

LA 56-156

It has previously been reported that various individuals traveling, particularly in the Middle East, alleged that they heard radio broadcasts concerning the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY prior to the time that the actual event occurred. Investigation was conducted in foreign countries in an attempt to substantiate these reports. Through the Department of State, information was received that the Press and Cultural Attache at the Embassy at Prague queried individuals working for the State Radio station in Prague. Station officials denied ever having transmitted a bulletin suggesting that Senator KENNEDY had been assassinated on May 15, 1968.

One Embassy Officer did report hearing a news-cast on approximately May 15, 1968, originating from Deutschland, "Funk". The station released the bulletin based on information received from a common news service. Several minutes later, a retraction was made, claiming the original report was not accurate reporting of an incident in which the Senator flinched from the glare of nearby flash bulbs. The possible report heard via broadcasting channels in Prague originating outside of "CSSA". The report reflects that the Embassy at Prague was unable to obtain further information on the origin of the report or facts which might shed additional information on the subject.

LA 56-156

MISCELLANEOUS

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 5, 1969

Mrs. JEANETTE BRYANS, 5698 Dugan Avenue, La Mesa, California, personally appeared at the San Diego Office of the FBI on March 4, 1969, to furnish information relative to the current trial of SIRHAN SIRHAN at Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. BRYANS stated that at about the time of the Arab-Israeli six-day war in 1967, while watching the Joe Pyne TV Show from Los Angeles, California, she observed a group of about five or six Arabs or Jordanians on this program who spoke about the Arab-Israeli war and, according to the recollection of Mrs. BRYANS, made some comment about the possibility of ROBERT KENNEDY being assassinated. Mrs. BRYANS said she could not positively identify any of the participants on this show in connection with this interview, but believed one had a double name similar to SIRHAN SIRHAN and had the impression that this name when translated meant "wolf." Inasmuch as she could not give a specific date for this program, she indicated it was well appointed in her mind because another participant on this same program but speaking on a different subject was Mr. ARTHUR A. BUCKEL, with whom she is well acquainted due to Mr. BUCKEL's friendship with Mrs. BRYANS' brother.

Mrs. BRYANS stated she did not remember specifically any comments made during the interview of the Arabs or Jordanians but did recall that there was general conversation about the conflict in the Middle East. She indicated this information may be of value if it could be used to prove that SIRHAN SIRHAN had, in fact, been one of the participants on the Joe Pyne TV Show and if the statement was actually made on that show that the life of ROBERT KENNEDY was in danger.

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On 3/4/69 at San Diego, California File # SD 44-334

by SA G. JORDAN NAYLOR /s/ Date dictated 3/4/69

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date March 5, 1969

Mr. ARTHUR A. BUCKEL, 3452 Bayonne Drive, San Diego, California, advised that during March, 1967, he and his wife were in the Los Angeles, California, area on business and pleasure. He stated that he was a participant on the Joe Pyne TV Show during this visit and remembered that he participated as a member of the audience when some unidentified individual made comments regarding the support all Negroes should give Senator ADAM CLAYTON POWELL regardless of his moral or personal standards. Mr. BUCKEL said he felt strongly that some of the statements made should be refuted and volunteered to participate in the rebuttal of statements made on the program.

Mr. BUCKEL said he could not recall specifically other parts of the program but did remember that there were some young men believed to be either Arabs or Jordanians who made comments relative to the conflict, in the Middle East. He could not recall any specific mention being made regarding ROBERT KENNEDY but indicated that due to the period of time which has elapsed it was only natural that anything said might be forgotten.

Mr. BUCKEL contacted his wife and after checking some personal records determined that this trip had occurred on the weekend of March 10-13, 1967, and indicated he had located a cancelled check dated March 13, 1967, with which he paid his hotel bill before returning to San Diego from Los Angeles. He said that to the best of his recollection he and his wife attended the JOE PYNE TV Show about 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 13, 1967, following which they returned to San Diego. He stated the show was recorded at that time and he subsequently viewed this show at San Diego over the Los Angeles station on March 13, 1967.

BUCKEL said he could not recall any of the program participants specifically and could not state whether or not SIRHAN SIRHAN was present at the broadcast.

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On 3/4/69 at San Diego, California File # SD 44-294

by SA C. JORDAN NAYLOR /jw Date dictated 3/4/69

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Information was previously reported that Mr. FRANCIS DE BUDA, who was previously interviewed in connection with this investigation, reported that he had an employee by the name of DONALD CLARK who resided at 8464 Kirkwood, Los Angeles, California.

