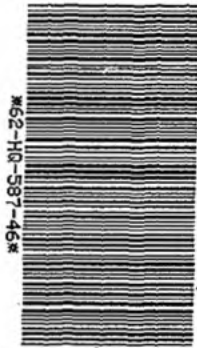


62- HQ-587

SERIALS 1251-1278

SECTION 46



62-HQ-587-46*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

HQ - HEADQUARTERS

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0062 587		46	1251
			1278

5/11/631617



RRP0034PH4

HEADQUARTERS

**DO NOT
DESTROY**

FOIPA # 1173669



FBIHQ INVESTIGATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE FILES

**DO NOT
DESTROY**

FOIPA # 1066858

Transfer - Call 3421

Use Care in Handling this File

MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE

DECEMBER 4, 1970

Airtel

1 - Mr. Schutz

1 - Mr. Putnam

TO: SAC, Los Angeles (56-156)

FROM: Director, FBI (62-587) — 1251
ST-117
REC-32

KENSALT

Attached is a copy of a communication from the Deputy Attorney General dated 12-2-70, the contents of which are self-explanatory.

With respect to the additional interviews of members of the Communist Club to which Crowe belonged, Los Angeles refer to your airtel and LHM 4-24-69. Authority granted to interview individuals who were members of the Student Club, Southern California District, Communist Party, USA, in 6/68 as set out in page 11 of your LHM. William Divale, former LA 4688-S should not be reinterviewed.

Inasmuch as the Los Angeles office has reviewed this publication, furnish brief and succinct summary of the book characterizing data contained therein. Advise whether any factual information appears in the book which was not previously known to the FBI and results of any inquiry conducted by the Los Angeles office in that regard.

In addition, contact appropriate local authorities and determine what action if any is intended by these authorities with respect to this publication.

Expedite.

HAS:ms
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY SP6 BAP/mw

NOTE: The foregoing has been coordinated with Mr. Robert C. Putnam of the Domestic Intelligence Division with respect to that Division's responsibilities in handling the security aspects of the KENSALT investigation.

MAIL ROOM ☒ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT

JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE:

December 2 1970

FROM : Richard G. Kleindienst
Deputy Attorney General

RGK:MTE:gbh

SUBJECT: Kensalt

Reference is made to your memorandum of May 29, 1969, under the above caption.

Inasmuch as confidential informant 20-L has testified before the Subversive Activities Control Board, it is requested that the interviews of the members of the Communist Party Club to which Walter Crowe belonged now be conducted in accordance with our request of February 25, 1969.

Your advice is requested whether any additional investigation is being conducted by your Bureau based upon any new information which might appear in Robert Kaiser's book, RFK Must Die.

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. Sullivan ☒
Mr. Mohr ☒
Mr. Bishop ☒
Mr. Brennan, C.D. ☒
Mr. Callahan ☐
Mr. Casper ☐
Mr. Conrad ☐
Mr. Felt ☒
Mr. Gale ☒
Mr. Rosen ☒
Mr. Tavel ☒
Mr. Walters ☐
Mr. Soyars ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Miss Holmes ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

REC-32

ST-117

18 DEC 8 1970

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: DEC 30 1970

LPJ, III; JFAxelrad:bd

FROM : L. Patrick Gray, III
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

SUBJECT: Committee to Investigate Assassinations,
Inc. v. Dept. of Justice, USDC D.C.
Civil Action No. 3651-70

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-4-96 BY SP4-BJA-MLB
#351592

Attached is a copy of the complaint in the above-captioned proceedings.

This Act, under which plaintiff proceeds, 5 U.S.C. 552, provides that the present action "shall take precedence on the docket over all other causes and shall be assigned for hearing and trial at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way." We request, therefore, that not later than January 21, 1971, you furnish this office with a litigation report in duplicate including the following items:

1. A statement as to the manner, place, and time of plaintiff's request to your office to make the records involved available for his inspection, including four copies -- one certified -- of any documents or other memoranda incorporating plaintiff's request.
2. Four copies -- one certified -- of any correspondence or memoranda of any communication, written or oral, between your office and the plaintiff concerning plaintiff's request for the records involved.
3. If the records have been identified and located a detailed description or summary of the records involved and a statement as to their current location. If it has not been possible to identify or locate the records, please include a statement to this effect.
4. Two copies of any correspondence or memoranda within your office showing the administrative processing of the plaintiff's request.
5. A statement of the reason or reasons why in your office's opinion the records involved should not be made available. If the records fall within one or more of the exemptions of subsection (b) of the Act, such exemption should be specifically identified and discussed.

REC-84

62-581-1252

ENCLOSURE

Letter to SAC, Civil Div.
NARS: OLC EX-111

15 JAN 8 1971

EXP. PROC.
DEC 31 1970 38

62-112697-
77-44205-

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6. If appropriate, a statement of facts demonstrating the manner in which production of the records requested would prejudice the operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

7. Your suggestions as to defenses which should be raised including suggestions specifically as to which allegations of the complaint should be admitted and which should be denied.

8. The name and telephone number of the person in your office who will be familiar with this case.

The attorney assigned this case in our office is Jeffrey Axelrad (Ext. 3300).

Your prompt and complete compliance with this request will be appreciated and will enable us to represent your interests in this case most effectively.

Attachment

cc: United States Attorney
District of Columbia

F B I

Date: 1/6/71

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)
SUBJECT: KENSALT

Re Bureau airtel dated 12/4/70.

Interviews completed with six members of the Student Club, Southern California District Communist Party, USA. Those interviewed refused to discuss subject matter with Agents.

Investigation continuing to locate SUSAN ROMO for interview. At conclusion of this interview a letterhead memorandum will be submitted regarding complete results of investigation.

Appropriate local authorities interviewed regarding publication, "RFK Must Die," and intend no action in regard to this book.

EX-115

REC-45

62-587-5-1253

1 JAN 9 1971

2 - Bureau
2 - Los Angeles

AOR/lkb
(4)

61 JAN 18 1971

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

KA
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

January 7, 1971

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Schutz

REC-84

62-587-1252
ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

EX-111

This is in reply to your letter of December 30, 1970, captioned "Committee to Investigate Assassinations, Inc. v. Department of Justice, USDC D.C., Civil Action No. 3651-70," your reference 145-12-1495 and the subsequent conversation on January 5, 1971, between Mr. J. F. Axelrad of the Department and Special Agent Henry A. Schutz, Jr.

