4, 1968. A male Arabian named Khaibar Khan brought some Arabian volunteers to the headquarters but she did not recall them speaking to Sterns. None of the volunteers was Sirhan nor did any of them have guns.

Mrs. Elenor Severson, also a volunteer worker, was at the headquarters the entire day on June 4, 1968. She stated that at no time did Sterns speak to an Arabian man about any subject. Severson stated that the Arabian man in question was Mr. Khaibar

Khan a volunteer worker who had worked the previous couple of days at the headquarters. Severson stated that Sterns and Khan had spoken to one another on June 3, 1968. Their conversation had been about golf and other sports.

Mrs. Margaret Sweeney, Sterns' supervisor at the headquarters, provided investigators with essentially the same information. She stated that she had been at the hotel the night of the assassination and had seen Sirhan taken out of the hotel by officers. To the best of her knowledge Sirhan had never been in the campaign headquarters. She remembered Khan and the other Arabic persons being in the headquarters and at one time asked that they work in the rear of the headquarters to avoid any conflict between Arabic and Jewish persons who might confront one another. The subject of Khaibar Khan and his part in this report was the subject of a specific investigation.

The consensus of statements made by Leopold, Severson, Sweeney and others about Mrs. Sterns was that she was an excitable old lady, who was selfserving and apt to say anything to focus attention on herself. She was a lonesome woman who wanted to make herself feel important to others. Sweeney stated that had Sterns seen men with guns when she was alleged to have seen them, she would have immediately told everyone around her.

It was determined from information about Sirhan's activities that Sterns could not have seen Sirhan at the headquarters on June 4, 1968. Statements from co-workers regarding Sterns behavior and demeanor indicated that she was either honestly

mistaken in her identification of Sirhan or that she invented the story for her own reasons.

On July 15, 1968, investigators contacted Mrs. Sterns by telephone and advised her of the results of the investigation. The tone of her voice changed and she stated, "So you have all this information and I made a mistake. What do I care!" She was asked if she admitted making a mistake regarding the alleged incident. She replied, "No I'm not going to admit anything. If I made a mistake, I'm not going to admit it now."

JOHN ANTOINE KHOURY

John Khoury became the object of an investigation by the District Attorney's Office and this Department after witnesses reported that they had seen him at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the assassination. It was alleged that Khoury was connected to the assassination investigation due to his allegedly anti-Israeli and anti-Kennedy attitudes. Khoury is similar in appearance and nationality with Sirhan Sirhan, and his employment at the Ambassador Hotel caused the suspicion of the reporting persons to be aroused.

The investigation revealed that there was no evidence to show an association between Khoury and Sirhan. No relationships, such as birthplace, schools, residences, employment, organi-aztions, friends, relatives and associates could be established between the two.

The investigation concluded that the witnesses were mistaken and that they could not have see Khoury at the hotel the evening of June 4, 1968. Khoury was cleared of any involvement in the assassination. The following is an account of the investigation into the matter of John Khoury.

Interviews with Witnesses

Mr. Fred Droz, employee of Cerrell, Winner and Associates, Suite 68, Ambassador Hotel, contacted the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office on June 5, 1968, and related the following events: On June 4, 1968, just before midnight Droz went to

the pantry area of the Ambassador Hotel to congratulate Senator Kennedy. Droz was returning to his office when he observed John Khoury in the lobby of the hotel. Droz stated that he had known Khoury since 1966, when he met him as a student at California State College at Fullerton. He knew that Khoury worked at the hotel in the Controller's Office.

On June 5, 1968, at 10 a.m., Professor Joel Fisher, Professor of Political Science at California State College at Fullerton, contacted Fred Droz by telephone. Fisher asked Droz if he had seen Khoury at the hotel the night of the assassination. Droz stated that Fisher sounded alarmed and that he indicated that there might have been a conspiracy between Sirhan and Khoury. Fisher pointed out the similarities in nationality to Droz and advised him to report the information if he thought it was important.

