

VOLUNTARY WITNESSES

JERRY OWEN INVESTIGATION

Oliver Brindley Owen, aka Jerry Owen, was an ex-prize fighter turned minister who became involved in an intricate and contradictory series of events which allegedly involved Sirhan and Jerry Owen and the attempted purchase of a horse by Sirhan. The falsehood of Owen's allegation was clearly established through a separate and independent investigation.

Essentially Owen claimed that on Monday, June 3, 1968, at approximately 3:00 p.m., he picked up two hitchhikers in downtown Los Angeles and gave them a ride to the Hollywood-Wilshire area. Owen identified one of the hitchhikers as Sirhan who rode in the cab of his truck during part of the ride. Sirhan allegedly offered to buy a horse from Owen, who had a palomino for sale. The purchase was to be made at 11:00 p.m. that night at a location in Hollywood. Owen and Sirhan then allegedly met at this location at 11:00 p.m., and Sirhan asked Owen if he could wait until the next day when he would have the necessary money. Owen registered at a local hotel for the night.

The next morning, June 4, he was met by a man in a flashy suit and a blond girl who told him that Sirhan did not have the money for the horse but that he wanted Owen to meet him again at 11:00 p.m. that night. The man offered to give him some money as part payment on the horse. The man also told Owen that there was something happening at the Ambassador Hotel that night and that Sirhan would not have the money until then. Owen told the man that he could not meet Sirhan because of an

appointment in Oxnard. Owen gave the man a business card and offered to bring the horse to Los Angeles the next day.

Owen allegedly went to Oxnard, California, and remained there the night of June 4. He returned to Los Angeles at approximately 12:30 p.m. on the 5th and learned of the assassination. After allegedly recognizing a picture of Sirhan in a newspaper, he went to University Station where he made his statement to the Department.

During the ensuing months, investigators sought to conclusively establish the truth regarding Owen's allegation. On the surface his statements were not self-incriminating, and Owen presented himself as a volunteer witness who was interested in assisting the police. Essentially investigators needed only to establish the falsity of Owen's statements to refute his allegation or to verify the truth of his statements and use Owen as a material witness. All evidence seemed to indicate that Sirhan was not with Owen on the 3rd. It was necessary, however, for investigators to determine Owen's reasons for fabricating the incident or whether he was honestly mistaken.

A complication developed early in the investigation when Jerry Owen became wary about the investigation of his allegation. Owen allegedly received a threatening phone call on June 6, 1968, telling him to remain quiet regarding his horse deal with Sirhan. Owen moved to the San Francisco area where he remained for several months. During that time his allegation became

publicized and Owen engaged an attorney, George T. Davis, to represent him.

A polygraph examination was arranged for Owen on July 3, 1968, at the San Francisco Police Department. His attorney, Davis, was present during the test. Owen's responses to key questions indicated that he was being untruthful. When told of the results of the test, Owen made a lengthy statement which indicated that he was unsure of his original statement.

Investigators subsequently interviewed Mrs. Mary Sirhan and Adal Sirhan, who attempted to assist investigators in determining the truth of Owen's allegations. After a visit to Sirhan at the Hall of Justice, Mrs. Sirhan told investigators that Sirhan had denied knowing anything about Jerry Owen or the purchase of a horse.

At this point in the investigation, there had been three separate accounts of the occurrence given by Owen. The number of inconsistencies which appeared between the accounts and the results of the polygraph, coupled with Sirhan's denial of knowing Owen, led investigators to the conclusion that Owen was lying. It remained for investigators to determine why and to firmly refute Owen's statements with factual information and physical evidence.

In early August 1968, John G. Christian, a magazine writer, and William Turner, an ex-F.B.I. agent turned free lance writer, entered into the Owen investigation. Christian contacted this Department offering his assistance, and he suggested that he

would like to be deputized to work with the Department.

Christian had a taped account of Owen's story. He told investigators that he believed Sirhan and Owen were together on June 4 and that they conspired to assassinate Kennedy. Christian further alleged that Owen was involved in Sirhan's escape plans and after the aborted escape, Owen was trying to establish an alibi with his horse-selling story.

Christian subsequently wrote a letter to this Department which outlined his reasons for believing that Owen was involved in the assassination. Christian, by enumerating various conflicts in Owen's accounts of the incident, hypothesized that Owen's reasons for lying were that he was involved in the conspiracy and seeking a means to avoid association with Sirhan. Christian subsequently sought to establish a link in Owen's background with Dr. Carl MacIntyre, a minister whose name had been linked through the Garrison investigation with the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Investigators, attacking the inconsistencies in Owen's accounts, also concluded that he was lying; however, there was no evidence to indicate that Owen was involved with an extremist group or with Sirhan. The following is an account of the investigation into the allegation of Jerry Owen.

Initial Statement of Jerry Owen

Jerry Owen went to University Station on June 5, 1968, at approximately 3:00 p.m. He gave the following account regarding a contact that he believed that he had had with Sirhan Sirhan:

On June 3, 1968, Owen left his residence in Santa Ana en route to the Coliseum Hotel, 457 West Santa Barbara, Los Angeles. He spoke with the manager of the hotel coffee shop, John Bert Morris, and Rip O'Reilly, a heavyweight boxer. Morris and Owen discussed the purchase of some boxing equipment from the United Sporting Goods Store, 901 South Hill Street, Los Angeles. At approximately 3:00 p.m. Owen purchased one pair of boxing shoes at United Sporting Goods and proceeded to Lester's Shoe Repair, 1263 North Vine Street, to have green shamrocks monogrammed on the shoes.

En route to Hollywood, while stopped at a traffic light at 7th and Grand Streets, two males requested a ride. The two men jumped into the rear of his truck with Owen's permission. Both men were described as Mexican or Latin, in their early twenties, with long hair and wearing old clothing. One hitchhiker was tall and slim and the other three or four inches shorter. At Wilshire and Western the taller man alighted from Owen's truck and greeted four other young adults standing on the corner. One of them was a male in his thirties with a large build wearing a flashy suit; a female Caucasian with dirty blond hair and two other young males were with the older man. The shorter hitchhiker whom Owen subsequently identified as Sirhan asked if he could sit in the cab of the truck.

After moving into the cab, the man asked Owen if he would stop for a few minutes at the "big hotel" while he visited a friend who worked in the kitchen. The hotel was later identified as

the Ambassador Hotel. The man returned to Owen's truck ten minutes later and asked if Owen would take him to Hollywood. En route they had a conversation, and the man told Owen that he was an exercise boy at the racetrack. After Owen told him that he had a palomino horse which he was to sell for \$250 in Oxnard, the man expressed a desire to buy the horse after receiving some money later that evening. Owen agreed to meet him that night at 11:00 p.m. near a bowling alley on Sunset Boulevard.

The young man remained in Owen's truck while he delivered the shoes to be monogrammed. Owen recalled that the young man also discussed nationalities, and he said that he had been raised in Jordan. He also expressed his opposition to Jews.