Mr. DE BUDA had advised that upon hearing of the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in early June of 1968, he recalled that this employee, CLARK, on two occasions asked him whether or not he knew SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. DE BUDA also stated that shortly thereafter he heard CLARK talking to someone on the telephone and mentioning the assassination.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/69

Donald Clark
 DONALD COLE AUGUSTINE ~~CLARK~~, a male Negro, 3932
Stevely, Apartment 11, Los Angeles, California, was inter-
 viewed and provided the following information:

He is a pharmacist intern and is presently unemployed,
 having been terminated on April 7, 1969, from the Santa Glen
 Drugstore in West Los Angeles due to a reduction in force.

CLARK stated that he has no knowledge of SIRHAN
 SIRHAN or any of the facts concerning the assassination of
 Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY other than what he has read in the
 papers or heard on the radio or TV. He further advised that
 he has no personal knowledge concerning any black nationalist
 or black nationalist activity.

CLARK provided the following background information
 concerning himself:

50-51-436-57-1796

Height	6'
Weight	165 pounds
Birth Data	<u>[REDACTED]</u>
	<u>New Orleans, Louisiana</u>
Parents	Father: GEORGE CLARK
	present address
	1222 South Rocheblave
	New Orleans, Louisiana
	Mother: (Divorced from father,
	now remarried)
	ELECTA JONES
	present address
	8791 Strolitz
	New Orleans, Louisiana
Education	High school, Xavier Prep, Holy
	Rosary Institute,
	New Orleans, Louisiana;
	St. Agnes
	Los Angeles, California
	(graduated June 1959);

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On 4/8/69 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA G. J. MOOREHEAD and
SA GEORGE E. AIKEN, JR./GJM/lmt Date dictated 4/9/69

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Xavier University
New Orleans, Louisiana
Fall 1959 - Spring 1960

Marital Status

Common-law marriage to KRISTEL MERILL,
Russian citizen, who is a Caucasian
and is employed at Office Supplies
Unlimited on Santa Monica Boulevard,
West Los Angeles, California;

Claims two previous marriages
ending in divorce;

One small daughter presently living
in the San Francisco area

Arrest Record

Arrested by the Los Angeles
Police Department February 2,
1966, practicing pharmacy without a
license

Selective Service
Status

3-A, registered at draft board
located 411 Broadway, Los Angeles

Social Security No. [REDACTED]

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Information has previously been reported that ROY DONALD MURRAY of Route 1, Box 3, Earlimart, California, had made a statement that he had pledged money which was to be utilized for a "contract" to kill Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in the event that KENNEDY was nominated for the Presidency of the United States.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date June 10, 19681

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

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

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

MURRAY is described as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	[REDACTED]
Height	5 feet 11 inches
Weight	250 pounds
Hair	Black - gray
Eyes	Blue

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On 6/7/68 at Earlimart, California File# SC 62-76

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

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 1/14/69

MARVIN E. PAPPAN, 3228 Northwest 14th Street, advised he is a barber in a two-man shop located at Northwest 11th Street and Harvey in Oklahoma City. *Okla*

PAPPAN stated prior to the assassination of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY, some time last summer, he recalled an individual who came into the shop with another man believed to be a chauffeur, and indicated he had a violent dislike for Senator ROBERT KENNEDY, and would give a large sum of money to have KENNEDY killed.

PAPPAN advised this man was driving a light green Lincoln Continental, which he parked in front of the barber shop, and made comments about his "Lincolns".

PAPPAN stated the other barber *ERL KRYNES aka* had apparently cut this man's hair before, as after he had left, the barber identified him as "BIG BOY" RYAN, and stated he was reportedly a wealthy rancher from Ardmore, Oklahoma, or vicinity, and owned most of the land where the Arbuckle Mountains are located. *E 11 17 9*

PAPPAN described RYAN as follows:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Nationality	American
Age	60s
Height	6' or more
Build	Large
Hair	Brown, turning white
Occupation	Retired oil man

PAPPAN stated he saw RYAN one other time during the rioting in the summer of 1968, at which time RYAN came into the shop and stated he was not afraid of rioters as he had several machine guns and carried one at all times in the back of his Lincoln.

PAPPAN advised he does not recall if the other barber, A. B. BREAKBILL, who owns the shop, was in the shop

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On 1/13/69 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 89-64

by SA DONALD H. SLOAT:nwm Date dictated 1/14/69

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at the time RYAN made the statement about Senator KENNEDY, and he believes the individual who came in with RYAN was his chauffeur.

He stated in discussing RYAN with BREAKBILL, that BREAKBILL indicated RYAN "sure did blow a lot", but PAPPAN did not interpret this statement to mean that RYAN had no dangerous propensities.

