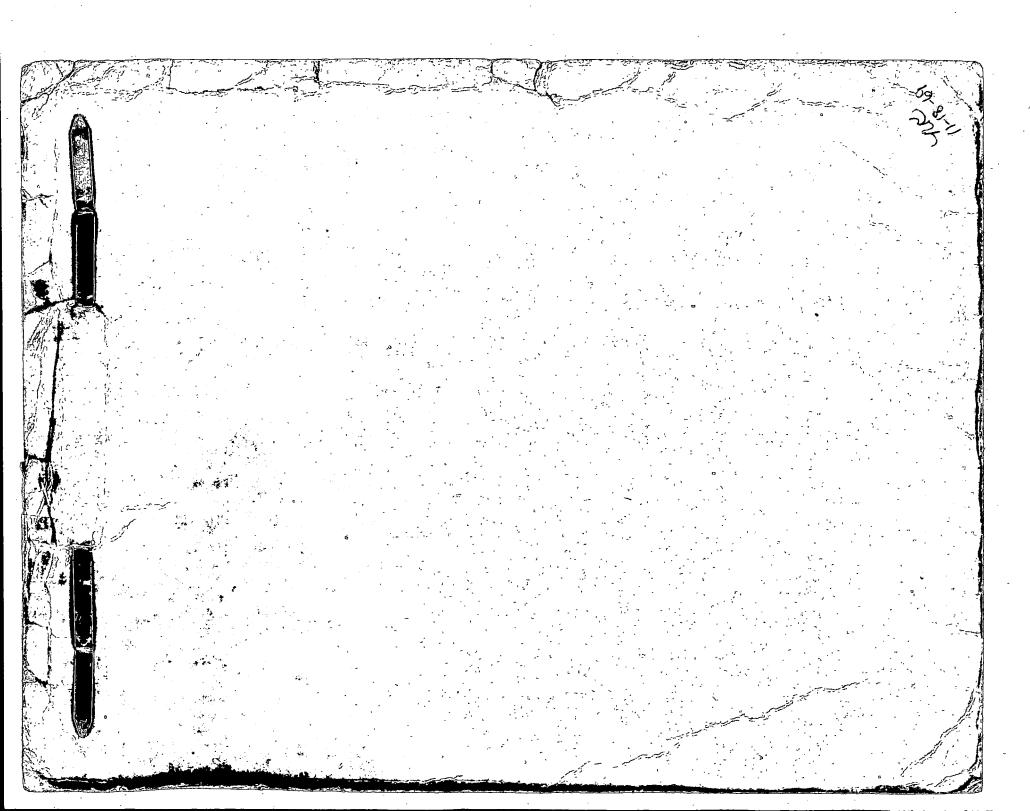


2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



<u>l</u> LA 56-156 JOS/pjc

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING PERNELL EZZELL,
WHO ALLEGEDLY TELEPHONED A FORMER
EMPLOYER IN FLORIDA FROM DENVER,
COLORADO, ON JUNE 6, 1968, AND STATED
HE HAD A GREAT AMOUNT OF MONEY OBTAINED
AS A RESULT OF HIS PART IN ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING AND
SHOOTING OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Tampa. Florida June 11, 1968

PERNELL EZZELL

On June 6, 1968, Mr. FRANK WETZEL, Manager, Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances, Incorporated, 2425 Colonial Drive, Orlando, Florida, furnished the following information:

PERNELL EZZELL is a former employee who has been missing about three weeks on this last occasion. He has previously left his job on past occasions and has been taken back. He called WETZEL on the morning of June 6, 1968 from 4:15 a.m. to 5:15 a.m. saying he was in Denver, Colorado. Mr. WETZEL said EZZELL seemed as though he were nervous, crazy or drunk.

EZZELL alleged to WETZEL that he had a great amount of money. He said he had a pile of \$20.00 bills which he had obtained as a result of his part in the assassination of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING and the shooting of EZZELL remarked that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. he had proof he was in Orlando, Florida when KING was shot and he was in Las Vegas when KENNEDY was shot if he were to need it. He alleged he was on the payroll of "CIA" and "OSI". He remarked that he had a "38", a "357", a "30-30" and a "306" type of guns in the trunk of his car. He said he was using a U-Drive-It car in Las Vegas the previous day with the "357" gun on the seat when he was stopped by a deputy. He said the deputy released him when he produced his Associated Detective Agency card andhis gun permit which he read the number from as being #92B.

PERNELL EZZELL

Mr. WETZEL said that EZZELL did not threaten any one during his call or indicate that he intended to do any harm to anyone else.

WETZEL said that EZZELL indicated that he was his only friend in Orlando, Florida and he just wanted to talk to him to find out if he could come back to Orlando.

On June 6, 1968, Mrs. FAY EZZELL, 636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida furnished the following information.

She advised that she married PERNELL EZZELL on February 25, 1967, this being her third marriage. She said they have one infant by this marriage and she has children by previous marriages. She said that EZZELL has caused her extreme anxiety and debt during their short period of marriage. She said he has deserted her at least three times and he was last seen by her over three weeks ago. said that he had been treated for extreme alcoholism during their short marriage on at least two occasions by Doctor HERBERT COLLINS in Orlando, Florida and she had taken him to the Florida Sanitarium Hospital, Orlando, Florida for the same type treatment. She advised that he has been also treated at the Cherry Hospital for extreme alcoholism but she could not recall the name of the town in which the hospital is located. She said that she hoped that her husband does not return.

PERNELL EZELL

Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL had called her on June 6, 1968 about 2:00 a.m. and the call lasted until about 3:00 or possibly a little later. She said he stated he was in Denver, Colorado. She said that on one occasion the call was interrupted by am operator who requested that he make a . new call for credit charges which he did but the operator did not specifically identify herself as being in Denver, Colorado. EZZELL said that PERNELL had called her on the morning of June 5, 1968 during the early hours saying that he was in Las Vegas. Nevada but she had no way of knowing his actual whereabouts at that time. She said that on both occasions he did not divulge his address or location. She said that in April, 1968, he was drinking heavily and she refused to allow him to come to the house with her children. She said he went to several motels around the Orlando, Florida area and ran up very large bills on credit cards which caused her financial She said that on this difficulties. occasions his drinking was only terminated when she took him to Dr. COLLINS for treatment of extreme alcoholism. She said that the doctor gave him tranquilizers to bring his shaking under She said he is a hopeless alcoholic control. and that when he is drinking he becomes affected mentally. Mrs. EZZELL advised that in the past PERNELL EZZELL when drinking had delusions of grandeur. She said that he would refer to big news stories in the newspapers and try to cause her to believe that he was in some way connected with military service intelligence and he would have to check on these news worthy events.

