

DETROIT

AT MARQUETTE, MICHIGAN:

1. Will follow and report prosecutive action against the subject.
2. Will secure CP literature in subject's possession at time of apprehension.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

Information copies of this report are being furnished to Los Angeles and New York in view of their investigative interest.

- B* -
COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Detroit (Attn: AUSA TRUMBAUER)
1 - USA, Grand Rapids

Report of: SA ERNEST A. SERENA
Date: March 27, 1969

Office: Detroit, Michigan

Field Office File #: 25-36295

Bureau File #:

Title: MARK JEFFERSON SELIGSON
SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER
[REDACTED]

Character: SELECTIVE SERVICE ACT

Synopsis: MARK JEFFERSON SELIGSON stopped by U.S. Border Patrol, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., 3/22/69, and claimed Canadian citizenship. Preliminary interrogation and search by Border Patrol revealed subject in possession of U.S. passport and numerous items of CP literature and letters which discussed assassination of BOBBY KENNEDY in Los Angeles. Subject admitted U.S. citizenship and SS registration with LB 38, San Francisco, Calif., but did not possess SS card. He advised his brother, ERIC LINCOLN SELIGSON, a wanted draft dodger, had returned to New York City. Special AUSA for WDM, authorized prosecution 3/22/69, recommended bond \$5,000. Subject held for Federal authorities Chippewa County, Mich. SO. Warrant issued 3/24/69, by USC, Grand Rapids, Mich., charging violation T.50, App., USC, Sec. 462. Subject brought before DJ, Marquette, Mich., 3/25/69, requested court appointed counsel, and remanded to custody USM in lieu of \$5,000 bond. AUSA, San Francisco, authorized complaint against subject 3/25/69. Warrant issued by USC, San Francisco, same date, charging violation T.50, App., USC, Sec. 462, in that SELIGSON failed to report for induction 1/23/69. Bond set at \$25,000, corporate surety. SELIGSON refused to discuss SS violation with Buagents 3/26/69. Detainer based on San Francisco warrant filed.

- P -

DETAILS:

This investigation was instituted March 22, 1969, based on information that MARK JEFFERSON SELIGSON had entered the United States from Canada or Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and did not possess Selective Service Registration Card.

On March 22, 1969, Inspector BRUCE PLASKET, Border Patrol, Sault Ste. Marie, telephone 906 - 632-3383, advised captioned subject stopped attempting to enter the United States claiming to be Canadian citizen and that subsequent investigation revealed a United States passport in his name.

Found in his vehicle was extensive Communist Party (CP) literature and papers claiming association with the FLQ, a CP organization in Canada.

Subject claimed his brother, ERIC LINCOLN SELIGSON, born September 2, 1946, at New York City, was a draft dodger. NCIC revealed that ERIC SELIGSON was wanted out of the New York Office.

PLASKET added SELIGSON was in possession of a letter addressed to Local Board 38, 100 Mc Alister Street, San Francisco, California, bearing a return address in California of the American Deserters Committee, Stockholm, Sweden, Number [REDACTED] which SELIGSON admitted was his Selective Service Number.

PLASKET stated subject in possession of blank Army discharge form, which he advised he had intentions of filling out, and also had a letter from his brother, ERIC, containing no date, which letter discussed NIXON and JOHNSON and indicated that BOBBY KENNEDY would probably be assassinated and this time the assassination should take place in Los Angeles.

Regarding his brother, ERIC, SELIGSON advised PLASKET that he had left Canada approximately two and one-half weeks ago and is allegedly residing in New York City.

PLASKET also stated subject not in possession of a draft card and that in another letter which subject had in his possession, he indicated that he "conveniently lost" his draft card at an anti-Vietnam demonstration.

On March 22, 1969, Special Assistant United States Attorney MILTON J. TRUMBAUER, Western District of Michigan, authorized prosecution of captioned subject in violation of the Selective Service Act. It should also be noted that these facts have been previously presented to Assistant United States Attorney JOSEPH P. ZANGLIN, since Assistant United States Attorney in Western District

DE 25-36295

was not available; and he recommended prosecution; however, could not authorize because he was without authority for the Western District of Michigan. TRUMBAUER, therefore, suggested that ZANGLIN draw up the details of the complaint using his authorization.

Inspector PLASKET advised of Assistant United States Attorney's decision and stated subject will be placed in county jail.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/26/69

BRUCE PLASKET, Patrol Inspector, United States Border Patrol, was contacted by SA HARRIS J. MILLER at his office after being advised he had the subject at that office, that he did not have a draft card in his possession and that he, PLASKET, had already contacted the Detroit Office of the FBI.

PLASKET, when contacted, advised that on March 22, 1969, at about 12:00 noon, while performing a routine traffic check operation in this city, he had stopped a 1962 Volkswagen, Ontario license 6K9484.

He advised that the subject was the driver and only occupant of the car and he had stopped him to determine his immigration status. He said the subject, when stopped, claimed birth in Canada and Canadian citizenship.

He said that further interrogation determined that the subject was a United States citizen and a possible draft evader in that he had a United States passport hidden in a road map in his automobile. He said it was also determined the subject did not have in his possession a Selective Service card and thus he, PLASKET, telephonically contacted SA JOSEPH MC QUILLAN of the Detroit Office of the FBI relative to this matter and furnished him with the information he had.

On 3/22/69 at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan File # Detroit 25-36295

by SA HARRIS J. MILLER /PMR Date dictated 3/22/69

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 3/26/69

SA HARRIS J. MILLER was advised by SA JOSEPH MC QUILLAN that Assistant United States Attorney MILTON J. TRUMBAUER, Special Assistant, Western District of Michigan, had authorized prosecution of subject on March 22, 1969, for violation of the Selective Service Act.

Subject was thus advised by SA MILLER that his arrest had been authorized by the Assistant United States Attorney for violation of the Selective Service Act, that he would be incarcerated in the Chippewa County Jail at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, pending an appearance before a United States Commissioner and that if he desired he could contact an attorney or anyone else he desired. The subject said he did not want to make a call at this time.

The subject was taken by SA MILLER to the Chippewa County Jail where he was fingerprinted, incarcerated and will be photographed.

The subject, after being fingerprinted, furnished the following background information:

Name	MARK JEFFERSON SELIGSON
Aliases	None admitted
Residence	1762 St. Christophe Street, Montreal, Canada
Date of Birth	February 18, 1948
Place of Birth	Rockville Center, New York
Race	White
Height	6'
Weight	155 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Build	Slender
Draft Board	San Francisco, California, Number unrecalled
Marital Status	Single
Draft Classification	2-S
Occupation	Student (not now in school)

On 3/22/69 at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan File # Detroit 25-36295

by SA HARRIS J. MILLER /PMR 5 Date dictated 3/22/69

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

DE 25-36295

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At this point he was asked his parents' names and he advised he did not want to give any more background information, thus he was not asked for any further background information. This was at 6:00 PM and he was returned to custody of Deputy Sheriff CHARLES BERNIER.