At 11:00 p.m. Owen went to the bowling alley and found the young man with the blond female and the well-dressed male he had seen at Wilshire and Western that afternoon. They had a 1957, 1958 or 1959 off-white, hard top Chevrolet. The young man displayed a \$100 bill and told Owen he could not pay for the horse at that time. He asked Owen to meet him the next morning, and he mentioned that something was happening at the hotel. Because the deal appeared certain to Owen, he registered at the St. Moritz Hotel, 5849 Sunset Boulevard for the night.

At 8:00 a.m. on the 4th, Owen received a phone call from a man who said he was calling for Joe Sahara. He then went to the parking lot of the St. Moritz Hotel where he was met by the blond woman and the man who was wearing the flashy suit. The man told Owen that the young man could not get the money until

that night, and they asked Owen if he could get the young man a job at a ranch. Owen gave them a business card and told them he would be back in Los Angeles the next day. Owen then went to Oxnard where he remained until 12:30 p.m. on the 5th.

When Owen returned to the Coliseum Hotel on June 5 at 3:00 p.m., he recognized a picture of Sirhan in the Hollywood Citizen News as being the young man who offered to purchase the horse from him. He related the incident to a waitress at the hotel coffee shop who suggested that he report it to the police. Owen then went to University Station. Owen subsequently told investigators that he believed that Sirhan was planning to use his truck to escape from the assassination.

Investigation of Owen's Statement

Owen was reinterviewed on June 18 at Parker Center and added some details to his original account. He said that Sirhan spoke with a slight Mexican accent and that he mentioned that he might sell his home and go to the Holy Land. He told investigators of a telephone conversation which he received approximately a week before. The person sounded like a male Negro and he stated to Owen, "You mother fucker, forget about the horse deal and keep your mouth closed." At this point in the investigation, it was assumed that Owen was being truthful; however, the investigation into the details of Owen's statements had not been completed.

On June 27, Owen was contacted at his home to set up an interview. Owen refused, stating that he was going to San Francisco. When

the investigators suggested a meeting in Palo Alto, Owen said, "No," but suggested that they meet at the residence of Owen's brother in San Bruno. On June 29 the scheduled interview was canceled by the Department when investigators decided to wait for Owen to return to Los Angeles. Owen was not told of this decision, and he erroneously became fearful that his life was in danger. Owen's attorney, Davis, reported that Owen had been contacted by someone alleging that he was a Los Angeles policeman.

On July 1, 1968, San Francisco area papers printed an account of Owen's story about Sirhan. The articles reported that Owen was in hiding in the Napa Valley area in fear for his life. George Davis was quoted as saying that he believed that Owen was telling the truth and that he was reliable. Davis further stated that this Department had refused protection for Owen and that he would ask Attorney General Thomas Lynch for a 24-hour guard. Davis gave an account of Owen's allegation.

The article was in many ways the same as Owen's original account, with some notable contradictions and discrepancies. In his first account Owen said that the price to be paid for the horse was \$250; in the newspaper account it was \$300. Davis also stated that Owen first saw Sirhan's picture on television; contrary to that Owen had said that he had first seen Sirhan's picture in a newspaper. Owen told investigators that he had met one man and a blond woman at 3:00 a.m. on the 4th, but the article said that there were two men and a woman.

On July 2, 1968, Wesley Gardner, owner of the Foremost Protective Agency, notified investigators that he was representing Owen and that future calls to Owen should be channeled through Gardner.

Polygraph Examination of Owen

Owen and Davis were contacted and the canceled interview in San Bruno was explained to their satisfaction. Due to the confusion which was developing in the Owen investigation, investigators arranged for a polygraph to be given by Lt. Hernandez to Jerry Owen at the San Francisco Police Department on July 3, 1968. George Davis was present during the examination, and Owen was explained the purpose of the test and given the opportunity to ask questions concerning the test. Owen resisted the control test; however, his responses indicated that he was a suitable subject for testing.

Owen was asked a total of 25 questions of which 9 were key questions. In response to the following relevant questions, Owen emitted answers which strongly indicated that he was being untruthful.

Q Is everything that you told me this morning about the hitchhiker true?

A Yes.

Q Do you honestly believe that you have talked to the man that is accused of shooting Kennedy?

A Yes.

Q When you told George Davis that you had talked to

the man that shot Kennedy, were you telling him the truth?

A Yes.

Q Did the man who shot Kennedy offer to buy your horse at any time?

A Yes.

It was the examiner's opinion that Owen could not honestly say that he picked up, talked to or saw Sirhan on June 3, 1968. When informed of the results of the test, he made lengthy rationalizations about the occurrence. At one point he said, "I don't know; I don't know; it may not have been him, but if I had saw him face to face or heard his voice or something, then I would. I'd come out and make a definite statement. I don't know." He said that he had only mentioned that the person to whom he had given a ride looked like the picture of the man he had seen on television and accused of shooting Kennedy.

Investigation into Discrepancies

On July 2, 1968, Mrs. Mary Sirhan was interviewed regarding the money which Sirhan received from the insurance settlement for the fall from the horse. She recalled that Sirhan asked for \$300 a day or two before the shooting. She said that she believed that Sirhan had spent most of the remainder from the \$1,000 he gave her from the insurance settlement. She thought that he had given some of the money to Adel. Adel Sirhan was present during the interview, and he stated at one point, "I

think Sirhan wanted the \$300 to buy a horse with." This was the only statement made by either Munir or Adel Sirhan regarding the money Sirhan received from the settlement.

On July 5, Mrs. Sirhan was again interviewed, this time regarding Sirhan's activities on June 3, 1968. She stated that Sirhan had driven her to work at 8:00 a.m. but that he was not at home at 12:30 p.m. when she returned. However, there was evidence that he had just taken a shower and there was a warm cup on the kitchen table. Sirhan was gone most of the afternoon, but she noticed that he was watching television at 4:30 p.m. She was certain that he remained home the rest of that night. This information conflicted with Owen's allegation. At least from the time of 4:30 p.m., Mrs. Sirhan's statement contradicts Owen's statement. This would include the conversations at the Sunset Boulevard bowling alley at 4:30 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. and casts additional doubt on the events which preceded 4:30 p.m.

Mrs. Sirhan agreed to speak to Sirhan at the Hall of Justice regarding the Owen allegation. On July 15, after she had spoken to Sirhan, Mrs. Sirhan related his response. Sirhan told her that he did not know Owen, had never seen him nor had he ever ridden in his pickup truck. He also denied that he had attempted to purchase a palomino horse.

The denial by Sirhan, the statements of Mrs. Sirhan and the results of the Owen polygraph caused investigators to conclude that Owen had lied about the incident. Owen's reasons for

lying could not be completely determined; however, an intensive examination of Owen's background revealed a history of involvement in questionable and illegal activities. This information tended to cast doubt on Owen's credibility.

Owen's third account of the incident given, when he was administered the polygraph, was compared with the other two accounts. Further discrepancies were noted, some of which indicated that Owen was adding details which he should have given in his first account. In addition he left out details which were in the original account.