PERNELL EZZELL

She said that on several occasions when he was drinking and he had disappeared he would finally call her telling her that he had a large sum of money and that he would buy her all sorts of new presents. She said that on these occasions she found him penniless and drunk in North Florida.

Mrs. EZZELL said that when PERNELL called her on the past two mornings he had not made any allegations involving himself im any assassination plots on Dr. KING or Senator KENNEDY. She said he had not threatened anyone on these occasions except her when she told him she was weeking employment. He said that if she obtained a job he would come by and pick up the baby.

Mrs. EZZELL said that PERNELL did have some sort of a gun which he kept in his car because she would not allow him to bring it into the house. She said he had a permit to carry this gun because he worked as a guard during the night time at Associated Detective Agency, Orlando, Florida. She said he worked in the day time as a television technician for the Perdue Radio, Television and Appliances. Incorporated.

Mrs. EZZELL said that she has been receiving numerous bills from oil companies and American Express credit card which she did not open but forwarded to his mother in North Carolina because she could not pay them. She advised that she feels that her financial situation is so destitute that she will lose her home and furniture because of previous bills made by EZZELL.

PERNELL EZZELL

On June 6, 1968, Dr. HERBERT COLLINS, 3558 South Orange Avenue, Orlando, Florida, advised that he treated PERNELL EZZELL for about the past couple of years due to extreme alcoholism the last period of treatment being in April, 1963. He said this man is unstable but he did not further describe him.

On June 6, 1968, the files of the Orlando, Florida Police Department furnished by MARIAN HARRISON revealed PERNELL EZZELL was arrested on June 2, 1961 being charged as a public drunk; on Noveber 19, 1961 being charged with driving while intoxicated; and he was picked up on suspicion of auto theft March 9, 1962 at which time he was turned over to the Orange County Sheriff's Office. No photograph or fingerprint records for EZZELL were available.

On June 6, 1968, BERNICE FOGARTY, Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, Florida, Identification Division and Deputy PHILIP MURPHY, Plain Clothes Division, both advised that they could locate no information pertaining to EZZELL in their files

The following physical description was obtained from Mr. WETZEL and Mrs. EZZELL:

Name: (E354) PERNELL EZZELL Color
Race: White Wevada
Sex: Male
April 26, 1932 Calle
Place of Birth: Fayetteville,
North Carolina Nine

Orlando) Fla

PERNELL EZZELI

Height:

Weight: Hair:

Eyes:

Marital Status: Wife:

Children:

Relatives:

Mother:

Brother:

510" 185

Blue

Sandy and wavy

Married FAY EZZELL

636 22nd Street Orlando, Florida

l infant child from

that marriage

ACRIE EZZELL

Route 4 Box 236

Clinton, N. C.

THOMAS OZELL EZZELL

Age 33

Fayetteville, N.C.

It is noted that on July 5, 1967, Officer JAMES WATFORD, Kissimmee, Florida, Police Department, advised the Tampa Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that PERNELL EZZELL had made statements to EZZELL's wife that he was an agent of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and in this capacity had to make secret trips, leaving his wife alone for periods of time. WATFORD indicated he knew of no one else who had been told by EZZELL that he was a CIA agent, and that there was no evidence EZZELL had obtained anything of value from anyone other than his wife.

On August 4, 1967, a representative of the CIA, Washington, D. C., advised that a check of CIA personnel files failed to disclose any individual named PERNELL EZZELL. as being employed by that agency.

On August 28, 1967, Assistant United States Attorney KERDELL WHERRY, Middle District of Florida, was informed of above facts by a Special Agent of the FBI. Mr. WHERRY stated that the facts were insufficient to constitute a violation of the Impersonation Statute, and that he would therefore decline prosecution of EZZELL,

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PERNELL EZZELL was interviewed at the Shreveport, Louisiana, Resident Agency. At the outset of the interview EZZELL was advised of his rights but declined to sign a waiver of same. EZZELL declined to furnish a signed statement but voluntarily furnished the following information:

EZZELL denied that he had received or was ever in possession of a great amount of money as a result of his participation in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING and the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. He further denied stating to anyone he was on the payroll of the OSI and CIA.

EZZELL said he definately did not participate in any manner, nor did he have any knowledge of or information concerning the murders of MARTIN LUTHER KING and Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

EZZELL admitted that he was glad KING was dead as he felt KING was a troblemaker, but emphasized that he did not have anything to do with killing him.

EZZELL said he could not remember making any statements to anyone regarding any of the above. He admitted that he may have made them when he was in a drunken condition, but could not recall making any such statements. He said he often has black-out periods which occur when he is drinking and he has been known to appear sober even when he is in a drunken state.

EZZELL said FRANK WETZEL is the Shop Foreman for his former employer at Perdue Radio and Television Company, Orlando, Florida. He and Wetzel have been out drinking together on a few occasions, usually after closing shop or on a payday night. WETZEL has been trying to get him into trouble with his wife. EZZELL said WETZEL thinks he is a ladies man and has in the past tried to take his wife out. His wife has told him that WETZEL has called her several times and in addition to trying to make a date would tell her of his running around with other women. EZZELL believed WETZEL tells his (EZZELL's) wife what he tells WETZEL in confidence. He was sure WETZEL told her about

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On _	8/24/68 at	Shreveport.	Louisiana	File # <u>NO</u>	173-994	
hv	SA RONALD	W. BEINNER	/bab	Date dictated	8/24/68	

NO 173-994

his being responsible for another girl's pregnancy at the time he married his wife.

EZZELL stated he has never confronted WETZEL with any of the above, but WETZEL has told him that he called him one night when he was drunk and cursed him out. EZZELL said he could not remember this call.

EZZELL advised that he has a serious drinking problem, but he did not consider himself an alcoholic. He said he was treated in the Veterans Administration Hospital, Fayetteville, North Carolina, for drunkeness shortly after his release from the Air Force in 1953. He further advised he had been a patient at Cherry Hospital, Goldsboro, North Carolina, for about 2 months during the past year. While at this hospital he underwent a number of psychiatric tests. He did not know the results of the tests.