It was pointed out during the referenced conversation that facts relative to the civil action initiated by Bernard Fensterwald, Jr. had previously been furnished the Department by communications dated October 5, and November 17, 1970.

Mr. Axelrad advised that under the circumstances no additional information was necessary at this time. In the event additional information is necessary at a later date, Mr. Axelrad advised he will request same of the Bureau.

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

HAS:bkg
(5)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

Tolson _____
Sullivan _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Brennan, C.D. _____
Callahan _____
Casper _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Walters _____
Soyars _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

NOTE:

Fensterwald, former Chief Counsel to Senator Long's Committee on Wiretapping, in his contacts with us has shown himself to be unscrupulous, untrustworthy, and anti-FBI. Fensterwald aligned himself with former FBI Agent William Turner in the Committee to Investigate Assassinations. According to Fensterwald, the Committee to Investigate Assassinations was formed to investigate assassinations of President John F. Kennedy, Martin Luther King, and Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

The Civil Division's inquiry deals with a civil action filed by Fensterwald to obtain FBI reports. We have previously corresponded at length with the Criminal Division which had been handling the Bobby Kennedy assassination relative to Fensterwald's request. Fensterwald had made a request to the Department for FBI files, but had not filed a formal request through the courts. When the Civil Division was advised of the above (not having checked Department files), it was indicated no further action was necessary by the FBI.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED ON ENVELOPE
ONLY HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-9-96 BY SP4-BJA-MLB

1252

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DEC 9 1971

LEQ.III.JTAgelrad:bd

L. Patrick Gray, III
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

Committee to Investigate Assassinations,
Inc. v. Dept. of Justice, USDC D.C.
Civil Action No. 3651-70

Attached is a copy of the complaint in the above-captioned proceedings.

This Act, under which plaintiff proceeds, 5 U.S.C. 552, provides that the present action "shall take precedence on the docket over all other causes and shall be assigned for hearing and trial at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way." We request, therefore, that not later than January 21, 1972, you furnish this office with a litigation report in duplicate including the following items:

1. A statement as to the manner, place, and time of plaintiff's request to your office to make the records involved available for his inspection, including four copies -- one certified -- of any documents or other memoranda incorporating plaintiff's request.
2. Four copies -- one certified -- of any correspondence or memoranda of any communication, written or oral, between your office and the plaintiff concerning plaintiff's request for the records involved.
3. If the records have been identified and located a detailed description or summary of the records involved and a statement as to their current location. If it has not been possible to identify or locate the records, please include a statement to this effect.
4. Two copies of any correspondence or memoranda within your office showing the administrative processing of the plaintiff's request.
5. A statement of the reason or reasons why in your office's opinion the records involved should not be made available. If the records fall within one or more of the exemptions of subsection (b) of the Act, such exemption should be specifically identified and discussed.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-4-96 BY SP4-BJA-MLP
351592

6. If appropriate, a statement of facts demonstrating the manner in which production of the records requested would prejudice the operations of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

7. Your suggestions as to defenses which should be raised including suggestions specifically as to which allegations of the complaint should be admitted and which should be denied.

8. The name and telephone number of the person in your office who will be familiar with this case.

The attorney assigned this case in our office is Jeffrey Axelrad (Ext. 3300).

Your prompt and complete compliance with this request will be appreciated and will enable us to represent your interests in this case most effectively.

Attachment

cc: United States Attorney
District of Columbia

United States District Court

FOR THE

3651-70

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO.

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS, INC.

Plaintiff
v.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Defendant

SUMMONS

To the above named Defendant :

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon

Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.

your plaintiff's attorney, whose address

is 905 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

JAMES F. DAVEY

Clerk of Court.

Deputy Clerk.

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-4-96 BY SP4-BJA-MCB
JP 351592

Date: December 15, 1970

[Seal of Court]

Note: This summons is issued pursuant to Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

19 DEC 16 1970

1
ROBINSON, J.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

.....
COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE
ASSASSINATIONS, INC
927 15th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

Plaintiff

3651-70

v.

Civil Action No. _____

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
10th & Constitution Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Defendant
.....

C O M P L A I N T

(Pursuant to Public Law 89-487; 5 U.S.C. §552)

1. Plaintiff brings this action under Public Law 89-487; 5 U.S.C. §552.
2. Plaintiff is a non-profit corporation, organized under the laws of the District of Columbia, for the purposes of investigating the assassinations of several of our more important national leaders, discovering the identity of those responsible for these assassinations, the reasons why the whole truth relating to them is suppressed, and educating the public and Congress as to true facts regarding these various matters.
3. Defendant is the U.S. Department of Justice.
4. Senator Robert Francis Kennedy, one of our national leaders, was assassinated in Los Angeles in June, 1968.

page 1

5. The defendant Department of Justice, by and through its investigative arm, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, made an in-depth study of the murder, which was compiled into a file of approximately 6,000 pages and designated as Office File 56-156, Bureau File No. 62-587.

6. Said FBI file was made available to Sirhan B. Sirhan and his counsel (Messrs. Russell Parsons, Grant Cooper, and E. Z. Berman) for preparation of his defense against a charge of First Degree Murder in Los Angeles County, California, in the wrongful death of Senator Robert Francis Kennedy.

7. Said FBI file was also made available to Mr. Robert F. Kaiser, who paid Sirhan B. Sirhan approximately \$32,000.00 for the privilege of writing his "inside story."

8. Mr. Robert F. Kaiser is neither an attorney nor licensed investigator, but rather a journalist and self-styled free lance writer.

9. Mr. Kaiser's "inside story" was published as R.F.K. Must Die: a History of the Robert Kennedy Assassination and Its Aftermath, E.P. Dutton, New York, 1970 (Library of Congress Catalogue Number 74-86074).

10. On page 11, 12, 321, 322 of RFK Must Die, Mr. Kaiser acknowledges the availability to him of FBI Office File 56-156, Bureau File No. 62-587. [See Exhibit A, appended hereto.]

11. On October 19, 1970, plaintiff wrote to the Attorney General requesting access to the same FBI File under 5 U.S.C. §552 and 28 CFR 16. As required by regulations of the Department of Justice, the latter was accompanied by a completed form DJ-118 and a check for \$3.00. [For a copy of the letter, see Exhibit B, appended hereto.]

12. In a letter dated December 8, 1970, plaintiff again wrote defendant, renewing his petition to see the FBI file. [See Exhibit C, appended hereto.]

13. In a letter dated December 7, 1970, defendant Department of Justice, over the signature of the Hon. Richard G. Kleindienst, Deputy Attorney General, refused to make the said FBI file available as it is "not subject to disclosure under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. §552(4)(b)(7)." [Exhibit D, appended hereto.]