On March 24, 1969, this matter was again discussed with Assistant United States Attorney MILTON J. TRUMBAUER, who expressed the opinion that the warrant based on his authorization of March 22, 1969, should issue from the Western District of Michigan. TRUMBAUER recommended \$5,000 cash or surety bond and specified that personal bond was not recommended.

Accordingly, a complaint was filed by SA DANIEL L. BIDWELL at Grand Rapids on March 24, 1969, before United States Commissioner ROBERT G. QUINN, JR., and warrant issued same date charging subject with violation Title 50, Appendix, United States Code, Section 462.

The Sacramento Division advised on March 24, 1969, MARK SELIGSON, date of birth February 18, 1948, registered with Local Board 38, San Francisco, and delinquent for failure to report for a physical examination June 7, 1968. California State Selective Service Headquarters had no record on ERIC LINCOLN SELIGSON, Selective Service Number [REDACTED], date of birth June 25, 1944, the latter being current with his local board. They also advised that MARK SELIGSON had not yet been referred to the United States Attorney's Office.

The following investigation was conducted by SA RAY W. RICHARDSON at Marquette, Michigan:

Deputy United States Marshal LEO G. WILSON took subject into Federal custody at Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, March 25, 1969, and transported him to Marquette, Michigan, where, owing to the illness of the United States Commissioner, he was arraigned before District Judge GEORGE HILL. Subject requested court appointed counsel and the arraignment was adjourned. Subject advised that he did not wish to make a decision regarding waiver of preliminary hearing until he could discuss this matter with his attorney. Subject was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal in lieu of \$5,000 bond.

Subject refused to be interviewed by Bureau Agents and did not wish to volunteer any information concerning his Selective Service status.

At San Francisco, California:

Subject reported to United States Attorney's Office, San Francisco, March 25, 1969, as a 301 delinquent. Assistant United States Attorney DAVID P. BANCROFT advised he would authorize

the filing of a complaint charging the subject with failure to report for induction on January 23, 1969. Authorized complaint filed before United States Commissioner RICHARD S. GOLDSMITH, San Francisco, on March 25, 1969, by SA JAMES P. SULLIVAN, JR., charging subject with violation of Title 50, Section 462, for failure to report for induction on January 23, 1969. Warrant was issued by United States Commissioner and bond was set in the amount of \$25,000.00 corporate surety.

The United States Marshal, San Francisco, was notified and will forward necessary papers to United States Marshal, Western District of Michigan, on March 25, 1969. Assistant United States Attorney BANCROFT indicates he will attempt to take case to Grand Jury in approximately one week.

At Marquette, Michigan:

Subject not arraigned on San Francisco warrant pending appointment of counsel; however, a detainer was placed against the subject based on the warrant.

My latest put-on, is that I have bubonic plague, and I offer freely to show my large swollen boubles, black and distasteful round my groin to petite young drug-store counter-girls.

I am reading A Raw Youth by Dostoyevski, but I am losing my touch with kulturny (thats french for pornographyI convince them all)--culture that is, I belive Kulturny is Russian for culture, but I may be wrong, but it doesn't really matter. A Raw Youth has all the typical scenes, bunch of youth turks discussing the Russian Soul, Religion and having fantastic woman-problems.

Of course, It was rather obvious, but no less a surprise that Johnson is not going to run. After about three months of reading the Times from Cover-to-cover I am bored by news, and realize that whether or not I know anything about it just effects my ability to make a mockery of events in conversation. Johnson would have been clobbered if he had tried to go around making speeches.. He knew he was beaten. Now all the american will love him, because he turned out to be such A Nice Man. If Mrs Johnson had only not been a sterile bitch and could have plugged out a baby at election time Johnson would have won. I convince all around me that I am for Nixon. In fact I am for Tricky Dick beacuse if he gets in the US is finished. It would be a pleasure to read every day how he would screw things up. Four years of delighting over this incredible shit-brain. A pity that he probably won't make it. Another Kennedy to resolve the most blatent problems of America. I expect that the pentagon will have Bobby assassinated as well sometime. that would be interesting. Lets have it in Los Angeles this time. If Nixon only wasn't so stupid looking the women would vote for him, and of course he would be elected. But that face is just too ridiculous. You should see him when he is trying to be serious and sincere. We'll all be up the crick with Tricky Dick

The fact that the Veetham war is all sewn up, or seems to be, with all the american smiling, and completely oblivious of the henous crimes they have committed, leaves us draft dodgers in a curious position. Now wgen asked I can't use the old stand-by, that the War is Immoral, and I have to say that, War Or No War, America Stinks, which doesn't shund too good, really.

I begin to have a pimple-fetish. Having no more of my own to worry about I fester upon other peoples pimples. Pimples are fascinating. I plan to find someone with a good crop and make some pictures of it to send to all my acquaintences for Christmas cards. My sick imagination is so fertile that there are not enough holidays in the year to satisfy my craving for makarky notorky. I shall have to take into account the Hindu ones soon.

Eventually a huge interracial, non-sectarian, co-ed mob will assemple outside my house with torches screaming for my blood. In fact rather than dream of this day, which is toomobviously unhealthy, I will try to keep being just simply incorrigible on a private basis.

56-156-2792

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 3 1969	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

W

4/1/69

AIRTEL

TO: SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (25-36295)

FROM: SAC, DETROIT (25-36295) P

MARK JEFFERSON SELIGSON

SSA

(OO: DETROIT)

Re report of SA ERNEST A. SERENA, at Detroit, 3/27/69.

Enclosed for San Francisco is one copy each of 11 letters exchanged between subject and ERIC SELIGSON. Enclosed for New York is one copy each of these same letters. Enclosed also for San Francisco is one copy of a letter to subject from LENNY BRUCE and one letter from subject to Local Board 38, San Francisco, Calif. Enclosed for Los Angeles is one copy of letter from ERIC SELIGSON to subject, in which KENNEDY assassination is mentioned.

For the information of San Francisco and New York, included in other items confiscated from SELIGSON was a lengthy tract on the Canadian Communist Party.

- 2 - San Francisco (Enc. - 13)
- 1 - Los Angeles (Info.) (Enc. 1)
- 1 - New York (Info.) (Enc. - 11)
- 2 - Detroit

EAS:PMR

(6)

56-156-2793

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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APR 3 1969	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

F B I

Date: 4/3/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)
FROM: SAC, SACRAMENTO (62-76) (RUC)
SUBJECT: KENSALT

Re Los Angeles airtel 3/28/69.