EZZELL stated that he has had this serious drinking problem since his marriage in November 1967. He indicated he was forced to marry his wife as a result of her pregnancy prior to their wedding. He said, since his marriage he has been under constant pressure from his wife and in addition has serious financial problems.

EZZELL advised that because of his heavy drinking and the resulting "black-outs" he is not able to fix exactly his whereabouts on specific dates during the past year. However, he remembered the night of MARTIN LUTHER KING's death and said he was drunk at the time. He was registered at the Motel South, Orlando, Florida. With him at the time was a girl friend, whom he identified as VIOLET ALLRED, a nurse, who operates the Clear Lake Manor Nursing Home, Orlando, Florida. He said she is about 38 years of age. He recalled hearing of KING's death on the T.V. on the night it happened.

EZZELL said he did not remember where he was the night Senator KENNEDY was shot.

EZZELL could not account for his whereabouts on the night of June 5, 1968 and said he could not recall where he was at all during the month of June as he again was on a drunk.

EZZELL remembers flying from Orlando, Florida,

NO 173-994

to Los Angeles twice in recent months. The last was about August 4, 1968 when he flew via Delta Airlines. He stayed in Los Angeles four days and left driving a rented car after an unsuccessful effort in finding a job. On his way to Shreveport he stopped briefly at Phoenix, Albuquerque, and Hope, Arkansas. He claimed he pawned his 357 magnum revolver with a police officer in Hope, Arkansas, for \$45 on August 23, 1968. The gun was purchased for his second job as a security guard with Associated Security Company, Orlando, Florida. He claims he has never used the gun in commission of a crime.

EZZELL believed the previous trip to Los Angeles was made in June 1968 when he flew via Delta Airlines from Orlando, Florida. He was looking for a job on the occasion also. He stayed only two days and remembers returning from California via an unrecalled airline and that he stopped at Las Vegas, Denver, New Orleans and Miami. He does not remember if he stayed in any of these cities for any length of time. After reaching Miami he rented a car and drove to Orlando.

EZZELL claims he had no employment other than his jobs in Orlando and that he financed his trips with the money earned from working these two jobs, along with using his credit cards.

EZZELL recalled after driving from Miami he did not go home, but to a motel with Miss ALLRED. The following day he drove back to Miami and then returned to Orlando by bus. He thinks he rented the car at Miami from either Hertz or Avis-Rent-A-Car.

EZZELL stated he has not worked any where since August 4, 1968, and that he presently had in his possession \$36.00 which was left over from the sale of his gun.

EZZELL claimed he pawned a .38 Colt "Cobra" in Los Angeles on the last trip at an unrecalled pawn shop and that he presently has no weapon.

EZZELL could not recall any other details concerning his first trip to Los Angeles, he said he was drinking heavy on these trips and could not remember anything much about them. He could not remember the names of motels where he stayed. He claimed he has no friends in Los Angeles and

NO 173-994

that he made none while there on these trips.

EZZELL stated he is not now and never has been a member of any "hate" type organization such as the Ku Klux Klan.

EZZELL stated he would be leaving Shreveport, Louisiana, this evening by bus and could be reached through his mother Mrs. ACRIE EZZELL, Route 4, Clinton, North Carolina.

The following description was obtained from interview and observation:

PERNELL EZZELL alias "Easy" Name White Race Male Sex April 26, 1932 Date of Birth Fayetteville, North Carolina Place of Birth 6'1" Height 175 Weight Hair Brown Eves Blue Scars and Marks None Marital Status Married to FAYE MARIE EZZELL 636 22nd Street,

636 22nd Street, Orlando, Florida

Children CLINTON EARL - 11 months

Parents Father - deceased Mother - ACRIE EZZELL

Route 4, Clinton, North Carolina

Brothers THOMAS OZELLE EZELLE, age 33,

Simco, Ontario, Canada

WENDELL EZZELLÉ, age 25, High

Point, North Carolina DIANE McMILLIAN, age 19,

Sister DIANE McMILLIAN, age 19,
Fayetteville, North Carolina

employed Ft. Bragg, North

Carolina

Residence 636 22nd Street, Orlando,

Florida

Military Service US Air Force 1951-1953, Honorable

discharge

Serial # AF14408130

Arrest Record

Numerous drunk arrests

no felony arrests

Social Security #

T.V. repairman and security

guard

Previous employment Perdue Radio and T.V. - Orlando,

Florida; Associates Security, Orlando,

Florida;

Electronic Service, Inc., Patco Division, Newport News, Virginia;

American District Telegraph -Winston Salem, North Carolina American District Telegraph -

Indianapolis, Indiana

Previous Residences Raleigh, North Carolina,

Fayetteville, North Carolina,

Ashville, North Carolina, Newport News, Virginia, Indianapolis, Indiana,

Orlando, Florida

CHRISTINE TENDELL,

Clinton, North Carolina

VIOLET ALLRED, Orlando, Florida

Occupation:

Friends

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING STATEMENT
ALLEGEDLY MADE IN MID-MAY 1968, BY
"BUDDY" JENSEN AT A CONFERENCE IN
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, THAT KENNEDY WOULD BE KILLED

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

8/1/68	
Date	

ROBERT C. CALLAHAN, President, Goode Motors, Inc., Bristol, Tennessee, a Dodge dealer, advised that about May 18, 1968, he attended a conference of the National Automobile Dealers Association truck meeting at the Americana Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida, and one evening during dinner he was with a group of people which included "BUDDY" JENSEN. GMC dealer, Fairfield, Connecticut, when JENSEN made some statements to the effect he had attended some meetings and knew what was going to happen to MARTIN LUIHER KING and "BOBBY" KENNEDY.

JENSEN reportedly said that KENNEDY would be killed, and he would never get into office. JENSEN did not mention what meetings he had attended or where the meetings were held.

CALLAHAN said JENSEN had been drinking, and he (CALLAHAN) had never met him before, and, therefore, there was some discussion concerning JENSEN's comments among the people present.

CALLAHAN further advised that FRANK GOODPASTURE, JR., of Goodpasture Motor Company, Bristol, Virginia, as well as a man from Nashville, Tenhessee, and one from Ohio, may have heard the comments of JENSEN. He stated GOODPASTURE was a good friend of JENSEN, and would be able to evaluate JENSEN and his remarks.