He stated that he had purchased a robe and a pair of boxing shoes at United Sporting Goods; this was opposed to his first statement wherein he said he had purchased only a pair of boxing shoes. He also related that during the evening hours between the time he allegedly dropped off Sirhan around 6:00 p.m. and the time he met him again at 11:00 p.m., Owen stated that he had gone to the Plaza Hotel to see a friend, the ex-fighter Slapsy Maxie Rosenbloom. They then went to a Saints and Sinners meeting. This incident did not appear in Owen's first account at University Station. Further, Owen did not mention the stop at the Coliseum Hotel and Teamsters Gymnasium; instead, he said that he went directly from Santa Ana to the United Sporting Goods Store.

When shown a set of mugs, Owen could not identify Sirhan, and he chose a look-alike as the other man who rode in his truck. In addition, Owen changed the time and date on which he received

the threatening phone call. The newspaper account had stated that he had received the call the evening of the 5th. During the July 3, 1968, interview Owen said that the call came between 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. on June 6.

Investigation into the alleged activities of Owen on June 3 revealed additional discrepancies in his story. Investigators determined that sales records at the United Sporting Goods Store showed no sale of a boxing robe on June 3. A pair of boxing shoes were sold on that date but not to Owen. The manager of the store, Jack Misrach, stated that he knew most of the boxing people in this area. He does not know Owen or Rip O'Reilly, the boxer. After looking at Owen's picture, Misrach did not recall seeing Owen in his store. Jesse Edwards, the salesman who sold the shoes on that date, thought Owen looked familiar but could not recall the transaction. The transaction for the shoes included several other items including gloves, headgear, shorts, jump rope and other items totaling \$39.45.

Lester's Shoe Repair at 1263 North Vine Street was checked to verify Owen's statement that he had taken the shoes for monogramming. Lester Shields, the owner, stated that he had no record of when Owen brought the shoes for monogramming. Shields remembered that Owen came to his shop three times; one time that he remembered seeing Owen's truck, there was no one in it. When he picked up the shoes, two young women were with him and Rip O'Reilly was in the truck.

the incident of the hitchhiker and told him that he believed that the young man resembled Sirhan. O'Reilly, however, provided investigators with information which strongly contradicted Owen's account.

O'Reilly stated that on June 3, 1968, Owen called him at about 10:30 a.m. and invited him to attend a Saints and Sinners Club that night. At 6:30 p.m. Owen picked O'Reilly up at the Coliseum Hotel, and they drove to the meeting on Fairfax Avenue. Owen was driving a dark-colored pickup truck with a horse trailer attached. A horse was in the trailer. They remained at the meeting until 11:30 p.m., and Owen took O'Reilly back to the hotel.

On June 5, Owen came to the hotel and related to O'Reilly that he had picked up a hitchhiker on Wilshire Boulevard on June 3 and that the hitchhiker offered him \$400 for his horse. Owen said that he stayed at a hotel the night of the 3rd to complete the transaction the next day. Owen told O'Reilly that he believed that Sirhan was a Mexican. O'Reilly further advised investigators that Owen had purchased the boxing shoes mentioned by Owen prior to June 3, 1968.

Investigators had established sufficient contradiction in Owen's story that they were convinced that he was lying. Owen's uncertainty at the conclusion of his polygraph in San Francisco tended to substantiate that conclusion. The only remaining aspect of the investigation was to establish Owen's reason for

Dianne Scott, owner of the seamstress shop adjacent to the shoe repair shop, stated that she recalled that Owen brought a robe to be momogrammed on June 10, 1968, not June 3. He picked up the robe on June 26.

Shields estimated the dates of Owen's appearances at his shoe shop as:

Originally brought shoes into the shop	May 23-27, 1968
Picked shoes up the first time	May 25-28, 1968
Brought shoes in second time	May 27-29, 1968
Picked up shoes the final time	June 8, 1968

Investigators interviewed the persons whom Owen stated that he told of the incident who were at the Coliseum Hotel on June 5. Owen allegedly told them of the hitchhiker incident and one of them, Mabel Jacobs, a waitress, told him to tell the police.

Jacobs stated that she spoke to Owen who was in the Coliseum Hotel Coffee Shop with Rip O'Reilly on June 5. Owen pointed to a picture of Sirhan in the newspapers and told her that he was the hitchhiker that he had picked up on June 3. Owen told her that he had taken Sirhan to the Ambassador Hotel and that Sirhan expressed a desire to purchase a horse he was transporting to Oxnard. Bert Morris, the owner, stated that he was not present during Owen's relating of the incident to Jacobs. He did recall that Owen was in the coffee shop on June 5.

Rip O'Reilly, a professional boxer under contract to Owen, was interviewed. He stated that he lives at the Coliseum Hotel and that Owen came there on June 5 to see him. Owen related

fabricating the story.

Owen's Background

Owen was born on April 13, 1903, in Ashland, Ohio. He attended the University of Southern California where he played varsity football. For many years he was a sparring partner for ex-heavyweight boxing champion, Max Baer.

Owen had claimed that he had been an ordained minister since 1937 and that he held a credential with the Charles M. Holder Ministry, Inc. on Colton Street in Los Angeles. During his July 3 interview in San Francisco, Owen admitted that he had not been legally ordained. He stated that he had gone into a hotel room for several days during which time he prayed. This constituted his ordainment.

Owen was arrested on suspicion of robbery in 1930 by the Long Beach Police Department but was released the same day. Over the years Owen has been involved in various suspicious and illegal activities. An analysis of the total record of Owen's police record and investigations into his activities reveal that he has been involved in several fire insurance claims involving his personal and church properties, and he has several times been involved in extra-marital and paternity investigations. His religious activities are of the rural evangelistic type with makeshift facilities. Owen has advertised himself as "The Walking Bible" and cites Ripley's "Believe it or Not" as proof that he has complete recall of the Bible. His method is that of a huckster, calling for the believing to listen to his

message. Several of those interviewed likened his approach to that of a "confidence man."

His record would tend to support that description. Owen has been involved in six fires beginning in 1939 in Castro Valley, California. On several occasions he collected insurance settlements from these fires. The cases occurred in: (1) Castro Valley, 1939; (2) Crystal Lake Park, Oregon, 1945; (3) Dallas, Texas, 1946; (4) Mount Washington, Kentucky, 1947; (5) Ellicott City, Maryland, 1951; and (6) Tucson, Arizona, 1962.

Owen's \$16,000 claim for the fire in Maryland was denied because of fraud. A witness observed Owen moving personal effects out of the house prior to the fire and then return them. Owen subsequently collected \$6,500 when the denial was appealed.

In 1963, Owen was arrested in Costa Mesa, California, on a fugitive warrant from Tucson, Arizona, for arson with the intent to defraud an insurance company. A church, Our Little Chapel, which was owned by Owen was destroyed by fire on July 31, 1962, in Tucson. The investigation by the Tucson Police Department revealed that arson was the suspected cause of the fire. Owen was subsequently convicted of three counts of arson and sentenced to serve 8-10 years in prison. The decision was appealed and reversed on June 27, 1966.