14. The request remaining denied after exhaustion of administrative remedies, plaintiff files this complaint pursuant to Public Law 89-487, 5 U.S.C. §552, further alleging that, pursuant to this law, the records must be made available to it, and the Court shall determine the matter de novo, and the burden is on the defendant to sustain its refusal.

Wherefore, Plaintiff prays this honorable Court for the following relief: that Defendant be ordered to produce and make available for copying FBI Office File No. 56-156, Bureau File No. 62-587 and such other relief as this Court may deem just and equitable.

BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR.
905 16th St., N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006
Tel. 347-3919
Attorney for Plaintiff

Dated _____

EXHIBIT A

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE
ASSASSINATIONS
927 15TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
(202) 347-3837

BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FRED COOK, INTERLAKEN, NEW JERSEY
JOHN HENRY FAULK, AUSTIN, TEXAS
BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR., WASH., D. C.
PARIS FLAMMONDE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
JIM GARRISON, NEW ORLEANS, LA.
RICHARD POPKIN, LA JOLLA, CALIF.
RICHARD SPRAGUE, HARTSDALE, N. Y.
LLOYD TUPLING, WASH., D. C.
WILLIAM TURNER, MILL VALLEY, CALIF.

October 19, 1970

Attorney General John Mitchell
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

Attached hereto is a completed form DJ-118, a request for access to official records under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 28 CFR Part 16.

The records sought are an FBI file with respect to Sirhan B. Sirhan.

If it were not for the fact that the file in question had been made available to writer Robert Blair Kaiser, and had not Mr. Kaiser made this fact known in his new book, RFK Must Die, [please see Attachment], you might be inclined to answer that the records in question were within an exemption in 5 U.S.C. 552. However, as they have been made available to a commercial writer and are the basis, at least in part, for his published book, we can see no reason why they should not be made equally available to our Committee, as 5 U.S.C. 552 require equality of treatment in access to records.

Therefore, we hope that the records can be made available without serious delay.

Most respectfully yours,

Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.
Executive Director

BF:crr
Bna

EXHIBIT B

COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE ASSASSINATIONS

927 15TH STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005
(202) 347-3837

BERNARD FENSTERWALD, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FRED COOK, INTERLAKEN, NEW JERSEY
JOHN HENRY FAULK, AUSTIN, TEXAS
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PARIS FLAMMONDE, NEW YORK, N. Y.
JIM GARRISON, NEW ORLEANS, LA.
RICHARD POPKIN, LA JOLLA, CALIF.
RICHARD SPRAGUE, HARTSDALE, N. Y.
LLOYD TUPING, WASH., D. C.
WILLIAM TURNER, MILL VALLEY, CALIF.

December 8, 1970

Attorney General John Mitchell
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to you dated October 19, 1970, with respect to access to records under 5 U.S.C. §552(a); accompanied by a completed form DJ-118.

We have received no acknowledgment or reply from the Department of Justice in the intervening six weeks. Are we to assume that access will not be made available?

Although access to the records is urgently needed in order to prepare for a public hearing, we will delay legal action under the FOI Act a few days in hopes of receiving an affirmative reply from the Department.

Most respectfully yours,

Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.
Executive Director

BF:crr
Encls.



EXHIBIT C

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20530

DEC 7 1970

Mr. Bernard Fensterwald, Jr.
Executive Director
Committee to Investigate Assassinations
925 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Mr. Fensterwald:

Reference is made to your letter of October 19, 1970 with attachments requesting access to the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the matter of Sirhan B. Sirhan.

I am unable to comply with your request for the reason that such files are not subject to disclosure under the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552 (4)(b)(7).

Your check dated October 19, 1970 and drawn on the Riggs National Bank is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

RICHARD G. KLEINDIENST
Deputy Attorney General

Ex. R. - D

"R.F.K. Must Die!"

A History of
the Robert Kennedy Assassination
and Its Aftermath

by
Robert Blair Kaiser



E. P. DUTTON & CO., INC., NEW YORK, 1970

Preface

357

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When yet another assassin's bullet took the life of yet another Kennedy, the whole world demanded to know who did it and why. They soon discovered who. It was a young Palestinian Arab refugee with a strange double name: Sirhan Sirhan. But the story of why he killed—which he propounded at the trial—didn't make any sense.

This is a book that tries to make sense of it. It is a book about the assassin and about those who probed him: police, prosecutors, defense attorneys, psychiatrists, psychologists, reporters.

I was one of those reporters. Out of curiosity, mainly, and out of a suspicion that the public would learn something less than the whole truth if it had to rely on either the assassin's unchallenged version or even the police estimate, I wangled my way inside the case.

Once I was inside, I was really in. I was able to talk to Sirhan's family and some of his friends, to sit in on the defense attorneys' conferences with Sirhan, to become a participant-observer in the attorneys' own private working sessions, confer closely with the psychologists and psychiatrists in the case. I had access to police and FBI files, and, most important of all, I was able to visit Sirhan in his cell two or three times a week until he left Los Angeles for San Quentin, condemned to die.

I doubt whether any reporter has ever gotten so deeply inside a major murder case.

Why was I given such entrée? I hesitate to say the answer was simply money. I did promise to provide funds for Sirhan's legal defense, and I probably would have gotten nowhere without such a promise—and delivery. Sirhan wanted a good private attorney and I made it possible for him to hire one. It wasn't that Attorney Grant Cooper demanded a big fee, or any fee at all. In fact, Cooper renounced any proceeds from my writings on the case.

in favor of the University of Southern California Law School. Still, he needed some resources: the district attorney's office spent \$203,656 to prosecute Sirhan. Simple fairness would dictate that Sirhan's attorneys should have a fraction of that for their expenses (otherwise, the expression "fair trial" would have been a sham). And simple common sense told me that there was only one sure source for those expenses, the world press. The world wanted to know, the news media would pay. They did, in a modest way. By the end of the case, I was able to turn some \$32,000, approximately half of what I had then received, over to Sirhan's attorneys.

But I provided more than money. I gave myself. The defense attorneys received most of the Los Angeles Police Department files and all of the FBI reports on the case through a legal "motion for discovery." But neither they nor their investigator had time to read and digest all this material. I did. They didn't have the time or the patience to draw out the assassin. I did. Soon, the attorneys began to need me, for, in my total curiosity, I soon knew more about the case than they did themselves. My reporter's dream was complete when Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, the chief psychiatrist for the defense, turned to me as the chief repository of knowledge about the case and began taking me into Sirhan's cell with him for his analysis of Sirhan under hypnosis.