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On	7/24/68 Bristol, Virginia	Richmond 44-657 Los Angeles 44-1574	i i
•	SA DEAN W. GASTEIGER/vlr	7/29/68	
by		——Date dictated ————	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1		8/1/68
	,	Date

FRANK GOODPASTURE, JR., Goodpasture Motor Company, Bristol, Virginia, advised he has known JOHN A./JENSEN, also known as "Buddy", General Motor Service and Truck Company, 386 State Street Extension, Fairfield, Connecticut, since 1959, and he always has found him to be a person of high morals, character and reputation.

He said he attended the dinner at the Americana Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida, during the conference of the National Automobile Dealers Association, truck meeting, and that JOHN A. JENSEN was present, and he heard JENSEN was making remarks concerning segregation; however, since the remarks were not made to him, he could not recall any definite statements he may have made.

He said he gathered from the remarks that JENSEN had some feelings regarding segregation as there apparently had been some trouble in Fairfield, Connecticut. He stated he did not feel JENSEN meant anything by his remarks and he put no significance in them as he had been drinking.

He recalled that ARTHUR TRWIN, Irwin GMC Inc., GMC dealer, Lima, Ohio, was present, as well as BILL WIESON, General Truck Sales, Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee, and ROBERT C. GALLAHAN, Goode Motor Company, Bristol, Tennessee.

He said after the meeting, WILSON and IRWIN made a trip to Jamaica, and they discussed the remarks of JENSEN, but they put no significance to them. He said that if JENSEN is contacted, he is sure he could explain his remarks.

On	7/25/68 B	?28	Richmo Los An	nd 44-657 geles 44-1574
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Date _	8/7/68	

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ARTHUR IRWIN, 2629 Shoreline Drive, advised that he is the President of the Irwin GMC, Inc., 2320 St. Johns Avenue, Lima, Ohio, and that he had in May 1968, attended a conference of the National Automobile Dealers Association truck meeting at the Americana Hotel, Miami Beach, Florida. He recalled around May 18, 1968, he had attended a dinner and at this dinner "DUDDY" JENSEN, GMC truck dealer at Fairfield, Connecticut; FRANK GOODPASTURE, JR., of the Goodpasture Motor Company, Bristol, Virginia; a BILL WILSON of Nashville, Tennessee, and a man from Bristol, Tennessee, also attended. He stated he could not recall the name of the man from Bristol, Tennessee. Mr. IRWIN said there were about 14 people who sat at a long table at this dinner and that a large number of persons attended the conference at the hotel. Mr. IRWIN said that he had a place at the table about four to six persons from "BUDDY" JENSEN. He said he does recall that in general conversation someone, he did not know who made the remark, said something about some group possibly being behind the KING matter.

He stated he could recall no further details. He said he had placed absolutely no significance in this and that there had been quite a bit of drinking going on. Mr. IRWIN said that he has known "BUDDY" JENSEN for about six years and he described him as a very reputable man of good reputation. Mr. IRWIN said it was his belief Mr. JENSEN was the type of man who would possibly have rather strong opinions and would just go ahead and say something.

Mr. IRWIN said further that during the dinner, someone also made a remark to the effect that after what had happened to "JACK', something might happen to "BOBBY". Mr. IRWIN could not recall any specific words, other details, nor could he recall who made this remark.

On _	8/5/68	Lima, Ohio		File #	Cleveland 44-565
on —			- 229 -		
by	SA HOMER K.	MILL:R/slk		_Date dictated	8/6/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date September 26, 1968

JOHN A. JENSEN, proprietor, General Motors Service and Truck Company, 386 State Street Extension, Fairfield, Connecticut, advised that he is also known as "BUDDY" JENSEN. He informed that he attended a General Motors truck dealers convention in Miami Beach, Florida, during mid-May of 1968. He related that one evening during the convention, he participated in a cocktail party and dinner with other General Motors dealers at the Luau Restaurant in Miami Beach. He mentioned among those participating in the party were BILL WILSON, a dealer from Nashville, Tennessee, and his wife; FRANK GOODPASTURE, a dealer from Bristol, Virginia, and his wife; ART IRWIN, a dealer from Lima, Ohio, and his wife; and one Mr. CALLAHAN, a Dodge dealer from Bristol, Tennessee, and his wife. He stated that all were close friends and associates of his, with the exception of Mr. and Mrs. CALLAHAN, whom he met at the convention.

JENSEN related that considerable consumption of intoxicating beverages preceded the dinner party. He specifically asserted having "two large blasts" prior to dinner. He immediately mentioned that he has extrasensory perception, and during the course of the dinner mentioned that he had predicted the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY and Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING. He remarked that his utterances in this regard may have been stupid, but that he had sincerely believed in his ability of extrasensory perception. He also mentioned that he remarked during the dinner party that if Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was nominated and elected President he would also be assassinated.

JENSEN reiterated that this remark was probably stupid on his part, but insisted on his ability toward extrasensory perception and "guesswork."

JENSEN stated that following the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, he was told by friends that Mrs. CALLAHAN, who is pregnant and very emotional, became very upset and in recalling

On 9/20/68 at Fairfield, Connecticut File # NH 157-818

by SA GEORGE T. RIORDAN/mec Date dictated 9/23/68

the party at the Luau Restaurant in Miami Beach, decided to contact the FBI concerning remarks made by JENSEN.

JENSEN repeated his belief of his ability toward extrasensory perception. He asserted that he does not belong to any organizations other than the Kiwanis Club and the General Motors dealers organizations. He specifically denied attending any meetings of organizations where the assassinations of any prominent figures were discussed. He also claimed that during the dinner party at the Luau Restaurant in Miami Beach, he had not mentioned attending any meetings where the assassinations of the Reverend MARTIN LUTHER KING and Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY had been discussed.

JENSEN denied being sympathetic toward or affiliated with any racist, extremist or hate groups. He recalled that he and his wife were the only Northerners at the dinner party at the Luau Restaurant and that the others present were deeply interested in their comments concerning racial matters. He stated that some racial questions were probably discussed and mentioned during the course of the evening; however, he was unable to recall any specific racial topic, other than he may have accused the Southerners of sending all of the Negroes north to create problems here.

