

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date _____

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6/8/68

SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN was arraigned in Department 100 of Los Angeles County Superior Court, before Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge ARTHUR L. ALARCON, in proceedings which commenced 5:48 p.m., June 7, 1968. The proceedings were held in the Chapel Facility of the new Los Angeles County Jail, 441 Bauchet Street, Los Angeles, California. Judge ALARCON announced that the reasons for holding the proceedings in that facility were two-fold:

1. Because of the defendant's physical condition.
2. To insure appropriate security.

The indictment against SIRHAN was read by Deputy District Attorney JOHN E. HOWARD, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. SIRHAN was represented by WILBUR L. LITTLEFIELD, Chief Trial Deputy for the Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office. Also present in court at the specific request of Judge ALARCON, was A. L. WIRIN, a representative of the American Civil Liberties Union. WIRIN conferred with SIRHAN prior to arraignment at the request of SIRHAN.

Defender LITTLEFIELD requested the Judge to order an examination of SIRHAN by two psychiatrists, which was approved by the court. This psychiatric examination was for the benefit of the defense only, and the court ordered that the examining doctors not divulge the results of their findings to anyone other than the defense. At the request of the defense counsel, Judge ALARCON fixed date of June 28, 1968, at 9:00 a.m., for plea and further proceedings.

The defendant was observed being brought into the Chapel Facility in a wheel chair. It was also observed that the defendant left the Chapel Facility in a wheel chair.

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6/7/68 Los Angeles, California Los Angeles 56-156
On _____ at _____ File # _____
SA's R. J. LA JEUNESSE, JR., and 6/7/68
J. G. WHITTINGTON, JR./RJL/djm/kaf
by _____ Date dictated _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/8/68

Following the arraignment of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN in Department 100, of the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, presided over by Judge ARTHUR L. ALARCON, the Judge issued instructions regarding publicity in connection with this prosecution as follows:

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On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SAs R. J. LA JEUNESSE, JR. & J. G. WHITTINGTON, JR./RJL/vjh Date dictated 6/7/68

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8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
9 FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
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11 PEOPLE OF THE STATE
12 OF CALIFORNIA,

13 Plaintiffs,

14 -VS-

15 SERHAN ELSEHARA SIRHAN,

16 Defendant.

NO. A 233421

ORDER RE PUBLICITY

17
18 The Grand Jury having returned an indictment in this
19 matter on this date, June 7, 1968, this Court now has jurisdiction
20 over all proceedings in this case for the first time. Therefore,
21 the Court is now in a legal position to make certain orders respect-
22 ing this matter.

23 Under our Constitution, each defendant is entitled to the
24 due process of the law and to a fair trial. This Court has an
25 affirmative duty to do everything possible within its Constitutional
26 powers and jurisdiction to make certain that each defendant does
27 receive a fair trial.

28 In order to fulfill that Constitutional duty to guarantee
29 that the defendant does receive a fair trial, and because of the
30 obvious public interest in this matter which has produced massive
31 news media publicity, and it further appearing to the Court that the
32 dissemination by any means of public communication of any out-of-

1 court statements relating to this case may interfere with the Con-
2 stitutional right of the defendant to a fair trial and disrupt the
3 proper administration of justice, the Court, on its own motion, will
4 now issue the following orders, a violation of which will result in
5 swift action to punish for contempt any offender within the juris-
6 diction of this Court.

7 It is the order of this Court that no party to this action,
8 nor any attorney connected with this case as defense counsel or as
9 prosecutor, nor any other attorney, nor any judicial officer or
10 employee, nor any public official, including but not limited to any
11 chief of police, nor any sheriff, nor any agent, deputy, or employee
12 of any such persons nor any grand juror, nor any witness having
13 appeared before the Grand Jury in this matter, nor any person sub-
14 poenaed to testify at the trial of this matter, shall release or
15 authorize the release for public dissemination of any purported
16 extrajudicial statement of the defendant relating to this case, nor
17 shall any such persons release or authorize the release of any docu-
18 ments, exhibits, or any evidence, the admissibility of which may
19 have to be determined by the Court, nor shall any such person make
20 any statement for public dissemination as to the existence or pos-
21 sible existence of any document, exhibit, or any other evidence, the
22 admissibility of which may have to be determined by the Court. Nor
23 shall any such persons express outside of court an opinion or make
24 any comment for public dissemination as to the weight, value, or
25 effect of any evidence as tending to establish guilt or innocence.
26 Nor shall any such persons make any statement outside of court as to
27 the nature, substance, or effect of any testimony that has been given.
28 Nor shall any such persons issue any statement as to the identity of
29 any prospective witness, or his probable testimony, or the effect
30 thereof. Nor shall any person make any out-of-court statement as to
31 the nature, source, or effect of any purported evidence alleged to
32 have been accumulated as a result of the investigation of this

1 matter. Nor shall any such person or any witness, whether or not
2 under subpoena, make any statement as to the content, nature, sub-
3 stance, or effect of any testimony which may be given in any pro-
4 ceeding related to this matter, except that a witness may discuss
5 any matter with any attorney of record or agent thereof.

6 This order does not include any of the following:

7 1. Factual statements of the accused person's name,
8 age, residence, occupation, and family status.

9 2. The circumstances of the arrest, namely, the time
10 and place of the arrest, the identity of the arresting and
11 investigating officers and agencies, and the length of the
12 investigation.

13 3. The nature, substance, and text of the charge,
14 including a brief description of the offenses charged.

15 4. Quotations from, or any reference without com-
16 ment to, public records of the Court in the case, or
17 to other public records or communications heretofore
18 disseminated to the public.

19 5. The scheduling and result of any stage of the
20 judicial proceeding held in open court in an open or
21 public session.

22 6. A request for assistance in obtaining evidence.

23 7. Any information as to any person not in custody
24 who is sought as a possible suspect or witness, nor any
25 statement aimed at warning the public of any possible
26 danger as to such person not in custody.

27 8. A request for assistance in the obtaining of
28 evidence or the names of possible witnesses.

29 Further, this order is not intended to preclude any wit-
30 ness from discussing any matter in connection with the case with
31 any of the attorneys representing the defendant or the People, or
32 any representative of such attorneys.

1 It is further ordered that a copy of this order be
2 attached to any subpoena served on any witness in this matter, and
3 that the return of service of the subpoena shall also include the
4 fact of service of a copy of this order.

5 This order shall be in force until this matter has been
6 disposed of or until further order of Court.

7 Dated: June 7, 1968.

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11 Arthur L. Alarcon
12 Judge of the Superior Court
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LA 56-156
JOS/rah/kaf

INTERVIEWS OF INDIVIDUALS
IN AREA OF SHOOTING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6/7/68

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Date _____

ANDREW WEST, News Director, KRKD Radio Station, 1050 Montecito Drive, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at his place of employment relative to his knowledge of the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

Prior to interviewing ANDREW WEST relative to the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, he advised that his true name is GEORGE WILLIAM WEST, and he stated that he uses the names ANDREW WEST or ANDY WEST as professional names in connection with his employment. ANDREW WEST stated that he resides at 2630 Cahuenga Boulevard, Apartment Number 30, Hollywood, California, and he stated his landlady's telephone number is 464-1888. ANDREW WEST stated that the telephone numbers at his place of employment are 225-4116 and 225-7951.