In addition to fire claims, Owen has been involved in sex offenses over the years. In 1943, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] joined Owen's [REDACTED]

Oregon. [REDACTED]

met Owen when he had [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Iowa. Just prior to Owen obtaining a divorce from his wife in 1947, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Owen gave [REDACTED] and told [REDACTED] that he would come to [REDACTED]. The [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 1947, and Owen [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] later received word that Owen had gotten drunk, married

[REDACTED] and that [REDACTED]

had traveled off and on with [REDACTED] for

approximately [REDACTED]. (Owen stated during his polygraph that he had had a [REDACTED] filed against him at one time.)

On [REDACTED] 1945, Owen was arrested for disorderly conduct in [REDACTED] Oregon. He was found in a motel room with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] both were [REDACTED]. Owen was fined \$50

and given thirty (30) days in jail; however, Owen posted an appeal bond of \$250, and the case was continued indefinitely.

Intelligence Division reports of Owen's activities reveal that he was reported to have been involved with women a number of times during his evangelistic tours.

Owen's highly suspicious background caused investigators to speculate that he sought to use the story about Sirhan to bring attention upon himself. His involvement in the activities described above were questionable grounds for giving credence to his ministerial goodness, and his suspicious record indicated that he was capable of concocting a story as devious as his alleged encounter with Sirhan. Investigators further speculated

that Owen probably did pick up a hitchhiker in the downtown area, though not necessarily on June 3, 1968. Owen then combined a series of events which had occurred on various dates and developed his story. The small discrepancies in his stories would account for some vague familiarity that Owen had with each incident but that he would forget minor details from telling to telling.

Involvement of Jonn G. Christian

Three telephone calls were received by investigators from Jonn Christian, a magazine writer, one each on August 7, 9 and 11, 1968. Christian indicated that he had a tape of Jerry Owen's account and that he wished to assist the Department in its investigation. He went so far as to suggest that he and an associate, William Turner, be "deputized." Christian sought to listen to the Los Angeles Police Department tape of Owen's account so that he could note discrepancies. It was Christian's opinion that Owen and Sirhan were together on June 4, 1968, and that Owen was to assist Sirhan with his escape. Because Sirhan had been captured, Christian believed that Owen had concocted his story to establish an innocuous reason for being with Sirhan.

Investigators sought then to establish the validity of Christian's allegation. It was believed that Owen was not involved with Sirhan in a conspiracy or that he had ever seen him. However, Christian's claim had to be disproven completely. Christian himself carried his claim to various governmental

bodies to plea for their aid in investigating his allegation. His actions caused investigators deep concern as each time they would feel that the Christian claim had been satisfactorily explained to other interested parties, Christian would successfully enlist the support of another agency.

Christian mailed two extensive confidential letters to the Department outlining his "original, unique and confidential information" regarding the assassination. The material represented Christian's theory regarding the discrepancies in Owen's story. Christian also attempted to establish a link between Owen and Dr. Carl MacIntyre, the minister reportedly connected by New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison with the John F. Kennedy assassination.

Investigators were able to establish that Christian had been contacted by George Davis, Owen's attorney, who told Christian, "I think I'm broken in on the Senator Kennedy conspiracy." Davis asked Christian to handle his press releases.

William Turner, Christian's partner and an ex-F.B.I. agent turned free lance writer, had been previously associated with Davis. Turner had lost a campaign for public office in the June primaries, and Davis had been his campaign manager. In addition, Turner had been associated with the radical publication "Ramparts" and has written a book entitled "The Police Establishment."

It is anticipated that John Christian and William Turner will

publish or somehow publicly reveal their theory regarding Jerry Owen and Sirhan.. They have consistently attempted to attach credence to their claim by enlisting the support of high ranking government officials for their claim.. They will also likely as not show up in conjunction with any attempt to link the two Kennedy assassinations, an event which will definitely occur in one form or another..

On two occasions Christian admitted to investigators that his opinions regarding Owen and Sirhan were only theories.. He further admitted that he was investigating the possibility of a conspiracy as a writer and that if a conspiracy did not exist between Sirhan and Owen, he did not have a story.. "

This investigation has gathered such information as to indicate that Jerry Owen did not know or ever meet Sirhan.. The remaining pieces to be inserted into the investigation are those which could not physically be obtained.. This includes a direct meeting between Sirhan and Owen.. Owen himself, on the advice of his attorney, has been reluctant to continue assisting investigators..

THE VIRGINIA TERESI INVESTIGATION

Mrs. Virginia Teresi voluntarily contacted this Department on June 5, 1968, regarding three men in a vehicle whom she had observed on June 3, 1968. Mrs. Teresi alleged that she observed these men with guns and that she overheard conversation which included the word "Kennedy." Mrs. Teresi eventually identified a photograph of Sirhan Sirhan as one of the three men in the vehicle.

Subsequent investigation revealed that Mrs. Teresi had fabricated the whole story. She had been fearful for Senator Kennedy's safety, and after the shooting she wanted to assure that a complete investigation would be made. A description of the Virginia Teresi investigation follows.

The Investigation

On June 5, 1968, at approximately 6:00 a.m. Mrs. Virginia Teresi, 21, contacted the Department by telephone and stated that she had information relevant to the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Mrs. Teresi was interviewed on June 5, 1968, at 11:30 a.m.

She stated that on June 3, 1968, between 3:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. she was in her vehicle, parked westbound at the north curb of Melrose Avenue approximately 150 feet east of St. Andrews Place. As she started forward in the curb lane, a westbound vehicle passed her and pulled abruptly to the curb between her vehicle and the corner of St. Andrews Place. There were three males in

the front seat of the vehicle and no one in the rear seat.

As the vehicle stopped, the passenger in the right front seat jumped out and stood on the curb. He appeared to be very excited. He turned back toward the vehicle, leaned forward through the open right front door and appeared to be engaged in a heated conversation with the two men remaining in the vehicle.

Mrs. Teresi pulled to the left and attempted to drive around the parked vehicle. As she pulled abreast of the vehicle, the right side of her vehicle was within a few inches of the left side of the parked one. At this point she was forced to stop because of heavy traffic.

The windows of both cars were open, enabling her to overhear parts of the conversation between the man on the curb and the occupants of the vehicle. The driver said, "Get your ass in the car, we have to get him tonight." The man on the curb said, "I don't want to, I'm afraid." One of the men in the car said something that included the word "Kennedy." There was some additional conversation that Mrs. Teresi could not overhear.

At this time the man on the curb stood erect, and Mrs. Teresi observed the handle of a small revolver protruding from the waistband of his trousers. The man on the curb noticed Mrs. Teresi looking at them. He again leaned forward into the vehicle and spoke to the men inside. All three men then stared at her for several seconds.

The man on the curb jumped back into the car and said something that included the words "Wilshire Boulevard." The vehicle accelerated rapidly and Mrs. Teresi last observed it westbound on Melrose Avenue.

When the vehicle pulled away, Mrs. Teresi observed two rifles leaning against the back seat. These rifles were partially covered with a green blanket, but approximately six inches of the barrels were exposed to view.

Mrs. Teresi then made a right turn onto St. Andrews Place and parked in front of her house. She did not see the vehicle nor the men again.

Mrs. Teresi provided investigators with descriptions of the three men and the vehicle. She had not noticed the license number. Mrs. Teresi was shown a photograph of Sirhan, and she positively identified him as the man who had jumped from the vehicle.