JENSEN remarked: "I will probably have to keep my mouth shut. I know it was a stupid thing to say, but I knew all of the rest of the people in the party, with the exception of the CALLAHANS."

JENSEN steadfastly claimed that although his remarks may have sounded stupid, it was his honest belief that his predictions were based on his power of extrasensory perception or "purely guesswork."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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WILLIAM J. WILSON, General Truck Sales, 535 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville, Tennessee, advised as follows:

During May of 1968, he attended a conference of the National Automobile Dealers Association in Miami Beach, Florida, which was attended by a number of truck dealers throughout the United States. One evening during this series of meetings he was with a group of individuals including "BUDDY" JENSEN of Fairfield, Connecticut and ARTHUR IRWIN of Lima, Ohio. Everyone in this group of some twenty to twenty-five men had been drinking heavily and conversations could only be described as extremely "alcoholic."

On one occasion, "BUDDY" JENSEN made some remark to the effect that ROBERT KENNEDY would never live to become President, if he were nominated and elected, that someone would probably shoot him. JENSEN did not say that he had attended any meeting where this was discussed, nor was any conversation recalled with reference to MARTIN LUTHER KING.

He does not recall any other remarks of JENSEN and does not recall discussing JENSEN's remarks on a subsequent trip to Jamaica, which he made accompanied by other men at the conference.

He paid absolutely no attention to JENSEN's remark regarding KENNEDY, since he was drinking heavily, as were most of the men at the conference.

He described JENSEN as an "ultra conservative", a loyal American, and one who would have no part in the death of KENNEDY or KING.

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On .	8/12/68	_at .	Nashville	, Tennessee	File # Memphis	44-1987
•	SA WILLIAM			./mas;jas	_Date dictated	

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INVESTIGATION CONCERNING AN
INDIVIDUAL REPORTED AS A
LAICIZED PRIEST AND FRIEND OF
KENNEDY FAMILY REPORTEDLY PRESENT AT
CENTRAL RECEIVING HOSPITAL WHEN SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY BROUGHT IN JUNE 5, 1968

LA 56-156 JOS/jr

Information was previously received by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) that an individual was reportedly present at Central Receiving Hospital, Los Angeles, at the time Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was brought in during the early morning hours of June 5, 1968. This individual was further reported as a laicized priest and a friend of the family. Father THOMAS PEACHA, Saint Basil Parish, Los Angeles, advised Sergeant GUTIERREZ, LAPD, that this individual might be a man named JAMES W. MUNDELL.

Following is interview of JAMES W. MUNDELL.

Date	9/30/68	
Date	97 307 00	

JAMES W. MUNDELL, 555 North Rossmore, Los Angeles, California, telephone number 466-9489, advised that he was a former Roman Catholic priest but stated he no longer is connected with the church in an official capacity.

He said he had been a schoolmate of STEVEN SMITH, brother-in-law of ROBERT KENNEDY, and through this association had become acquainted with several members of the KENNEDY family. In this connection, he said he became closely acquainted with ETHEL KENNEDY and that he has been a close friend for about the past ten years.

Mr. MUNDELL stated that on June 4-5, 1968, he had been at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles and had engaged in personal conversation with Senator ROBERT KENNEDY prior to KENNEDY's scheduled speech. He said he had preceded ROBERT KENNEDY to the ballroom at the hotel and had joined two or three other campaign workers in clearing a path in order that KENNEDY could get through to the speaker's stand. He stated this had been on the left side of the speaker's stand and that KENNEDY had surprised them all by making his entry into the room from the opposite side. He related he had been rather removed from the scene and did not actually observe the shooting of KENNEDY.

He stated, however, that following the shooting and while KENNEDY was still on the floor at the hotel he joined ETHEL KENNEDY by the side of her husband to assist in any way possible.

He said that when KENNEDY was removed from the hotel to take him to the hospital, he jumped into a taxicab with about three other unknown people and followed the ambulance and police cars to the Central Receiving Hospital in Los Angeles. In the police car immediately preceding him to the hospital was STEPHEN SMITH.

On <u>9/30/68 at Los Angeles, California</u> File # Los Angeles 56-156 -[™]235 -

By SA CHARLES W. BADGLEY/lmt Date dictated 9/30/68
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2 LA 56-156

Upon arrival at the hospital, he said there was great confusion and that he had difficulty in gaining entry into the hospital due to the fact he was in civilian clothes and was not known to the police. He said STEPHEN SMITH saw his difficulty and that through SMITH he gained access to the hospital.

He said he joined the family in the operating room and after staying there for a short time, removed himself to the corridor. While waiting in the hall, ETHEL KENNEDY came from the operating room and handed to him a rather large bundle. He said that nothing was said as to what the bundle contained but he said that he knew for some reason that it contained ROBERT KENNEDY's clothes.

Following this, he left the hospital and was beckoned by someone in the KENNEDY family, exactly whom he could not recall, to join the family in the ambulance which was to take KENNEDY to the Good Samaritan Hospital. He said that it was very crowded and he thereupon hopped out of the ambulance. He said that at this point ETHEL KENNEDY motioned for him to return but he did not.

He said he drove to the Good Samaritan Hospital in a car with TED SORENSON and upon arrival at the hospital, he rejoined the family in the operating room. While in the operating room, he turned over the bundle of clothes to some police officer on duty.

MUNDELL advised that the above constitutes his activities during the period following the shooting of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY.

He added that he had been a member of the KENNEDY party in an unofficial capacity through his personal friendship with the family.