ANDREW WEST stated that on the evening of June 4, 1968, he was in the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California. ANDREW WEST stated that after 9:15 p.m. on June 4, 1968, most of his time was spent next to the podium of the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel, where Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was to make a speech. ANDREW WEST stated that he was on the stage until Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY arrived, made his speech, and left the stage. ANDREW WEST stated that excerpts from Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY's speech were tape recorded by him. ANDREW WEST stated that before Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY's speech he tape recorded some comments of California Speaker of the Assembly JESSE UNRUH, and also asked Speaker of the Assembly JESSE UNRUH a couple of questions. ANDREW WEST stated that he then excerpted comments from Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY's speech and at the end of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY's speech asked him a question. ANDREW WEST stated that following the question, Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and his wife, ETHEL KENNEDY, immediately left the stage and went to the area behind the stage. ANDREW WEST stated that this was approximately 12:00 midnight to approximately 12:30 a.m. on June 5, 1968. ANDREW WEST stated that after he had asked Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY a question he turned off his tape recorder.

On 6/6/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA MYRON M. HITCH/mlb Date dictated 6/6/68

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ANDREW WEST stated that after Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and his wife, ETHEL KENNEDY, left the stage he followed them to ask additional questions, but Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was out of his sight for a short time after he left the stage. ANDREW WEST stated that after Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY left the stage, he proceeded to a small anteroom and hallway behind the stage of the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel, and at this time he was trotting to catch up with Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. ANDREW WEST stated that as he reached the hallway behind the stage and turned right, he saw Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, his wife ETHEL KENNEDY, and a number of campaign supporters and news media people immediately in front of him. ANDREW WEST stated that he started through the group of people in the direction of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. ANDREW WEST stated as he approached Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY he heard noises which sounded like gun shots, and at that time he instinctively turned on his tape recorder. ANDREW WEST stated that at the time he did not know, for a fact, that the sounds were gun shots, because people had been exploding balloons and the sounds were similar. However, on this occasion, he did notice that the sounds he had heard did not sound the same as the balloons he had previously heard exploding. ANDREW WEST stated he also believes he heard a woman scream at this time. ANDREW WEST stated that at this time he was approximately four or five feet away from Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and was directly in front of him with a number of people between himself and Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. ANDREW WEST stated he then heard a woman scream "KENNEDY has been shot" or "The Senator has been shot", or words to that effect, and he then saw a man lying on the floor. ANDREW WEST stated he was very close to this man and as he looked over him he saw that it was not Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, but the man did look familiar. ANDREW WEST stated that he then noticed a second man lying on the floor a short distance away, and he went to the area of the second man who was lying on the floor and saw it was Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, and he observed

blood oozing from the back of his head. ANDREW WEST stated that after he saw it was Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY on the floor, he immediately realized that someone was in the area with a gun, and he started looking for him. ANDREW WEST stated that he then noticed two men grappling with a third man within approximately six or eight feet of where Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was lying on the floor. ANDREW WEST stated that he had seen these men grappling almost immediately after he had first identified Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY as one of the two men lying wounded on the floor. ANDREW WEST stated that in connection with his observation of the men grappling, he saw a hand with a pistol in it, and he saw another hand, which was wrapped around the hand holding the pistol. ANDREW WEST stated that he then went in the direction of the pistol and he saw ROOSEVELT GRITER holding a man, and he then noticed that the gun was pointing at him. ANDREW WEST stated that he then pulled away and also told people in the general area to get away from the gun. ANDREW WEST stated that at about the same time he recognized a person he believed to be RAFAEL JOHNSON holding on to the hand holding the gun. ANDREW WEST stated that he then saw that the pistol had been taken away from the man holding it, and when he saw that the gun was broken away from the hand holding it, he turned his direction elsewhere and left the room. ANDREW WEST stated that at that time he was satisfied that help was on its way for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and that the assailant had been arrested. ANDREW WEST stated that he was unable to describe the assailant or furnish any descriptive data relative to him. ANDREW WEST stated that the reason he was unable to describe the assailant was because he had concentrated his entire attention on the pistol and the activity relative to taking the pistol away from whomever was holding it. ANDREW WEST stated that he noticed only one man, although he had looked for additional people who could be with the assailant, and he had only seen this one man holding the pistol.

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ANDREW WEST stated that he had seen SIRHAN SIRHAN's photograph in the newspapers and he was unable to identify the individual in the photographs as the individual he had seen with the gun on June 5, 1968. ANDREW WEST was shown a Los Angeles Police Department photograph of SIRHAN SIRHAN, Los Angeles Police Department Booking Number 495139, and he stated he was unable to identify the individual in the photograph as the individual he had seen with the gun on June 5, 1968. ANDREW WEST stated; however, that he could not say that SIRHAN SIRHAN was not the assailant, and the only reason he did not take a closer look at the individual was because he had concentrated his attention on the pistol.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/7/681

ANDREW WEST, News Director, Radio Station KRKD, 1050 Montecito Drive, Los Angeles, California, made available to Detectives SAM COLELLA and LOUIS ROSARIO, Narcotics Detail, Highland Park Division, Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles, California, the original tape recording made by ANDREW WEST on the evening of June 4, 1968, and early morning of June 5, 1968. ANDREW WEST marked both the tape recording and the tape spool with marks so that he would be able to identify them in the future.

ANDREW WEST indicated that the tape recording contained a number of questions he had asked JESSE UNRUH, California Speaker of the Assembly, on the evening of June 4, 1968, and also contained excerpts from Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY's speech on the evening of June 4, 1968, and a question he had asked Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY following his speech. ANDREW WEST stated that immediately following a question he had asked Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, the tape recording contained voices and sounds relative to the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in the early morning hours of June 5, 1968.

On 6/6/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA MYRON M. HITCH/mlb Date dictated 6/6/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date June 7, 1968

SARA CLAPP, Traffic Manager, KRKD Radio Station, 1050 Montecito Drive, Los Angeles, California, made available a copy of a tape recording made by ANDREW WEST, News Director, KRKD Radio Station, in the early morning of June 5, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel Los Angeles, California, which contained the following information:

KENNEDY: "Mayor YORTY has just sent me a message that we have been here too long already. (Screaming) So, my thanks to all of you and now onto Chicago and let's win there. (Screaming and yelling, We Want BOBBY over and over again).

REPORTER: "Senator, how are you going to counter Mr. HUMPHREY and his backgrounding you as far as the delegates votes go?

KENNEDY: "It just goes that you have to struggle for it.