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AOR/mlj

The following information was received from the
Oklahoma City Office:

It has been determined that "BIG BOY" RYAN is
identical to IRL RHYNES.

RHYNES was interviewed at his ranch, East Jesse, Oklahoma. RHYNES was given a copy of "Your Rights" form, as well as a waiver of rights form and was explained certain rights as outlined. When asked to waive his rights and execute the form by affixing the signature thereto, he stated he would not sign the form at this time, based upon the advice of his attorney, but that he would answer any questions that may be asked. RHYNES stated further he understood all his rights as outlined on the form and had nothing to hide.

RHYNES was explained the basic organization and aims of the Minutemen organization, how they obtain funds and members and asked whether he had ever donated funds to an organization by that name or whether he had ever been a member of that organization. In answer to both questions RHYNES stated emphatically he had never been approached by them for any reason whatsoever and that he was not now or had he ever been a member of the Minutemen organization. In addition, RHYNES stated he knows he is considered a radical in his community and in the business world, not only in his politics but in the management of his business affairs, but that the only radicalism that he knows is "being radical for his country and for his farm". RHYNES stated further that based on the original aims of the Minutemen organization, that had they approached him during the early period of their development, he may have furnished them some funds; however, now, because of the stated aims of their leader, ROBERT DE PUGH, and other leaders, he would not give them a dime.

RHYNES was then made aware of the aims and objectives as well as the people who are backing the "Patriotic Party". RHYNES stated emphatically again that he had never been approached and that he was not now or had ever been a member of this

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AOR/mlj

political party and had never contributed any funds to them. RHYNES was appreciative of being made aware of the aims of this party and the names of some of the members backing this party and stated that since their aims were not the same as his, he would not in any way allow himself to become affiliated with them.

At this point, RHYNES was made aware of Federal statutes concerning the possession of illegal automatic weapons and other machine guns. RHYNES stated he had never purchased machine guns or other automatic weapons, but that he had many weapons in his possession. Most of these weapons were shotguns and .22s utilized by his grandson and him, as well as friends who visit the ranch.

At this point, RHYNES took the interviewing agents on a tour of the house, displaying his vast collection of shotguns and shotgun ammunition utilized by hunting parties on his ranch. When asked specifically if he owned any M16 automatic rifles, RHYNES stated he did not own any M16 rifles but that he did have some AR 15's and would be happy to display them to the interviewing agents. These AR 15 rifles were then produced from under the bed in his bedroom, two in number, and were examined by the interviewing agents and found not to be of the automatic type. The fire control levers on both weapons had positions for safe and fire, but no positions for automatic firing. Both weapons were checked to see if they had been internally tampered with so they could be fired automatically and they were both found to be set up as delivered from the factory. RHYNES stated he possesses these weapons for protection of his household only and that any stories that might have accrued about him were probably as a result of his boasting at various times that he had some automatic weapons and that he would shoot people who trespassed onto his property. He knew this to be a falsehood, but he stated, "My mouth has got me in trouble before."

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AOR/mlj

RHYNES was displayed Identification Orders 4176 on ROBERT BOLIVAR DE PUGH and 4181 on WALTER PATRICK PEYSON. RHYNES stated he had never met either of these individuals and that under other assumed names or any other circumstances he was sure he had not seen either of these men. RHYNES stated further that he would notify the FBI immediately if he should hear anything concerning either of these individuals.

On March 11, 1969, BURL GRIFFIN, Sheriff, Pontotoc County, Ada, Oklahoma, who is personally acquainted with RHYNES, advised SA J. ROBINSON FIELD that RHYNES is generally considered to be a big talker, is very boastful and ~~his~~ is not taken seriously by those who know him. It should be noted that when RHYNES was interviewed above, he admitted having firearms at his home but none of these firearms are considered illegal.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 3/25/69

~~DON~~ WISE, Bristow, Oklahoma, was interviewed at his place of employment in the presence of Sheriff BRICE COLEMAN and furnished the following information:

Mr. WISE advised that on either May 31 or June 1, 1968, he was traveling from St. Louis Missouri, to Bristow, Oklahoma, along with his wife, his daughter, cousin, and brother-in-law. He stated that his brother-in-law was driving a pickup pulling a trailer and he was following along behind. At about 1:00 or 1:30 p.m. near Rolla, Missouri, on U. S. Highway 66, he picked up a hitchhiker who was dressed in Army fatigues, a field jacket, and combat boots and carrying an Army duffel bag.

This individual told WISE that he was going to Los Angeles and that he had just come from Chicago. This individual also asked WISE the route to Kansas City and indicated that he had to go to Kansas City also.