Inasmuch as the information furnished by ROY DONALD MURRAY was not deemed to be of evidentiary value, when taken in June of 1968, no 302 was prepared.

*n/s See to
Sub 302's
y*

② - Los Angeles
1 - Sacramento
NPL/slw
(3)

56-156-2794

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED _____
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APR 4 1969	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	
Per _____	

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M
Special Agent in Charge

DIRECTOR, FBI

3/5/69

LEGAT, BONN (62-68) (RUC)

KENSALT

ReBulet 12/13/68.

Enclosed are three copies of a self-explanatory letter dated 3/4/69, received on 3/5/69 from the Bundes-kriminalamt (BKA - West German Federal Criminal Police), containing results of inquiry requested in relet.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 3)
 (1-Liaison)
1 - Bonn

GAV:11
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY G-1 BJA/UR
C.N. 255, 315

56-156-2795

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 1 1969	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

BUNDESKRIMINALAMT

DEUTSCHES ZENTRALBÜRO FÜR INTERNATIONALEN KRIMINALPOLIZEILICHEN ORGANISATION
INTERPOL WIESBADEN

BUREAU CENTRAL DE LA REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE D'ALLEMAGNE - CENTRAL BUREAU OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

IL/D-G (260/69)

Bei Antwortschreiben bitte angeben.

Prière rappeler dans la réponse, la date et les indications ci-dessus.

In reply, please refer to this file number and date.

WIESBADEN

March 4th, 1969

Postfach A

Trdnkweg / Fernruf 5831

Telex: 04186-867 - Interpol Wbn.

Office of Legal Attache
American Embassy
Box 310
532) Bad Godesberg

Subject: Letter of the self-styled
Prof.Dr.Sc. and Dr.Philosoph.
4018 Langenfeld, Krankenhaus

Ref.: Your letter of 19-12-68 - file no.62-68 - and
your teleprint message dated 25-2-1969

Dear Sir,

According to the investigations made by the Langenfeld
Rhineland criminal police, the above letter has been written by
- Dietmar MATTHEUS, 4-6-1938 GÜRLITZ,

in-patient of the Rhenish hospital Langenfeld. He had been
hospitalized there on 24-11-1965 on the basis of a decision
of the Opladen Local Court as he is extremely schizophrenic
and suffers from hallucinations.

MATTHEUS confirmed that he wrote the letter to the
FBI. Considering his state of health, further questioning of
MATTHEUS was left out of consideration. According to his
consultant doctor and in the opinion of the Langenfeld criminal
police it is obvious that Mattheus' letter contains fixed ideas.

Subject is not on file here.

Please be assured of my desire to cooperate whenever
possible.

Sincerely yours,

by order of the President of the Bundeskriminalamt

Trsl.7408
4-3-69/Kr.

TO: SAC,

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☐ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Columbia
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso
☐ Honolulu

☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jackson
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Las Vegas
☐ Little Rock
☒ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven
☐ New Orleans
☐ New York City

☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
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☐ Richmond
☐ Sacramento
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan
☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield

☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bern
☐ Bonn
☐ Buenos Aires
☐ Hong Kong
☐ London
☐ Manila
☐ Mexico, D.F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Santo Domingo
☐ Tokyo

Date 3-27-69

RE:

KENSALT

☒ For information ☐ Retention optional ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-12-86 BY SP6 BJA/jv
C.N. 255
56-15 61315

Negative

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Enc.
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Urfile

F B I

Date: 4/3/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (175-9) (RUC)
SUBJECT: KENSALT

OO: LOS ANGELES

Re: JAMES BRADEN

Re Los Angeles airtel to Dallas dated 2/27/69.

Dallas files reflect by airtel dated 1/23/64, entitled "LEE HARVEY OSWALD, aka, IS - R - CUBA", Los Angeles file 105-15823, Dallas furnished Los Angeles a copy of a signed statement received by the Dallas County SO on 11/22/63, from JIM BRADEN. In Dallas airtel, 1/23/64, Dallas set forth lead for Los Angeles at Beverly Hills, California, to interview JIM BRADEN for any information he may possess regarding the assassination of former President JOHN F. KENNEDY, LEE HARVEY OSWALD or JACK RUBY.

② - Los Angeles
① - Dallas
CTB:dsm
(3)

Statement Xeroxed & sent to Sgt. Luttery 4-7-69

56-156-2796

SEARCHED _____	INDEXED <i>rev</i>
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APR 7 1969	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

F B I

Date: 4/7/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)
 FROM: SAC, BOSTON (44-646) (RUC)
 SUBJECT: KENSALT
 (OO: LOS ANGELES)

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau, 8/5/65, Los Angeles teletype to Boston, 4/3/69, and Boston teletype to Bureau and Los Angeles, 4/4/69.

Enclosed for Los Angeles are 23 copies of an FD 302 reflecting investigation conducted by the Boston Division.

2-Los Angeles (enc. 23)
 1-Boston
 MWS:car
 (3)

56-156-277

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 9 1969	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Richards

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NEWS RELEASE

Office of the District Attorney
600 Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California 90012

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Call: Jerry Littman
News Secretary
626-3888, Ext. 82396

RELEASE: Wed., April 2, 1969
After 10 a.m.

WEEKLY SUMMARY #43

Re: The assassination of
Senator Robert F. Kennedy

Note to editors: Because of the widespread interest in the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 5, 1968, and proceedings in court, the Office of Los Angeles County District Attorney Evelle J. Younger is publishing a weekly summary of the case. This is the 43rd summary, and others will be for release on subsequent Wednesdays.

MONDAY, MARCH 24 -- Through self-hypnosis, Sirhan B. Sirhan programmed himself "like a computer" to assassinate Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, John Douglas, staff writer for a Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) wrote about today's trial.

"This is the conclusion of Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, Berkeley criminologist," the writer added, as the doctor today climaxed two days of testimony by reading his opinion.

The doctor's summary, as published in a Los Angeles newspaper (Times):

"The combination of events which led to the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy by Sirhan, I think, started with Sirhan Sirhan's exposure to violence and death in Jerusalem in 1948, and it continued with his immigration to the United States; the development of his mental illness in which his whole personality altered and he became preoccupied with revolution, violence, destruction, paranoid fantasies of glory, power and becoming the savior of his people.

"As his delusional fantasies grew bolder, his fanatical hatred and

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56-156-2798

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

2089

fear of the Jews increased with each radio and television broadcast concerning the tension in the Middle East, while in real life, Sirhan was withdrawing into a ruminative, brooding, isolated sense of failure and insignificance. To improve his mind and to gain control, he hoped, over his personal destiny, he read mystical books and subscribed to and studied the Rosicrucian correspondence courses in self-hypnosis and mind power.