I am not at all sure that every case would lend itself to such heightened personal involvement by a reporter who is trying to write about it. In this case, however, I got access to the assassin, without giving up the right to tell the story as I saw it.

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"Of course it does," said Berman, wondering to himself just how the judge could be persuaded to let that happen.

"And I've got some books," said Jabara fiercely, "that ought to go in evidence."

"I'd like to have them right away," said Berman. "And anything else you've got on the subject."

Jabara smiled and relaxed enough to enjoy the greatest fried shrimp in town. "Okay," he said. "Okay."

"Here," I said, pushing a plate at Jabara, "have a fortune cookie and see what the fates have in store."

Jabara took a sip of tea, opened his cookie carefully and burst into a roar of laughter. He handed over a tiny scrap of paper imprinted with the message: "DON'T LET YOUR ENTHUSIASM OVERRIDE THE REALITY AROUND YOU." Jabara laughed again.

While the lawyers settled down to the weary task of picking twelve jurors and six alternates, I continued to read the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Office File 56-156, Bureau File No. 62-587. It was impressively heavy, comprising at least 4,000 pages of reports from special agents all over the United States who looked into the case of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan "upon request of the Attorney General of the United States under the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965."

And it was well written. The report of the assassination itself by Amadee O. Richards, Jr., of the Los Angeles office was a model of telegraphic clarity.

At approximately 12:15 A.M., 6/5/68, Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY proclaimed victory in California primary election in crowded Embassy Room, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles. As SENATOR KENNEDY and party were leaving Embassy Room through kitchen exit, a series of shots were fired by an unknown individual, subsequently identified as SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. SENATOR KENNEDY fell backward onto floor, critically wounded with bullet in brain. SIRHAN wrestled to floor, disarmed and turned over to Los Angeles, California, police department (LAPD).

The reports gave me a chance to verify many of the associations Sirhan had already told me about. Here were summaries of FBI interviews with persons who had known Sirhan in school and with some of those who had

known him at the ranch in Norco-Corona. Strangely, the FBI couldn't seem to find Frank Donnarauma, the man who had hired Sirhan at Corona, who also had an alias, Henry Donald Ramistella. (The FBI didn't find him until April 6, 1969.) But all these persons seemed to have been processed in an automatic way with no real guiding intelligence behind the perfunctory series of questions they were asked.

The reports then, added up to very little, except where they disclosed the identity of certain persons associated with Sirhan whom he had concealed from McCowan and me. But there was no indication in the reports that any of these persons had less than the greatest love for Robert Kennedy.

What the robots seemed to do best was compile all the numbers that various bureaucrats had conferred upon Sirhan in his short and mostly anonymous life. His passport number: [REDACTED] His visa number: [REDACTED] issued under Public Law 203-4 (A)1(14). His alien registration number: [REDACTED] His unit number in the California Cadet Corps: 138 Battalion, B Company. His Social Security number: [REDACTED] His number at the State Racing Board: 1-031944. His California driver's license: [REDACTED] His booking number at the Los Angeles Police Department: 495 139. His booking number at the Los Angeles County Jail: 718 486. And, of course, the serial number of his Iver-Johnson revolver: 53725.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Los Angeles, California
January 12, 1971

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

Reference is made to the memorandum of Deputy Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst, dated December 2, 1970, regarding the investigation of the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy on June 5, 1968.

Reference is also made to the letterhead memorandum prepared by the Los Angeles Office of the FBI dated April 24, 1969, copies of which were furnished to the Department of Justice.

This letterhead memorandum dated April 24, 1969, listed the following individuals as members of the "Student Group of the Communist Party", which Walter S. Crowe admitted forming at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in April of 1967:

Judy Arraj -
James Berland - James F. Berland
Walter Crowe -
William Divale -
Clifford Fried -
Lucille Fried - Lucille Fried
Susan Romo - Susan Fay Romo
Judith Schub -
Jo Wilkinson -

The results of interview with Walter S. Crowe have previously been furnished to your department. The information of William Divale, who was referred to as Source one in the letterhead memorandum of April 24, 1969, concerning this matter, is also known to your department.

The results of the attempted interviews with the members of the "Student Group of the Communist Party" follow.

No further investigation is being
conducted in this matter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY SP6 BJA/vp

62-587-1254 C.N. 255,315

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 12/22/70

1

JUDY ARRAJ was contacted for interview at her residence, Apartment 5, 2931 2nd Street.

ARRAJ opened the door to her apartment and greeted Agents in a friendly manner. Agents asked if she was JUDY ARRAJ and she responded affirmatively. Agents then identified themselves to her as Special Agents of the FBI. ARRAJ stated "goodbye" and slammed the door to her apartment terminating interview.

- 2 -

On 12/17/70 at Santa Monica, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
Los Angeles 100-64508
by SA FRANCIS G. KAHL and
SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN/TJA/ecr Date dictated 12/17/70

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 12/22/70

An unidentified female answered the rear door at 44 Thorton Avenue, Venice, California. She was advised of the identity of the contacting agents and a request was made to speak with JAMES F. BERLAND. She advised that BERLAND was not home to the FBI and shut the door. A brown Volvo automobile bearing California license IOR 116 was parked at the rear of this address and a check of California Department of Motor Vehicles, disclosed this vehicle was registered to BERLAND at this address. BERLAND was observed in the kitchen, but did not come to the door. The unidentified female declined to identify herself.

- 3 -

On 12/17/70 at Venice, California File # Los Angeles 100-64507

SA's FRANCIS G. KAHL and
by THEODORE J. A'HEARN/FGK/mam/emc Date dictated 12/22/70

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 12/22/70

LUCILLE FRIED was contacted for interview at her residence, Apartment 3, 1734 Armacost Avenue. Agents knocked on the door to her apartment. A female responded inquiring as to who was there. Agents asked for LUCILLE FRIED and the female responded, "I am LUCY FRIED". Agents then identified themselves as Special Agents of the FBI. She stated she had nothing to say to the FBI and the Agents could contact her attorney, who she identified as FRANK PESTANA.

Agents asked LUCY FRIED if her husband, CLIFFORD FRIED, was at home. She stated he was but he was in the shower. LUCY stated that CLIFFORD FRIED would not speak with the FBI either.

Agents requested LUCY FRIED to advise CLIFFORD FRIED that the Agents requested to interview him. She stated she would. After a few moments, LUCY FRIED advised the Agents that CLIFFORD FRIED would not talk with the FBI and to contact his attorney, FRANK PESTANA.