This individual in talking to WISE stated that he had to be in Los Angeles on Monday night. It is noted WISE believes the day was a Saturday. The individual told WISE that he had to meet "a woman and two men" in Los Angeles on Monday night and if he did not get there in time, he would have to return to Kansas City.

WISE stated that he asked the individual if he had ever been in the Army in view of his clothing, but the individual said he had not and explained that he was an Arab or from another foreign country, WISE could not recall exactly what was said. WISE stated that he asked to see some identification and the individual produced a union card for some labor union on which was written the name SIRHAN B. SIRHAN. WISE stated this was handwritten but was very legible. WISE states he believes the local number of the union was 1714.

In conversation this individual seemed to dwell

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On 3/24/69 at Bristow, Oklahoma File # Oklahoma City 89-64
Los Angeles 56-156

by SA JOHN R. DeWITT II vb Date dictated 3/24/69

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a great deal on shooting and war and stated that it was too bad about President KENNEDY being shot but that he did not feel sorry for the man but he did feel sorry for the family. The individual also talked about MARTIN LUTHER KING being shot. Mr. WISE noted that he was during the conversation talking about "niggers" and that this seemed to anger the individual. WISE stated that the individual indicated that he had been in some type of military reserve unit but that he did not recall any of the details.

Mr. WISE stated that this individual's conversation dwelled on wars, shootings, and then he talked a great deal about history.

Mr. WISE stated that as he recalls, this individual's date of birth was [REDACTED] and he noted that his daughter's birthday was the same day and he had commented concerning this. Mr. WISE stated that as he recalled, the individual stated that he had been in Chicago. The individual indicated that he had relatives in Chicago but that his father did not live in the country and lived in Egypt or in Arabia.

The individual further indicated to WISE that he had money enough to fly to California but that he wanted to save his money and buy a car when he got to California.

WISE stated that the individual never stated he had a gun but that several times he made motions as if shooting a pistol with his finger. WISE stated that he let this individual off on Riverside Drive in Tulsa, Oklahoma, at about 10:30 p.m. that night. WISE stated that he recognized the photograph on television and in newspapers of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN as the individual who he had picked up at Rolla, Missouri, and taken to Tulsa, Oklahoma. WISE noted that he and this individual were together approximately ten hours and that they did a great deal of talking. Mr. WISE stated the individual appeared to be very intelligent. WISE stated that he does not recall any threatening statements made by the individual nor anything concerning his background in Chicago. WISE

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again noted that this individual had several times made reference to the fact that he had to be in Los Angeles on Monday night to meet the woman and two men and if he did not do this, he would have to go back to Kansas City. Mr. WISE further noted that his seven-year-old niece who had been riding in the car with them had recognized the man's photograph on television and had mentioned this was the individual who they had picked up. Mr. WISE advised that this matter had been on his conscience for nine months and that he was furnishing this information for whatever value it may be.

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Information was received from the Oklahoma City Office that on April 4, 1969, DON WISE was re-interviewed at Bristow, Oklahoma:

WISE stated that he was positive that he picked up the individual he believed to be SIRHAN SIRHAN at about 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, 1968. Mr. WISE was shown the chart setting forth the activities of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN which indicates that he was in Los Angeles, California, at 1:00 p.m. on June 1, 1968. Mr. WISE stated that he is positive of the date and noted that it would be impossible for the person to be both places. Mr. WISE commented at this point that he had never seen a photograph of SIRHAN SIRHAN.

WISE was re-interviewed on April 8, 1969, at which time he was shown a photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN. Mr. WISE stated that while the photograph looked somewhat like the individual he picked up could not have been SIRHAN SIRHAN. Mr. WISE pointed out that the person he picked up was definitely over 5'6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in height, and noted that SIRHAN SIRHAN is only 5'3". Mr. WISE further noted that in view of the difference in height and the fact that SIRHAN was definitely placed in Los Angeles on the day he picked up the individual, he felt he must have been mistaken as to the identity of the hitchhiker.

On April 8, 1969, the photograph of SIRHAN B. SIRHAN was shown to Mrs. DON WISE at which time she advised this individual looked somewhat like the person she and her husband had picked up but noted that she could not say whether or not they were identical. Mrs. WISE noted that the person that they picked up definitely was taller than 5'6". Mrs. WISE stated she feels that she and her husband were mistaken as to the identity of the individual that they picked up and noted they were both extremely shocked at the death of ROBERT KENNEDY and may have let their imaginations get the better of their judgment.

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The office of Senator EDWARD KENNEDY turned over to the United States Secret Service two letters that were written in June of 1968 and had been received by Mrs. ETHEL KENNEDY.