"He practiced his lessons diligently to the point where he became frightened by his own magical, supernatural powers of concentration. He actually believed that he could stop the bombers from reaching Israel and thereby save the Arabs, simply by willing the death of all who would help the Jews.

(The reference to the bombers concerns the senator's backing of sending 50 planes to Israel).

"His experiments in inducing the magical trances worked better than he realized -- they worked so well that they frightened Sirhan and convinced him that he was losing his mind, that he was going insane. Repeatedly, he would practice his lessons doing all that his correspondence courses prescribed, looking in the mirror, thinking thoughts of love and peace, only to emerge from his trance -- a trance that he did not really believe had actually happened -- to find his notebook filled with incoherent threats of violence and assassination.

"He knew it was his writing, but he had no knowledge or recollection of writing them. He concluded he was crazy and he feared to let anyone know what was happening. He thought they would lock him away in a mental hospital.

more --

"He sought the remedy in his books on mysticism and the occult, and he daydreamed of the power of his gun, taking every opportunity on many different days to shoot it, firing hundreds and hundreds of shots as if each shot would somehow make up for his every growing sense of helplessness, impotence and fear of loss of self-control.

"With absolutely no knowledge or awareness of what was actually happening in his Rosicrucian and occult experiments, he was gradually programming himself, exactly like a computer is programmed by its magnetic tape, programming himself for the coming assassination. In his unconscious mind there existed a plan for the total fulfillment of his sick, paranoid hatred of Kennedy and all who might want to help the Jews. In his conscious mind there was no awareness of such a plan or that he, Sirhan, was to be the instrument of assassination.

"It is my opinion that through chance, circumstances, and a succession of unrelated events, Sirhan found himself in the physical situation in which the assassination occurred. I am satisfied that if he had been fully conscious and in his usual mental state he would have been quite harmless.

"But he was confused, bewildered and partially intoxicated. The mirrors in the hotel lobby, the flashing lights, the general confusion -- this was like pressing the button which starts the computer.

"I agree that this is an absurd and preposterous story, unlikely and incredible. I doubt that Sirhan himself agrees with me as to how everything happened.

"Sirhan would rather believe that he is the fanatical martyr who by his noble act of self-sacrifice has saved his people and become a great

more --

hero. He claims to be ready to die in the gas chamber for the glory of the Arab people.

However, I see Sirhan as small and helpless, pitifully ill, with a demented psychotic rage, out of control of his own consciousness and his own actions, subject to bizarre dissociated trances in some of which he programmed himself to be the instrument of assassination, and then in an almost accidentally induced twilight state he actually executed the crime, knowing next to nothing as to what was happening.

Diamond related in court today that Sirhan, under hypnosis, filled in this picture of the hours leading up to the shooting:

After having four Tom Collinses at various political parties at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4, Sirhan went back to his car to go home, but felt "dizzy, drunk, sickish-tired."

He opened his car door, saw the pistol on the back seat and thought, "The Jews will steal my gun." He tucked the gun under his belt and returned to the hotel for some coffee to sober up on.

The defendant wandered around the hotel until he found a coffee bar located in an alcove between the Embassy Room, where the senator was speaking, and the Colonial Room, where the senator headed after the speech.

Reported a Los Angeles newspaper (Times) on Diamond's testimony:

The alcove was walled with mirrors, and Sirhan became confused with the brightly lighted chandeliers reflecting in the mirrors, and the crowds of people, multiplied by the dozen in the floor-to-ceiling looking glass.

He had several cups of coffee with a girl -- described as brunette and beautiful -- and Diamond said Sirhan was absolutely consistent in denying

more --

that there was any thought of doing anything with his gun."

Diamond added that he discounted the possibility that Sirhan might be faking mental illness, saying that among paranoid schizophrenics like Sirhan, their chief wish is to 'fake sanity, rather than insanity,' because they don't want to be thought of as psychotic,' reported the newspaper.

Continuing his testimony, the psychiatrist cited one previously undisclosed family scene, which he said, contributed heavily to Sirhan's mental deterioration.

In the summer of 1957, Sirhan's father, Bishara, and brother, Adel, were digging an irrigation ditch around a tree, while Sirhan skipped in the mud.

After warning Sirhan to stop, Bishara started to beat his son, but was stopped by Adel. Bishara, Diamond said, stormed into the house and told his wife, Mary, that she must choose between him or the children, because he demanded to be master of his house.

She chose the children, Diamond said, whereupon the father took the family savings, returned to Jordan and has not been in touch with his family since.

The doctor also revealed he once considered using sodium pentathol -- "truth serum" -- on Sirhan instead of hypnosis, but Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker ruled this out.

It was explained that he made the ruling after learning that in rare cases a subject could die from the effects of sodium pentathol.

Judge Walker felt that the death of Sirhan, a Palestinian Arab, from a dosage of sodium pentathol administered by Jewish doctors -- Diamond

more --

psychologist Eric Marcus and psychiatrist Seymour Pollack -- would create endless political controversy, reported the newspaper.

* * *

TUESDAY, MARCH 25 -- The Sirhan trial was continued until Wednesday as the prosecution asked for time in which to study yesterday's testimony by Dr. Bernard L. Diamond.

According to a Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner), the prosecution, headed by Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton, and including Dep. Dist. Attys. John Howard and David N. Fitts, were not prepared to attack Dr. Diamond's story today.

They won the 24-hour reprieve from Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker in order to study the testimony before beginning cross-examination.

Added the newspaper:

Part of the reason for this delay was the mechanics of the Sirhan trial. Unlike the other psychiatrists and psychologists in the case, Dr. Diamond prepared no written report.

The official record of Dr. Diamond's testimony was not available to the prosecution until 10 p.m. Monday from the office court reporter."

* * *

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26 -- Sirhan B. Sirhan was in a "dissociative state" -- a sort of self-induced trance -- the night he shot Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, a defense psychiatrist, Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, testified today under cross-examination by Dep. Dist. Atty. David N. Fitts.

One Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) reported that Dr. Diamond told Fitts that Sirhan's practice of self-hypnosis was a warning signal "that should have led to the young Arab's commitment to a mental institution before June 2, 1968 -- the day the prosecution contends Sirhan staked out the Ambassador Hotel preparatory to shooting Kennedy early the morning of June 5."

The newspaper published this account of the questioning:

"Q. -- On June 2, Sirhan wasn't committable?"

"A. -- I, for one, would certainly have recommended his commitment."

"Q. -- But he hadn't done anything wrong at that time?"

"A. -- No, but I would have been very alarmed by his notebook and his psychic experiments. For a paranoid to use self-hypnosis and write such things in his note books is a warning signal that no psychiatrist could ignore."