REPORTER: "Senator KENNEDY has been shot! Senator KENNEDY has been shot, is that possible? Is that possible! Is it possible, ladies and gentlemen...it is possible he has...not only Senator KENNEDY, oh my God, Senator KENNEDY has been shot and another man, a KENNEDY campaign manager and possibly shot in the head. I am right here...RAFER JOHNSON has a hold of the man who apparently has fired the shot, he has fired the shot...he still has the gun...the gun is pointed at me right at this moment! I hope they can get the gun out of his hand. Be very careful...get the gun...get the gun, get the gun, stay away from the gun, (person in background says get the gun)...stay away from the gun (people are yelling.loud)...his hand is frozen, get his thumb, get his thumb, get his thumb. (Man cried out get his head). Take a hold of his thumb and break it if you have to...get his thumb (yelling in background). Get away from the barrel, get away from the barrel, man. (People cried out watch

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by SA MYRON M. HITCH/pjs Date dictated 6/7/68

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the gun, watch the gun). Look out for the gun, okay. All right that's it RAFTER get it, get the gun RAFTER (yelling loud get the gun). Okay, now hold on to the guy, hold on to him, hold on to him. Ladies and gentlemen they have the gun away from the man, they got the gun...I can't see the man, I can't see who it is. Senator KENNEDY right now is on the ground, he has been shot. This is a...this is... What is he? Wait a minute, hold him, hold him, hold him. We don't want another OSWALD, hold him RAFTER. We don't want another OSWALD. (You can hear police whistles in the background). Hold him RAFTER keep people away from him, keep people away from him. All right ladies and gentlemen this is now... Make room, make room, make room, make room, make room. The Senator is on the ground he is bleeding profusely, from apparently...clear back. Apparently the Senator has been shot...from the, in the frontal area we can't see exactly where the, where the Senator has been shot; but, push back...come on... grab a hold of me, grab a hold of me and let's pull back, that's it come on get a hold of my arms and let's pull back, let's pull back. All right the Senator is now the...the ambulance has been called for and the... ambulance has... Bring the ambulance in this entrance. This is a terrible thing, its reminiscent of the Valley the other day when the Senator was out there and somebody hit him in the head with a rock and people couldn't believe it at that time. But it is a fact. Keep room, ETHEL KENNEDY is standing by, she is calm, she is raising her hand high to motion people back she's attempting to get calm. A woman with a tremendous amount of presence, a tremendous amount of presence it's impossible to believe. It's impossible to believe this. There is a certain amount of fanaticism here now, as this has occurred. They are trying to run everybody back. Clear the area, clear the area. Right at this moment... the Senator apparently, we can't see if he's still

conscious or not. Can you see if he is conscious? Can you see if he is conscious? (someone answered, I know he is half conscious). He is half conscious... and ladies, we can't see ladies and gentlemen. (yelling) One of the men, a KENNEDY, apparently a KENNEDY supporter is going first...come on, come on, out, out, out, out... Is there some way to close these doors JESS? (No). Is there any doors here? (No). (yelling people saying out, out, out, get out). Out, out through the exit, lets go. Out we go...unbelievable situation. They're clearing the halls, one man has blood on himself. We're walking down the corridors here. Repetition in my speech, I have no alterative. The shock is so great...my mouth is dry. I can only say that here in the kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel, the back entrance; from the podium in the press room the Senator walked out the back, I was directly behind him. You heard a balloon go off, and a shot, you didn't really realize that the shot was a shot and yet a scream went up, two men were on the ground both bleeding profusely. One of them was Senator ROBERT KENNEDY. At this moment we are stunned, we are shaking, as is everyone else, in this kitchen corridor at the Ambassador Hotel, in Los Angeles. They are blocking off the entrance now...supposedly to make room for the ambulance. That's all we can report at this moment. I do not know if the Senator is dead or if he is alive. We do not know the name of the other gentlemen concerned. This is ANDREW WEST Mutual News, Los Angeles."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/8/68

On June 7, 1968, the following signed statement was made by KARL UECKER, maitre d', Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, to SAs PATRICK J. MULLANY and LOUIS A. WILSON, JR.:

"I, Karl Uecker, make the following voluntary statement to Louis A. Wilson and Patrick J. Mullany, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I presently reside at 3025 Glenhurst Avenue, Los Angeles, California, and am employed by the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, as Assistant Maitre D'.

"On the evening of June 4, 1968, I was assigned to assist Senator Robert F. Kennedy. I attended him during the course of his victory speech in the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel. After the speech, I took his hand and led him through the passage way behind the stage, leading to the kitchen.

"Pass the kitchen doorway, Kennedy stopped to shake hands with two of the kitchen help. While Kennedy was still observing the last individual he shook hands with, I took his hand to lead him along. As I took his hand to lead him along, somebody reached around me and before I knew what happened two shots were fired and the Senator fell to the ground. I immediately grabbed the gun hand of the assailant and pushed him onto the steam-table. During this time he, the assailant, continued to fire the gun. I grabbed him around the neck in an effort to hold him down, continuing to hold down the hand with the weapon in it. Shortly thereafter, I recall someone behind me saying let him go. On turning around, I observed it was the police. I"

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SAs PATRICK J. MULLANY &
by LOUIS A. WILSON, JR./PJM/vjh Date dictated 6/7/68

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"released the assailant to the police and they lead him away.

"The assailant is the individual who has been subsequently identified as Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. To my knowledge I have never seen this man before.

"Karl A. Uecker

"Witnessed:

SA Patrick J. Mullany, FBI, Los Angeles
SA Louis A. Wilson, Jr., FBI, Los Angeles"

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

EDWARD MINASIAN, who is employed in the catering department at the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and who resides at 129 North Lamer Street, Burbank, California, after having been advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents, stated that he had appeared before the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that morning and had identified SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN as the individual whom he saw shoot Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY and whom he had helped to subdue. He thereafter furnished the following signed statement:

"Los Angeles, California
June 7, 1968

"I, Edward Minasian, make the following free and voluntary statement to E. Rhead Richards, Jr., and Nicholas McGahan, Jr., who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I reside at 129 No. Lamer St., Burbank, California, and I am employed in the catering department at the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California. I have been so employed for approximately five years.

"Shortly after midnight of June 4th, 1968 Senator Robert F. Kennedy finished making a statement to his supporters in the Embassy Ballroom at the Ambassador Hotel. The original plans, upon the conclusion of his speech was to turn left, and go downstairs to the Ambassador Ballroom and at the last minute plans were changed to to take Senator Kennedy and his party to the Colonial Room, which was the working press room. In order to follow through with these plans, it was necessary to go through the pantry adjoining the Embassy Room.

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by SAs NICHOLAS R. MC GAHAN, JR. and
E. RHEAD RICHARDS, JR./gnt Date dictated 6/7/68

"I was leading the party, and was on the Senator's right, about one step in front. After about fifteen feet inside the pantry door, I sensed the Senator was not as close as when we started into the pantry. I turned to my left, and observed the Senator shaking hands with hotel employees on his left. My partner, Karl Uecker, was on the Senator's left, and about one or two steps in front of him. While the Senator was shaking hands I saw out of the right corner of my eyes someone darted behind my partner, and reached around him, with a gun in his right hand. Before I could react, he fired two shots. My partner grabbed the gunman in a headlock, and I grabbed him around the waist, and forced him up against a steam table. We could not control his gun hand until after he fired a number of shots in rapid succession. A number of the Senator's party helped us to subdue the man and take the gun away. I saw Rafer Johnson put the gun in his pocket.

