SECTION 41 FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER **HQ - HEADQUARTERS** Class / Case # Sub Vol. Serial # 0062 587 41 1125 1175 5/11/631562

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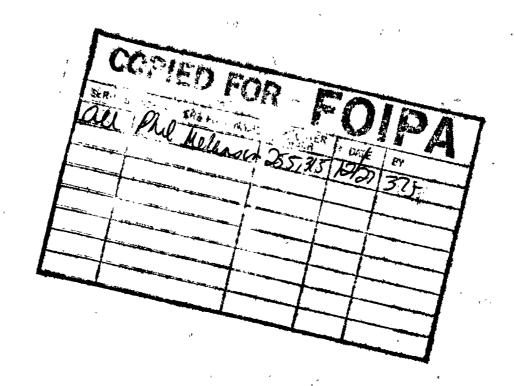
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VIA TELETYPE MAR 4 1969 ENCIPHERED

A Top

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Asper

Mr. Conrad

Mr. Gal

Mr. Roson

Mr. Tavel

Mr. Trotter

Tele. Room

Miss Holmes

Miss Gandy

WASHDC---1---

10:14PM DEFERRED 3/3/69 REF
TO DIRECTOR (62-587) /PLAINTEXT/
FROM LOS ANGELES (56-156) 3P

KENSALT, OO: LA LOS ANGELES

TELETYPE
RE MY TEL, FEBRUARY TWENTY EIGHT LAST.

BEFORE MARY SIRHAN RESUMED TESTIMONY TODAY, DEFENSE ATTORNEY GRANT COOPER MADE MOTION WHICH JUDGE GRANTED TO INCLUDE ISSA MAKLEH AS ADVISOR TO DEFENSE.

makleh is director of palestinian-arab delegation.

To united nations, is member of english bar and is a lawyer

in palestine. Makleh plans to be in the united states 62 587-1125

FOR AT LEAST ONE WEEK. EX-105 REC 40

MARY SIRHAN CONTINUED TESTIMONY REGARDING HARDSHIPS OF

THEIR FAMILY LIFE IN PALESTINE AND OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM

AND DESCRIBED SCENES OF VIOLENCE AND RELATED THEIR EFFECT

ON THE YOUTHFUL SIRHAN. MARY SIRHAN BLAMED HARDSHIPS ON

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

ZIONIST TERRORISM.

AFTER MORNING RECESS, DEFENSE ATTORNEY GRANT COOPER SPEAKING FOR SIRHAN, APOLOGIZED TO THE JUDGE FOR OUTBURSTS OF SIRHAN ON FEBRUARY TWENTY EIGHT LAST.

MARY SIRHAN WAS CROSS-EXAMINED BY PROSECUTION ATTORNEY
LYNN COMPTON AND WAS FOLLOWED ON THE WITNESS STAND BY HER
SON ADEL SIRHAN.

ADEL SIRHAN ALSO TESTIFIED TO HARDSHIPS OF FAMILY
LIFE IN PALESTINE AND IN OLD WALLED CITY OF JERUSALEM UNTIL
FAMILY CAME TO UNITED STATES IN NINETEEN FIFTY SIX.
ADEL ALSO TESTIFIED TO PERSONALITY OF SIRHAN BEFORE AND
AFTER HIS ACCIDENT OF FALLING FROM HORSE IN CORONA, CALIFORNIA
IN NINETEEN SIXTY SIX. ADEL ALSO TESTIFIED TO GENERAL
TEMPERAMENT OF HIS BROTHER, SIRHAN.

IRVING LEWIS, ADMINISTRATIVE DEAN OF PASADENA CITY
COLLEGE, OUTLINED COURSES AND GRADES OF SIRHAN AT THIS JUNIOR
COLLEGE FROM NINETEEN SIXTY THREE THROUGH SIXTY FIVE WHEN
SIRHAN WAS DISQUALIFIED AND LATER DISMISSED FROM THE SCHOOL
DUE TO ACADEMIC INAPTITUDE.

END PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

SIRHAN WAS THEN CALLED TO STAND AND TESTIFIED FOR REMAINDER OF AFTERNOON SESSION. UNDER QUESTIONING OF HIS ATTORNEY. GRANT COOPER. SIRHAN ADMITTED KILLING SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY ON THE EARLY MORNING OF JUNE FIVE, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT AND OF SHOOTING THE OTHER INDIVIDUALS NAMED IN THE SIX COUNTY INDICTMENT. SIRHAN TESTIFIED THAT HE WROTE ENTRIES OF MAY EIGHTEEN. NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT IN HIS NOTEBOOK INDICATING THAT RFK MUST BE KILLED BEFORE JUNE FIVE, NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT. DEFENSE ATTORNEY READ ENTIRE PAGE OF NOTEBOOK UNDER DATE OF MAY EIGHTEEN AND SIRHAN ADMITTED THAT HE HAD WRITTEN ENTIRE PAGE. SIRHAN THEN RECOUNTED RECOLLECTIONS OF HIS LIFE IN PALESTINE AND WHEN FAMILY LIVED IN THE OLD WALL CITY OF JERUSALEM BEFORE COMING TO THE UNITED STATES. SIRHAN TESTIFIED CALMLY AND THERE WERE NO EMOTIONAL OUTBURSTS. TRIAL TO BE CONTINUED MARCH FOUR, NEXT WITH SIRHAN ON STAND.

END

RM FBI WASH DC

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

lemorandum

TO

2-27-69 DATE:

KENSALT

Trotter Tele. Room

Holmes

FROM

SUBJECT: TOM' BRADEN

FRANK MANKIEWICZ

INFORMATION CONCERNING

SYNOPSIS: Braden and Mankiewicz have authored article entitled "Rogers Backed but Judge Rejected Sirhan Guilty Plea for Life Term" which appeared in 2-26-69 issue of 'Washington Post." They also authored article entitled "The New G-Man?" which appeared in 2-22-69 issue of "New York Post." Director has asked for file check on Braden and Mankiewicz.

Thomas Wardell Braden, born 2-22-18, at Greene, Iowa. In 1938 Braden affiliated with American Student Union, a cited organization, while at Dartmouth College. He was also associated with William Remington, convicted perjurer in 1953, while at Dartmouth.

He formerly worked for Office of Strategic Services during World War II and Central Intelligence Agency, 1950-54. From 1954 until May, 1967, he was editor and publisher of "Blade-Tribune," Oceanside, California. In January, 1955, Braden criticized speech by Director relating to use of confidential informants. In February, 1961, his paper carried favorable editorial about Director's comments on menace of communism. In June, 1961, his paper carried an editorial reporting speech by a California Assemblyman in which Director was called a "liar." In December, 1961, Braden used Director's name in endorsing Dr. Buell Gallagher for Chancellor of California State Colleges. Braden denied he mentioned the Director. Gallagher was formen campaign manager for Henry Wallace. Braden's wife investigated for White House in December, 1964-January, 1965. She was active in election campaign of former President Kennedy and is close friend of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.