One letter was signed PATRICIA WELLS, 9521 East Avenue J, Houston, Texas and a true copy of this letter is set forth below:

TRUE COPY

Mrs. Kennedy,

I am deeply sorry about your husbands death. I don't know if you will get this letter or not but if you do If I were you I would sleep on what I'm going to tell you. I have reasons to say that the death of your husband and our late President John F. Kennedy was very carefully planned by the same man which is right under your nose. It seems to me that the police aren't going into it as they should. Also the police don't relize that it could be someone that acted as your friend. If I were you I would have it looked into, not by the police but by someone unknown and wouldn't be noticed bying nosey. This is all I can write for now, if you would like more information please write me my address is:

Patricia Wells
9521 East. Ave. J.
Houston, Texas 77012

B.10-4-52, 11 11 11

You may think that this is a crank but believe me it isn't a crank. This is no time for cranks. Maybe I'm wrong for telling you this information but I just can't keep it on my mind any longer. Please believe me for what I have told you In the name of god believe me!!

Yours truly,

Patricia Wells

/s/

TRUE COPY

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The other letter directed to Mrs. KENNEDY was signed by a Mrs. A. WANTUCK, 412 South Hoover Street, Los Angeles indicated that she was ready to release the name and address of an individual who had spoken in a discouraging way against Senator KENNEDY.

The following information concerning PATRICIA WELLS was developed by the Houston Office of the FBI:

Patricia Wells, 9521 East Avenue J, Houston, Texas on January 28, 1969 advised a Special Agent of the FBI that she is sixteen years of age. She was born on [REDACTED] at Mobile, Alabama.

She stated that she does not know any member of the family of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy or the late President John F. Kennedy. She advised that she has never even seen any member of the Kennedy family nor has she ever had any communication or correspondence with them.

Patricia Wells said that she did not write or type a letter to Mrs. Robert F. Kennedy in June, 1968 or at any other time. She said that if such a letter were written it was not by her and she suggested that perhaps some school acquaintance may have written such a letter using her name and address as a joke. She said that she was very much embarrassed by such a thing and regretted the necessity to look into the matter.

Patricia Wells said that she has a portable typewriter which she has loaned out on numerous occasions. She said that many people have had access to the typewriter which may have been used to write a letter to Mrs. Kennedy. She said that she has no idea who may have done such a thing and that she considers it a "poor joke".

The following physical description of Patricia Wells was obtained through observation and interview:

Sex	Female
Race	White
Date of birth	[REDACTED] at Mobile, Alabama
Age	16
Height	5'6"
Weight	110 lbs.
Hair	Black, worn long
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Fair
Build	Slender
Characteristics	Wears glasses, quiet personality
Marital status	Single
Residence	9521 East Avenue J, Houston, Texas
Employment	Student - Milby High School, Houston, Texas

Mrs. Lois Grube, 9521 East Avenue J, Houston, Texas, advised on January 28, 1969 that she has a sixteen-year-old daughter, Patricia Wells, who lives at that address. Mrs. Grube said that she was certain that her daughter, Patricia Wells, had never written a letter to the family of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Mrs. Grube said that Patricia Wells was born on [REDACTED] at Mobile, Alabama and is presently a student at Milby High School, Houston, Texas. She said that Patricia owns a portable typewriter, brand unknown, which was purchased sometime ago from a Western Auto Store in Houston. The typewriter is kept at the residence of Hazel ~~Gravey~~, 7817 ~~Detroit Street~~, Apartment 12, Houston, Texas, who is the aunt of Patricia Wells. Mrs. Grube said that Patricia stays with her aunt a considerable amount of time since Mrs. Grube is employed cleaning up new houses and is gone from home most of the time. Mrs. Grube said she has several children and they all have had access to the typewriter. Patricia Wells has loaned the typewriter to numerous friends on several occasions. Mrs. Grube said that she is certain that Patricia Wells does not have the imagination or drive to write a letter to the Kennedy family, none of whom she has ever seen.

Mrs. Grube said she is not living with her present husband who has three children of his own. She suggested that possibly someone else wrote a letter to the Kennedy family and signed Patricia's name as a joke. She said that if she obtains any information concerning the letter she will make the information available.

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The following information was developed concerning Mrs. A. WANTUCK and the individual concerning whom she spoke in her letter:

On January 13, 1969, Mrs. Victor Wantuck, 412 South Hoover Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) with regard to the letter she wrote to Mrs. Ethel Kennedy on June 5, 1968, stating she possessed information concerning the shooting of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

Mrs. Wantuck advised she wrote a letter to Mrs. Ethel Kennedy immediately after Senator Kennedy's death. Mrs. Wantuck said she felt there might be more persons involved in the shooting of Senator Kennedy than just Sirhan B. Sirhan.