"At this point I ran to the room-service telephone and called for an ambulance and the police. As I ran to the phone, I noticed the Senator lying on the floor with his head in a pool of blood and his eyes shut. One of the bus-boys, Juan Romero, kneeling down by the Senator. When I returned from the phone, approximately one minute later, I noticed that the Senator's eyes were open, and that there were many more people in the immediate area. I returned to where the gunman was being held down, and remained there until the Los Angeles Police arrived to take custody of the gunman. While there, I heard Rafer Johnson ask the man repeatedly, 'Why did you do it, why did you do it?' The man looked at me and said, 'Let me explain, I can explain.'" At this point someone told him to shut up. Within approximately ten minutes the police arrived and took custody of the man. Uecker and I escorted the police to the Wilshire entrance, and then returned to the pantry, and by the time we got there the Senator and others who had been shot had been taken away by ambulance.

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"The only other individual who I saw shot was the man from the United Auto Workers, whose name I cannot recall.

"I have read the above statement consisting of this and three other pages, and to the best of my knowledge it is true and correct.

"/s/ Edward Minasian

"Witnesses:

/s/ E. Rhead Richards, Jr. Special Agent, F.B.I. Los Angeles 6/7/68

Nicholas McGahan, Jr. Special Agent F.B.I. Los Angeles 6/7/68"

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/7/68

Mr. BORIS YARO, 625 West 28th Street, phone 746-9541, was telephonically contacted at his residence for the purpose of arranging an interview to determine how his business card came into possession of the police in connection with a search of the residence of suspect, SIRHAN SIRHAN. Mr. YARO advised that he is a staff writer and photographer for the Los Angeles Times and was about to depart for Las Vegas, but volunteered to come to the Los Angeles Office of the FBI to furnish any information desired. Upon arrival he offered as a matter of expediency to type up a rough resume of his activities in connection with the ROBERT F. KENNEDY assassination and wrote as follows regarding the evening of June 4, 1968:

"Boris Yaro, Los Angeles Times
7:23 p.m.---

6/7/68

"I arrived at the Ambassador Hotel shortly after 11 p.m. I was with two members of Alpha Epsilon Pi fraternity at USC--they were Marc Dubin and David Druker.---I had been watching the primary on television at the fraternity and had decided to go to the Kennedy headquarters when it became apparent that the Senator was going to win the Calif. Primary. I wanted to shoot some pictures of the Senator for my own personal reasons. I am A Democrat and had voted for the senator.

"When the three of us arrived I quickly determined that the Press had a better vantage point and I told the boys that I would meet them outside the press room after the Senator had made his victory speech. I went inside and talked with Times photographer Steve Fontanini and reporter Paul Houston.--I saw some people going through the kitchen door from the Press Room as if something was going on, and I checked and observed the Senator coming out from the ballroom. I went back and told Steve Fontanini if he wanted a picture of Kennedy he had better hurry--we both went into the kitchen corridor area and were too

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"late to get a picture. I never saw Fontanini at the ambassador again that night.--I went into the main ballroom and worked as close to the front of the podium as possible..I made eight to ten pictures--which satisfied me --then went back into the kitchen area in hopes of getting a closeup as Kennedy left.--while there I talked with Richard Drew, a friend of mine who is a staff photographer with the Pasadena Independent-Star News.-- When Kennedy came back I aimed my camera but he was moving so quickly that I missed him.

"Drew made the comment 'Hey Boris, you missed him.' So I ran to catch up with the senator when he stopped at the corridor junction to shake hands with some people. I was about three feet behind and to the right of him and was trying to find his head in my camera view finder when I heard what I thought were two (2) explosions. My first thought was 'some jerk has thrown some fire crackers in here.'

"all of a sudden the two or three people that had been blocking my view of the Senator disappeared leaving me with a full view of what was happening.

"The senator and the assailant were little more than silhouettes but the senator was backing up and putting both of his hands and arms in front of him in what would be best described as a protective effort. The suspect appeared to be lunging at the senator, I don't know which hand the gun was in--I didn't realize it was a gun until he started firing again--this time I could see the flashes from the short barreled muzzled--I heard no sounds from either man. I felt powder from the weapon strike my face-- I knew it was a gun then. I thought I had heard three shots, in retrospect I know it is more, however.---

"All of a sudden the firing stopped and some men jumped the suspect and there were cries of get him, get the gun,-- much shouting.

"I must have moved closer to the suspect when all of a sudden he was being flattened on the freezer table by two

"caucasians--I saw the suspects hand reach toward the weapon and I grabbed the gun and had it almost immediately yanked out of my hand by one of the men holding the suspects left hand.--I looked to see who it was--The man was a caucasian--6 feet or taller, with sandy hair, green business suit and I think a white shirt and tie.--My attention then shifted to the Senator--who was slumping to the floor--blood on his face--I began to take pictures---I shot 5 pictures--but was interrupted by a panic stricken woman who kept telling me 'don't take pictures.' I remarked to her 'Lady, this is history.' however she kept pulling on my arm (my right arm--So I shoved her into the wall and kept shooting_ more--

"As I watched the senator through my viewfinder I saw that he was badly hurt. I saw a large amount of blood drain from his right ear.--At this point I ran back to the press room in an attempt to notify our paper which was rapidly approaching a deadline.

"None of the phones that I tried in the press room would work so I ran into the main hallway and found David Druker, one of the two boys I had brought with me, still outside.--I told him that Kennedy had been shot, to find Marc and lets get the film down to the Times.

"He came with me until I found a telephone, a pay booth behind some folding mirrors in the Cranston headquarters.--I told him I would wait there until he brought marc dubin back.--

"They appeared about two minutes later and we ran out the back entrance to the hotel--to where I had parked the car which was on Eighth St. right across from the driveway to the hotel's parking lot.---

"As we were running out of the parking lot closest to the hotel a LAPD sgt arrived with red lights on.--I waved at him to stop and told him Senator Kennedy had been shot--Then continued my run to the car--I shouted at the parking lot attendant to keep 'the driveway open for an ambulance.'--

"I ran every red light, stopping first I must add, on my way downtown to The Times.--

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"I have seen photographs of the suspect held in the shooting of Senator Kennedy and can definately identify him as the person who was shooting the Senator in the Ambassador Hotel early in the morning of June 5, 1968.

"To my knowledge I have never seen this man before hearing the explosions of the pistol shots and have had no contact, whatever, with him.

"RE: Yaro business card in possession of LAPD.

"On Wednesday Morning, June 5, James Wiggins, editor of the San Gabriel Section said that our city desk requested that I go to an address on Howard Street in Pasadena. This was alleged to be the suspect's home. I came from our Temple City office, which is east of Pasadena and consequently was driving on Howard St. eastbound when I observed Richard Drew and Robert Leedom in front of a white house which was not the address I had been given. I also observed an unmarked police car and surmised that this is the correct address. I got out my car and talked with Drew and Leedom--there were two LAPD officers (detectives in plain clothes. I know this because I asked if they were LAPD or FBI and they answered they were lapd.