Frank Fabian Mankiewicz born 5-16-24 at New York City. He SURServed in U.S. Army from 1943 to 1946 and was honorably discharged. He obtained a B.A. Degree from University of California in 1947, and M.A. Degree from Columbia University in 1948, and an LL.B. Degree from University of California in 1955. Employed with the Peace Corps from 1962 and was their Regional Director of Latin America when he terminated his employment in 1966. Served as Press Assistant to late Senator Robert F. Kennedy prior to his assassination. We have not investigated Mankiewicz, but our files reveal press representatives from the Polish and Russian Embassies attempted to contact him in 1966 and 1967, respectively. REC-31

RECOMMENDATION: For Director's information

GICF/Chi/rog (9)

MAR 5 1969 AILS - CONTINUED OVER

REC'D-ROSEN

HR. JONES

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M. A. Jones to Bishop memo RE: TOM BRADEN, FRANK MANKIEWICZ

DETAILS:

In an article entitled 'Rogers Backed but Judge Rejected Sirhan Guilty Plea for Life Term" by captioned individuals appearing in the 2-26-69 issue of the "Washington Post," it was reported that the State Department had approved an agreement reached here last week by which Sirhan Sirhan would change his plea to "guilty" in exchange for a sentence of life imprisonment. These are the same individuals who authored the article "The New G-Man?" which appeared in the 2-22-69 issue of the "New York Post" in which they indicated that Attorney General Mitchell was leaning toward a recommendation to the President that he urge Supreme Court Justice Byron White to step down from the Court to take control of the FBI when the Director retires at the end of this year. In response to the Director's request, our files were reviewed on Braden and Mankiewicz and they reveal the following information concerning them.

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SUMMARY TOM BRADEN Thomas Wardell Braden was born on 2-22-18 at Greene, Iowa. He was graduated from Dartmouth College in 1940. He served in the British Eighth Army, and in 1944, transferred to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS). In 1946, he became a member of the faculty at Dartmouth College. In 1948, he was Secretary of the Museum of Modern Art, New York City. In 1950, he was employed as a Special Assistant to Director, Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and was engaged in political and psychological warfare operations for that Agency. He resigned from the CIA in 1954 and became editor and publisher of the Oceanside "Blade-Tribune," Oceanside, California. As of 1965, he was also serving as President of the Board of Education, State of California. An article written by Braden appearing in the "Saturday Evening Post" during May, 1967, publicized CIA's past involvement in the international labor movement. Braden's expose of CIA activity received wide publicity.

In 1938, Braden was on a list of officers and members of the Dartmouth College Chapter of the American Student Union which

- 2 - DETAILS - CONTINUED OVER



M. A. Jones to Bishop memo

RE: TOM BRADEN, FRANK MANKIEWICZ

had been cited as being subversive and un-American. In an interview, he denied membership in the American Student Union but did admit that he had attended some meetings. While at Dartmouth, Braden had an association with William Walter Remington, who in 1953, was convicted on two counts of perjury for denying that he had furnished classified information to a Soviet and by claiming that he had no knowledge of the existence of the Young Communist League at Dartmouth.

Braden coauthored the book, "Sub Rosa," with Stuart Alsop, which was an account of OSS experiences in Europe during WorldWar II. Braden reportedly was the target of attacks by the John Birch Society in California which apparently stemmed from his duties as President of the Board of Education. While Braden was in this capacity, the Board reportedly introduced controversial textbooks and planned to eliminate the pledge of allegiance to the flag in the California schools.

On 1-11-55, Braden criticized a speech by the Director which related to use of confidential informants. On 2-13-61, the Bureau sent a letter to Braden acknowledging a favorable editorial which referred to the Director's comments concerning the menace of communism. In June, 1961, Braden's newspaper carried an editorial reporting a speech by a California Assemblyman in which the Director was called a "liar." In December, 1961, Braden was reported to have used the Director's name in endorsing Dr. Buell Gallagher for the position of Chancellor for California State Colleges. In a subsequent interview, Braden denied that he had ever mentioned the Director. Gallagher has been described as a former campaign manager for Henry Wallace when the Progressive Party was active.

Mrs. Joan Elizabeth Braden, Braden's wife, was investigated for the White House in December, 1964, and January, 1965. She has served as a Secretary and Special Assistant to Nelson Rockefeller and to former Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, Oveta Culp Hobby. She was very active in the election campaign of former President Kennedy and was reported to be a close friend of Jacqueline Kennedy.

- 3 - DETAILS - CONTINUED OVER

M. A. Jones to Bishop Memo

RE: TOM BRADEN AND FRANK MANKIEWICZ

Our files show that Braden sold his interest in the 'Blade-Tribune' in May, 1967, and it appears he is now devoting most of his time coauthoring articles with Frank Mankiewicz.

FRANK MANKIEWICZ:

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SUMMARY

Frank Fabian Mankiewicz was born on 5-16-24 at New York City WHe served as an enlisted man in the United States Army from 1943 until 1946; at which time he was honorably discharged. He obtained a B. A. degree from the University of California in 1947, an M. A. degree in 1948 from Columbia University, and an LL.B. from the University of California in 1955.

He was engaged in the private practice of law from 1955 to 1961. In 1962 be became Director of the Peace Corps and was the Regional Director of Latin America when he terminated his employment with the Peace Corps in 1966. He served as a Press Assistant to the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy prior to Kennedy's assassination in 1968.

Mankiewicz has not been the subject of an investigation by us. However, our files reveal that in July 12, 1966, a confidential source advised that Zygmunt Broniarek, Washington, D. C., Correspondent for a Polish daily newspaper which was also the official organ of the Polish United Workers' (communist) Party, had an appointment to see Mankiewicz on that date. It was subsequently learned that Broniarik was unable to keep this appointment with Mankiewicz.

On 11-22-67, a confidential source who has furnished reliable information/that Viktor V. Kopytin, Tass News Agency Correspondent, Washington, D. C., attempted to contact Mankiewicz, who was then Press Assistant to Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Mankiewicz was not available.



Frank Mankiewicz and Tom Braden

Rogers Backed but Judge Rejected Sirhan Guilty Plea for Life Term

LOS ANGELES - The State Department specifically approved an agreement reached here last week by which Sirhan Sirhan would change his plea to "guilty" in exchange for a sentence of life imprisonment.

Los Angeles District Attorney Evelle Younger advised Secretary of State William P. Rogers in Washington of these possibilities in the bargaining between his office and the Sirhan defense staff and received approval from Rogers for the plan.

Here is the story. Sirhan, of course, faces a conviction of first-degree murder and the gas chamber for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. He did not plead insanity, but instead entered a plea of not guilty, although he and his attorneys have never denied that he did the shooting in the Ambassador Hotel here last

Under California law, it is possible to demonstrate "diminished capacity" of mind, a sort of midstation between sanity and insanity, and thus escape a conviction for murder in the first degree. First-degree murder convictions-of course-require proof of premeditation.

Even if convicted of firstdegree murder, Sirhan would then, under California law, undergo a second trial by jury to determine whether punishment would be death or life imprisonment.

of sugening statement, either through drunkenness or an irrational hatred of Israel. In addition, it would permit him to "tell his story"; that is, to have his moment of worldwide publicity in which he could resource the events of his

childhood which formed— in the United States is far allegedly-his view.

ON THE OTHER HAND, a plea of guilty would eliminate the necessity of a trial. And if he could receive a guarantee of life imprisonment in return, there would be no risk of death in the gas chamber.

Thus, there began the kind of "plea bargaining" familiar to most criminal lawyers and most district attorneys in which a lesser plea is accepted in exchange for a lighter sentence. Sirhan — in short — was prepared to cop a plea.

His attorneys offered a guilty plea to first-degree murder if they could be sure the death penalty would not be imposed. At that point. Younger went to Washington for some foreignpolicy advice and got it.

In conversations with Secretary Rogers, he was advised that the State Department-as a matter of U.S. foreign policy-would find the proposed deal acceptable. If Sirhan were to plead guilty and receive life imprisonment, the reasoning went, it could only have a beneficial effect as far as fierce and violent Middle East passions were concerned.

In the first place, Sir-"telling his story" would be avoided, and the story-one of alleged Israeli actions during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war — was bound to be an inflam-matory one. In addition, a less likely to provoke worldwide conflict than the same man under sentence of death for months, perhaps years, or the worldwide story of his execution.