The Follow-up Investigation

On June 14, 1968, Mrs. Teresi was reinterviewed. She repeated her original story. She also stated that on June 3, 1968, upon arriving home following the above incident, she had telephoned the Los Angeles Office of the F.B.I. and told them what she had seen and heard. The F.B.I. was contacted, and they determined that there was no record of this call. The F.B.I. indicated that if a call of this nature had been received, the files would so indicate.

On June 14, Mrs. Teresi advised investigators that on the evening of June 12, while she was driving to a friend's house, she was followed for several blocks by a man driving an expensive dark sedan. This man did not attempt to contact her nor did he commit any overt acts. Mrs. Teresi took a zig-zag route to her friend's house but was unable to evade the following vehicle. When she stopped at her friend's house, the vehicle which had been following her passed and she did not see it again. Mrs. Teresi had no further information about this car or the driver.

On June 16, Mrs. Teresi contacted investigators by telephone and reported that on June 15 at approximately 7:00 p.m. a female Caucasian approximately twenty-five years of age had knocked on her door and attempted to engage her in conversation. Mrs. Teresi refused to open the door. The female remained standing in front of Mrs. Teresi's apartment for approximately five minutes and then left on foot.

On June 18, 1968, at 6:00 a.m. Mrs. Teresi contacted investigators by telephone and stated she had received a threatening note. During the conversation she was crying. She stated that she was very frightened. It appeared to investigator that she was in a highly emotional state of mind. She refused to discuss the details of the incident by telephone and asked the investigator to come to her home as soon as possible.

When the investigator arrived at Mrs. Teresi's home, she showed him a photograph that had been clipped from a local newspaper. This photo showed Senator Kennedy lying on the floor of the kitchen

at the Ambassador Hotel following the shooting. The word "triumph" appeared at the top of the picture and attached to the photo with scotch tape were additional words apparently clipped from newsprint. These words were "Don't talk or I do anything to prevent it." Mrs. Teresi stated that upon arising at 6:00 a.m., she had discovered the clipping on the living room floor inside the front door. She assumed that it had been slipped under the door during the night.

The Polygraph Examination

During this interview, it was suggested to Mrs. Teresi that it might be helpful if she would submit to a polygraph examination. She consented to do so.

During the examination, Mrs. Teresi was questioned regarding the statements she had made about the three men in the car and about the threatening note. Some of the questions were: "Did you see a man with a gun on Monday, the day before Senator Kennedy was shot?" "Did you see Sirhan on Monday, the day before Senator Kennedy was shot?" "Is everything that you have told the police the truth?" To these questions she replied, "Yes." To the questions: "Do you know who made this note?" and "Did you make this note?" she replied, "No." The results of the examination indicated that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mrs. Teresi's [REDACTED] Incidents

At the conclusion of the interview, Mrs. Teresi was confronted with the results. She became very emotional and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. She stated that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] She also admitted that she had [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

During the post examination interview, Mrs. Teresi stated that she was [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The [REDACTED] was that prior to the shooting of Senator Kennedy she feared for his safety and when the shooting actually occurred, she wanted to do whatever she could to assure that the incident would be thoroughly investigated.

Background Information

During the investigation, the following was disclosed: Mrs. Teresi is a female Caucasian, 5-7½, 127, blonde hair, green eyes, date of birth 7-16-47. She shares an apartment at 714 3/4 North St., Andrews Place with her mother Mary Luckenback.

She is married to Tony Teresi who has been in the Army for approximately three months and is presently stationed at Ft. Ord, California. Mr. Teresi is attempting to get a discharge from the army. Mrs. Teresi would not discuss his reason for doing so. She works on a part-time basis for Affiliated Artists Agency at 1136 North La Brea Avenue, Los Angeles. She stated that she is not a member of any political organization. She was a supporter of Senator Kennedy but had done no campaign work for him.

She is a pacifist and often makes peace and love posters which

she displays on her vehicle. She stated that these posters reflect her own philosophy and do not represent affiliation with any group. She has no criminal record.

A detailed medical record of Mrs. Teresi was not available. The following information was obtained from the Los Angeles County [REDACTED] and the Los Angeles County Department [REDACTED]:

On [REDACTED], 1962, she [REDACTED] and was [REDACTED] Los Angeles County [REDACTED]. She told the [REDACTED] at that time that she could not get along with [REDACTED]. She was [REDACTED], 1962.

On [REDACTED], 1963, she was [REDACTED] for [REDACTED]. On [REDACTED], 1963, she was [REDACTED] Los Angeles County Department [REDACTED].


The Los Angeles County Department [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], and she [REDACTED]

In 1963 the [REDACTED] stated that Mrs. Teresi was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. The [REDACTED] further stated that the [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] appeared to be [REDACTED]


Los Angeles County Hospital records indicate that since 1963 Mrs. Teresi has been treated for minor physical ailments such as headaches, coughs, sore toe etc.

THE GOLDEN GARTER INVESTIGATION

The owners of the Golden Garter Inn,, 2605 West Valley Boulevard Alhambra, alleged that Sirhan, B., Sirhan was overheard making a threatening type statement in their beer bar during the weeks just prior to the shooting of Senator Kennedy..

The investigation into the allegation identified the person described by witnesses and determined that he was not associated with, but did resemble Sirhan..

The Allegation

Detective B. Aharonian,, Alhambra Police Department,, received a telephone call from Joseph and Carl Martigani,, owners of the Golden Garter Inn,, who advised him that Sirhan had visited their bar on a number of occasions in the recent weeks.. Aharonian notified the Los Angeles Police Department and arrangements were made for the investigators to use Alhambra Police facilities to conduct interviews..

Joseph Martigani stated that he observed a man who he thought was Sirhan sitting at a table in his bar on May 29,, 1968,, with a customer named James H. Wilson.. When he approached the table he overheard the subject with Wilson say "we'll get him when he comes to Los Angeles." Wilson looked in Martigani's direction and "Cool it,, cool it." Martigani discussed Wilson's bar tab with him at that time..

Martigani picked Sirhan's photograph from a group of look-alikes and stated that this man most nearly resembled the man sitting

examination, the results of which indicated he was telling the truth.

Robert Andrese told investigators that he had accompanied James Wilson to the Golden Garter Inn four or five times. During the month of May he gave Wilson a ride to and from work and they stopped at the Golden Garter Inn on their way home. Andrese was driving a 1965 Valiant sedan and denied driving a 1959 DeSoto. Andrese stated that Wilson was not interested in politics, political candidates, or the current election. He doesn't recall seeing Wilson since May 29, 1968 and verifies that his last visit to the Golden Garter Inn was on May 28, 1968. Investigators noted that Andrese had a vague resemblance to Sirhan.

Dorothy Manning was interviewed at her residence where she lives with James Wilson, Edwin Ness and Rhonda Green. She told investigators that she was employed at the Golden Garter Inn during May 1968. She met Robert Andrese during that period of time; and, he drove Wilson and her home from the Golden Garter Inn after she got off work. She stated that the person sitting with Wilson the night Martigani reported seeing Sirhan with him was Andrese. Manning verified Andrese's vehicle to be a 1965 Valiant. She stated that she had ridden in his vehicle on several occasions.