✓ "No onw was in the house because I could hear the phone ringing and no one answering it.--The cops didn't try to stop either Drew or myself from wandering around. I walked into the back yard and saw a box of trash. I started going through it to see if there was anything I could find that would give us a hint of who the suspect was and where he was from. I lifted a couple of pieces of newspaper and discovered a spent .22-caliber slug. I told Dick Drew to 'quick, go get the cops.' He did and detective Edward Willis came back.--I showed him the slug--he looked at it, but did not attempt to pick it up. --a few minutes later he asked for my name--I gave it to him, then I gave him one of my business cards--He asked for my home phone and address which he subsequently, and in my presence, wrote on the back of my card, which he kept. I assume this is how Los Angeles Police came to have my business card in their possession."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/7/68

VINCENT THOMAS DI PIERRO, 1645 Beverly Glen Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, an employee of the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, furnished the following signed statement:

"Los Angeles, Calif.
June 7, 1968

"I, Vincent Thomas Di Pierro, born 2/5/49, and residing at 1635 South Beverly Glen Blvd. Los Angeles Calif. home phone number 279-1411 furnished the following voluntary statement to William A. Bailey who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Bailey has advised me that I may be required to testify in Federal Court regarding this statement.

"I am employed as a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel and although I was not working in that capacity at the hotel on June 5 1968, I was present at the hotel to observe Senator Robert Kennedy's victory speech. I arrived at the Ambassador Hotel after leaving my home at approx. 11:35 pm and went to the Ambassador Room which is below the Embassy Room. I then left the Ambassador Room and went upstairs to the kitchen via back stairs to avoid hotel security guards. I arrived in the kitchen and then went to the pantry area. My reason for doing this was to shake hands with Senator Kennedy. Shortly after this Senator Kennedy entered this room and then exited to the Embassy Room. As he went out the door to the Embassy Room Senator Kennedy shook hands with me and then went out into the Embassy Room. As I entered in this small room I was challenged by a hotel security guard but Martin Patrusky, a hotel employee, told him I worked for the hotel.

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On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA WILLIAM A. BAILEY and
SA ROBERT F. PICKARD/mmc Date dictated 6/7/68

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"I remained by the door leading to the Embassy Room and shortly thereafter, Eddie Manasian, another hotel employee, told me that Senator Kennedy was finished his speech and that he was going to the Colonial Room for a press conference and that I was to make an aisle for him. Senator Kennedy, after his speech, then left the stage in the Embassy Room and went through a door at the rear of the stage. He then turned to his right, walked down a ramp and was then in the same room as I was. As Senator Kennedy walked through this room I began walking next (approx. 3 feet) to him. Senator KENNEDY walked through the swinging door on the left side and I went through the swinging door on the right side. At this time we were both (Senator Kennedy and I) in the kitchen.

"There were approx. 40-50 people were in this pantry room including hotel employees and spectators. I was walking next to Senator Kennedy while in the pantry area and at that time another unknown individual walked between myself and Senator Kennedy. At that time I was then walking approx. 5 feet away and slightly behind Senator Kennedy.

"I was stopped at the ice machine when Senator Kennedy stopped, shook hands with Martin Patrusky, turned and shook my hand as I was standing on the Senator's right, then turned to his left and went to shake hands with a busboy. Senator Kennedy then moved to his right and toward the heating cabinets to shake hands with a hotel cook and a female Caucasian standing next to the cook. At this time I stopped to observe Senator Kennedy as did the others in the room.

"Prior to this occurrence and the time that Senator Kennedy shook my hand I observed a white male and a white female standing on a tray holder at the opposite end of the ice machine which is approx. 12 - 15 feet away. This white male turned toward the white female

"and appeared to converse with her very briefly. He then dismounted from the tray holder went into the crowd and I did not observe him until shortly thereafter when I then saw him standing at the heating cabinet behind Mr. Karl Uecker, another hotel employee. I did not see this white female again after this time.

"As Senator Kennedy shook the hand of the hotel cook he then turned to his right in the direction of the heating cabinet and at that time I saw the white male who was previously standing on the tray holder now standing behind Mr. Uecker at the heating cabinet. I saw this individual reach his right arm around Mr. Uecker and in his hand he had a revolver which was pointed directly at Senator Kennedy's head. The revolver was about 3 - 5 feet from Senator Kennedy's head. This individual then shot Senator Kennedy in the head. Senator Kennedy at this time threw his hands and arms up, reeled backwards and fell to the floor. During this period of time and after the first shot was fired I heard 3 more rapidly fired shots.

"At this time the individual standing next to me on my left fell into my arms and I saw that he had been shot in the forehead. I eased this person to the floor, then went to the aid of Senator Kennedy who was on the floor and being helped by the bus boy. Senator Kennedy was dazed and said "Is everybody alright?" Senator Kennedy said "I'm alright" then mumbled something else.

"I then observed the individual who shot Senator Kennedy being subdued by Rafer Johnson, Karl Uecker and Roosevelt Grier. I saw someone hand Senator Kennedy a rosary and was then asked

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to leave by Mr. Unruh who is a State Senator.

"The same white male that I saw standing on the tray holder is the same person who stood behind Mr. Uecker and shot Senator Kennedy and was later taken away by Los Angeles Police Officers after being captured by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Grier and Mr. Uecker.

"I have read the foregoing statement, consisting of this page and four (4) additional pages and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"Vincent Di Pierro

"Witnessed:

William A. Bailey, SA, FBI, Los Angeles,
Calif. 6/7/68

Robert F. Pickard, Special Agent, FBI, Los
Angeles, 6/7/68"

In addition to the above signed statement, DI PIERRO furnished the following information:

He stated that both of the individuals described in the signed statement, who were standing on the tray holder, one of whom was the gunman who shot Senator KENNEDY were not seen by him in the hotel at any time prior to the above described incident. He stated the gunman was dressed in what appeared to be a powder blue sport coat and white shirt and wearing what appeared to be blue pants with a small white check in them. He stated that the white female standing on the tray holder with the gunman would be described as follows:

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White, female, 5'4" - 5'6", 21 to 25 years of age, dark brown hair, shapely figure wearing a white dress, described as form fitting, with a scoop neck and ruffled collar, and the dress appeared to have black or dark violet polka dots. He stated that he thought he might recognize her again if he saw her, but did not have the opportunity to observe her after the shooting occurred.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/7/68

JUAN ANTONIO ROMERO, 475 South McDonald Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, where he is employed as a busboy.

He furnished the following information, including the signed statement set out below:

"Los Angeles, California
June 6, 1968

"I, JUAN ANTONIO ROMERO, hereby furnish the following voluntary statement to ROBERT F. PICKARD and WILLIAM A. BAILEY, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that I could be required to testify in court regarding this matter

"I was born June 24, 1950, at Masatan, Mexico. I entered the United States approximately 1962. I reside with my stepfather, FLAVIANO ROMERO, and my mother, ANTONIA ROMERO, at 475 McDonald Street, Los Angeles, California. I am in grade A-11 at Roosevelt High School, Los Angeles, California. I am employed as a room service busboy at the Ambassador Hotel and have been so employed for approximately 2½ years

"On June 4, 1968, I arrived at the hotel at approximately 3:30 p.m. and was assigned to room service as a busboy. I assisted the waiters with the deliveries to the various rooms. These duties took me to the kitchen on several occasions. There were eight or ten waiters assigned to room service and two busboys including myself. Because there were so many waiters assigned I had freedom to move around.