Armed with Rogers' ap proval, Younger returned to the scene of the trial here and approved the bargain. All that was needed was the consent of Judge Herbert Walker. To the astonishment of both sides, the judge refused. He insisted that even if the plea were changed to guilty he would submit the penalty question to the jury, which might sentence Sirhan to death even if the prosecution did not ask for it. Sirhan rejected the gamble.

Younger, of course, scrupulously refrained using the foreign-policy arguments in court, and Judge Walker was entirely unaware of the State Department position. Never has the separation of powers seemed more separate

1969, Los Angeles Times

ENCLOSURE

3 MAR 5

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The New G-Man?

FRANK MANKIEWICZ & TOM BRADEN

WASHINGTON

Not the least of Mr. Nixon's looming problems is that of finding a replacement for J. Edgar Hoover at the FBI when he retires, an event apparently now scheduled for the end of this year.

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At a recent meeting at the Justice Dept. of a number of state attorneys general, the impression was strong that Atty. Gen. John Mitchell was leaning

toward a recommendation to the President that he urge Supreme Court Justice Byron White to step down from the court to take the FBI directorship.

While there is no indication of any kind that Justice White has been approached about the job, nor, for that matter, any reason to believe that other men are not also under consideration, the White proposal is an interesting one.

In the first place, a number of White's former associates at Justice, where he served as deputy general until President Kennedy appointed him to the high court in 1962, will urge him to take the FBI post should the Mitchell-Nixon offer become a real one.

Secondly, White has not been entirely content on the court, many of his friends believe, although he has never indicated in any way a desire to leave. His "record," to the extent that a justice can have one, has been moderate, somewhat between the so-called "permissive" and "strict" extremes that have so divided the court in recent years on questions involving the rights of persons accused of crime.

Finally, the Mitchell musings about White suggest, at the very least, that the Administration is thinking seriously about taking the FBI succession out of the agency itself and appointing a distinguished outsider to replace Hoover.

This prospect will delight those who, while respecting Hoover's achievement in building a professional agency with immense esprit and internal loyalty, nevertheless fear that the FBI—and particularly Hoover—tends to regard itself as a wholly independent duchy, meither a part of the Department of

Justice nor—for that matter—of the U.S. government.

It will displease the bureau and its friends on Capitol Hill, who promote annually a piece of legislation to require that the director of the FBI always come from within the agency. It will particularly displease FBI Associate Director Cartha (Deke) DeLoach, at this writing the heir apparant within the bureau.

DeLoach is not without enemies on Capitol Hill. And he was involved two years ago in a curious episode involving some last-minute efforts to save Jimmy Hoffa from a jail term.

New Hampshire publisher William Loeb, his support of Hoffa not notably diminished by virtue of a substantial mortgage loan he received from the Teamsters Union, filed an affidavit in the Hoffa matter to the effect that DeLoach had told him of wire tapping and other eavesdropping practices used by the Department of Justice against Hoffa.

DeLoach promptly denied the statement and added that Loeb had offered J. Edgar Hoover, personally or to a designated charity, \$100,000 for just such information.

* * *

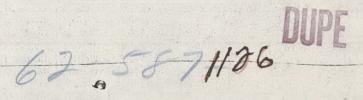
The matter rested there, although the charge comes very close to one of attempted bribery of a public official, and the entire affair did not reflect particular credit on anyone involved.

One thing is clear. President Nixon, who came to office on the law-and-order issue more than any other, will have to make some enemies when it comes time to name a new FBI chief. Hoover's act, as they say, is a tough one to follow.

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The Evening Star (Washington)
The Sunday Star (Washington)
Daily News (New York)
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New York Post
The New York Times
The Sun (Baltimore)
The Daily World
The New Leader
The Wall Street Journal
The National Observer
People's World
Examiner (Washington)

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VIA TELETYPE

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TO DIRECTOR (62-587) PLAINTEXT

FROM LOS ANGELES (56-156) 2 P

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KENSALTA OO LOS ANGELES.

Sylledys

Mr. Tolson Mr. DeLoach Mr. Mohr Mr. Bishop Mr. Casper Mr. Callahan

Mr. Conrad. Mr. Felt.... Mr. Gale 2...

Mr. Rosen Mr. Sulivan Mr. Tavel

Mr. Trotter_

Tele. Room.... Miss Holmes. Miss Gandy...

REGARDING TELETYPE -RE LOS ANGELES TEL DATED MARCH THREE LAST.

SIRHAN B. SIRHAN CONTINUED TESTIMONY TODAY FOR ENTIRE COURT SESSION.

UNDER QUESTIONING BY HIS DEFENSE ATTORNEY GRANT COOPER, SIRHAN RECOUNTED LIFE IN JERUSALEM AND HIS MOVE TO THE UNITED STATES IN NINETEEN FIFTY SIX.

HE CONTINUED TESTIFYING CONCERNING HIS EDUCATION,
EMPLOYMENTS, AND HIS ACCIDENT IN NINETEEN SIXTY SIX AT
CORONA, CALIFORNIA, WHERE HE FELL FROM A HORSE WHILE WORKING
AS AN EXERCISE BOY.

HIS STUDY OF THE OCCULT AND THE METAPHYSICAL AND HIS ENROLLMENT IN THE ROSICRUCIAN SOCIETY WAS DEVELOPED AS WELL AS HIS INTENSE POLITICAL FEELING CONCERNING THE ARAB ISRAELI CONFLICT.

REC. 12 62-587-112

3 MAR 5 1969

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PAGE TWO

LA 56-156

SEVERAL BOOKS THAT SIRHAN HAD READ DEALING WITH THE OCCULT WERE INTRODUCED INTO EVIDENCE.

THR REMAINDER OF THE AFTERNOON SESSION WAS UTILIZED WITH DEFENSE ATTORNEY COOPER READING THE PAGES OF SIRHAN'S NOTEBOOK. SIRHAN WAS UNABLE TO RECALL HAVING WRITTEN MOST OF THE MATERIAL APPEARING THEREIN, BUT DID ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT WAS HIS HANDWRITING AND THAT HE OBVIOUSLY HAD WRITTEN IT. SIRHAN INDICATED THAT SEVERAL EFFORTS IN RELATION TO THE ARAB ISRAELI SITUATION SO ANGERED HIM THAT AT THOSE MOMENTS HE COULD HAVE KILLED THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE.

SIRHAN WILL CONTINUE HIS TESTIMONY TOMORROW AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT HE WILL BE ON THE WITNESS STAND FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

END

RM FBI WASH DC

VIA TELETYPE

MAR 5 1969
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WASH DC ---10---

8-11 PM DEFERRED 3-5-69 KH

TO DIRECTOR 62-587 PLAINTEXT

FROM LOS ANGELES 56-156

KENSALT,

REMYTEL. MARCH FOUR LAST.

SIRHAN CONTINUED ON STAND TODAY AND IN QUESTIONING
BY HIS DEFENSE ATTORNEY, TESTIFIED HE ACTED COMPLETELY ALONE
IN THE ASSASSINATION OF ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

DEFENSE CONTINUED READING FROM NOTEBOOKS AND PAPERS
OF SIRHAN. SIRHAN ADMITTED ALL WRITING WAS HIS HANDWRITING
BUT CLAIMED COULD NOT RECALL HAVING WRITTEN MATERIAL IN
NOTEBOOKS. AT ONE POINT IN REGARD TO HIS NOTATION CONCERNING
COMMUNISM, HE TESTIFIED THAT AT THE TIME HE WROTE IT HE
FIRMLY SUPPORTED THE COMMUNIST CAUSE AND ITS PEOPLE. SIRHAN
TESTIFIED HE WAS NEVER A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.
SIRHAN CLAIMED THAT HE WAS UNABLE TO READ PORTION OF WRITINGS
THAT WERE IN ARABIC AND DEFENSE ADVISOR ISSA MAKLEH TRANSLATED THESE MESSAGES.