Harold Pitz and Harry Patzman were identified by Joseph and Carl Martigani as the customers who shot pool with the man alleged to be Sirhan. Patzman stated that he was not sure the person he saw in the bar was Sirhan. He told investigators the photograph of Sirhan looked similar to someone he had seen in

with Wilson. He could not say it definitely was Sirhan. He reported observing other customers playing pool with the man who looked like Sirhan, including Wilson.

Carl Martigani stated he observed Wilson alight from a vehicle in the parking lot behind his bar. Wilson was accompanied by a man who resembled Sirhan, however, Martigani could not recall observing the man inside his bar. He described the vehicle as a 1959 DeSoto or Chrysler, orange and white or pink and white. He was shown a photograph of Sirhan's car and stated it was not the same vehicle. He could not positively identify Sirhan as the man with Wilson.

Officers Hobert Taylor and Ted Markot, Alhambra Police Department, stated they had observed a person in the Golden Garter playing pool who resembled Sirhan.

The Investigation

James Wilson viewed a photograph of Sirhan and advised investigators that it looked like a man he had worked with, Bob Andrese. He stated that he had gone to the Golden Garter with Andrese each evening for approximately two weeks while they were working together. He recalled the conversation reported by Martigani, but was certain that it occurred on May 28th. Wilson explained that Andrese talked about politics continually and that particular time he was becoming excited, so Wilson told him to "cool it." Wilson stated that was the last time he saw Andrese. He reported that he never observed Sirhan in the Golden Garter or played pool with him. Wilson was administered a polygraph

the bar but stated this was not the person. Mr. Pitz stated that he thought he had shot pool with Sirhan at the Golden Garter, but was not certain of the identity of this person. He stated he thought the person to be Mexican; approximately twenty-eight years old, with heavy acne marks on his face who spoke broken English with possibly a Spanish accent.

Edwin Ness viewed a photograph of Sirhan and stated that this photograph resembled the individual he knew as Bob (Andrese) with the exception that Bob combed his hair straight back and had a pock-marked face. He stated Bob's car was a Valiant and to the best of Ness's knowledge Bob had accompanied Wilson to the bar on many occasions.

Mr. William T. Woodburn, a customer of the Golden Garter Inn, stated he has played pool on occasion with an individual whose facial features somewhat resemble, but are not identical to those of Sirhan's. Woodburn identified a photograph of Andrese as a man he played pool with.

Steve Steuart stated he shot pool at the Golden Garter Inn with a man resembling Sirhan. He was unable to identify the photograph of Andrese as being in the Golden Garter, but advised investigators that one of the Martigani brothers called him after Senator Kennedy was shot, and told him Sirhan had been in the bar. He stated that it was his opinion that this story was created by the Martigani Brothers who desired attention. He stated he was unable to furnish any factual information concerning Sirhan or any associates in the Golden Garter.

Kathy Venne, a temporary bar maid at Golden Garter, viewed photographs of Andrese, Wilson and Sirhan and stated that she had never seen any of these persons in the Golden Garter. It was noted that she worked there only two nights.

Linda Strugeon, night bar maid at the Golden Garter Inn, readily identified photographs of Wilson and Andrese as customers she had seen at the bar. She was sure that she had not seen Sirhan at that location.

Investigation of Female Seen at the Golden Garter Inn

Officer Don Trumble, Alhambra Police Department, stated that he observed a individual who resembled Sirhan in the Golden Garter Inn on at least one occasion during May 1968. He also recalled seeing a blond female enter the Golden Garter Inn. She was wearing dark horn-rimmed glasses and was described as being very big busted. He recalled a patron remarked that the girl was a friend of "Jims" (Wilson). A photograph of Beverly Corey was shown to Trumble, and he stated she appeared to be the same girl as he saw in the bar, but was unable to make a positive identification.

Beverly Khoury and Barbara Corey went to the Sirhan home on June 5, 1968, to console Adel Sirhan whom they both knew well. Both girls are dancers. They denied that they knew Sirhan Sirhan. Photographs and physical descriptions of these women were used by investigators when interviewing witnesses who alleged that they had seen Sirhan Sirhan with women.

A photograph of Beverly Corey and Barbara Khoury was shown to

witnesses connected with the Golden Garter Inn as a result of the statement by Officer Trumble. Joseph and Carl Martigani and Trumble were the only ones who identified Corey as having been in the bar. None of them stated they were positive in this identification.

Both girls denied ever being at the Golden Garter Inn or being acquainted with any of the principals in this investigation.

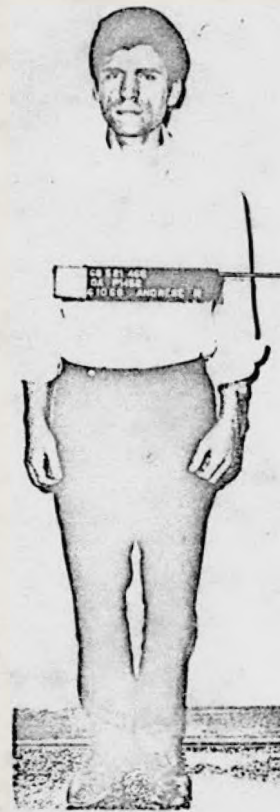
Results of the Investigation

Robert Andrese was identified as the person who resembled Sirhan and was reported being seen in the bar. The reported threatening statement was identified as being part of a heated political discussion and not a threat of bodily injury to anyone.

The allegation that Beverly Corey was seen in the Golden Garter remains unsupported with the following evidence being in direct conflict: Corey is slim and not big busted; she has dark hair, not blond; and she denies ever being in the bar. No witnesses were able to go on record with a positive identification of her being at the bar.



Sirhan B. Sirhan



Robert Andrese

Robert Andrese, on the right, was mistaken for Sirhan by customers of the Golden Garter Inn in Alhambra, California. It was alleged that Sirhan argued with another customer about politics and that he was overheard heatedly saying, "We'll get him when he comes to Los Angeles." The investigation determined that Andrese was the man in question and that the remark was incorrectly interpreted by the informant.

JOHN GEARHART

Subsequent to the announcement of Sirhan's arrest in the Robert Kennedy assassination; John Glenn Gearhart, a 47 year old office worker, contacted the Los Angeles Police Department and made the statement that he had spoken to Sirhan B. Sirhan at a bar in Glendora the night of the shooting. Gearhart alleged that a group of people with Sirhan told him that Sirhan was going to take care of Kennedy. Investigation revealed that Gearhart lied to investigators regarding the incident. An account of the investigation follows:

On July 15, 1968, Gearhart stated to investigators he had attended an American Legion Dinner between 6 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., on Election Day, June 4, 1968. He then drove to a bar, "The Talk of the Town," 5230 North Citrus Avenue, Glendora. He arrived there shortly after 9:30 p.m. and sat next to a young male at the bar. He described this young male as Cuban or Italian, in his early twenties, 5-7/5-8, 135, small build, dark skin, wearing a light blue long sleeve dress shirt with the cuffs turned up, dark trousers, and dark grey swede shoes. He stated that they engaged in a conversation and that he stated, "I hope McCarthy wipes out Kennedy." The young male replied, "You don't have to worry, we have that taken care of." Gearhart introduced himself, and the young man replied, "My name is Sirhan Bishara Sirhan." They spoke about Resurrection City, and later this man stated, "I have plenty of money and a nice car." "I am from Jordan."