The interview was conducted without the door to the FRIEDS' apartment being opened.

- 4 -

On 12/17/70 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
Los Angeles 100-54669
by SA FRANCIS G. KAHL and
SA THEODORE J. A'HEARN/TJA/ecr Date dictated 12/17/70
Los Angeles 100-68125

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 1/6/71

On January 6, 1971, SUSAN FAY ROMO was interviewed by Special Agents DANNY B. JAMES and ROBERT H. CLAUDIUS in front of her residence, 3348 Wood Terrace, Los Angeles, California. Upon identifying themselves as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to ROMO, it was pointed out to her that the Agents desired to speak to her concerning any knowledge she may have regarding SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN prior to the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY on June 5, 1968.

ROMO advised the Agents that her mind was a blank and that she would not speak except in the presence of her attorney. When asked if she would consent to be interviewed by the FBI in the presence of her attorney, she advised that she would not at any time talk to the FBI.

ROMO terminated the interview by entering her automobile and driving away.

- 5 -

On 1/6/71 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 100-65556

SA DANNY B. JAMES and
by ROBERT H. CLAUDIUS/DBJ/emc Date dictated 1/6/71

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date December 31, 1970

Mrs. JUDITH FERN WOLFENSTEIN was interviewed at her residence, 9819 Yoakum Drive, Beverly Hills, California, in the presence of her husband, Mr. E. VICTOR WOLFENSTEIN, during the morning of December 31, 1970.

She was advised of the identities of the writers and was told we wished to talk with her. She said she had nothing she wished to discuss with the Federal Bureau of Investigation. She was told we wished to ask her some questions about WALTER S. CROWE. Mrs. WOLFENSTEIN answered that she did not wish to discuss Mr. CROWE with representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

At this point Mrs. WOLFENSTEIN said she did not wish to discuss the matter further. She thanked them for carrying her copy of the morning edition of the "Los Angeles Times" newspaper to her door from the street curb, and said "Good morning," thus terminating the interview.

- 6 -

On 12/31/70 at Beverly Hills, California File # LA 100-65200
by CHARLES C. WILSON-ccw
GILBERT G. BENJAMIN/ggb 12/31/70
Date dictated

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 12/22/70

JO WILKINSON was contacted for the purpose of an interview immediately in front of the John Marshall High School, 3939 Tracy Street, Los Angeles, California, where she is employed as a clerk.

After identifying themselves as Special Agents of the FBI and apprising her of the general nature of this inquiry relative to her acquaintance and association, if any, with SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and matters related therewith, WILKINSON, without admitting her identity fully, stated that she did not want to speak to the FBI except in the presence of an attorney. Upon inquiry as to her attorney, she stated that her father, not otherwise identified, would need to be contacted for his name.

- 7 -

On 12/22/70 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 100-66771

SAs LESLIE F. WARREN and
by JOHN P. ANDREWS/LFW/emc Date dictated 12/22/70

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.

SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

Prior investigation concerning this phase of the Kennedy assassination developed information that Thomas Daniel Good had been a friend of Sirhan and also had attended classes with Sirhan at Pasadena City College. Good, like William S. Crowe, had also been a member of a Youth Section of the Southern California District Communist Party and his Communist Party membership had been confirmed. Good was interviewed at San Jose, California, on June 13, 1968, and also at San Francisco, California on June 14, 1968. Copies of these interviews are being included for the information of the Department.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6/13/68

Date

THOMAS D. GOOD was located at his place of residence, a rooming house at 22 South 11th Street, San Jose, at approximately 1:30 P.M., June 13, 1968. The interviewing agents identified themselves to GOOD through display of FBI credentials. GOOD advised SAs KIDWELL and SAMPLE that he would not be able to talk to them without first consulting his attorney, one AUBREY GROSSMAN, of San Francisco.

Thomas D. Good
GOOD stated that he would attempt to reach his attorney by telephone and get an opinion from him regarding an interview with FBI agents. He placed a long-distance call to San Francisco with Agents SAMPLE and KIDWELL present, and was informed that Mr. GROSSMAN was not available. SA KIDWELL asked GOOD if the name SIRHAN SIRHAN was familiar to him. GOOD responded that he recognized the name. SA KIDWELL asked him if the name was familiar to him over and above what he had read recently in the press. GOOD replied that it was.

Born 6/27/43, Altadena, Calif.
SA KIDWELL informed GOOD that the interviewing agents desired to discuss SIRHAN SIRHAN with him. GOOD stated that even though the topic of interview was to be in connection with his knowledge of SIRHAN SIRHAN, he still would need the approval of his attorney before being interviewed. In conclusion, he stated that he would attempt again to reach Mr. GROSSMAN during the afternoon of June 13, 1968, and upon receiving Mr. GROSSMAN's opinion in this matter, would immediately recontact FBI agents.

- 9 -

On 6/13/68 at San Jose, California File # 62-5481

by WILLIAM N. KIDWELL, JR. & MALCOLM E. SAMPLE / EP Date dictated 6/13/68

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.

Date 6/21/68

THOMAS DANIEL GOOD, 22 South 11th Street, San Jose, California 95112, was interviewed in the San Francisco Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California, on June 14, 1968. GOOD voluntarily appeared accompanied by his attorney, AUBREY GROSSMAN, who was present during the interview.

GOOD related that he is unemployed and is a student at San Jose State College, San Jose, California. His parents are ROSCOE WAYNE and INEZ GOOD, who reside at 1364 Elizabeth Street, Pasadena, California 91104. He was born on June 27, 1945, at Altadena, California.

GOOD furnished the following information concerning the individual whose photograph appeared in local newspapers, identified as SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, reported assassin of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

He first met this individual at John Muir High School, Pasadena California, in what he recalls to have been the 1962-63 school year when he was in the 11th grade. This individual was known to him only as SIRHAN, with no other names recalled. He believes he first heard of SIRHAN at Social Science class during a discussion on the question of politics. During this discussion some student suggested that he felt they should hear from SIRHAN on his views since the discussion, as recalled by GOOD, involved the Middle East. He thereafter became an acquaintance of SIRHAN and never did consider him what he would term a friend. He thereafter visited in SIRHAN's home on approximately three occasions, and on one occasion SIRHAN visited in GOOD's home. GOOD recalled that he went on a picnic with SIRHAN's mother and a sister who is now deceased. Also present at this picnic were a Mrs. HAYWARD, address unknown, and some members of her family. Mrs. HAYWARD reportedly knew Mrs. SIRHAN from church attendance, and he recalled that Mrs. HAYWARD was also a friend of his parents.