C 27: 62-587-

3 MAR 6 1969

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Ir. Tolson___ Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Mohr... Mr. Bishop.. Mr. Casper.

Mr. Galo Mr. Rossal Mr. Sulliva Mr. Tavel

Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad Mr. Felt

Mr. Trotter_ Tele. Room_ Miss Holmes

Miss Gandy.

59 MAR 13 1969

PAGE TWO LA 56-156

DEFENSE ATTORNEY READ TO THE COURT ARTICLE APPEARING
IN ROSICRUCIAN DIGEST OF MAY NINETEEN, SIXTY EIGHT, ENTITLED
"PUT-IT IN WRITING" BY ARTHUR FETTING.

AFTER NOON RECESS, DEFENSE DEVELOPED FURTHER INFOR-MATION FROM SIRHAN REGARDING HIS READING CONCERNING THE ROSICRUCIAN AND VARIOUS MENTAL EXPERIMENTS THAT HE LEARNED IN THIS STUDY.

FOLLOWING THIS DEFENSE DEVELOPED THROUGH QUESTIONING SIRHAN'S PURCHASE OF THE GUN USED IN MURDER OF KENNEDY AND HIS ACTIVITIES ON THE IMMEDIATE DAYS PRECEDING THE NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR WHEN SIRHAN WENT TO THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL. SIRHAN TESTIFIED TO HIS ATTENDANCE AT ROSICRUCIAN MEETING NIGHT OF MAY TWENTY EIGHT, SIXTY EIGHT, HIS FIRING PISTOL AT CORONA PD RANGE ON JUNE ONE, SIXTY EIGHT, HIS ATTENDANCE AT RALLY FOR SENATOR KENNEDY AT AMBASSADOR HOTEL ON JUNE TWO, SIXTY EIGHT, AND HIS ACTIONS ON JUNE FOUR, SIXTY EIGHT.

IN RELATION TO HIS SEEING KENNEDY AT AMBASSADOR ON JUNE TWO, SIXTY EIGHT, SIRHAN TESTIFIED THAT AT THAT POINT HE LOOKED UPON KENNEDY AS A "SAINT". AT END OF COURT SESSION, SIRHAN HAD TESTIFIED TO THE POINT OF ENTERING

PAGE THREE

HOTEL ON NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR, SIXTY EIGHT. SIRHAN WILL
CONTINUE TESTIMONY TOMMORROW. AT CLOSE OF SESSION, DEFENSE
ATTORNEY COOPER REQUESTED TO SEE JUDGE IN CHAMBERS. ALL
PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE ATTORNEYS AND INVESTIGATORS WENT
INTO JUDGES CHAMBER. PROSECUTION INVESTIGATOR CONFIDENTIALLY
ADVISED THAT APPARENTLY SHARIF SIRHAN, OLDER BROTHER OF
SIRHAN, HAD THREATENED REMAINDER OF FAMILY. THIS INFORMATION
MUST BE TREATED IN HIGHEST CONFIDENCE AND ADDITIONAL
DETAILS WILL BE DEVELOPED.

END

WA ...JDR

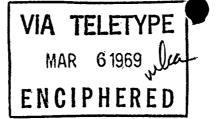
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Special Agent in Charge 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176





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811PM DEFERRED 3-6-69 RJM

TO DIRECTOR (62-587) (PLAINTEXT)

FROM LOS ANGELES (56-156) (3P)



OF SHOOTING.

00--LOS ANGELES.

RE MY TELETYPE MARCH FIVE LAST.

SIRHAN RESUMED STAND TODAY FOR DIRECT EXAMINATION. CONTINUED CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR LAST UNDER QUESTIONING OF DEFENSE ATTORNEY GRANT COOPER. RECALLS BEING AT RAFFERTY HEADQUARTERS, AMBASSADOR HOTEL AND BUYING AT LEAST TWO DRINKS AT THAT LOCATION. ALSO VISITED CRANSTON HEADQUARTERS AMBASSADOR HOTEL BUT WAS VAGUE ABOUT DETAILS. HE TESTIFIED HE FELT HIGH AND THOUGHT HE SHOULD GO HOME. HE RETURNED TO HIS VEHICLE THEN DECIDED HE NEEDED COFFEE AND RETURNED TO HOTEL. DOES NOT RECALL TAKING GUN FROM CAR BUT STATED HE OBVIOUSLY DID. RECALLS FINDING COFFEE AT UNDISCLOSED LOCATION AT HOTEL. DRANK COFFEE THEN CLAIMS RECALLS NOTHING UNTIL HE WOKE-UE AND SOMEONE WAS CHOKING HIM. HE CLAIMS NO RECOLLECTION MAR 7 1969

Mr. Tolson. Mr. DeLoach. Mr. Mohr... Mr. Bishop ... Mr. Casper_ Mr. Callahan. Mr. Conrad. Mr. Felt Mr. Gara Mr. Reset Mr. Sulfvan Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotter. Tele. Room. Miss Holmes. Miss Gandy.

K

LA 56-156 PAGE TWO

SIRHAN VAGUELY RECALLS GOING TO POLICE STATION AND TALKING TO SEVERAL PEOPLE, LATER APPEARING BEFORE A "LADY JUDGE." CLAIMS HE DID NOT KNOW HE HAD SHOT KENNEDY UNTIL VISIT FROM AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION (ACLU) ATTORNEY AL WIRIN ON MORNING OF SHOOTING.

AFTER MORNING RECESS, PROSECUTION ATTORNEY LYNN COMPTON BEGAN CROSS EXAMINATION CONCERNING RECOLLECTIONS OF SIRHAN OF HIS EARLY LIFE, HIS NOTEBOOKS AND HIS POLITICAL FEELINGS.

CROSS EXAMINATION CONTINUED AFTER THE NOON RECESS.

EXAMINATION CENTERED ON RECOUNTING OF EVIDENCE AT GUN RANGE
AT AMBASSADOR HOTEL NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR SIXTY EIGHT AND TIME
SIRHAN WAS IN POLICE CUSTODY. CROSS EXAMINATION ENDED WITH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY REPEATING STATEMENTS SIRHAN MADE ON
FEBRUARY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, WHEN JURY WAS ABSENT, THAT HE
SIRHAN, KILLED SENATOR KENNEDY. THIS FOLLOWED STATEMENT BY
SIRHAN ON CROSS EXAMINATION THAT HE NOW WAS NOT SURE HE HAD
KILLED SENATOR KENNEDY.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY, AFTER BOTH PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE ATTORNEY CONFERRED WITH JUDGE, THEN READ ENTIRE TRANSCRIPT OF EVENTS THAT OCCURRED DURING SIRHAN'S OUTBURST AT COURT SESSION ON FEBRUARY TWENTY EIGHT LAST, DURING WHICH PERIOD JURY WAS EXCUSED. SIRHAN WAS THEN EXCUSED AS WITNESS.

LA 56-156

PAGE THREE

PROSECUTION INVESTIGATOR CONFIDENTIALLY ADVISED CONCERNING MEETING IN JUDGES CHAMBERS AFTER COURT SESSION MARCH FIVE LAST THAT SHARIFF SIRHAN TELEPHONED FAMILY AND THREATENED TO KILL MOTHER, MUNIR, AND SIRHAN. OFFICERS OF S. U. S. UNIT, LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT, ATTEMPTED TO LOCATE SHARIFF LAST EVENING WITHOUT SUCCESS. SAIDALLAH SIRHAN, OTHER BROTHER, CONTACTED, BUT UNCOOPERATIVE. PASADENA POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER ON AFTERNOON OF MARCH SIX PRESENT, LOCATED SHARIFF AT HOME, BUT SHARIFF REFUSED TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH HIM. PASADENA PRESS, TONIGHT, CARRIED STORY REGARDING THREAT TO SIRHAN.