Mrs. Wantuck advised that she was not making any accusations, but that there was a woman by the name of Arends residing on Occidental Street, Los Angeles, who worked for the Republican Party, who had said that Senator Kennedy would be shot before he could be elected President of the United States.

On January 13, 1969, Ethel May Arends, Apartment 8, 403 South Occidental Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed by a Special Agent of the FBI.

Mrs. Arends advised that she is the manager of the apartment house at 403 South Occidental Street. She said that she is very active in the Republican Party. She advised she possessed no information concerning any plot to kill Senator Robert Kennedy. She advised that she might have mentioned something to the effect that, in view of the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Senator Kennedy would be lucky to live long enough to take office as President in the event he were elected.

Mrs. Arends said she was very much upset over the murder of Senator Robert Kennedy. She said she could furnish

no information concerning Sirhan B. Sirhan, the accused slayer of Senator Robert Kennedy.

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PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

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Investigation developed information that STUS PRUSZYNSKI was present at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles when Senator KENNEDY was assassinated.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police informed that PRUSZYNSKI was interviewed on February 4, 1969 at Montreal, Quebec, Canada and at that time advised that he was a reporter assigned to the Senator KENNEDY campaign by Harper and Row, LTD., Publishers, London, W.C.I. He was only a short distance from KENNEDY at the time of the assault but pointed out, however, that he did not witness the assault.

He made a tape recording of the commotion and reaction of the crowd immediately subsequent to the assault which he made available.

A copy of the tape recording was forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for examination.

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RESULTS OF FBI
LABORATORY EXAMINATION

REPORT
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: FBI, Los Angeles

Date: June 30, 1969

Re: KENSALT
STUS PRUSZYNSKI

FBI File No. 62-587

Lab. No. E-767-KB

Specimens received 6/3/69

Qc36 Copy of tape recording made by Stus Pruszyński 6/5/68.

Results of Examination:

Qc36 was found to have been recorded at a non-standard speed on $\frac{1}{2}$ -track recorder and contained an interfering hum. A copy of Qc36 was made by playing back Qc36 on a variable speed recorder adjusting the speed for a natural sound and equalizing the frequency response to enhance intelligibility.

The submitted Qc36 and two copies made as described above are being sent to Los Angeles under separate cover via registered mail.



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AOR/fsc

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: AMEDEE O. RICHARDS, JR.
Date: 8/1/69

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File #: 56-156

Bureau File #: 62-587

Title: KENSALT

Character: CIVIL RIGHTS

Synopsis:

The trial of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN continued at Los Angeles County Superior Court, Number 107, State of California, during February 1969. On 2/13/69, opening arguments were made by prosecution attorney. Defense Attorney EMILE ZOLA BERMAN made his opening statements on 2/14/69, and the first four witnesses testified to the shooting. Trial continued and on 2/26/69, the prosecution rested its case. The defense opened its case on 2/28/69. Trial continued and on 4/8/69, both prosecution and defense rested their cases. On 4/14/69, the case was sent to the jury for deliberation. The jury returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree against SIRHAN, and also found him guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to commit murder on five other counts in the indictment. On 4/23/69, after a separate penalty trial, the jury returned a verdict of death for SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. On 5/21/69, SIRHAN was formally sentenced to death, and ordered remanded to San Quentin Prison. SIRHAN was sentenced to the term prescribed by law in the remaining charges against him. Background information concerning SIRHAN set forth, including interviews of fellow students, fellow workers, and information concerning brothers of SIRHAN including SAIDALLAH, SHARIF, MUNIR, and ADEL. Additional interviews conducted of persons in area of shooting including hotel employee, campaign

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workers, student supporter, and press representative. Additional investigation conducted concerning KHAIBAR KHAN and members of his family concerning their alleged contact with SIRHAN. No further information developed concerning radio broadcast of shooting of Senator KENNEDY prior to his actual shooting. Miscellaneous information regarding investigation of the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY set forth.

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DETAILS:

PROSECUTIVE ACTION CONCERNING
SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

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On February 4, 1969, trial of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN was resumed at Los Angeles County Superior Court. Court proceedings consisted of efforts on the part of the defense to support the motion for dismissal of the Grand Jury indictment concerning SIRHAN. SIRHAN and his mother MARY SIRHAN, both testified concerning their economic status. Judge HERBERT B. WALKER denied the defense motion.

On February 5, 1969, efforts were made by both the prosecution and the defense to select alternate jurors to serve for this trial.

The twelve jurors previously selected were sworn in but will not be sequestered until the six alternate jurors are selected.

On February 11, 1969, selection of all jurors was completed and further proceedings were continued until February 13, 1969.