As GOOD recalls, he last saw SIRHAN in 1964. He remembers SIRHAN as a student at Pasadena City College for at least one semester during the time GOOD attended from the Fall of 1963 until

On 6/14/68 at San Francisco, California File # LA 56-156 SF 62-5481

-10-

by STANLEY F. FEWSTER & GEORGE P. GALLOWAY / JEP Date dictated 6/20/68

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.

July, 1965. GOOD was a member of the Young Democrats at Pasadena City College. He was unaware of any other political organizations and does not know what groups or organizations SIRHAN belonged to, if any. He recalled that SIRHAN had some contact with other Arab students but he had no knowledge if there was any formal group or organization among such students. He stated there was a large group of Arab students attending Pasadena City College at that time. GOOD stated he was unable to furnish any information concerning SIRHAN's political views but recalled him as being very anti-Israel. He was aware that SIRHAN came from Palestine and attributed his feeling toward Israel to his national origin.

GOOD is acquainted with one WALTER CROWE and recalled that CROWE was a friend of SIRHAN. He related that CROWE met SIRHAN when the latter first came to the United States. CROWE also attended elementary school with SIRHAN and later John Muir High School. He stated that he knew of no contacts between CROWE and SIRHAN outside the context of the school. CROWE mentioned SIRHAN to GOOD on more than one occasion but never commented on the political beliefs of SIRHAN.

GOOD related that he never heard SIRHAN express his feelings regarding the KENNEDY family or any other Government official. He stated that he recalled the reactions of numerous friends to the assassination of President JOHN F. KENNEDY but does not recall the reaction of SIRHAN to this event. He stated there was nothing in his acquaintance with SIRHAN on which he could base any motive for his action in this case. He recalled SIRHAN as a very distant individual, no matter how friendly one became with him. He recalled him as an individual who seemed to be alienated from people in general, even from other Arabs, and WALTER CROWE appeared to be his only friend and this friendship was not a close one. He stated he never detected any strain of violence in SIRHAN, but, to the contrary, remembered once when he was visiting in the SIRHAN home there was a deaf-mute or blind girl also present and SIRHAN seemed very gentle to her.

GOOD related that of the many Arab students who attended Pasadena State College with whom he was acquainted, SIRHAN had stronger ideas of Arab nationalism than any of the others.

SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

In regard to the book entitled, "R.F.K. Must Die!", by Robert Blair Kaiser, it is noted that based on a review of this text it would not appear that any additional investigation is warranted as no new facts were presented in this book that had not been adjudicated through investigation conducted by the FBI and the Los Angeles Police Department.

It is of interest to note that on pages 291 and 329 of this text, Dr. Eric Marcus, one of the psychiatrists who interviewed and tested Sirhan, and even interviewed him while Sirhan was in a hypnotic state, has made the statement according to the author on page 291, "Nor did Sirhan ever join a young Communist cell or make any effort to communicate with Al Fatah." Also, on page 329 the author indicated that Marcus explored Sirhan's Communism, found it was a solitary thing, little more than a vague demand for a more equitable distribution of this world's goods.

John Howard, Assistant District Attorney of Los Angeles County, advised that his department questioned a few of the quotations alleged to have been made by himself, Lynn Compton, and David Fitts, who comprised the prosecution team, but did not intend to make any issue concerning this matter. Further, Howard advised no new information was brought forth in this publication and therefore, his department would take no action based upon the-book.

Deputy Chief Robert Houghton of the Los Angeles Police Department stated that the book had been reviewed by his department and as no new information was set forth therein, his department intended taking no action or conducting any further investigation concerning this case.

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F B I

Date: 1/12/71

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)
 RE: KENSALT

Re Bureau airtel to Los Angeles dated 12/4/70, and
 Los Angeles airtel to the Bureau dated 1/6/71.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five (5) copies of a
 letterhead memorandum (LHM) in response to request set forth
 in memorandum to the Bureau, from RICHARD G. KLEINDIENST,
 Deputy Attorney General, dated 12/2/70, regarding the
 assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY on 6/5/68.

It is noted that as set forth in Los Angeles airtel
 to the Bureau captioned, "KENSALT", dated 4/24/69, interview
 of the members of the Student Club, Southern California
 District Communist Party (SCDCP) was previously withheld, as
 there was no evidence to indicate any Communist conspiracy
 existed in the relationship between SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN,
 WALTER S. CROWE, and the assassination of ROBERT F. KENNEDY.
 Also, former LA 4688-S at that time was being made available
 to the Department in cases relating to petitions to the
 Subversive Activities Control Board (SACB) under provisions of
 the Internal Securities Act as amended. Also, it was felt at
 that time that interview of the members of the Student Club
 might jeopardize the effectiveness of former LA 4688-S in his
 testimony before the SACB.

Interview of the seven members of the Student Group,
 SCDCP has now been completed in accordance with Bureau

② - Bureau (Encls. 5) ENCLOSURE
 2 - Los Angeles

AOR:emc
 (4)

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-11-86 BY SP6 BJA/WK

Approved: 57

57 JAN 29 1971

Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

REC-13

62-587-1254

6 JAN 15 1971

LA 56-156

instructions and the results are set forth in enclosed LHM. In regard to the book entitled, "R.F.K. Must Die!", published by E. P. Dutton and Company, Incorporated, the author, ROBERT BLAIR KAISER, presents a history of the ROBERT F. KENNEDY assassination and expounds a personal theory, not substantiated by the investigation conducted by the FBI and the Los Angeles Police Department, that SIRHAN was programmed to kill ROBERT KENNEDY, referring to a so called Manchurian candidate theory.

KAISER traces a history of the assassination, beginning with the night of the California Primary, 6/4/68, when KENNEDY arrived at the Ambassador Hotel after having spent several hours at the home of JOHN FRANKENHEIMER at Malibu, California.

The book continues with a vivid description of the shooting in the pantry area of the Embassy Room at the Ambassador Hotel, the subsequent capture of SIRHAN, and the transfer of KENNEDY to the Central Receiving Hospital, and finally to the Good Samaritan Hospital, where he later died.

Much of the book is devoted to a discussion of the legal machinations of the defense team in determining the plea for SIRHAN and the strategy of defending SIRHAN, which finally evolved into a defense of diminished capacity.