"At approximately midnight I was in the Embassy Room with JOSE CARDENAS and NICOLAS VALENZUELA. I

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On 6/6/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

SA's ROBERT F. PICKARD and
by WILLIAM A. BAILEY (RFP:jmk) Date dictated 6/7/68

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"observed Senator KENNEDY completing his talk to the people in the Embassy Room and noticed him shaking hands with the people.

"I knew he was about to leave the Embassy Room and that he would pass through the hallway near the kitchen. My companions and I rushed over to the hallway to await Mr. KENNEDY so that we could shake his hand. I had shaken hands with Senator KENNEDY on two previous occasions.

"I took a position in the hallway just in front of the opening that leads to the kitchen. There were approximately 15 to 20 people in the hallway.

"Senator KENNEDY came through the door accompanied by approximately five men. He seemed to recognize me. I was smiling and Senator KENNEDY was smiling. He held out his hand and I shook it. Senator KENNEDY kept walking for approximately one or two steps.

"I continued to observe him and I noticed a man who was to my left and who was smiling and who appeared to be reaching over someone in an effort to shake Senator KENNEDY's hand.

"At about the same time I heard gunfire and I noticed that this individual was holding a gun in his hand, which hand not recalled, and that the gun was approximately one yard from Senator KENNEDY's head

"I observed Senator KENNEDY placing his hands to his face and he staggered backwards a few steps and slumped to the floor.

"I immediately turned my attention completely to Senator KENNEDY and I ignored the gunman. I knelt on the floor at Senator KENNEDY's left side and I placed my right hand behind his head and slightly lifted his head. At this time I felt blood in my right hand

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"I said, "Come on Mr. KENNEDY you can make it." His lips moved and he seemed to say, "Is everybody all right?" I heard someone say, "Throw that gum away Mr. KENNEDY," and I noticed he was chewing gum I started to reach for the gum but did not as I did not want to put my fingers in his mouth. His right eye was wide open and his left eye was opening and closing

"A white man, age not known, handed me a rosary and said, "Keep this Mr. KENNEDY " This man said something else which I could not understand I placed the rosary around Senator KENNEDY's thumb and folded it in his left hand. He moved the hand with the rosary up to his chest.

"I looked up and I noticed that several people were taking pictures of Senator KENNEDY with cameras and TV cameras. I shouted for a doctor and a tall white man, approximately 30 - 35 years old, approached Senator KENNEDY, took off his coat and folded it and placed the coat under Senator KENNEDY's head.

"I got up from the floor and I noticed another man who was on the floor and who had blood on his forehead. This individual was very still.

"At about the time I got up, Mrs KENNEDY came rushing up and pushed me out of the way

"I went to see if the gunman was in custody I saw a man who was being held down on the heating table by at least four men. I noticed that ROOSEVELT GRIER was one of the men and he was holding part of the man. GRIER had the gun away from the man at the time I saw RAFAEL JOHNSON take the gun from GRIER. CARL, one of the headwaiters, was holding the man's head and a small Japanese cook was holding down the man's right arm.

"The man I observed holding the gun and shooting Senator KENNEDY is the same individual I later observed being held by two Los Angeles Police Officers as they were taking him from the hotel.

"I do not recall ever having seen the individual who did the shooting prior to the shooting of Senator KENNEDY.

"I have read this statement of this page and four other pages. It is true and correct.

"/s/ JUAN ANTONIO ROMERO

"Witnesses:

"/s/ ROBERT F. PICKARD, Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, 6/6/68.

"/s/ WILLIAM A. BAILEY, SA, FBI, Los Angeles, California, 6/6/68."

ROMERO stated that he did not know how many shots were fired but that there were more than one. He said that there may have been some pause between shots, but he could not estimate the time of the pause. He did not notice any prolonged pause between any of the shots

While he was assisting Senator KENNEDY, he heard someone say, "Get the gun, get the gun" several times, and he also heard people scuffling. He did not pay any attention to the individuals who were scuffling as he was concentrating his attention on Senator KENNEDY.

He did not notice the other individuals who were wounded except for the man who was lying on the floor with the blood on his forehead

Approximately two days before the shooting occurred, date and time not recalled, he was working at the hotel when he was approached by two white males. He recalls that one of the white males was very stout, approximately six feet tall, and approximately 45 years old. He does not recall any of the description of the other individual. The stout one talked to him and asked him where he could get a hotel jacket similar to the one that ROMERO was wearing. He told ROMERO that they were police officers, but ROMERO did not ask for or see any identification.

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ROMERO reluctantly took these individuals down to the supply room area, but when they arrived there, the supply room was closed.

Both of these individuals were wearing a KENNEDY sign which was secured with a chain around their necks.

He has not seen these individuals since the above occasion and had not ever seen them before. They did not say why they wanted the jackets.

ROMERO stated that photographs of the individual he has seen in the newspapers and on television are the same individual he observed shooting Senator KENNEDY.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

MARTIN PATRUSKY was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, where he is employed as a waiter.

"I, Martin Patrusky, furnish the following voluntary statement to Charles I. Carter, who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He has advised me that this statement may be used as evidence in a court of law.

"I was born in the Bronx, New York on March 26, 1939 and spent most of my life in the New York area and up-state New York with the exception of two years that I served in the U.S. Army. In September 1966 I left New York and came to Los Angeles where I secured employment as a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel.

"I have been a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel from that time to the present.

"I work various hours at the Hotel Ambassador as a waiter depending upon the type of function that is being presented.

"On June 4, 1968 I was assigned to the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel as a waiter to serve drinks at a political reception for Senator Robert Kennedy. I reported for roll call at 5:00 p.m. and during the evening served drinks in the Embassy Room and several other rooms.

"The Embassy Room has a stage which is just west of the kitchen area and from the rear of the stage is a corridor which runs east into the kitchen area and a large serving room. At about midnite, the night of June 4, 1968, Senator Kennedy was brought down on a freight elevator and he

On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA CHARLES I. CARTER/djy Date dictated 6/7/68

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"proceeded through the kitchen area and the serving room to the rear of the stage of the Embassy Room and entered the stage.

"I was in the kitchen serving area at the time and saw him as he went to the Embassy Room stage.

"I stayed in the kitchen serving area watching the speech of Senator Kennedy on a TV monitor.

"In about 15 or 20 minutes Senator Kennedy and a group of people came through the door from the Embassy Room to the kitchen serving area. Karl Ucker, Assistant Maitre D' Hotel had Senator Kennedys left sleeve in his hand and Ucker was attempting to lead Senator Kennedy through the crowd.

"I was standing in the serving area near a small silver table and as Senator Kennedy approached me I said to Senator Kennedy, 'Congratulations, Mr. Kennedy'. Senator Kennedy shook my hand and said 'Thank you'. Senator Kennedy then turned to his right and shook hands with Vincent Di Pierro, a fellow waiter. Senator Kennedy then turned to his left and shook hands with a chef and a bus-boy, Juan Romero.