Defense Attorney, GRANT B. COOPER, on February 13, 1969, made a motion for a mistrial in this matter based on recent articles appearing in the local press that SIRHAN might be considering a change of plea to guilty. All members of the jury including the six alternate members were individually examined in the Judge's chambers relative to the effect that this publicity might have had on them. Following the examination of the jurors, Judge WALKER denied the motion for a mistrial.

Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney, DAVID FITTS then made the opening statements to the court on behalf of the prosecution attorneys.

Defense Attorney, EMILE ZOLA BERMAN presented the opening arguments for the defense on February 14, 1969, and the first four witnesses to appear in this case testified. These included employees of the Ambassador who were employed on the night that Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY was shot.

The defense attorney at the beginning of the court session on February 20, 1969, again moved for a mistrial based on local press accounts that SIRHAN was willing to plead guilty to a first degree murder charge if he could be assured of a sentence of life imprisonment rather than death. These proceedings took place in the Judge's chambers but apparently the story leaked to the local press and at the afternoon recess, Judge WALKER made available copies of transcripts concerning proceedings in chambers on that morning so that all press representatives would have the same information.

During the court session on February 25, 1969, the prosecution moved to admit as evidence in this trial the diary and other papers of SIRHAN that were obtained in a search of SIRHAN's residence on June 5, 1968. The defense objected to the admission into evidence of these papers and Judge WALKER overruled their objection and permitted their entry. Just prior to the noon recess, SIRHAN stood up in court and stated "your Honor, it is not admitted into evidence yet". SIRHAN's outburst was related to testimony then being given by LAURENCE SLOAN, Examiner of questioned documents for the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

On February 26, 1969, the prosecution rested the case and the jury was given copies of SIRHAN's notebooks which had been admitted into evidence. Court proceedings were continued until February 28, 1969.

The defense opened it's case at the court session on February 28, 1969 and during the afternoon session while a witness from the Pasadena School system was testifying concerning the academic record of SIRHAN, SIRHAN stood up in court and addressed the Judge. His attorney seated him, requested permission to approach the bench and the jury was excused. SIRHAN requested permission to speak and indicated a desire to change his plea to guilty to murder in the first degree. SIRHAN also requested to be executed and to disassociate himself from his present staff of defense attorneys. In response to a question from the Judge, SIRHAN indicated that he had willfully killed Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY after 20 years of premeditated malice and forethought.

SIRHAN insisted that he be allowed to represent himself and the Judge declared him incompetent to defend himself. The Judge ruled that the trial would continue and he admonished SIRHAN that if there were further outbursts of this nature, he would be physically restrained in the court.

When court reconvened, defense Attorney GRANT COOPER, speaking for himself and the other defense counsels, made a motion that all defense attorneys be disassociated from the case due to differences of opinion between themselves, and SIRHAN as to the proper conduct of the trial. This motion was denied by the Judge and trial was ordered to proceed.

During the court session on March 6, 1969, while SIRHAN was testifying as a witness, the defense attorney, after conference with the prosecution and the Judge, read the entire transcript to the court, including the jury of the events that occurred during SIRHAN's outbursts in the court session on February 28, 1969. SIRHAN was then excused as a witness.

Judge WALKER at the opening of the court session of March 7, 1969, advised the jury that in determining the guilt or innocence of SIRHAN to disregard the testimony given on March 6, 1969 regarding the statements made by SIRHAN at the court session on February 28, 1969, while the jury was absent. Prosecution Attorney, DAVID FITTS made a statement to the court that he considered the Judge's instructions in error and felt that the jury should be able to consider the statements in anyway that they wished. The Judge concurred with the prosecution, and defense continued with the presentation of defense witnesses.

During the court session of March 28, 1969, it was announced that one of the regular jurors had been taken ill during the night and an alternate juror was selected to replace the regular juror.

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On April 8, 1969, both the defense and prosecution attorneys rested their case. Closing arguments were made at the court session following April 8, 1969 and on April 14, 1969, Judge WALKER read the instructions to the jury and the case was sent to the jury for deliberation at 3:00 p.m. on this date.

On April 17, 1969, the jury returned a verdict in this case finding SIRHAN guilty of murder in the first degree on count one of the indictment. On the remainder of the five counts, SIRHAN was found guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to commit murder. The penalty trial to determine the possibility of the death sentence was scheduled to begin on April 21, 1969.

On April 23, 1969, the jury in the trial of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, returned a verdict of death for SIRHAN. Further hearings in this matter were continued until May 21, 1969.