Mr. Gearhart observed two young females sitting at the bar and asked one of the two to dance, but she refused. He asked the other and she accepted. After they finished dancing, he observed two males join the women. These men were both described as male Italians between twenty-two and twenty-seven years old, and taller than the man who introduced himself as Sirhan. Gearhart left the bar and the two males and two females followed him. One of the men approached him and asked him why he had been dancing with his girl. Gearhart became apprehensive and pretended to be drunk. They took Gearhart to the Thrifty Drugstore Coffee Shop across the street from the bar. One of the men stated that Gearhart didn't have to worry about Kennedy winning the election "as Sirhan had things taken care of." When Gearhart stated that Sirhan must be pretty big in politics, one of the men looked at his watch and stated, "It's getting late, we have a party to go to in Los Angeles. We have to go back and pick up Sirhan." Gearhart stated that he arrived home at approximately 11:05 p.m., fixed a sandwich, and watched the election returns on television. Gearhart stated that he had only two drinks at the dinner and two more while at the bar. He stated that he found one of the girl's purses in his vehicle the next morning and during his lunch hour he took the purse to the bartender at the bar. The investigating officer showed Gearhart photographs including a photo of Sirhan Sirhan and several look-alikes. Gearhart was unable to identify the photo of Sirhan as being the man he spoke to at the bar. The investigating officer advised Gearhart that other witnesses statements conflicted with his as to Sirhan's

whereabouts between 9:30 and 10:30 p.m., the night of June 4th. Gearhart remained adamant and stated that he had not made up his story.

Interview of Bartender George Naumis

The bartender at the "The Talk of the Town", George Naumis, was interviewed on July 15, 1968. He stated he did recall the people being in the bar and Gearhart returning the purse, but was unable to recall the date or the day of the week. Mr. Naumis believed that the people had stayed until the bar closed at 2 a.m., on the day in question and further stated the purse belonged to a Mexican girl who worked for "Ric Car" on Citrus Avenue. Mr. Naumis was unable to identify the photo of Sirhan as a person in his bar that night.

Interview of Dolores Licon

Dolores Diane Licon is employed for "Ric Car", 239 North Citrus, Avenue, Covina. Licon stated that she did not go to "The Talk of the Town" on June 4, 1968; however, she did go there with friends one Thursday night after attending the fights at the Olympic Auditorium. Licon, and her friends, stayed until the bar closed at 2 a.m. When they left the bar they observed a drunk, who she identified as Gearhart, getting into his vehicle. Because of his drunken condition, they took him to a coffee shop across the street from the bar. While in the coffee shop, they discussed hunting, but no one mentioned politics. After Licon left the coffee shop she recalled that she had left her purse in the drunk's vehicle. The next day she picked her purse up at the "Talk of the Town". Licon stated that no one in her party danced with Gearhart.

Additional Interviews

Jane Arrant, William Michael Kirkpatrick, Janet Marie Reinke and John Carl Woods were identified as being the group with Dolores Licon the night in question. They were all interviewed and confirmed Dolores Licon's statement. In addition, Kirkpatrick stated that his attention was first called to Gearhart when Gearhart made a remark to his girlfriend causing him to become angry.

On July 23, 1968, Mr. Gearhart was administered a polygraph examination by Lt. Hernandez in the polygraph facilities of the Scientific Investigation Division. The results of the polygraph examination of Gearhart indicated that he had been untruthful. His responses indicated that he had never talked to or saw Sirhan Sirhan in person. Subsequent to this examination, Mr. Gearhart admitted that he had lied. He stated that he had never seen or talked to Sirhan Sirhan. He said that he was ashamed of himself and could not understand why he had made up the story. His only explanation was that during the second World War, his brothers gave a good account of themselves with the Marines in Guadal-canal and he himself was kept in the United States and never had the opportunity to go overseas. Gearhart stated that he was trying to show that he was being a good citizen and could offer something to his country.

THE BILTMORE HOTEL INVESTIGATION

Miss Veronica De Nier,, information clerk at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel,, notified the Department that she had observed a registration card bearing the name of Sirhan Sirhan on June 1, 1968.. A detailed and complete investigation into the matter exposed the allegation to have been fabricated by two hotel employees..

The Allegation

Miss De Nier was interviewed on June 25, 1968. She stated that she remembered observing a registration card bearing the name of Sirhan Sirhan in the card rack at the Biltmore Hotel on June 1, 1968. She showed the card to a co-employee, Eva Grecco; and the two of them showed the card to hotel typist, Lucy Boothe, remarking that the name was unusual..

De Nier reported that after the assassination she and Grecco discussed the coincidence of Sirhan's stay at the hotel just prior to the shooting.. They checked the guest register but were unable to find a record of Sirhan's stay.. She stated that the hotel management had removed all records of Sirhan's registration and had admonished employees not to reveal Sirhan's stay at the hotel..

Mrs. Grecco verified De Nier's statement about seeing the registration card on June 1st and about showing the card to Boothe.. She added that after seeing Sirhan's photograph on television she recalled giving him a room key on June 1, 1968. She stated that Sirhan was with a man who was sending a telegram.

The two men walked to the stairway and engaged in a conversation, which she could not hear. She remembered the telegram was directed to Loma Linda University and the contents read in part "Arrived from Bagdad."

She stated that she had been cautioned by the hotel management not to reveal any information, but could not remember who admonished her. She reported that she was unable to locate the registration card and suggested that the hotel management had probably removed all records of Sirhan's registration.

The Investigation

Other employees of the hotel were contacted by investigators. Lucy Boothe stated that De Wier and Grecco showed her a card which contained a foreign sounding name, but it was not Sirhan Sirhan. She could not remember the name or the date of the incident. Hotel Resident Manager Thomas O'Hara, Assistant Manager Andrew Martin and Security Officer Mark Hendricks all denied concealing the card or admonishing employees to remain silent concerning Sirhan registering at the Biltmore.

The telegram referred to by Grecco was located. It was sent to Dr. John Peterson, resident physician at Loma Linda University and stated "Arrived yesterday, May 31st from Bagdad, staying Biltmore Hotel. Signed Der Hagopian." Dr. Peterson was interviewed and stated that the person sending the telegram was Dr. Moses Der Hagopian, a medical doctor practicing in Bagdad, who visited him while Hagopian stayed at Loma Linda University. The visit lasted twelve days, during which time Dr. Hagopian did some advance research on the treatment of diabetes.

Investigation revealed that Dr. Hagopian arrived in Los Angeles on June 1, 1968, and returned to Bagdad, Iraq, on June 13, 1968. Hagopian was not interviewed, however, because the Biltmore Hotel investigation did not begin until June 25, 1968.