"Sirhan was a very dangerous individual," Dr. Diamond concluded."

Regarding Sirhan's dissociative state, Fitts asked the psychiatrist what evidence he had to support the doctor's contention that Sirhan had had similar experiences previously.

"There is one thing," Diamond said. "I'm satisfied from the

more --

descriptions, and from what I observed when I had him under hypnosis that he had been in that state before."

Earlier, Diamond testified that Sirhan would have been disorientated and incapable of planning his own actions.

Here is part of the story published in another Los Angeles newspaper (Times):

"Fitts suggested to Diamond that Sirhan's mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, and his brother, Munir, might have told defense investigators and psychiatrists 'what they wanted to hear' about Sirhan's mental state, believing it would work to his benefit.

"Did you take into consideration (when you interviewed them) the Sirhan family's willingness to be helpful generally ... to look for excuses for his behavior?' Fitts asked.

"Diamond said that, to the contrary, he often found the Sirhans unwilling to discuss many elements of their history, particularly anything related to Sirhan's father.

"Fitts pressed the same point.

"'Don't you get the impression that she (Mrs. Sirhan) was laying it on a little bit when she discussed the horrors of war and the effects of the war on her son?' the prosecutor persisted.

"Diamond protested that suggestion.

"'It is impossible to magnify the horrors of war,' he retorted. 'I definitely do not think Mrs. Sirhan was 'laying it on.'

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"At this point, the 25-year old defendant glanced anxiously at his mother and brother, who were sitting in second-row seats in the courtroom.

Fitts produced a transcript of a February 2 meeting between Diamond and other psychiatrists and psychologists, and asked him to read a portion.

Diamond was quoted in the transcript as stating "the whole Sirhan family alternated between the grossest kind of evasion and deception and a kind of suggestible state of telling you what you want to know."

The prosecutor asked: "Didn't you make that statement?"

Diamond said he had, but that the statement had been taken out of context.

The Sirhans were evasive, he said, "only about a particular kind of information and certain events."

At this point, Fitts inquired: "If they were evasive and deceptive about one thing, might they not be evasive and deceptive about others?"

Said Diamond: "The answer to that would be obvious, Mr. Fitts, if you would only allow me to tell you what they were deceptive about."

Reported a Los Angeles newspaper (Times):

"After much wrangling about whether Diamond should be able to

more --

explain that one matter, he managed to say that they were only evasive when discussing the head of the family, Bishara Sirhan.

"In another tart exchange, Fitts charged Diamond was dodging his questions about what triggered the shooting at the Ambassador.

"Fitts drew the concession that Diamond believed that Sirhan in his normal state, even though he was a paranoid schizophrenic, would have been harmless had he not gone into a dissociative state.

"To explain this crime,' he said, 'you have to go back to Jerusalem in 1948, when Sirhan was a child and study the whole series of events since then.'"

Fitts said he accepted this, but asked whether the actual shooting had been triggered by a dissociative state brought on by drinking and by mirrors and bright lights in the hotel.

The doctor again refused to accept this and remarked, "I won't let you put words in my mouth and say I said what I didn't say."

"Doctor, I don't know why you're dodging me," Fitts said.

In further testimony, Diamond admitted that Sirhan lied on the witness stand when he denied prosecution witnesses' testimony that he practiced rapid-firing at a San Gabriel gun range last June 4.

Diamond said Sirhan lied because he feared the truth might reveal the depth of his emotional illness.

Concluded the newspaper (Times) story:

"Fitts, through several questions, sought to elicit from Diamond an admission that Sirhan had 'concocted' his story of the

more --

assassination to put himself in a favorable light.

"But at that suggestion, Diamond smiled and said that if Sirhan had concocted his story, it was a story 'that couldn't possibly help him. He was willing to admit he killed Sen. Kennedy, hated him and carried out the assassination to prevent him from becoming president and keeping the bombers from Israel.'

"Fitts then quoted from Diamond's summation of his own testimony, where Diamond said, 'I agree that this is an absurd, preposterous story, unlikely and incredible.'

"Fitts asked Diamond who he 'agreed' with.

"Diamond smiled again and replied, 'I agree with the public and the world.'"

* * *

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THURSDAY, MARCH 27 -- The defense in the Sirhan B. Sirhan trial rested its case today and one Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) predicted "the matter could go to the jury within 10 days."

After hearing from 29 witnesses, including seven psychologists and psychiatrists, Grant B. Cooper, one of three defense attorneys, read, for the first time in the jury's hearing, the transcript of a Feb. 25 chamber session in which the defendant accused Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker, who is presiding, of "railroading" him into the gas chamber.

"Having underscored that blowup, Cooper cleared the way for the prosecution to begin rebuttal testimony tomorrow," noted another Los Angeles newspaper (Times).

Today, two of the prosecution attorneys, John E. Howard and David N. Fitts of the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, sought unsuccessfully to open rebuttal with a 12-minute color film of Sen. Kennedy's speech last June 4, minutes before he was fatally shot.

Reported the newspaper:

"Howard argued that the film would show that Kennedy's speech contained nothing that could be construed as a 'triggering mechanism' for the dissociative emotional state in which the defense claims Sirhan killed Kennedy.

"After strenuous objection from Cooper that the film was immaterial, Judge Walker concurred, on two grounds:

"(1) that no one ever claimed Kennedy had said anything that night that precipitated Sirhan's alleged trance or even claimed that Sirhan had actually heard the speech, and

more --

"(2) a film of the happy, victorious senator could have an inflammatory effect on the jury outweighing the film's possible value."

As for testimony, Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, psychiatrist, conceded that Sirhan's story of killing Kennedy "raises the gravest problems of credibility" and reads "like a script that would never be acceptable in a Class B motion picture." However, Diamond made it clear he believes it.

In brief re-direct examination by Emile Zola Berman, another defense attorney, Diamond admitted he has termed his psychiatric findings on Sirhan as "an absurd and preposterous story, unlikely and incredible. In my opinion, this is the ultimate absurdity -- too illogical, even for the theater of the absurd."

The doctor also said that when he entered the case, he had no idea he would find evidence of "voodoo thinking" or "mail-order mysticism" and self-hypnosis involved in the slaying of Kennedy.

Reported Dave Smith, Times staff writer:

"The absurdity, he said, was that such superstitious elements could, through the killing of Sen. Kennedy, 'affect the destiny of this country and the entire world.'

"As Diamond concluded this statement, Howard asked, 'Did you just read something?'

"'Yes,' said Diamond."

"'Then did you write it?'

"'Late last night,' Diamond said, 'about midnight.'

"The prosecution has clearly shown, without expressing it verbally,

more --

its disaffection for Diamond's vivid, eloquently worded expressions on Sirhan's mental illness, which Diamond has read in court from prepared statements.