END

WA...JDR

FBI WASH DC

FBI

Date: 3/4/69

Fransmit	the	following	in	***

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AIR MAIL

(Priority)

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DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)(P)

SUBJECT:

KENSALT

ReBuairtel 2/27/69.

On 3/3/69 LYNN COMPTON, who is head of the District Attorney's staff handling the case involving SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, was contacted regarding the inquiries made by the Department of Justice. These inquiries were reviewed with Mr. COMPTON, and he advised that he had no objection to the FBI conducting discreet inquiry in this matter at this time. He further added that the questions posed by the Department as concerns WALTER CROWE had been resolved to a great degree by the investigation conducted to date, and that he considered the CROWE matter completed.

On 3/3/69 Deputy Chief ROBERT A. HOUGHTON, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), was contacted, and Deputy Chief HOUGHTON advised that he felt inquiries along this line might be better instituted following the conclusion of the current trial. He advised that the LAPD, on the basis of the polygraph examination and FBI reports, has concluded that THOMAS GOOD has no connection with the current matter, and that WALTER CROWE has fully cooperated in his interviews that were conducted by the LAPD.

In connection with Item 1 of the Department's request.

3 - Bureau (AM)
2 - Miami (lulu-1880) (AM) (Encs. - 3)
2 - New York (AM) (Encs. - 3)
2 - San Francisco (62-5481) (AM) (Enc. - 1)
2 - Los Angeles

WJN:CM
(11) ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9-8-8U BY

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Special Agent in Charge 2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

LA 56-156

the Departmental memorandum notes parenthetically that CROWE identified two other persons who were former students whom he recognized and who were friends of SIRHAN. The polygraph examination, on page 14, indicates that two friends of SIRHAN came into the restaurant where CROWE and SIRHAN were speaking, and that CROWE did not know these individuals, though he did indicate that they all went out and had some beer. CROWE was also asked during the polygraph examination whether or not GOOD was present on Examination whether or not was not indicated as an untruthful response.

With regard to Item 2, the activities of CROWE were set forth for June 4 in Los Angeles letterhead memorandum (LHM) dated 1/27/69.

In connection with the Department's request for additional police reports, they are now in possession of all data with regard to the WALTER CROWE aspect of this matter.

The Department also asked, in addition to interviewing members of the Students Club, that the FBI identify and interview CROWE's "friend BILL." This is LA 4688-S, who was interviewed at length by Departmental Attorney ROBERT CRANDALL while he was in Los Angeles at the specific request of the Department concerning CROWE.

It is anticipated that WALTER CROWE will possibly be utilized by the defense on 3/5/69 as a witness.

At the present time Los Angeles has developed a source who is closely acquainted with CROWE at his place of employment, and as of 3/4/69 CROWE advised that he had been in contact with the defense attorney, GRANT COOPER, on the morning of 3/4/69, and that COOPER plans to ask him only one or two questions on the stand, which would concern themselves with the change in SIRHAN's personality from the time CROWE last saw him in 1965 until he saw him in early May of 1968.

For the information of other offices, Los Angeles LHM of 1/27/69 reported on CROWE's joining the Communist Party and his subsequent dropping the Communist Party in approximately October 1968.





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LA 56-156

The request of the Department concerning other members of the Student Club of the Southern California District Communist Party (SCDCP) is being reviewed. Their individual files are being analyzed, and it is anticipated that following CROWE's appearance on the witness stand, which will receive due publicity, these members will be contacted for any information they may possess regarding statements by CROWE as concerns SIRHAN and any information they themselves may possess concerning SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. At the same time, it should be noted that there is absolutely no indication that any members of this Club have ever been associated in any way with SIRHAN, the SIRHAN family or the assassination of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY.

The San Francisco Division is origin in the case involving THOMAS GOOD, and, accordingly, for the benefit of San Francisco there is enclosed herewith a photograph of WALTER CROWE to be utilized in connection with their interview of GOOD. (San Francisco File 100-56267). It is noted that the Department in the opening paragraph of its memorandum indicates that GOOD, as well as CROWE, was a member of the SCDCP. There is no information available at Los Angeles to indicate that GOOD was ever a member of the Communist Party in the Southern California District. His membership apparently is at San Jose, California, in the Communist Party Youth Club in the Northern District.

For the benefit of the Miami and New York Divisions for display to high level informants, there are enclosed photographs of THOMAS GOOD, SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and WALTER SHERRILL CROWE. Each office is requested to prepare the results of their efforts in an insert form suitable for inclusion in a LHM that will be prepared by Los Angeles.

The Los Angeles Division will interview all persons named by the Department and attempt to identify the two individuals whom CROWE and SIRHAN met on 5/2/68.

Approved: __





FBI

	Date:	 - →
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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFB) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE:

3/5/69

May

LEGAT, BONN (62-68) (RUC)

SUBJECT:

KENSALT,

ReBulet 12/13/68.

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

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

1 - Bonn

GAV:11 (4)

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ONDESKIMINALAMI

DEUTSCHES ZENTRALBUS ER INTERNATIONALEN KRIMINALPOLIZEILIGEN ORGANISATIO

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

IL/D-G (260/69)

Bei Antwortschreiben bitte angeben. Prière rappeler dans la réponse, la date et les indications ci-dessus. In reply, please refer to this file number and date. WIESBADEN March 4th, 1969
Trankweg / Fernruf 5831
Telex: 04186-867 - Interpol Won.

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

Subject: Letter of the self-styled

Prof.Dr.Sc. and Dr.Philos. 4018 Langenfeld, Krankenhaus

Ref.: Your letter of 19-12-68 - file no.62-68 - and

your teleprint message dated 25-2-1969

Dear Sir,

According to the investigations made by the Langenfeld, Rhineland criminal police, the above letter has been written by

- Dietmar MATTHEUS, 4-6-1938 GÖRLITZ, Ger.

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

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

Subject is not on file here.

Please be assured of my desire to cooperate whenever possible.

Sincerely yours,

by order of the Fresident

IDE G

resident of the Bundeskriminalamt

Trsl.7408 4-3-69/Kr.

ENCLOSURE

2025 RELEASE MORRO 14176

BUNDES KIMINALAMI

DEUTSCHES ZENTRALBUT DER IN ATIONALEN KRIMINALPOLIZEILICHEM PROANISATION

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

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Bei Antwortschreiben bitte angeben. Prière rappeler dans la réponse, la date et les indications ci-dessus. In reply, please refer to this file number and date. WIESBADEN March 4th, 1969
Poetfach A
Trankweg / Fernruf 5831
Telex: 04186-867 - Interpol Wbn.

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Subject is not on file here.

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Sincerely yours,

by order of the President of the

the Bundeskriminalamt

Trs1.7408

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O.,14176

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VIA TELETYPE

MAR 1 U 1969

ENCIPHERED

Sporter

Mr. Tolson Mr DeLoach Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop. Mr. Casper. Mr. Callahan Mr. Conrad. Mr. Felt. Mr. Gale. Mr. Roser Mr. Sulli6 Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotter. Tele. Room. Miss Holmes Miss Gandy

WASHDC---4---

858PM DEFERRED 3-10-69 RJM

TO DIRECTOR (62-587) (PLAINTEXT)

FROM LOS ANGELES (56-156) (2P)

(KENSALT;) 00--LOS ANGELES.