Psychiatrists played a very significant aspect in the planning of the defense of this case, and KAISER allots several chapters to the psychiatrists' evaluation of SIRHAN, their interviews with him, and their testing of him. It would appear that KAISER's theory of the alleged programming of SIRHAN evolved from the testing and evaluation of SIRHAN by Dr. BERNARD L. DIAMOND of the University of California at Berkeley, brought into the case by SIRHAN's attorney, GRANT COOPER. KAISER obviously favors DIAMOND's theory of the trance-like spell in which SIRHAN operated. On page 416 of the text, wherein the author describes a meeting of the various

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Date:

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(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

LA 56-156

psychiatrists with the defense attorneys, DIAMOND's viewpoint is brought forth indicating that DIAMOND was convinced that SIRHAN was in a trance when he killed KENNEDY.

KAISER, through strong innuendo, suggests that the investigators averted any conspiracy findings, but he presents no factual evidence to support his theory.

Various aspects of the KENNEDY investigation are set forth through KAISER's reporting of the trial and included are such areas as the investigation at the rifle range, and the purchase of ammunition at the Lock Stock and Barrel Gun Shop.

KAISER was apparently impressed by his position of being able to talk to SIRHAN and suggests that he had a significant influence on the planning of the defense and that he was of material assistance to the psychiatrists, particularly Dr. BERNARD L. DIAMOND, who examined and tested SIRHAN.

KAISER's theory that SIRHAN was programmed to kill KENNEDY is not supported by any factual material and he does not present any new or different facts of the case that were not completely adjudicated by the FBI and Los Angeles Police Department investigations.

Further, in compliance with Bureau instructions, the respective local authorities were contacted concerning their reaction to the publication, "R.F.K. Must Die!", and all of them indicated that they intend no further action based upon this book.

On 12/17/70, JOHN HOWARD, Assistant District Attorney, Los Angeles County, advised that after this book was published, District Attorney EVELLE J. YOUNGER sent a letter to the Attorney General of the United States with a copy to the United States Attorney at Los Angeles, offering any assistance concerning this matter. HOWARD indicated that this letter had

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Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

LA 56-156

been acknowledged by the Office of the Attorney General of the United States, but that no comment had been made. HOWARD further indicated that he had read the book and questioned a few of the alleged quotations of his and the other prosecution attorneys. HOWARD stated, however, that they were making no issue, as they did not want to stir up publicity that would merely result in a possible sales stimulus for the book. HOWARD further advised that the book developed no new information and therefore his department would take no further action concerning this matter.

On 12/29/70, United States Attorney, ROBERT L. MEYER, Los Angeles, advised that he had received a copy of the letter that District Attorney EVELLE J. YOUNGER had sent to the Attorney General and that he had received no instructions from the Department of Justice to conduct any inquiry concerning this matter and that he would certainly not initiate any action on his own behalf without Departmental instructions or at least based upon a recommendation from the FBI. MEYER stated that he himself had not actually read the text of this book, but that he had read reviews of it and would not be in a position to take any action unless he were so instructed by the Department of Justice.

On 12/29/70, Deputy Chief ROBERT HOUGHTON, Los Angeles Police Department, advised that his department had read the book, "R.F.K. Must Die!", but that the book presented no new facts and that his department contemplated no action as a result of this text.

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____
(Priority)

OFF

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: January 11, 1971

FROM : Richard G. Kleindienst
Deputy Attorney General

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act

Attached are a letter and other materials from Mr. Michael James Clark requesting access to certain reports concerning Sirhan B. Sirhan.

Would you please give me your comments regarding this request.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Brennan	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Walters	_____
Mr. Soyars	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

JAN 25 1971

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JAN 25 1971

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200 Madison Ave., Hyde Villa,
Reading, Penna. 19605
January 4, 1971

Deputy Attorney General
Richard Kleindienst
Department of Justice,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Deputy Attorney General:

Enclosed herein is a completed form DJ-118, requesting access to official records under 5 U.S.C. 552(a) and 28 CFR Part 16.

I am requesting access to the extensive FBI reports concerning Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, reports which have been made available to one Robert Blair Kaiser. These reports were used in the preparation of Mr. Kaiser's recently published RFK Must Die (see Attachment). As 5 U.S.C. 552 require equal treatment in access to records, and since these reports have been made available to Mr. Kaiser, a writer and private citizen, I would hope that I too shall be granted access to these FBI reports.

As one deeply concerned with the events surrounding the assassination of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, I trust that, as Mr. Kaiser before me, these official records will be made available to me.

I look forward to hearing from you in the very near future.

Yours truly,

Michael James Clark
Michael James Clark

No. 82 60-313
DATE 1-4 19 71

MICHAEL JAMES CLARK

Pay To The Order Of Treasurer of the United States \$ 3.00
Three Dollars

AMERICAN BANK and TRUST
Co. of Pa.

Nicholas J. ...

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IF YES, SO INDICATE (no more than 10 copies of any document will be furnished). REQUESTED possibly, in part IS LOCATED (if known) Los Angeles or Washington, D.C WHERE RECORD

DESCRIPTION OF RECORD REQUESTED (include any information which may be helpful in locating record)

FBI Office File 56-156, Bureau File 62-587, extensive investigative reports from FBI Special Agents, requested by the Attorney General, concerning Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

LITIGATION: DOES THIS REQUEST RELATE TO A MATTER IN PENDING OR PROSPECTIVE LITIGATION? ☐ YES ☐ NO
FILL IN IF IN PENDING LITIGATION ☐ COURT (check one) ☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE DISTRICT Los Angeles, California NAME OF CASE State of California v. Sirhan B. Sirhan DOCKET NUMBER

Nicholas J. ...
SIGNATURE

FOR USE BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ONLY
THIS REQUEST IS:
☐ GRANTED
☐ DENIED
☐ REFERRED

A MINIMUM FEE OF \$3.00 MUST ACCOMPANY THIS REQUEST. OTHER CHARGES ARE AS FOLLOWS. (do not write in this box)
FOR SECOND AND EACH ADDITIONAL ONE QUARTER HOUR SPENT IN SEARCHING FOR OR IDENTIFYING REQUESTED RECORD \$ 1.00
FOR EACH ONE QUARTER HOUR SPENT IN MONITORING REQUESTER'S EXAMINATION OF MATERIAL \$ 1.00
COPIES OF DOCUMENTS:
50¢ FIRST PAGE, 25¢ EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE
FOR CERTIFICATION OF TRUE COPY \$ 1.00 EACH
FOR ATTESTATION UNDER THE SEAL OF THE DEPARTMENT \$ 3.00 EACH
GSA CHARGE
TOTAL CHARGE

Payment under this section shall be made in cash, or by United States money order, or by check payable to the Treasurer of the United States. Postage stamps will not be accepted.