"Shortly after Diamond, a full professor of law, criminology and psychiatry at UC Berkeley, was excused from the stand, it was read into the record that he served as the star defense psychiatric witness without fee."

Also testifying was Georgene Seward, a USC psychology professor, who was called on to evaluate two batteries of psychological tests administered to the defendant by two previous witnesses, clinical psychologists Martin H. Schorr and O. Roderick Richardson.

Dr. Seward said she agreed with the two that five different tests combined to portray Sirhan as a paranoid schizophrenic.

Reported the Times:

"At one point Dr. Seward said Sirhan's reaction to one test indicated the possibility of 'latent homosexual tendencies.'

"At that point, Sirhan glared at the doctor, leaned over to defense attorney Russell Parsons and snapped, 'What kind of a son-of-bitch do they think I am?'

"Howard, cross-examining Dr. Seward, attempted to draw from her, as the prosecution has doggedly tried to do with six previous psychiatric experts, admissions that Sirhan's responses to the tests could be construed as normal for a person in his circumstances.

"But, as with the prior witnesses, Dr. Seward would concede that one question or another might be open to different interpretations, but that the main direction of all tests, taken together, pointed to 'a clear case of schizophrenic reaction, paranoid type.'

more --

"At one point she said that 'any good clinician' would never diagnose mental illness on the basis of only one question or even one test, but on the total picture.

"Howard chuckled and said, 'Yes, but a poor lawyer has to go through these tests one at a time.'

"Dr. Seward admitted that three of the tests administered to Sirhan have been criticized within the profession, but she defended their use."

The final witness for the defense was George DeVos of UC Berkeley, a psychologist and cultural anthropologist, who testified that he also examined Schorr's and Richardson's tests and arrived at the same diagnosis of paranoid schizophrenia without knowing they had.

Reported the Times:

"Like Dr. Seward, Dr. DeVos admitted that the Rorschach (ink-blot) test has been the subject of some criticism, but said he didn't doubt its validity and added that he had never seen a case of anyone successfully faking interpretations of the inkblots."

Noted the Herald-Examiner:

"Nearly 8000 pages of testimony have been taken in the case which has so far cost Los Angeles County almost \$400,000." The paper also stated that 86 witnesses had been heard by the jury.

Meanwhile, it was learned that Saidallah Sirhan, 36-year old brother of the defendant, was in serious condition in a Pasadena hospital after being struck by a car while crossing a street.

He was X-rayed for possible basal skull fracture and a broken right leg.

more --

The driver was not cited and police said the incident appeared to be a normal pedestrian-car accident.

Last July 7, Saidallah Sirhan reported that he was shot at twice on a freeway, but was not injured. The assailants were never apprehended.

* * *

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FRIDAY, MARCH 28 -- Dr. Seymour Pollack, USC psychiatrist, took the stand today at the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan "in rebuttal to testimony of defense psychologists and psychiatrists that Sirhan is so mentally ill he is incapable of 'maturely and meaningfully premeditating murder,'" according to a Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner).

Politics -- not mental illness -- drove Sirhan to shoot Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, Pollack told the court, stating, "I consider Sirhan to be mentally disturbed. But I believe his assassination of Sen. Kennedy was motivated by political reasons that were highly emotionally charged."

The doctor said he spent about 40 hours interviewing Sirhan and his family, and close to 200 hours reviewing all materials about the defendant, "about 10 times" the normal amount of time spent in criminal psychiatric investigation, related the newspaper.

Dr. Pollack said he believed Sirhan to have a "paranoid personality," and that he has exaggerated notions of persecution.

He disagreed with his defense contemporaries, however, that Sirhan developed his mental illness at an early age. Despite the fact that Sirhan witnessed the horrors of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War as a child in Jerusalem, the doctor said he "incurred less, rather than more, emotional disturbance" than did many other Arabs.

Continued the newspaper report:

"Sirhan's mother protected him, the psychiatrist explained, and

more --

'except for the fact he was a frightened child, there was no other evidence of peculiar behavior.'

"Sirhan arrived in the United States at the age of 12, he said, as 'a hopeful, idealistic, well-behaved young man.

"'I found no evidence of paranoia in Sirhan during his child and teen years,' he said."

Pollack indicated the paranoia began to develop in Sirhan's early 20's, triggered by the death of his sister, Ayda, and the arrest of his brother, Sharif, who was charged with tampering with an auto.

Added the newspaper's story as related by Myrna Oliver, staff writer:

"Prior to the psychiatrist's testimony, prosecution attorneys called handwriting expert Lawrence W. Sloan to discredit defense claims that Sirhan wrote threats on Kennedy's life while in a state of self-hypnosis.

"Sloan said, after comparing the written threats in Sirhan's diaries and 'automatic writing' which Sirhan did in his cell after being hypnotized by defense psychiatrist Dr. Bernard L. Diamond., that Sirhan was not 'under a state of hypnosis' when he scribbled, 'RFK must die, die, die.'

"District Attorney's investigator George W. Murphy, Los Angeles Police Dept. Sgt. Adolph B. Melendres and LAPD Sgt. Frank J. Patchett, who spent several hours with Sirhan after his arrest, were also called to testify that the defendant was sober when he shot Kennedy.

more --

"Sirhan's attorneys, in trying to prove he was in a state of diminished capacity at the time of the shooting, have said he was self-hypnotized after his arrest for the June 5 shooting. 'His demeanor was that of a sober man.'"

Judge Herbert V. Walker today announced that there would be no court session on Monday, March 31, because of the death of former President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

Said the judge: "Certainly this man (Eisenhower) was one of the greatest Americans of our generation. He certainly deserves all the respect we can afford him."

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4-1-69

4/9/69

AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156) (P)
RE: KENSALT

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau dated 3/25/69.

RE: WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE FROM
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Attached herewith are two copies of an eighteen page weekly summary of information prepared for the benefit of the news media by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. This release is dated 4/2/69 and is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

3 - Bureau (Enc. 2)
1 - Los Angeles
AOR/bje
(4)

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SERIALIZED ☒
FILED ☒

FBI

Date: 4/10/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)TO: SAC LOS ANGELES (56-156)
FROM: SAC OKLAHOMA CITY (89-64) -~~ROC~~KENSALT
OO LOS ANGELES

RE: DON WISE, Bristow, Oklahoma

Re Los Angeles airtel to Oklahoma City 3/27/69.

On 4/4/69, DON WISE was re-interviewed at Bristow, Oklahoma.