RE LOS ANGELES TEL DATED MARCH SEVEN LAST.

DEFENSE PROCEEDED TODAY WITH CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

DOCTOR MARTIN M. SCHORR OF UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN

DIEGO, AS DEFENSE WITNESS. SCHORR TESTIFIED AS TO BATTERY

OF TESTS HE GAVE SIRHAN, AND INTERPRETED RESULTS OF THESE

TESTS FOR THE JURY. SCHORR CLAIMED SIRHAN HAD LOW IQ IN

RELATION TO TESTS INVOLVING MANUAL DEXTERET 108 SUCH AS 62-587

MATCHING OBJECTS, BUT HAD RESULTS ON VERBAL TESTS THAT 1 MAR 11 109

INDICATED A MUCH HIGHER IQ THAN HIS PRIOR TESTS INDICATED.

THE ENTIRE AFTERNOON SESSION CONCERNED TESTIMONY BY SCHORR CONCERNING THE RORSCHACH TESTS AND THE EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS OF IT. SCHORR WENT THROUGH THE ENTIRE

DO

57 MAR 1 4 1969

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176 CC Schutz

LA 56-156

PAGE TWO

TEN CARDS OF THE INK BLOTS SHOWN TO SIRHAN, AND LISTED HIS REACTION TO EACH. HE ALSO INTERPRETED THE SUMMARY RESULTS OF THE TESTS, AND STATED THAT SIRHAN HAD PARANOID PERSONALITY. SCHORR DEFINED A PARANOID PERSONALITY FOR THE JURY AT THE REQUEST OF THE DEFENSE ATTORNEY. SCHORR WILL CONTINUE UNDER DIRECT EXAMINATION BY DEFENSE ATTORNEYS ON MARCH ELEVEN NEXT. END

RM FBI WASH DC GA

VIA TELETYPE
MAR 81969

KWASH DC -- #--

ENCIPHERED

1:22 AM DEFERRED 3-8-69 KH

TO DIRECTOR 62-587 PLAINTEXT

FROM LOS ANGELES 56-156

KENSALT, 00---LOS ANGELES.

13 for falls

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishep
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahap
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele Room
Miss Holmes
Miss Gandy

Show

REMYTEL MARCH SIX LAST.

COURT SESSION OPENED MARCH SEVEN LAST WITH JUDGE ADVISING JURY
IN DETERMINING GUILT OR INNOCENCE OF SIRHAN TO DISREGARD
TESTIMONY GIVEN MARCH SIX LAST REGARDING STATEMENTS SIRHAN
MADE ON FEBRUARY TWENTY EIGHT LAST WHILE JURY ABSENT.
PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE ATTORNEYS APPROACHED BENCH AND
THEN PROSECUTION ATTORNEY DAVID FITTS MADE STATEMENTS
TO COURT THAT HE CONSIDERED JUDGES INSTRUCTION IN ERROR AND
HE FELT JURY SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONSIDER STATEMENTS ANY WAY
THEY WISHED. JUDGE CONCURRED WITH PROSECUTION AND DEFENSE
CONTINUED PRESENTATION OF DEFENSE WITNESSES.

ROBERT PRESTWOOD, OWNER OF RACE HORSE JET SPEC, WAS FIRST DEFENSE WITNESS AND TESTIFIED THAT HE KNEW SIRHAN AT GRANJA VISTA DEL RIO RANCH AND SAW SIRHAN ONCE AT

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

SANTA ANITA TRACK. HE KNEW SIRHAN AS EXERCISE BOY WHO WANTED TO BECOME A JOCKEY.

JOHN STRATHMAN AND WIFE PATRICIA TESTIFIED THEY KNEW SIRHAN AT PASADENA CITY COLLEGE IN NINETEEN SIXTY FOUR AND HAD PERIODIC CONTACT WITH HIM UNTIL APRIL NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT. BOTH TESTIFIED TO CERTAIN PERSONALITY CHANGES OF SIRHAN AFTER ACCIDENT OF FALL FROM HORSE IN NINETEEN SIXTY SIX. ON CROSS EXAMINATION JOHN STRATHMAN ADMITTED DID NOT KNOW EXACTLY WHEN SIRHAN HAD HIS ACCIDENT.

PATRICIA STRATHMAN RECALLED SIRHAN INTEREST IN THE OCCULT AFTER THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT AND RECALLS DISCUSSIONS WITH SIRHAN AS SHE ALSO HAD AND INTEREST IN METAPHYSICAL MATTERS.

MILLARD SHEETS, ARTIST AND RACE HORSE OWNER, TESTIFIED

HE RUSHED TO SCENE OF ACCIDENT WHEN SIRHAN FELL FROM HORSE AT

RANCH NEAR CORONA AND STAYED WITH SIRHAN UNTIL AMBULANCE ARRIVED

TESTIFIED SIRHAN IN HIS OPINION WAS UNCONSCIOUS. SHEETS ALSO

TESTIFIED ON CROSS EXAMINATION THAT TWO DAYS LATER SIRHAN WAS

BACK AT WORK AT THE RANCH.

JOHN WEIDNER, HEALTH STORE OWNER AND EMPLOYER OF SIRHAN TESTIFIED TO SIRHANS WORK HABITS AND DISCUSSIONS OF POLITICS

PAGE THREE

LA 56-156

AND RELIGION THAT HE HAD WITH SIRHAN. HE DESCRIBED SIRHAN HAS BEING AGAINST AUTHORITY AND RECOUNTED A DISAGREEMENT WITH SIRHAN LEADING TO SIRHANS QUITTING HIS JOB.

NAOMI WEIDNER, WIFE OF JOHN, ALSO TESTIFIED TO HER DISCUSSIONS WITH SIRHAN AND SIRHAN'S RESENTMENT OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

ROBERT E. AUSTIN, LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT OFFICER, ATTACHED TO RAMPART DIVISION, RECOUNTED INCIDENT OF SIRHAN KICKING CUP OF HOT CHOCOLATE OUT OF HAND OF LAPD OFFICER WHILE IN INTERROGATION ROOM OF RAMPART DIVISION.

AFTER THE NOON RECESS, MRS. GRACE F. BYRAN, LIBRARIAN OF ROSICRUCIAN CHAPTER AT PASADENA, TESTIFIED TO PRESENCE OF SIRHAN AT MAY TWENTY EIGHT NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT MEETING OF PASADENA CHAPTER OF ROSICRUCIAN.

IN CONNECTION WITH NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR NINETEEN SIXTY
EIGHT, HANS PETER BIDSTRUP, ELECTRICIAN AT AMBASSADOR HOTEL,
TESTIFIED TO CONVERSATION WITH SIRHAN AT SOUND BOOTH,
VENETIAN ROOM IN HOTEL AND TO FACT THAT SIRHAN HAD A GLASS
IN HIS HAND. ON DIRECT EXAMINATION BIDSTRUP INDICATED THAT
SIRHAN COULD HAVE INTOXICATED, BUT ON CROSS EXAMINATION

PAGE FOUR LA 56-156

ADMITTED THAT HE COULD NOT MAKE A STATEMENT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT SIRHAN WAS DRUNK.

ENRIQUE RABAGO AND HUBERT CORDERO BOTH TESTIFIED TO SEEING SIRHAN AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT, OUTSIDE RAFFERTY HEADQUARTERS BOTH TESTIFIED HE DID NOT APPEAR DRUNK AND THEY CONSIDERED HIM INTELLIGENT AND WELL-SPOKEN.