Fisher learned of the assassination watching television at home the night of the assassination. At 1 a.m., he received a phone call from a former student, Sanford Groves, who was at the hotel. Fisher asked Groves if he had observed Khoury at the hotel. Groves answered affirmatively.

On June 6, 1968, Fisher was interviewed by District Attorney's investigators. Fisher related what he had learned about Khoury's presence at the hotel. Fisher described his experience with Khoury at California State College at Fullerton. As a student in his classes, Khoury had made anti-Israeli and anti-Kennedy remarks especially during the June 1967, Arab-Israeli War.

Fisher also stated that Khoury had attempted to bribe and deceive college staff members to make grade changes for him.

Fisher reported that he had received postcards from Khoury in 1966 and 1967, from the Caribbean, Mexico, Paris and Beirut. He did not have the cards nor did he remember the dates he received them. Khoury had made statements to Fisher that he might go to the Middle-East and join the Arab army as a lawyer. Fisher did not hear from Khoury from July to December 1967, and the next time he saw him was in January 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel. He subsequently learned that Khoury worked there.

Fisher claimed that it was widely believed among professors and students at CSCF that Khoury was the son of a bank vice-president in Beirut, Lebanon. He appeared to have a great deal of money at all times. Fisher had been advised, however, by an Arabian student, Farid Massouh, that Khoury did not have a family with money and that he was a "phony." Fisher felt that there might be a connection between Sirhan and Khoury because of the above-described circumstances.

District Attorney investigators interviewed Judy Groves on June 10, 1968. She confirmed that she knew Khoury from CSCF and that she saw him on three occasions the night of June 4, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel.

Interview and Investigation of John Khoury

On June 10, 1968, Khoury was interviewed by the District Attorney's Office. He denied being at the hotel on June 4th.

He stated that he left his job in the hotel Controller's Office at 5 p.m., and went directly home. He read at home until 1:40 a.m., when he went to the International Airport to pick up his wife. He did not return to work until 9 a.m., on June 5th. Because of Khoury's denial and the potential validity of the Fisher allegations, this Department assumed the responsibility for the investigation.

Investigators verified that Khoury's wife arrived on a flight at International Airport at 1:40 a.m., and Khoury was there to pick her up.

Investigators interviewed Fred Droz who verified Fisher's statements. He stated that he observed Khoury just after midnight on June 5th, near the hotel fountain. Droz also reported that on June 14, 1968, Khoury contacted his secretary and inquired of Droz's whereabouts. This was the first attempt by either Khoury or Droz to contact one another since their school association.

On July 15, 1968, investigators reinterviewed John Khoury at Parker Center. Khoury again denied that he was at the hotel or that he knew Sirhan. Investigators explained that his relationship with the shooting was becoming suspicious and that he should provide information that would alleviate that suspicion.

Khoury then told investigators that he had been working at the RCA Building in Hollywood from 6:30 p.m., until midnight on June 4, 1968. He worked a second job as a security guard for

Globe Security, Inc., to supplement his income. Khoury had not told investigators of this for fear that he would jeopardize his employment with the hotel.

Mr. Julius Levin, Chief of Security and Khoury's supervisor, RCA Building, advised investigators that Khoury worked at the building from 6:30 p.m. to midnight on June 4th. Khoury was in uniform and did not leave early from work. Levin produced the sign-in sheet for the above date which corroborated Khoury's statements. Levin added he recalled that Khoury was at the building at 11:45 p.m.

Results of the Investigation

The background investigation of John Khoury and Sirhan indicated no association existed between them. The investigation concluded that the witnesses who reported observing Khoury the night of June 4th were mistaken. Investigators believed that the witnesses probably recalled seeing Khoury on various occasions at the hotel and that they confused those occasions with June 4, 1968. Witnesses Fisher, Droz and Judy Groves all admitted seeing Khoury at the hotel on various occasions prior to June 4, 1968. Khoury was cleared of any implication in the assassination by either association with Sirhan or by his presence at the hotel.

POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT WITH EXTREMIST GROUPS