WISE stated that he was positive that he picked up the individual he believed to be SIRHAN SIRHAN at about 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, 6/1/68. Mr. WISE was shown the chart setting forth the activities of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN which indicates that he was in Los Angeles, California, at 1:00 p.m. on 6/1/68. Mr. WISE stated that he is positive of the date and noted that it would be impossible for the person to be both places. Mr. WISE commented at this point that he had never seen a photograph of SIRHAN SIRHAN.

WISE was re-interviewed on 4/8/69, at which time he was shown a photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN. Mr. WISE stated that while the photograph looked somewhat like the individual he picked up, noting particularly the same type of hair, he felt that he must have been mistaken and that the person he picked up could not have been SIRHAN SIRHAN. Mr. WISE pointed out that the person he picked up was definitely over 5' 6 1/2" in height, and noted that SIRHAN SIRHAN is only 5'3". Mr. WISE further noted that in view of the difference in height and the fact that SIRHAN was definitely placed in Los Angeles on the day he picked up the individual, he felt he must have been mistaken as to the identity of the hitchhiker.

② Los Angeles
1 Oklahoma City

JRD:JRI
(3)

56-156-2800

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Richard 151

Approved: *[Signature]* Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

*make sure for
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to go with 301's*

OC 89-64

On 4/8/69, the photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN was shown to Mrs. DON WISE at which time she advised this individual looked somewhat like the person she and her husband had picked up but noted that she could not say whether or not they were identical. Mrs. WISE noted that the person that they picked up definitely was taller than 5'6". Mrs. WISE stated she feels that she and her husband were mistaken as to the identity of the individual that they picked up and noted they were both extremely shocked at the death of ROBERT KENNEDY and may have let their imaginations get the better of their judgment.

In view of the above, no further inquiry concerning the individual picked up by the WISE's is being made by the Oklahoma City Office.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 10, 19681

ROY DONALD MURRAY, Route 1, Box 3, Earlismart, California, was shown a statement of his rights which he read but declined to sign. He then furnished the following information:

He recalled making a statement about six weeks ago to the effect he had pledged two thousand dollars towards a total of 500 to 750 thousand dollars which was to be utilized to pay off a "contract" to kill Senator ROBERT KENNEDY in the event it appeared he could receive the Democratic nomination for the Presidency of the United States. He stated he had no factual basis for this statement or for saying that La Cosa Nostra was behind this "contract".

He added he was actually sorry he had uttered this. He described Senator KENNEDY as a brilliant young man, and added although he disagreed with Senator KENNEDY's policy in the Delano, California, area growers versus the Mexican farming laborers dispute and Senator KENNEDY's repeated endorsement of CESAR CHAVEZ, the head of the Mexican Farm Workers Association, he certainly had no desire to see Senator KENNEDY harmed.

MURRAY is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	February 18, 1921
Height	5 feet 11 inches
Weight	250 pounds
Hair	Black - gray
Eyes	Blue

56-156-2801

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	
O. G. Pickens Rony	

On 6/7/68 at Earlismart, California

File# 56-62-76

by SA ROBERT L. HAMILTON/AL Date dictated 6/10/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

F B I

Date: 4/9/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)

FROM : SAC, SACRAMENTO (62-76)(RUC)

SUBJECT: KENSALT

Re Los Angeles airtel, 3/28/69.

Enclosed for the Los Angeles Division are nine
(9) copies of an FD-302 pertaining to interview of ROY
DONALD MURRAY.

The above 302 was inadvertently filed in the
Sacramento Field Office file.

2 - Los Angeles (Encls. 9)(RM)
1 - Sacramento
RLH/kah
(3)

56-156-2802

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[Signature]

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M. Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

1.
FLC:jrf
LA 56-156
NY 44-1640

During March, 1969, individuals who are familiar with certain phases of Communist Party activity in the New York City area were contacted. They stated they do not know SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, WALTER CROWE or THOMAS GOON.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-8-86 BY SP6 BJA/40

C.N. 255,315

56-156-2803

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FBI - LOS ANGELES	
A. J. Hearn	

DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

4/9/69

SAC, NEW YORK (44-1640) (RUC)

KENSALT
(OO: LOS ANGELES)

10-14-86
Classified by SP6 BJA/KC
Declassify on: OADR

C.N. 255,315

Re Bureau airtel dated 2/27/69 and Los Angeles airtel dated 3/4/69. *Enc 2746*

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies and for Los Angeles seven copies of an insert in captioned matter.

The informants contacted were:

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date Contacted</u>	<u>Contacting Agent</u>
NY 4265-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 1656-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 1621-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 4200-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 5034-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 2517-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 2461-S	March, 1969	JOHN DI MARCHI
NY 2462-S	March, 1969	ROBERT O. JOHNSON
NY 4097-S	March, 1969	ROBERT O. JOHNSON
NY 2650-S	March, 1969	ROBERT O. JOHNSON
NY 5113-S	March, 1969	ROBERT O. JOHNSON
NY 5612-S	March, 1969	ROBERT O. JOHNSON
NY 5666-S	March, 1969	ROBERT O. JOHNSON
NY 2529-S	March, 1969	JOHN MALLEY
NY 4030-S	March, 1969	JOHN MALLEY
NY 2750-S	March, 1969	JOHN MALLEY

2- Bureau (Encls. 2) (RM)
2- Los Angeles (Encls. 76) (RM) (56-156)
1- New York

FLC:jrf
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 2-18-25

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SERIALIZED FILED
13 APR 11 1969
FBI - LOS ANGELES
A. J. Stearns

NY 44-1640

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Identity of Source

Date Contacted

Contacting Agent

NY 2101-S
NY 4260-S
NY 5477-S
C NY 694-S*
NY 359-S
NY 1117-S
NY 4816-S
NY 2207-S
NY 939-S
NY 3624-S

3/11/69
3/25/69
3/23/69
3/5/69
March, 1969
March, 1969
March, 1969
March, 1969
March, 1969
March, 1969

JOHN MAHER
CHARLES DAVIS
CHARLES DAVIS
ALEXANDER BURLINSON
C ROGER O'MARA
ROGER O'MARA
ROGER O'MARA
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NEWS RELEASE

Office of the District Attorney
600 Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California 90012

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Call: Jerry Littman
News Secretary
626-3888, Ext. 82396

RELEASE: Wed., April 9, 1969
After 10 a.m.

WEEKLY SUMMARY #44

Re: The assassination of
Senator Robert F. Kennedy

Note to editors: Because of the widespread interest in the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 5, 1968, and proceedings in court, the Office of Los Angeles County District Attorney Evelle J. Younger is publishing a weekly summary of the case. This is the 44th summary, and others will be for release on subsequent Wednesdays.

MONDAY, MARCH 31 -- An Associated Press story published in today's editions of a Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) said a "three-cell suite is being prepared for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan at a state medical facility in case he is convicted of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and sentenced to life imprisonment, a state official said Sunday.