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING
DONALD DAVID EVANGELISTA,
EXTRA BANQUET WAITER AT AMBASSADOR
HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, FROM MAY 17-JUNE 19, 1968



		Date	9/24/68
	1	2400	
	Mr. ANGELO DE PIERRO, Mai Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, advi		
	DONALD DAVID EVANGELISTA, who had been hired at the Ambassadd and who voluntarily terminated on Stablished extra waiter who had been for a period of two to three years. to have taken a trip back East. No nor his current employment was known suggested that EVANGELISTA could be of the Waiters' Union, 321 South Bi	or Hotel May 17 June 19, 1968, a used from tin EVANGELISTA either his spec on to DE PIERRO e reached throu	7, 1968, was an es- ne to time was reported cific_address). DE PIERRO agh Local 17
	Concerning the general che EVANGELISTA, DE PIERRO said that the of which he could not recall, that trouble with the police back East, trouble was not known to DE PIERRO.	nere were some EVANGELISTA ha but the nature	rumors, source ad had some
			•
	•		
On	9/19/68 at Los Angeles, Californ - 238 -	rile # Los	Angeles 56-1 56
by	- 238 - SA LESLIE F. WARREN/cyn	Date dictated	9/23/68
This docu	ocument contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the F ency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your ager	BI. It is the property of	the FBI and is loaned to

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



	9/19/63	
Date	J1 = J1 + 4	

Mr. ERNEST VALLERO, Job Dispatcher, Southern California Waiters Alliance, Local 17, American Federation of Labor (AFL) -Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), 321 South Bixel Street, Los Angeles, California, telephone HU 2-9800, advised the following:

Mr. VALLERO said that he frequently dispatched extra waiters to the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles but had no personal recollection of DONALD EVANGELISTA, Social who reportedly was hired as an Security Number extra banquet waiter at the Ambassador Hotel on May 17, 1968.

Mr. VALLERO ascertained from records of Local 17 that DONALD D. EVANGELISTA, Social Security Number had joined Local 17 on January 19, 1965. He was born June 29, 1943 in Massachusetts. EVANŒLISTA was suspended from Local 17 in July 1965. EVANŒLISTA's wife was identified as MARIA E. EVANGELISTA. No residence address or phone number appeared in the records. It was noted that in July 1965, EVANGELISTA had affiliated with Waiters Local 531 at 1192 Exit Walnut Street, Pasadena, California, telephone 449-3771.

The records also disclosed that on May 17, 1968, EVANGELISTA had paid \$25:00 toward a reinstatement fee of \$50.00 to Local 17. There was nothing on the record to indicate that EVANGELISTA had been dispatched by Local 17 to the Ambassador Hotel.

Mr. VALLERO voiced the opinion that Mr. EVANGELISTA when seeking extra work at the Ambassador Hotel on May 17, 1968, may have learned that it was necessary to reinstate himself with the Waiters Local before he would be hired, therefore, his payment of \$25.00 on May 17, 1968. The balance of \$25.00 due for reinstatement was never paid and the \$25.00 paid on May 17, 1968 was forfeited, according to Mr. VALLERO.

On	9/17/68	Los Angeles,	California File #	Los Angeles 56-156
· · ·	SA LESLIE F.			9/18/68
by			Date dict	ated

LUCY HALLUM, Auditor's Department, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, advised that records of the auditing department disclosed the following information concerning recent canceled payroll checks on file.

A check dated June 14, 1968, Number 9403, drawn on the Union Bank and Trust Company, Wilshire and Western Avenue, in the amount of \$40.34, made payable to DONALD D. EVANGELISTA, had been cashed on July 15, 1968, and bore the endorsement of DONALD EVANGELISTA and MARIA E. WICKSON, 517 South Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles, Apartment 2, telephone Number 384-3714.

Another check dated June 21, 1968, Number 9939, in the amount of \$37.59 made payable to DONALD D. EVANGELISTA bearing the endorsement of DONALD EVANGELISTA, no address, had been cashed on July 10, 1968. A stamp of the bank where the check was possibly cashed was the First Western Bank and Trust of Los Angeles-Number

On	9/19/58 at Los Angeles,	California File # Los	Angeles 56-156
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,	SA LESLIE F. WARREN/cyn		9/23/68
by		Date dictated	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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	Date	9/24/00

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WALTER LIM, Manager of the apartments at 517 South Kenmore Avenue, Los Angeles, advised the following:

MARIA and DONALD WICKSON had rented Apartment 2 at 517 South Kenmore Avenue on May 20, 1968, and left on August 2, 1968. They left a forwarding address of 5933 Gregory Avenue, Apartment 9, Hollywood, California, 90038, telephone number 466-2338.

Mr. WICKSON was a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel. He did not have an automobile. His wife had a small child about three to four years of age and she was pregnant. Mr. WICKSON, a male Caucasian in his early 20s, had said that following the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel June 5, 1968, business had fallen off at the hotel to the extent that Mr. WICKSON could not make enough money to support his wife and retain the apartment at Kenmore Avenue. Mr. WICKSON and wife, a female Caucasian in her mid 20s, dark hair, were good tenants. Mr. LIM did not know their background or where Mr. WICKSON might be working at the present time.

Mr. LIM did not know DONALD WICKSON by the name of DONALD EVANGELISTA.

On 9/19/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156 - 241 - by SA LESLIE F. WARREN/cyn Date dictated 9/23/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	<u>l</u> Date	9/30/68
	PHYLLIS TALBOT, Office Manager, Local 53: AFL-CIO of the Southern California Waiters Alliance 1192 East Walnut Street, Pasadena, California, tele 449-3771, advised the following:	∍,
	Records of Local 531 revealed that DONALL EVANGELISTA, a waiter, had transferred to Local 532 Local 17 at 321 South Bixel Street, Los Angeles, or 1965. He furnished a date of birth, June 29, 1943 Security Number He paid dues through 1966 and then became inactive for non-payment of de May 17, 1968, Local 17 of the Southern California Alliance made an inquiry concerning DONALD EVANGELY requesting whether or not there were any delinquent as EVANGELISTA was planning re-instatement. A refee of \$83.75 was quoted by Local 531 to Local 17.	l from n July 29, , a Social March of les, On Waiters ISTA, t dues,
	TALBOT said the only address listed in the for EVANGELISTA was 444 North Euclid Avenue, Pasade California. His wife was listed as MARIA E. EVANGE was employed as a waiter at the Stuft Shirt Restaution of July 1965	ena, GELISTA. He rant,
	TALBOT said that she was not personally with EVANGELISTA and had no additional knowledge chim.	acquainted oncerning
On	9/18/88 Pasadena, California File # Los	Angeles 56-156
1	- 242 - SA LESLIE F. WARREN/eb Date dictated	9/24/68
by	SA LESLIE F. WARREN/eb Date dictated	J, = 1,00

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

9/30/68

у	SA LESLIE F. WARREN/eb Date dictated 9/24/6
n	9/18/68t Pasadena, California File # Los Angeles 56-19
	might confirm the residence there of Mr. and Mrs. EVANGELISTA.
	House, has changed management several times since July of 1965, and DONALD EVANGELISTA and wife, MARIA E. EVANGELISTA, were not residing at this apartment nor were they known to Mr. ROBICHAUD. The latter said that there were no other tenants at this time who were residing at the York House in July of 1965 and that he had no records available which
	advised the following: The apartment at this address, known as the York



1	7 0. 1	9/30/68
—	Date	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Mr. HARRY PAUNZEN, Office Manager of the Stuft Shirt Restaurant, 901 East Del Mar Street, Pasadena, California, advised the following:

Records to confirm the employment of DONALD EVANGELISTA as a waiter at the Stuft Shirt Restaurant, as of July 1965, were not readily available. Mr. PAUNZEN, however, had personal recollection of EVANGELISTA having worked as a waiter about that time for several months, but he left rather suddenly and his present whereabouts is not known. He had been obtained through the Waiters Local 531 in Pasadena and had very little background other than that a Social Security number had been obtained on him.