This form may be delivered to any of the offices listed in 28 C. F. R. 16.2 or mailed to: Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington, D. C. 20530

By the same author
POPE, COUNCIL

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Preface

When yet another assassin's bullet took the life of yet another Kennedy, the whole world demanded to know who did it and why. They soon discovered who. It was a young Palestinian Arab refugee with a strange double name: Sirhan Sirhan. But the story of why he killed—which he propounded at the trial—didn't make any sense.

This is a book that tries to make sense of it. It is a book about the assassin and about those who probed him: police, prosecutors, defense attorneys, psychiatrists, psychologists, reporters.

I was one of those reporters. Out of curiosity, mainly, and out of a suspicion that the public would learn something less than the whole truth if it had to rely on either the assassin's unchallenged version or even the police estimate, I wangled my way inside the case.

Once I was inside, I was really in. I was able to talk to Sirhan's family and some of his friends, to sit in on the defense attorneys' conferences with Sirhan, to become a participant-observer in the attorneys' own private working sessions, confer closely with the psychologists and psychiatrists in the case. I had access to police and FBI files, and, most important of all, I was able to visit Sirhan in his cell two or three times a week until he left Los Angeles for San Quentin, condemned to die.

I doubt whether any reporter has ever gotten so deeply inside a major murder case.

Why was I given such entrée? I hesitate to say the answer was simply money. I did promise to provide funds for Sirhan's legal defense, and I probably would have gotten nowhere without such a promise—and delivery. Sirhan wanted a good private attorney and I made it possible for him to hire one. It wasn't that Attorney Grant Cooper demanded a big fee, or any fee at all. In fact, Cooper renounced any proceeds from my writings on the case

in favor of the University of Southern California Law School. Still, he needed some resources: the district attorney's office spent \$203,656 to prosecute Sirhan. Simple fairness would dictate that Sirhan's attorneys should have a fraction of that for their expenses (otherwise, the expression "fair trial" would have been a sham). And simple common sense told me that there was only one sure source for those expenses, the world press. The world wanted to know, the news media would pay. They did, in a modest way. By the end of the case, I was able to turn some \$32,000, approximately half of what I had then received, over to Sirhan's attorneys.

But I provided more than money. I gave myself. The defense attorneys received most of the Los Angeles Police Department files and all of the FBI reports on the case through a legal "motion for discovery." But neither they nor their investigator had time to read and digest all this material. I did. They didn't have the time or the patience to draw out the assassin. I did. Soon, the attorneys began to need me, for, in my total curiosity, I soon knew more about the case than they did themselves. My reporter's dream was complete when Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, the chief psychiatrist for the defense, turned to me as the chief repository of knowledge about the case and began taking me into Sirhan's cell with him for his analysis of Sirhan under hypnosis.

I am not at all sure that every case would lend itself to such heightened personal involvement by a reporter who is trying to write about it. In this case, however, I got access to the assassin, without giving up the right to tell the story as I saw it.

"Of course it does," said Berman, wondering to himself just how the judge could be persuaded to let that happen.

"And I've got some books," said Jabara fiercely, "that ought to go in evidence."

"I'd like to have them right away," said Berman. "And anything else you've got on the subject."

Jabara smiled and relaxed enough to enjoy the greatest fried shrimp in town. "Okay," he said. "Okay."

"Here," I said, pushing a plate at Jabara, "have a fortune cookie and see what the fates have in store."

Jabara took a sip of tea, opened his cookie carefully and hurst into a roar of laughter. He handed over a tiny scrap of paper imprinted with the message: "DON'T LET YOUR ENTHUSIASM OVERRIDE THE REALITY AROUND YOU." Jabara laughed again.

While the lawyers settled down to the weary task of picking twelve jurors and six alternates, I continued to read the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Office File 56-156, Bureau File No. 62-587. It was impressively heavy, comprising at least 4,000 pages of reports from special agents all over the United States who looked into the case of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan upon request of the Attorney General of the United States under the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965."

And it was well written. The report of the assassination itself by Amadee O. Richards, Jr., of the Los Angeles office was a model of telegraphic clarity.

At approximately 12:15 A.M., 6/5/68, Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY proclaimed victory in California primary election in crowded Embassy Room, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles. As SENATOR KENNEDY and party were leaving Embassy Room through kitchen exit, a series of shots were fired by an unknown individual, subsequently identified as SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. SENATOR KENNEDY fell backward onto floor, critically wounded with bullet in brain. SIRHAN wrestled to floor, disarmed and turned over to Los Angeles, California, police department (LAPD).

The reports gave me a chance to verify many of the associations Sirhan had already told me about. Here were summaries of FBI interviews with persons who had known Sirhan in school and with some of those who had

Eleven

**"We're doctors, Sirhan, and we want to help you.
We're Jews, Sirhan, but we want to help you."**

During his second week of trial, Sirhan assumed an almost jaunty air, growing used to the courtroom now, fascinated that he was so much the center of attention, seemingly oblivious of the fact that he was on trial for his life. At one point David Fitts was asking a potential juror, Lawrence Morgan, his stock question: Would he have the courage to face Sirhan three or four months from now and tell him face-to-face that for the murder of Senator Robert F. Kennedy he must die in the gas chamber?

As Fitts spoke, Sirhan leaned forward around Parsons and smiled broadly at Morgan. Fitts's question was no longer a shock. "You can see him now," said Fitts to Morgan. "He just leaned over and even smiled at you. He may smile at you all through the trial."

"I smile at you, too, Mr. Fitts," Sirhan blurted in a clear, good-natured tone.

"Yes, you do. You smile a lot," said Fitts. Judge Walker told Fitts to restrict himself to the questions. It was perhaps unwise of Fitts to draw attention to the fact that a man on trial for his life was assuming such insouciance in the courtroom, for that was not normal behavior.

Nor was it normal for a defendant to be more worried about my book than the progress of his own defense. Yet, on the afternoon of January 18, when Cooper, Berman and I paid Sirhan a call and brought a Xerox copy of his notebook up to the cell, Sirhan was much more worried over the book that I hadn't even then begun, than he was over his own notebook, which would play such a large part in his own conviction.

"I would like to have a little influence on your book," said Sirhan.

"A little influence!" I said. "The book is mainly about you, and I can only report what you tell me. Of course, if you want to write your own book . . ."