"Sirhan's large quarters, now being walled off, will have a kitchen-dining room, a bedroom, a living room and a lavatory with shower, said Philip D. Guthrie of the California Adult Authority.

"The cell, which Guthrie said would protect the occupant from other prisoners, is at the California Medical Facility at Vacaville, near Sacramento."

Sirhan is accused of first degree murder in the assassination of Kennedy. If the jury convicts him of that charge, it will choose between death and life imprisonment as the penalty, related AP.

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Continued the wire service story:

"If given a life sentence, Sirhan would be sent to the medical facility for 'indefinite confinement -- many months or even years,' a standard procedure for prisoners with mental problems, Guthrie said.

"We'll need some reading of his frame of mind and we'll also want to assess the reaction of other inmates."

"Guthrie added that the California Adult Authority is asking the Legislature for special legislation so Sirhan could be held at Vacaville if he receives the death penalty instead of being sent, as state law requires, to Death Row at San Quentin Prison.

"He attributed the request to 'questions brought up about Sirhan's mental condition' and Sirhan's 'notoriety.'"

TUESDAY, APRIL 1 -- Sirhan B. Sirhan, who is on trial for the slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy "flew into a rage" today when a prosecution psychiatrist in effect called him a liar," reported a Los Angeles newspaper (Times).

Dr. Seymour Pollack testified that he didn't believe the defendant "really couldn't remember writing in his notebook of his intent to kill" the senator, related the newspaper.

Continued the news story:

"Pollack said he regarded Sirhan's claimed amnesia as 'an attempt to avoid the serious consequences that could result if the notebook was attributed as evidence of his premeditation to murder Kennedy.'"

Continued

more --

"Though Pollack did not use the word 'lie,' Sirhan quickly grasped the import of Pollack's testimony and jumped to his feet, shouting 'Your honor, sir...!'"

"Four husky deputies jammed the tiny Palestinian Arab back into his chair as Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker warned: 'You settle down or I'll do what I told you I'd do.'"

(In February, during another outburst, the judge told Sirhan that he would be gagged and tied in the courtroom if the outbursts continued.)

Sirhan didn't settle down today, and told Russell E. Parsons, one of three defense lawyers, "I Told the truth and I don't like him to call me a liar."

The judge called a recess and ordered the jury to retire as four deputies ushered the defendant out of the courtroom. During the 15-minute recess, Parsons calmed the ruffled defendant, and the trial resumed following an apology by Parsons on behalf of his client.

Pollack continued that he believes Sirhan wasn't telling the truth about his alleged amnesia regarding the notebook writing. In earlier testimony the doctor said he didn't believe Sirhan was suffering psychotic delusions when he shot the senator.

Meanwhile, another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) related the following:

"Defense lawyer Emile Zola Berman claims that the psychiatrist, Dr. Seymour Pollack, reported to Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger that

more --

Sirhan was mentally ill -- suffering from paranoid schizophrenia. Then, according to Berman, Dr. Pollack changed his mind and his report.

"Pollack said he thinks the defendant is 'a developing paranoid personality,' but his diagnosis stopped far short of the testimony of seven defense psychiatrists and psychologists who unanimously diagnosed Sirhan as a paranoid schizophrenic," reported the Times.

Continued the article:

"Pollack said he felt Sirhan's mental illness fell under the classification described as 'psychosis, non-psychotic.' He described this as a condition in which a person may exhibit psychotic tendencies in a clinical sense.

"Although he said Sirhan showed paranoid tendencies, Pollack said he found no evidence of paranoid delusions or of organic brain damage -- which the defense has never claimed -- nor had he found evidence of 'peculiarity' in Sirhan's sexual fantasies or of 'bizarre thinking' in his attitude towards (former) President Johnson, former U.N. Ambassador Arthur Goldberg or Sen. Kennedy.

"In his notebook, Sirhan had written over and over about two girls he had known slightly, and he also wrote of his desire to assassinate (former) President Johnson and Goldberg as well as Kennedy.

"Pollack said Sirhan's feelings toward these people were not delusionary, but based on political disillusionment and a resentment of what he believed was hypocritical in American policy toward the Palestinian Arabs and the Israelis."

more --

Sirhan regarded Kennedy's activities as a sellout to American Zionists whose votes he needed, and "with this attitude toward Kennedy in mind, Pollack said, Sirhan didn't believe he should be punished for killing such a person, because the killing was politically motivated and justified, in Sirhan's view," reported the Times.

Continued the newspaper:

"I don't believe Sirhan expected to be caught," Pollack said

"Pollack said Sirhan has shown no remorse for killing Kennedy but that Sirhan has had 'some conflict' about the idea of killing another human being. It is his belief that Kennedy betrayed the Arabs, Pollack indicated, that enabled him to feel no remorse for his act.

"Pollack conceded that Sirhan's claimed amnesia could also be a retrograde amnesia rather than a deliberate lie. Retrograde amnesia, he said, is a form of amnesia that develops after an event, when a person cannot bear to face knowledge of what has happened.

"Pollack said he also believes Sirhan's account of his activities up to the time of the killing, with one exception. 'I believe,' said Pollack, 'that he went to the Ambassador Hotel with the conscious intention of killing Kennedy.

"The psychiatrist also conceded that 'it is probable that Sirhan had a few drinks' the night of June 4, at political victory parties at the hotel. The defense claims Sirhan's shooting of Kennedy was done in a dissociative trance partly induced by drunkenness.

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"Pollack said he thinks the possibility that Sirhan might have been in a dissociative state or self-induced hypnotic trance when he shot Kennedy is 'extremely remote.' He said Sirhan 'killed Kennedy because he hated him for what he stood for' and because Sirhan wanted to call attention to the plight of his people.

"In answer to questions by Dep. Dist. Atty. John E. Howard, Pollack said he believes Sirhan was not suffering diminished mental capacity at the time of the shooting, but was quite able to harbor malice aforethought, form the intent to kill and reflect on the consequences," concluded the article.

Meanwhile, another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) reported that "the defense suffered a major blow in Dr. Pollack's testimony.

"The defense contends that Sirhan's mental capability is so badly impaired that he lacked the ability either to premeditate Kennedy's fatal shooting or to comprehend the gravity of his act.

"If the jury of seven men and five women credit the defense theory, Sirhan probably will be spared the death penalty. If the jurors believe Pollack, the diminutive Jordanian immigrant could face the gas chamber."

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 -- Value of psychological testing and psychiatric terminology "came under attack" today in the Sirhan murder trial "as the defense launched what it promises will be a harrowing cross-examination" of the prosecution's psychiatric witness, reported a Los Angeles newspaper (Times.)

On his third day on the witness stand today, the defense
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