STAN CUPPETT, a waiter at the Stuft Shirt, was acquainted with EVANGELISTA and could probably furnish additional information.

On	9/18/68 at	Pasadena,	California File#	Los	Angeles 56-156
			- 244 -	_	
by	SA LESLIE F.	WARREN/eb	Date dictated		9/24/68

<u>1</u>	Date	9/30/68
Mr. STAN CUPPETT, also known a waiter employed at the Stuft Shirt Re Del Mar Street, Pasadena, California, a	estaurant	, 901 East
CUPPETT said he recalled DONA was employed as a waiter at the Stuft several months, which would have been a While here, he married a girl who reposed to the married a girl who reposed the found out that some representative of a believed to be possibly with the FBI, it the restaurant concerning EVANGELISTA. went to Colombia.	Shirt Res about 196 rtedly wa suddenly i Feder had made	taurant for 5 or 1966. s from Colombia, when he agency, inquiry at
EVANGELISTA showed up at the four months ago, said "Hello," and clamback East. EVANGELISTA had been a member of the pasadena and Waiters Local 17 in it was possible that these organization address on EVANGELISTA.	imed to h ber of Wa n Los Ang	ave been iters Local eles, and
While working at the Stuft Start a personable young man and was well lilknow why EVANGELISTA left suddenly wit	ked. CUPI	PETT did not'
EVANGELISTA was described Caucasian, about 25 years of age, 5'8" light brown hair, medium complexion, or descent. He originally claimed to have	, 130 pou f possibl	nds, wavy .e Italian

On _	9/18/68 _{at}	Pasadena,	California	_File #	Los	Angeles	<u>56-15</u> 6
by _	SA LESLIE F.	WARREN/eb		_Date dictated		9/24	1/68



1	Date	9/30/68
MARIE E. WICKSON, also known a wickson and Mrs. Donald David Evangelis	ta, 5933 (Gregory
Avenue, Los Angeles, California, Apartme 466-2338, advised as follows:	ent 9, te	lephone
Mag IITOITONI and debat have her	~h~~d T\01	NT A T 70

Mrs. WICKSON said that her husband, DONALD WICKSON, who was also known as Donald David Evangelista but who was using the name of DONALD WICKSON, was currently en route from a trip to Massachusetts and was expected to be back in Los Angeles around September 27, 1968.

She said that DONALD had been working as a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel when Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY had been shot, however, he had not told her that he had any firsthand knowledge of the shooting. Further, DONALD had not related to her that he had been acquainted with SIRHAN SIRHAN, who had been charged with the shooting of Senator KENNEDY. She said that she and her husband had lived in Pasadena for awhile, but neither she nor her husband had any recollection of seeing or meeting SIRHAN SIRHAN or any members of SIRHAN's family.

Photographs of SIRHAN SIRHAN and members of his family were exhibited to Mrs. WICKSON, following which she said that they were not identical to any persons she had known or seen.

On .	9/19/68t	Los Angeles,	Californi#ile#_	Los	Angeles	56-156
		·	- 246 -			
by _	SA LESLIE F.	. WARREN/eb	Date dict	ated ——	9/21	1/68

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING LETTER
RECEIVED BY SISTER M. MADDALENA,
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, WASHINGTON, D. C.,
WHICH CONCERNED AN ACCOMPLICE IN
THE DEATH OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY

<u>1</u> LA 56-156 JOS/jr

By letter dated July 23, 1968, Sister M. MADDALENA, Box 99, Darnall Hall, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., 20007, furnished the Post Office Inspector, 12th and Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C., a xeroxed copy of a note which she indicated had been placed in an envelope addressed to her in place of the original letter. The note concerned an accomplice in the death of ROBERT KENNEDY. Sister MADDALENA's letter was furnished to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C., by the Post Office Inspector.

A copy of this note is as follows:

Federal Bureau of Investigation

9th & Pennsylvania Ave.NW

Washington, D.C.

Georgetown University Box 99, Darnall Hall Washington, D.C. July 23, 1968

Post Office Inspector 12th & Pennsylvania Ave. Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Yesterday, the 22nd, I received an envelope postmarked from Philadelphia on the 18th. The envelope had been opened and its original letter removed. In its place was a peculiar note concerning an occomplice in the death of Robert Kennedy. Enclosed is a Xerox copy of both the envelope and the note.

About five days ago another one of my letters had been opened. It contained pictures so it was scotchtaped and received intact.

I have no desire to prosecute the one who tampered with these letters. He evidently was trying to get this information through to someone for attention. He may be demented and then, again, he may not.

As I am attending Summer classes, I will be here only until August 9. If I can give you any further information, I'll be glad to do so.

Sincerely,

7. Maddalenta

Copy to: F.B.I. Senator Kennedy

21,9

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

gulis-18-1968 attención Please Forthe Polece El Creminal Dhe mr. Koberto Kennedy Is mr mercuir & Bob Roberts Guercury Olga Olvera Opuna de Environy 2927 Estanford ave. Mountain View Californie Jake (Sacraments) California Tyrana Baja California Bob Roberto Xnacravry Robert (Roberto) KMErcury

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DAMAGED IN HANDLING
THE POSTAL SERVICE

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COPY OF THE ENVELOPE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	8/15/68	
Date		

Mrs. ALICE BURNS, Credit Bureau of Palo Alto, 435 Hamilton Avenue, advised that FEDERICO C. OSUNA had been known to the Credit Bureau since April, 1956. She made available his credit file, which showed he has been employed by Libby, McNeil and Libby, Sunnyvale, California, since 1959. His address since that time was listed as 2127 Stanford Avenue, Mountain View. There was nothing unfavorable in the credit file.