AMBASSADOR HOTEL WAITER GONZALES CERTINA TESTIFIED HE SAW SIRHAN OUTSIDE OF THE MENS ROOM IN VENETIAN ROOM OF THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT, AND LATER WHEN SENATOR KENNEDY WAS SPEAKING IN THE EMBASSY BALLROOM. HE TESTIFIED HE SAW SIRHAN IN THE PANTRY AREA BEHIND THE EMBASSY BALLROOM NEAR THE ICE MAKER. LAST DEFENSE WITNESS CALLED TODAY WAS RICHARD LUBIC WHO TESTIFIED HE WAS IN THE PANTRY AREA BEHIND THE EMBASSY BALLROOM NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR NINETEEN SIXTY EIGHT WHEN KENNEDY WAS SHOT AND HEARD SOMEONE SHOUT, "KENNEDY YOU S. O. B." JUST BEFORE HE HEARD WHAT SOUNDED LIKE A SHOT.

ON MARCH TEN NINETEEN SIXTY NINE DEFENSE WILL CALL PSYCHOLOGISTS AND PSYCHIATRISTS TO STAND.

END

RM FBI WASH DC

UNITED STATES GO

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

166-120-1

Memorandum

TO

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE:

Mr. Bishop.

FEB 2 5 1969r. Casper.

RCK:WW:MTE:05 Conrad

Mr. Felt

Mr. Gale

Mr. Rosef Mr. Sullivan

Mr. Tavel.

Mr. Trotter Tele. Room.

Mass Holmes.

Miss Gandy.

Richard G. Kleindienst

Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: Assassination of

Senator Robert F. Kennedy

on June 5, 1968

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DEDIVED FROM

In connection with your investigation into the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, it has been brought to my attention that one Walter S. Crowe, Jr., and one Thomas D. Good, both of whom were high school and Pasadena City College acquaintances of Sirhan B. Sirhan, and who have been identified as close friends of Sirhan, have been members of youth sections of the Southern California District Communist Party.

Crowe has admitted to the Bureau that on May 2, 1968, approximately four weeks before the assassination, he spent an evening with Sirhan and that their conversation on that occasion included a discussion about the Communist Party. According to information furnished on June 5, 1968 to your Bureau by a reliable confidential source, the conversation also included an attempt by Crowe to recruit Sirhan into the Communist Party. On July 18, 1968, Crowe admitted to a Los Angeles Police Department polygraph examiner that he and Sirhan had also discussed politics, Senator Kennedy, the Arab-Israeli conflict, and revolutionary tactics. According to the transcript of the polygraph examiner's interview, Crowe stated that he "may have tried to interest" Sirhan in joining the Communist Party, and that Sirhan "could have" spoken of the possibility of shooting Senator Kennedy. Finally, Crowe has told your Bureau that he has a "dreadful" fear that he might have

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been responsible for the assassination, and he has told the polygraph examiner, "I would have to say that I have to share the guilt." Unrelated "Security Matter" investigations by your Bureau have confirmed the Communist Party memberships of Crowe and Good.

In view of the foregoing, I want to make sure that your investigation into this matter includes a full inquiry into the possibility that the killing of Senator Kennedy might have had its genesis in a conspiracy involving Communist Party members and that Sirhan might have been a knowing or unknowing instrument thereof. Your inquiry in that regard should include efforts to:

1. Identify and interview the other two individuals who, according to Crowe, were with him and Sirhan on the evening of May 2, 1968. (Crowe said that the other two persons were former students whom he recognized and who were friends of Sirhan.) Notwithstanding Crowe's and Good's statements to the contrary, your inquiry should include the possibility that Thomas Good was with Crowe and Sirhan on May 2, in view of Crowe's statement to the Los Angeles Police Department that:

I -- suppose he had never met, you know, Tom [subsequently identified by Crowe as Tom Good] and I, suppose we hadn't been there, what -- would he have -- would his frustrations have come out on a -- to -- on a political level.

In this regard, we have noted that numerous revolutionary-type writings, as well as notations under date of May 18, 1968, about killing Senator Kennedy, appear in Sirhan's notebook just a few pages after the notations "Tom" and "Walter." In attempting to identify the other two persons, please also identify and interview the "other seven members" of the

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

"Student Club of the Communist Party" which Crowe admitted forming at UCIA in April 1967, as well as the persons mentioned by Crowe to the Ios Angeles Police Department as being mutual friends of Crowe and Sirhan (Charles Krill, Iou Bennett, Walter Hahn, and Gordon Wear). Finally, please identify and interview Crowe's "friend Bill...the guy that lives at the co-op" (see polygraph examination), whom Crowe apparently spoke to about his May 2 meeting with Sirhan.

- 2. Ascertain, if possible, the activities of Crowe and Good on June 4-5, 1968.
- 3. Corroborate and/or refute the inconsistent stories of Crowe and Crowe's mother concerning the circumstances leading up to the May 2 meeting between Crowe and Sirhan (apparently their first contact since 1965).

We would appreciate your obtaining for us any Los Angeles Police Department reports relating to their investigation into this aspect of the case (other than the interview of Crowe's mother and the polygraph examination of Crowe).

Finally, I have noted the information set forth in September 1968 memoranda of your Bureau concerning Students for a Democratic Society that on August 24, 1968, Thomas Good traveled from Dallas, Texas, to Havana, Cuba, by way of Mexico City. Please advise whether any other information is available concerning this trip, and whether there is any indication that Crowe traveled outside the United States at any time.

In view of the fact that the Sirhan trial is now in progress, please contact District Attorney Evelle J. Younger and Deputy Chief Robert A. Houghton of the Los Angeles Police Department before conducting the investigation requested above. If District Attorney Younger or Deputy Chief Houghton have any objection to this aspect of the case being explored at this time, the inquiry should await the conclusion of the Sirhan trial.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

In response to an inquiry made by Special Agent Henry Shutz of your Bureau, we have no objection to your furnishing a copy of your January 27, 1969 confidential letterhead memorandum captioned Walter Sherrill Crowe, Jr., to District Attorney Younger. I understand that all reports concerning this case have been furnished to Mr. Younger in accordance with the June 17, 1968 memorandum of Assistant Attorney General Fred M. Vinson, Jr.

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VIA TELETYPE

ENCIPHERED

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926PM URGENT 3-11-69 RJM TO DIRÉCTOR (62-587) (PLAINTEXT). FROM LOS ANGELES (56-156)

00--LOS ANGELES.

Mr. Tolson Mr. DeLoach Mr. Mohr. Mr. Bishop .. Mr. Casper. Mr. Callahan. Mr. Conrad. Mr. Felt. Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotter. Tele. Room. Miss Holmes. Miss Gandy.

REMYTEL MARCH TEN LAST.

DEFENSE WITNESS DR. MARTIN M. SCHORR, CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST. RESUMED STAND TODAY AND CONTINUED TESTIMONY RE ANALYSIS OF RORSCHACH TEST ADMINISTERED TO SIRHAN. SIRHAN CHARACTERIZED AS PARANOID PERSONALITY WITH PSYCHOSIS AND TENDENCY TO DISASSOCIATE WITH REALITY UNDER STRESS.

SCHOOR CONTINUED WITH EXPLANATION OF THEMATIC APPERCEPTION TEST AND REACTION OF SIRHAN TO EACH OF THE TEN CARDS HE WAS SHOWN. LAST TEST EXPLAINED WAS BENDER GESTALT TEST WHICH CONSISTED OF COPYING NINE DRAWINGS. SIRHAN'S ORIGINAL SET SHOWING RESULTS OF TEST WAS SUBMITTED FOR EVIDENCE.