Investigators reviewed hotel registration records from 1963 through June 1968 and found no registration in the name of Sirhan Sirhan. The Biltmore Hotel's registrations are typed on a continuous roll of paper which is kept as a permanent record. The roll, including guests from May 31, 1968, to June 4, 1968, was examined for cuts, splices or other alterations and none were found. There were no indications that anyone tampered with the records.

Reinterviews with De Nier and Grecco resulted in the following discrepancies: Miss De Nier stated the name on the registration was Sirhan Sirhan; Grecco was insistent that it was Sirhan B. Sirhan. Mrs. Grecco viewed a packet of photographs and identified a photo of Sirhan as the man to whom she gave the room key. It was noted that this was the photograph that received wide circulation via television and the press after the assassination. She was shown a second group of photographs containing two other photographs of Sirhan, and she stated she had not given the key to any of the men in that group.

Conclusions

The allegation that Sirhan registered at the Biltmore Hotel on June 1, 1968, was proven to be false through a check of the hotel records. Investigation into Sirhan's background and

activities indicated that he had not been at the Biltmore Hotel. The persons making the allegation, De Nier and Grecco, would not change their stories or any of the statements they originally made. It could not be determined what prompted them to make the allegation.

JOHN FAHEY

John Fahey became the subject of an investigation by the F.B.I. and this Department after reporting that he had met a woman, prior to the assassination of Robert Kennedy, who told him that the assassination would occur. Fahey described a complicated series of events involving this woman and two males who allegedly threatened and followed him. Fahey identified Munir Sirhan as a man who followed and threatened him. He also identified Sirhan Sirhan as being involved. Fahey became involved with a newspaper writer, Fernando Faura and the Fahey allegations were publicized.

John Fahey was given a polygraph examination by this Department and it was determined that he was being untruthful. Fahey subsequently admitted that he had fabricated his story of a conspiracy. Interviews with witnesses and inconsistencies in his statements repudiated his allegations. An account of the John Fahey investigation follows:

On June 6, 1968, John Fahey described the following events to investigators at the F.B.I. Office in Los Angeles. Fahey stated that on June 4, 1968, at 9 a.m., he was at the Ambassador Hotel Coffee Shop to keep an appointment. His expected appointment did not arrive. He observed two Latin appearing men speaking a foreign language but disregarded their presence.

Fahey met and engaged in conversation an attractive woman whom he noticed outside the coffee shop. He and the woman went into

the shop for breakfast. The woman told Fahey that she needed help obtaining a passport and that she was involved in something that she could not divulge to him. She gave him several first names before stating that her name was Gilderdine Oppenheimer.

The woman agreed to drive to the Oxnard - Ventura area on Fahey's business calls. As they were leaving the restaurant the woman indicated to him that they were being watched and looked toward one of the Latin males Fahey had observed earlier. Fahey subsequently selected a photograph of Munir Sirhan as having a close resemblance to this man.

En route to Oxnard the woman told Fahey that she was involved with a group planning to "take care of" Senator Kennedy. The woman was upset and told Fahey that they were being followed by a blue Volkswagon. He stopped his vehicle near a large boulder in a roadside park and the driver of the blue Volkswagon stopped beside his vehicle and stared at him. This vehicle then drove away.

Fahey continued to Ventura and returned to Los Angeles at 7:30 p.m. Fahey left the woman at the Ambassador, intending not to become involved with her.

On June 5, 1968, Fahey learned of the assassination of Kennedy and the search for a woman. He gave the above account to the F.B.I.

Subsequent Interviews

John Fahey was subsequently interviewed several times by the F.B.I. and this Department. During these interviews he elaborated upon his original account and gave inconsistent versions of the events.

During an interview by the F.B.I. on June 7, 1968, he asserted that there were two vehicles following him. The other vehicle was a late model Ford which was the first vehicle to follow him. The woman had acknowledged that the vehicles were a part of the "group."

On June 18, 1968, Fahey reported that the blue Volkswagon had followed him again. This allegedly occurred that same day, June 18th. Fahey did not obtain the license number though he had been advised to do so by the F.B.I.

F.B.I. investigators retraced the Oxnard trip with Fahey and he expanded on the incident near the boulder. He stated that the driver of the Volkswagon alighted from the vehicle and stared at him. During this interview he also stated that he had stopped at the same location before the Volkswagon arrived and that he had carried the woman to a deserted life guard station where they talked for ten to fifteen minutes.

Mr. Ron Smith, Fahey's employer, advised investigators that Fahey told him that the man in the Volkswagon had pulled out a gun and held it in his hand when he stared at Fahey. No other interviewee related that Fahey had described a gun. Fahey denied

to investigators that he made this statement to Smith.

Fahey indicated that he stopped at a gas station and a restaurant with the woman. F.B.I. investigators interviewed witnesses at these locations who indicated that on June 4, 1968, at the times indicated, they did not see Fahey in their business. Vera Walker, a waitress at the Ambassador Hotel, stated that she had not seen Fahey, or a woman fitting the description given by Fahey, at the Coffee Shop; however, she reported that Fahey had questioned her sometime after June 4th to determine her recollection of his being at the Coffee Shop.

Fahey's Involvement with Fernando Faura

On June 19, 1968, Fahey advised the F.B.I. that he had related his story to a free lance writer, Fernando Faura. Fahey told the F.B.I. that after he had told them his story he had read an article by Faura in the Hollywood Citizen News relating to a woman involved in the assassination. He contacted Faura who was very excited about Fahey's story about the woman.

Fahey stated that Faura identified himself with a Los Angeles Police Department "Press Pass" and took him to an office at the San Fernando Police Station. Faura acted very officially and a Lieutenant Stein at the San Fernando Police Department treated Faura as if he were connected with that department.

Faura arranged for a tape recording to be made of Fahey's story. On June 13, 1968, Faura advised the Intelligence Division of this Department that he had a confidential informant who had information regarding the Kennedy assassination. An interview

was arranged with investigators. Fahey's introduced as the informant and the tape was heard. It was found to be an elaborated version of the report previously made to the F.B.I.

As a result of the tape, several statements were found to conflict with the F.B.I. investigation; a thorough investigation was made into the allegations and inconsistencies of Fahey's statement. Fahey subsequently advised investigators, that Faura was a great problem to him during the investigation. Fahey contended that Faura had influenced his thinking greatly, to the extent that he began accepting Faura's theories as fact.

Fahey related several incidents to investigators regarding Faura. On August 24, 1968, Faura took Fahey to a hypnotist, Dr. Ray La Scola, M.D., who had agreed to hypnotize Fahey to learn more of the incident. La Scola stated to investigators that he believed that he was assisting in an official investigation because he was introduced to Faura by a San Fernando Police Department lieutenant.

Fahey stated that he told Faura that he was apprehensive about hypnosis and wanted to observe another man being hypnotized. La Scola hypnotized a Charles Dirks who related incidents about the assassination. La Scola stated to investigators that during this hypnotic session that Fahey became very excited about Dirks' responses and nodded in agreement when Dirks described a girl he had seen at the Ambassador Hotel. La Scola related that after the hypnotic session Fahey told him of the remarks the woman made to Fahey on June 4, 1968. Fahey used words such as