On May 21, 1969, defense Attorney GRANT COOPER, presented arguments for a motion for a new trial for SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. The motion for a new trial was based on 13 points of alleged court errors in the trial of SIRHAN. The motion for the new trial was denied by Judge WALKER on all 13 points which had been specified by the defense.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN WIRIN and FRED OKRAND of the American Civil Liberties Union joined defense attorney's argument for a hearing on the constitutionality of the death penalty. The request for this hearing was denied by the Judge.

Prior to the arguments concerning a motion for a new trial, Los Angeles District Attorney EVELLE J. YOUNGER, presented a letter he had received from Senator EDWARD KENNEDY requesting clemency for SIRHAN.

After the motion for a new trial was denied, Judge WALKER formally sentenced SIRHAN to death and ordered him remanded to San Quentin Prison within ten days. The Judge pronounced that the findings of the jury were correct in this

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case. SIRHAN was also sentenced to the term prescribed by law on each of the five counts of assault with a dangerous weapon with intent to commit murder in connection with the five individuals who were wounded at the Ambassador Hotel on the night that Senator KENNEDY was shot.

On May 3, 1969, an article appeared in the "Los Angeles Times" which advised that GEORGE E. SHIBLEY, a Long Beach Attorney, announced that he would be joined by LUKE MC KISSACK, a Hollywood Attorney, and [REDACTED] of Detroit, Michigan in assuming responsibility for SHIRHAN's appeals.

The article stated that the three attorneys who represented SIRHAN in his trial would serve in the capacity of "counsels" to the three new attorneys. SHIBLEY indicated in this article that the change was made at the request of the SIRHAN family as they wished to have a defense team of attorneys with a background of Palestinian affairs. The article stated that SHIBLEY and [REDACTED] are of Lebanese ancestry, although both were born in the United States.

[REDACTED] was present in Los Angeles during the trial of SIRHAN.

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION
CONCERNING SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 3/5/69

LAWRENCE D. SOMMERVILLE, a student at Pasadena City College, who resides at 1863 Elvado Avenue, Arcadia, California, telephone 355-8395, advised that on the evening of June 4, 1968, probably before 6:00 p.m., he saw SIRHAN B. SIRHAN on the steps leading from the student center to the "C" Building at Pasadena City College. It appeared, SOMMERVILLE said, that SIRHAN was exiting the college as SOMMERVILLE was entering. There were two or three other males walking about the same pace as SIRHAN, but SOMMERVILLE could not state whether or not they were actually in his company.

SOMMERVILLE waved to SIRHAN and spoke his name. SIRHAN waved back and passed on.

SOMMERVILLE had known SIRHAN since junior high school when both were in attendance at Elliott Junior High School and again at John Muir High School in Pasadena, however, SOMMERVILLE said he never had more than possibly one class with SIRHAN and this would have been in junior high school. He doubts that SIRHAN would know his name. He has never been in the SIRHAN home, nor has SIRHAN been in his home. SOMMERVILLE stated that they knew each other by sight only and would greet each other when they met, usually by a wave. SOMMERVILLE stated he had no information of consequence regarding SIRHAN and no information whatsoever concerning his political attitudes and beliefs.

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On 3/4/69 at Arcadia, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA PHILIP J. REILLY/lmt Date dictated 3/4/69

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

FILE COPY

Informants Name:

Business Address & Phone:

GOEL, Mohan

1730 Centinela, Inglewood 776-3244

Residence & Phone:

1122 W. 30th St., L. A. 748-4286

Investigator Receiving Info:

Date & Time Received:

HERNANDEZ, E. 7101

6-14-68 11:45 AM

INFORMATION:

Above party was interviewed at his residence. States that he attended Pasadena City College with suspect SIRHAN SIRHAN. Stated that both were members of the International Club which is composed of approximately 150 foreign students. Also, used to see SIRHAN at Santa Anita Race Track periodically. Last time he saw SIRHAN was during the months of January or February of 1968. Had conversation with SIRHAN relative to SIRHAN's accident at the track. SIRHAN stated he felt well, but was suing the "people". GOEL states that in his opinion SIRHAN looked or acted no different than when he used to attend school with him.

ASSIGNED TO: HERNANDEZ, E., STRONG and SANDLIN

ACTION TAKEN - RESULTS:

Interview taken.

The above party was interviewed in his residence 1122 W. 30th St. on 6-14-68. Persons present at time of the interview were Sgts. E. Hernandez # 7101, L. Sandlin and Strong. The purpose of the interview was to determine if Mr. GOEL had any knowledge or information that might possibly be relevant to the SENATOR KENNEDY INVESTIGATION.

STATEMENT

I met SIRHAN SIRHAN during the early part of 1963 at Pasadena City College. He and myself were foreign students attending school there during this time.

Date/Time Completed:

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

By: *[Signature]*