AT CONCLUSION OF DIRECT EXAMINATION DEFENSE ATTEMPTED TO PUT HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION TO WITNESS AS TO WHETHER A PERSON SUCH AS SIRHAN HAD THE MENTAL CAPACITY TO GOVERN HIS

MAR 12 1969

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LA 56-156

PAGE TWO

ACTS OR TO ACT WITH WILLFUL MALICE ON THE NIGHT OF JUNE FOUR LAST IN SHOOTING KENNEDY. PROSECUTION OBJECTED TO QUALIFICATION OF WITNESS TO ANSWER QUESTION. THIS OBJECTION OVERRULED. PROSECUTION ALSO OBJECTED TO PHRASING OF HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION WHICH WAS SUSTAINED.

AFTER NOON RECESS, DEFENSE REPHRASED HYPOTHETICAL
QUESTION AND WITNESS INDICATED THAT SIRHAN WAS PROBABLY NOT
CAPABLE OF GOVERNING HIS ACTIONS.

REMAINDER OF AFTERNOON SESSION CONSISTED OF CROSS EXAMINATION OF WITNESS BY PROSECUTION GENERALLY ATTACKING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE WITNESS AS WELL AS THE RELIABILITY OF THE TESTS GIVEN. THIS SAME WITNESS WILL CONTINUE UNDER CROSS EXAMINATION AT COURT SESSION MAY TWELVE NEXT.

END

RM FBI WASH DC GA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE Washington

TO:

The Honorable

J. Edgar Hoover, Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington 25, D. C.

FROM:

Chief, Division of Investigations

Office of Security

SUBJECT ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Reference is made to your communication dated July 16, 1968 concerning the above-captioned SUBJECT.

There are attached 1 copies of overseas report(s) of investigation listed below.

Overseas investigation in this case is completed.

ATTACHMENTS:

Prague telegram dated February 20, 1969

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By 318/69

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17 MAR 12 1969

DATE: March 7, 1969

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STATE TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF

PRESS AND CULTURE ATTACHE AMEMBASSY PRAGUE HAS QUEIRIED HIS CONTACTS WORKING FOR THE STATE RADIO STATION STATUION OFFICIALS DENY EVER HAVING TRANSMITTED IN PRAGUE. A BULLETIN SUGGESTING SENATOR KENNEDY HAS BEEN ASSASSINATED ON MAY 15.

ONE EMBASSY OFFICER DID REPORT HEARING 0800 NEWSCAST (DATE APPROXIMATELY MAY 155 ORIGINATING FROM DEUTSCHLAND FUNK. STATION RELEASED THE BULLETIN BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM UNKNOWN NEWS SERVICE. SEVERAL MINUTES LATER A RETRACTION WAS MADE CLAIMING THE ORIGINAL REPORT WAS INACCURATE REPORTING OF INCIDENT IN WHICH SENATOR FLINCHED FROM GLARE OF NEARBY PRESS FLASHBULBS.

POSSIBLE REPORT HEARD VIA BROADCASTING CHANNELS PRANEZ ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF CSSR.

4. UNABLE TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ON ORIGIN OF REPORT OR FACTS WHICH MIGHT SHED ADDITIONAL FACTS ON SUBJECT.

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ENT OF STATE TELEGRAM

36 (Rev. 5-22-64)	•	4	<u> </u>	Mr. Telson
b	. S) Z	Mr. DeLoach Mr. Mohr
		•		Mr. Bickep
,•	F B	1		Mr. Conrad
X	Q.	ate: 3/1	10/69	Mr. Felt Mr. Gole
) ismit the following in				Mr. Rosen Mr. Spilyan
	(Type in pla	aintext of code.)	Mr. Tavel Mr. Trotter
AIRTEL	AIR M	AIL (Priority)		Mr. Tretter Tele. Room Miss Holmes
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Office of the Dist. ot Actorney 600 Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California 90012

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

RELEASJ: Wed., March 5, 1969

After 10 a.m.

WICKLY SUMMARY #39
Re: The assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy

Note to editors: Because of the widespread interest in the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 5, 1968, and proceedings in court, the Office of Los Angeles County District Attorney Evelle J. Younger is publishing a weekly summary of the case. This is the 39th summary, and others will be for release on subsequent Wednesdays.

SUNDAY, FIBRUARY 23 -- Prosecutors intend to conclude their case against Sirhan Bishara Sirhan by midweek -- showing why the young Arab should die in the gas chamber for the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, according to Myrna Oliver, staff writer, in a Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) today.

The newspaper reported there might be a hassle over admission into evidence of diaries kept by Sirhan before the June 5 slaying . . . and this "could extend the prosecution's case."

One of Sirhan's attorneys, Russell V. Parsons, sought in preurial maneuvers to have the diaries suppressed as evidence, claiming they were seized illegally at Sirhan's Pasadena home.

However, Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker, who is presiding, ruled on Oct. 22 that the diaries would not be suppressed. He said they could be introduced in court and that he would rule on their admission at that time.

The writer, noting that when the trial bogan Jan. 7 it was expected to last three months, quoted Parsons as saying, I think they (the

prosecution) are trying to shorten the trial. It is going much faster than we thought.

Although the prosecution said they would call 80 witnesses, "they have not substantially reduced the planned number of witnesses, but they have raced through the questioning, and will conclude their case in about two weeks of testimony, said the newspaper reporter.

Also speeding up the trial is a move by defense to diminish the cumulative impact of the prosecution witnesses' testimony. By refusing to cross-examine witnesses at length or at all, they reduce the growing bulk of words that could work against Sirhan.

Grant B. Cooper, chief defense counsel, told the newspaper, he planned to have the Sirhan family -- the mother, brothers and Sirhan himself -- testify, followed by psychiatrists.

Cooper has estimated his case will take three to four weeks.

* * *

MONDAY, FABRUARY 24 -- The prosecution in the Sirhan B. Sirhan case today called the following to testify:

DeWayne Wolfer, Los Angeles Police Department ballistics expert;

Sergeant William E. Brandt, Los Angeles Police Department, who
searched the Sirhan home in Pasadena for evidence relating to the case; and

Dr. Henry M. Cuneo, neurosurgeon at Good Samaritan Hospital who operated on Sen. Kennedy about three hours after the shooting at the Ambassador Hotel.

At today's session, color photographs from the coroner's inquest on the senator were shown to the jurors for the first time.

The small courtroom was quiet as the 12 regular and six alternate

jurors examined the two photographs silently, with little visible reaction, passed them on and examined the fatal bullet and the senator's shredded coat, reported Dave Smith, staff writer, in a Los Angeles newspaper (Times).

The photographs were introduced as Dep. Dist. Atty. David N. Fitts questioned Wolfer. Grant B. Cooper, defense attorney, objected that the photographs were 'highly inflammatory and immaterial to the issues in this case,' but Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker overruled the objection.

It was pointed out by Smith that "the defense has admitted throughout the trial, now eight weeks old, that Sirhan fired the shot that killed Sen. Kennedy after he won the California Democratic primary last June 4."

Continued the newspaper article:

The photographs show the right side of Sen. Kennedy's head partially shaved, with the bullet wound behind the right ear and extensive 'tattooing' -- powder burns and lead and powder particles imbedded in the skin -- on and behind the ear.

'Wolfer testified that tests showed the fatal wound -- a .22 caliber bullet in Sen. Kennedy's brain -- was fired from about one inch from the senator's head.

"Wolfer also testified that Sen. Kennedy's coat showed five bullet holes -- three entry holes and two exit holes. Besides the fatal bullet to the brain, another bullet was found in soft tissue near the sixth vertebra, Wolfer testified.

Also admitted into evidence today, despite defense objections that it was irrelevant to the case, was the senator's coat, cut away from his body and later crudely stitched together for ballistics and firing tests.