A review of current city and telephone directories showed OSUNA still is employed by Libby, McNeil and Libby, and resides at the above address.

Mrs. BURNS stated there was no information in the Credit Bureau files concerning OLGA OLVERA OSUNA OF ROBERTO CE MERCURY.

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On	8/13/68 at	Palo Alto,	California	File #	62-5481	_
by	SA GEORGE HA	RTLEY:sm		Date dictated	8/14/68	



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Miss JOAN MASON, Mountain View Police Department, advised there was no record in their files concerning FEDERICO OSUNA, OLGA OLVERA OSUNA, or ROBERTO MERCURY.

On	8/13/68 at	Mountain	View,	California ———File		62-5481
				- 253 -		
	SA GEORGE H	ARTLEY:sm				8/14/68
by				Date	dictated	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~ .	8/15/68	
Date		

Mrs. FEDERICO C. OSUNA (RUTILIA), 2127 Stanford Avenue, advised as follows:

She and her husband have lived at the above address for the past ten years. Mr. OSUNA is employed in the Maintenance Department of Libby, McNeil and Libby, Sunnyvale, California, where he has worked for the past ten years.

OLGA OLVERA OSUNA is their daughter, who is married to ROBERT KESSLER and lives at 906 Iris, Sunnyvale. She knows no one named BOB ROBERTO MERCURY and her daughter is not known by the name of OLGA OLVERA OSUNA DE MERCURY.

Mrs. OSUNA was shown a copy of a document containing the above names, as well as the name of ROBERT KENNEDY, and the address 2127 Estanford Avenue, Mountain View, California. She identified the handwriting on this document as being that of her sister, ROSARIO OLVERA DE INFANTE, age 48. She said her sister is mentally unbalanced and should be in an institution for the insane. She is the wife of QUIRINO INFANTE, P. O. Box 753, Walnut Grove, California; however, she has run away from him and her present whereabouts are unknown. She was in a mental hospital in Stockton, California, for about two years, but was released a year or two ago. This hospital is located at 510 E. Magnolia Street, Stockton, California.

Since her release she has written many letters to all the members of the family accusing them of crimes and saying derogatory things about them. These letters come from all over the United States. Her husband does not know where she is, as she left him several months ago and has not been heard from since.

Her sister knows that OLGA OLVERA OSUNA is the daughter of FEDERICO and RUTILIA OSUNA, but she does not know the last name of her husband or their address. OLGA's husband, who is named ROBERT, used to have a Mercury automobile, and she believes that ROSARIO connected that fact with ROBERT and

On	8/13/68	Mountain	View,	California	62-5481	
by	SA GEORGE H	ARTLEY:sm		- 254 -	8/14/68	

in her distorted mind used that as his last name and then added as part of the name of OLGA.

She knows that ROBERT KESSLER and OLGA were in Sunnyvale at the time ROBERT KENNEDY was killed, and that they had no connection with the killing whatsoever.

She did recall that ROSARIO, her sister, ran off to Mexico a year or so ago, and that recently one of her letters was postmarked in Washington, D.C.



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Date	Ø/	T	ე/	Ö	Ö

Mrs. ROBERT KESSLER (OLGA OLVERA OSUNA), 906 Iris, advised as follows:

She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. FEDERICO OSUNA, 2127 Stanford Avenue, Mountain View. Her husband is employed by Edelweiss Dairy, Santa Clara, California.

Her mother's sister, ROSARIO OLVERA DE INFANTE, is a mental case, and has been mentally unbalanced for many years. She is married to QUIRINO INFANTE, Walnut Grove, California, but he does not know where she is and she has abandoned him.

ROSARIO despises her entire family and is constantly writing letters to them containing accusations and insults. These letters come from many different places. ROSARIO knows she is married, but does not know her husband's last name or their current address. If ROSARIO used the name MERCURY in a communication, it must have been because OLGA's husband formerly owned a Mercury automobile and she identified him by this means.

Neither she nor her husband had any connection with the killing of ROBERT KENNEDY, both of them being at home on the night he was killed.

On8/13/68 Sunnyvale, California File #8F 62-5481

- 256
by SA GEORGE HARTLEY: sm Date dic #24/68

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

> INTERVIEW OF HAFEZ ARAFAT, CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA, WHO BEARS RESEMBLANCE TO SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

1 LA 56-156 JOS/jr

MARWAN MOHAMMED SABAHA, Apartment B, 415 North 3rd Street, Alhambra, California, was previously contacted concerning his knowledge of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. At that time he advised that he is a Jordanian and that among the several Jordanian nationals he knows in the Los Angeles area, the only person that he could recall who resembled SIRHAN was an acquaintance by the name of HAFEZ ARAFAT.

Following is interview of HAFEZ ARAFAT.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1_	Date	8/16/68
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Mr. HAFEZ ARAFAT (884-8575) 6641 Glade Avenue, Canoga Park, California, employed by Custom Components Switches, 21111 Plummer, Chatsworth, California was interviewed at the Canoga Park Resident Agency. Mr. ARAFAT stated that he is a friend of MARWAM MOHAMMED SABHA and has been told he resembles SIRHAM. ARAFAT advised that he has never met SIRHAM BISHARA SIRHAM and knows nothing about him, other than what he has read and heard through the news media.

ARAFAT stated that he came to the United States from Jordan in 1960 and attended the University of Washington at Seattle until March, 1965. He returned home to Jordan for a visit and came back to the United States in February, 1966. He married (his wife) in Los Angeles and has lived in this area since, with the exception of six months, April to August, 1967 when he went back to the University of Washington to finish his studies and obtain his degree.

On	. E/	/13/68		Canog	ga Park,	Cal	ifo	rnia	Los File#	Angeles 56-156	
						-	259	~	,		
by	SA	EUGENE	I.	TUGGEY,	JR./nmb				_Date dictate	8/14/68	

1 TA 56-156 JOS/vjh

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ALLEGATION
THAT CLIFFORD DANIEL GRESHAM MADE
STATEMENTS CONCERNING POSSIBLE
ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR
ROBERT F. KENNEDY