"After Senator Kennedy shook hands with Juan Romero I noticed a man pushing his way toward Senator Kennedy and Karl Ucker. I thought this man was going to shake hands with Senator Kennedy. He pushed himself around to the right of Ucker. This man leaned around the left side of Uckers body and extended his hand toward Senator Kennedy. I do not know if this man extended his left or right hand. I immediately heard a sound like that of a firecracker. A second later I heard a series of sounds like fire crackers.

"Karl Ucker swung about and grabbed this individual by the neck and I then heard more sounds like fire crackers.

"I saw Senator Kennedy falling backwards. I looked across the serving room and saw a man falling back against Vincent Di Pierro and blood appeared on the eye glasses of Di Pierro. I also saw a man standing next to Senator Kennedy grab his stomach and fall backward.

"I saw a group of men grabbing a man who was lying face down on the steam table in the serving room. The muzzle of a gun was extending beyond the group and the gun was being waved around before some one grabbed it from the man.

"I then saw Senator Kennedy lying on the floor and a pool of blood was forming under his head. I was then pushed back by the crowd into the cooks eating area. I assisted Mr. Angelo, the Maitre D' to close off the kitchen area part with wooden benches.

"While Senator Kennedy was speaking in the Embassy Room I was in the serving area and at that time there were about twenty persons in the serving area. About half of these persons were hotel employees and about half were outsiders. As I have mentioned the serving room is just east of the Embassy Room stage.

"While Senator Kennedy was speaking I noticed a man standing on a rack full of trays in the serving area. This tray rack has wheels and is raised about six inches off the floor.

"This man was standing on the tray holding on to it to maintain his position on the rack as it was full of trays. This man was looking from the service area through the door to the back of the

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"stage where Kennedy was speaking. I got a good look at this man. He was the same man who later approached Senator Kennedy with outstretched hand at the time I heard the sounds like fire crackers.

"This is also the same man with whom various persons struggled after Senator Kennedy was shot.

"I would describe this man as age twenty five to twenty nine years. He was five foot four inches to five foot six inches and weighed about one hundred twenty to one hundred thirty pounds. He had black curly hair and appeared to be Cuban or Latin-American. He had an olive skin.

"He was wearing a blue jacket and possibly blue or black pants. He was also wearing sneakers. I would recognize this man if I saw him again.

"I have read this statement which consists of this page and six other pages. it is true and correct.

"S/ Martin Patrusky

"Witness:

S/ Charles I. Carter FBI Los Angeles 6/7/68
S/ Robert F. Pickard, Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, 6/7/68."

Mr. PATRUSKY stated that the man he saw with the gun approaching KENNEDY and after the shooting is the same individual whose photograph he has seen in the newspaper and television identified as SIRHAN SIRHAN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

Mr. STANLEY KAWALEC, Security Officer, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, advised that he was assigned as a guard at the hotel the night of June 4, 1968. KAWALEC advised that his station was in a hallway which is located directly behind a small anteroom which, in turn, is located directly behind the stage in the Embassy Room. It was on this stage that Senator KENNEDY was making his victory speech. The stage was separated from the anteroom by a closed curtain. The anteroom was occupied by musicians who had been playing intermittently during the evening and who assumed that location during Senator KENNEDY's speech.

Mr. KAWALEC stated that his main function was to keep the crowd which had gathered in the hallway out of the anteroom and in turn away from the curtain and stage area. KAWALEC stated that the hallway was very crowded but he observed no unusual activity in his area except that on one occasion, one of the band members in the anteroom came to him during the speech and claimed three "outsiders" were in the anteroom with him. KAWALEC advised that he ordered the three men out of the room and that they joined the main crowd in the hallway. KAWALEC was definite in saying that none of these men resembled the suspect, SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN.

KAWALEC advised that as Senator KENNEDY was completing his speech, he was ordered by the Chief Security Officer, Mr. WILLIAM GARDNER, to vacate the spot which he had directly behind the stage and assume a position in the Embassy kitchen area. The purpose of this station, according to KAWALEC, was to control the crowd and make a passageway for Senator KENNEDY from a side door of the Embassy Room through the Embassy kitchen to the Colonial Room where the Senator was to have a press conference. KAWALEC stated that when the Senator reached the kitchen, KAWALEC was standing at the end of a steam table, facing the Senator pushing the crowd behind him when he heard four distinct shots from a

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by SA THOMAS J. BEVANS and
SA TIMOTHY L. DONOVAN/TJD/asi Date dictated 6/7/68

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.22 caliber gun, which he sensed passed him to his right. KAWALEC stated immediate confusion ensued and that he did not see the Senator hit nor fall, concentrating on the control of the crowd at that time. KAWALEC advised that the next action he observed was ROOSEVELT GRIER wrestling with an individual on the steam table. Having determined that Senator KENNEDY had been shot and had fallen to the floor, KAWALEC, together with two uniformed Los Angeles Fire Department firemen, endeavored to keep the crowd back from the Senator, allowing him air until assistance had arrived. KAWALEC continued this activity until the officers from the Central Receiving Hospital arrived with a stretcher and eventually placed the stretcher on a freight elevator leading to the ground level. KAWALEC stated that he rode the freight elevator with the Receiving Hospital officers and one of the guards, with perhaps two members of the KENNEDY staff. On reaching the ground level, they remained in the freight elevator until the ambulance arrived in the area. KAWALEC assisted in controlling the crowd near the ambulance while the stretcher was being placed therein.

KAWALEC was questioned as to whether or not he recalled having seen SIRHAN SIRHAN in the area of the kitchen prior to the Senator entering it, to which he answered that he did not have a distinct recollection but, having seen photographs of him on television and in the press, believes that he recalls seeing an individual with a hairdo similar to SIRHAN's in the large crowd which had been behind the stage and in the kitchen area.

Mr. KAWALEC was questioned as to whether or not he had seen a girl in a polka dot dress in this area and stated that there had been many girls in the crowd but he recalls no one in a polka dot dress.

Mr. KAWALEC was questioned as to how he was able to describe the caliber of the gun which had fired the four shots he heard and he stated that he has a .22 caliber gun of his own and that the resonance of the shots sounded exactly like the shots he had fired from his own weapon.

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KAWALEC advised that he resided in Apartment 107 at 502 South Westlake and would be available for interview at any time in the event that he could be of further assistance.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/8/68

DAVID MARK ESQUITH, 6321 Lindenhurst Avenue, was interviewed at his residence, at which time he furnished the following signed statement:

"June 7, 1968
Los Angeles, California

"I, David Mark Esquith, make the following free and voluntary statement to Richard Doucette and David Pender, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"I was born on September 25, 1948, and I now reside at 6321 Lindenhurst Avenue, Los Angeles, California. I was a volunteer worker for Robert Kennedy's presidential campaign, and I was present at the Ambassador Hotel at the time Kennedy was shot around 12:20 a.m. on June 5, 1968. For the better part of the evening I was close to the podium in the Embassy Room, helping keep people from going through the door that was close to the podium and which led to the room behind the podium. At no time during the evening did I see the man who has been identified as Sirhan Sirhan.

"I stayed in the area of the podium while Robert Kennedy made his victory speech. At that time I did not know which way he planned to exit after his speech, nor did anyone else that I know of. About 5 minutes before Kennedy ended his speech, I was told that Kennedy was going to exit through the kitchen. I am not sure who the person was that told me that, but it may have been Jim Lowe, another campaign worker.

On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA RICHARD P. DOUCETTE and
SA DAVID R. PENDER/mmc Date dictated 6/8/68

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"When Kennedy left the podium I was at the corner of it, right in front of the Kennedy girls. Irwin Stroll left right behind Kennedy, and then some of the press and part of Kennedy's group followed them. To the best of my recollection, I was next after that. At about the time I reached the door to the serving kitchen I heard some noises which I thought to be helium balloons popping or flashbulbs. There were about 5 such noises. Stroll came to me and said he had been shot, and I helped him back into the Embassy Room. Soon after that I left in a cab with Stroll for the hospital.

"About 5 minutes before Kennedy went to the podium, I walked through the serving kitchen and it was empty. I may have glanced into the kitchen at that time, but if so I did not take particular note of the people I saw in the kitchen. I think I would have noticed anyone in the kitchen who didn't have white clothes on.

"I have read the above two (2) page statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ David M. Esquith

"Witness:

Richard P. Doucette, SA, FBI, Los Angeles,
Calif. 6/7/68
David R. Pender, SA, FBI, Los Angeles,
Calif. 6/7/68"

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In addition to the above information, ESQUITH advised that the following people were in the area of the podium at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel, at the approximate time that Senator KENNEDY was shot:

BILL COX

VICKY CUCCIA (claims she saw assailant at KENNEDY Headquarters on June 3, 1968.)

ANN FERGUSON

Mrs. TIFFANY JONAS

RICHARD ROSEN

AL ROTHSTEIN

ESQUITH could not furnish the addresses of these individuals but said they were all KENNEDY campaigners, who worked out of KENNEDY Headquarters on Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

ESQUITH further advised while working at KENNEDY Headquarters he had met a man whose first name was DAVID, last name unknown, who claimed to be an exercise boy at the race track. ESQUITH suggested that in view of the assailant's previous employment as a exercise boy, it might be helpful to contact this man to determine if he was familiar with SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. ESQUITH furnished the following description of the man named DAVID, last name unknown:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	23 - 24
Hair	Long dark brown hair with long sideburns.
Height	5'11"
Weight	135 pounds

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ESQUITH suggested that JUNE ISAACSON, a supervisor at KENNEDY Headquarters, would have additional information as to who DAVID was and where he might be contacted.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

WILLIAM P. MC SHERRY, television news director, Western Division, American Broadcasting Company (ABC), 4151 Prospect Street, furnished the following information.

MC SHERRY made available the video tape of the FRANK REYNOLDS newscast which was aired in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 5, 1968, on Channel 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

This film was viewed on June 7, 1968, at the above address. This film contains scenes of Senator KENNEDY passing through the kitchen en route to the Embassy Room to make a speech and also his return from the Embassy Room into the kitchen.

The above film was made available for exhibition to witnesses, also for lifting a still photograph of any person or persons identified from said film.

This video tape is not to be used without the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum. If it should be needed, this subpoena duces tecum should be directed to the Operations Officer, ABC.

On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA LESLIE F. WARREN and
SA LLOYD O. BOGSTAD/LOB/alm Date dictated 6/7/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. EUGENE COFFEE, Soundman, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He resides at 18643 Kinzie, Northridge, California, telephone 349-5805, and is employed by NBC, Los Angeles, as a soundman. He was assigned the NBC crew which covered and filmed the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on the evening of June 4, 1968 and the morning of June 5, 1968.

Mr. COFFEE said that he and the other members of the NBC crew did not observe the actual shooting of Senator KENNEDY. He noted that the Senator had departed the speakers' platform and had departed the room via a doorway behind the platform. It was not anticipated that the Senator would exit the room in this manner and NBC had not made preparations to follow him through this exit. It was noted almost immediately that something was taking place behind the doorway and the camera crew followed and noted that KENNEDY was on the floor of the corridor. The suspect was not observed by COFFEE, and he could furnish no additional pertinent information.

On 6/6/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/bje Date dictated 6/6/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. CHRISTOPHER MICHON, Coordinator, NBC News, 3000 Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He resides at 10855 Whipple Street, North Hollywood, California, telephone 763-1977, and is employed by NBC News, Los Angeles, as a Coordinator. He was assigned to coordinate the activities of the NBC News coverage of the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY which took place at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on the evening of June 4, 1968 and the morning of June 5, 1968.

Mr. MICHON said that neither he nor the other NBC employees assigned this activity actually observed the shooting of Senator KENNEDY. He explained that NBC personnel were not set up to cover the doorway through which the Senator exited and did not reach him until after the shooting had taken place. He and other NBC personnel concentrated on the Senator and did not observe the suspect.

Mr. MICHON said he could furnish no additional pertinent information in connection with this matter.

On 6/6/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/bje Date dictated 6/6/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. GEORGE SOZIO, Cameraman, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He was assigned as cameraman on the NBC television and news coverage of the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, on the evening of June 4, 1968. Mr. SOZIO said he was stationed in a room next door to the room in which Senator KENNEDY spoke and observed none of the activity. He did not observe the shooting, did not observe the suspect, and could furnish no information pertinent to this inquiry.

6/6/68 Burbank, California Los Angeles 56-156
On _____ at _____ File # _____
SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/rlz 6/6/68
by _____ Date dictated _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/6/68

ROBERT RAY BRESHEARS, 5709 Ewing Canyon, La Canada, California, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, California, and furnished the following information:

His wife, CAROL, has been a volunteer campaign worker for the KENNEDY organization. He was with CAROL at the Ambassador Hotel on the evening of June 4, 1968, for the election party. He was in the Embassy Room of the hotel, standing behind the stage, late in the evening watching a television monitor as Senator KENNEDY was speaking. Toward the end of the talk he walked to a position against the west wall about ten to twelve feet from the double doors leading to the kitchen area. When the speech had ended, a large group of people, including JESSE UNRUH and presumably Senator KENNEDY, came through the drapes in back of the stage and walked past him. He did not see Senator KENNEDY but just as the group passed into the kitchen area through the double doors, he heard four shots, the first shot sounding like a balloon popping. After the second and third shots, he was certain that the noise was gun shots, possibly from a small barrel gun. The shots were in rapid succession and sounded like they came from the same weapon. He did not attempt to enter the kitchen area where the noise came from, but shortly thereafter a news man came out of the area and gave a brief account of what had happened.

People milled about the area and a short while later they were all ushered, including himself, down the hall to the downstairs ballroom. He stated he did not see SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and has no knowledge of this individual. He recalled that shortly before the KENNEDY party entered the double doors leading to the kitchen area, several news and television people were in the kitchen area working with cables and other television equipment. He does not know the motive for the shooting.

On 6/7/68 at Pasadena, California File # LA 56-156
by SA PHILLIP B. DEILY/kaf Date dictated 6/7/68

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