

BOX NO. 3

FOLDER NO. 79

photocopies of interview summaries, June - November 1968

RFK Assassination 2017-0108

1B83

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/26/68

MILTON BERLE, Actor, in care of William Morris Agency, Incorporated, 151 El Camino, Beverly Hills, California, telephone number BR 2-4111, telephoned SA LESLIE F. WARREN in response to SA WARREN's attempt to contact him.

Concerning the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, Mr. BERLE said he had attended the Senator KENNEDY campaign party on the evening of June 4, 1968 and the morning of June 5, 1968. He, at the time of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY, was in the KENNEDY suite on the fifth floor of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles watching the NBC cameras monitoring the crowds in the Embassy Room. It was not a live monitor. He did not witness the shooting or the immediate aftermath. He had not observed any one resembling SIRHAN SIRHAN or any one suspicious. Consequently, he said he had no information which might be of assistance in this matter.

On 6/20/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA LESLIE F. WARREN/clp Date dictated 6/25/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/20/68

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Mr. JAMES (JIMMY) BRESLIN was interviewed at Gallagher's Steak House, 228 West 52nd Street, New York, New York. He stated that he writes for several newspapers throughout the United States and that his agent is the Sterling Lord Literary Agency, 75 East 55th Street, New York, New York. He resides at 52 Deepdene Road, Forest Hills, New York.

Starting on March 17, 1968, he covered several of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY's Presidential campaign trips.

During the evening of June 4, 1968, he was in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California, when Senator KENNEDY made his victory speech. The Embassy Room in which Senator KENNEDY made his speech was very crowded so BRESLIN went to the press room which was near the Embassy Room and watched the speech on television.

When the speech ended an individual, he thinks was DICK DRAYNE of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY's staff, appeared at the door of the press room and said that Senator ROBERT KENNEDY was on his way to the press room. Senator ROBERT KENNEDY after his speeches made it a habit to visit the press room and talk to the press.

BRESLIN went to the door of the press room to wave to Senator ROBERT KENNEDY. He did not see Senator ROBERT KENNEDY, but while at the doorway he heard what at first he thought was a kitchen tray drop to the floor. It was a shot and there were three or four more. At the most, BRESLIN heard four or five shots. People were running and screaming and BRESLIN ran towards where the sound of the shots came from.

Many persons in the crowd were screaming. These people were to BRESLIN's left. Senator ROBERT KENNEDY was lying to BRESLIN's left. In the immediate vicinity was PAUL SCHRADE, also lying on the floor. To BRESLIN's approximate right was BILL BARRY of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY's staff.

On 6/19/68 at New York, New York File # NY 44-1640

by SA FRANCIS L. CASHIN and
SA JOSEPH E. HENEHAN/np Date dictated 6/20/68

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BARRY had someone by the arm which was extended up and which hand held a black barrel pistol. The hand with the pistol then went down onto a table. Someone was jumping on the table. The hand holding the gun dropped it and then something happened and the hand again picked up the gun. ROSIE GRIER then threw a male on a table and held him down and grabbed the male by the arm. BRESLIN then saw the person on the table for the first time. It was SIRHAN SIRHAN. At this moment ROSIE GRIER was holding the gun in his, GRIER's, left hand.

At approximately this time GEORGE PLIMPTON had SIRHAN by his head; WARREN ROGERS had his left leg; and RAFAEL JOHNSON was grabbing his hand.

BRESLIN was of the impression at the time that the gun was still loaded and he tried to get it away from ROSIE GRIER. GRIER would not release the gun. RAFAEL JOHNSON then asked GRIER for the gun and GRIER gave the gun to JOHNSON.

BRESLIN, standing very close to SIRHAN and being face to face with him, asked him twice, "Why did you have to do it?" SIRHAN's eyes were rolling and he did not answer. SIRHAN then tried to thrash around with his legs and body, but those holding him kept him secure.

After SIRHAN SIRHAN was secured by BARRY, JOHNSON, GRIER, PLIMPTON, and ROGERS, and being held by GRIER, JOHNSON, PLIMPTON and ROGERS, BILL BARRY went to Senator ROBERT KENNEDY. BRESLIN occasionally looked over at Senator ROBERT KENNEDY.

The police then arrived and SIRHAN was turned over to them by GRIER, JOHNSON, PLIMPTON and ROGERS.

BRESLIN stated that he did not see the actual shooting and that he had not seen SIRHAN before this. He saw no one in a polka dot dress.

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BRESLIN has since heard several reports concerning the shooting. One was that DICK TUCK of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY's staff chased SIRHAN off the platform twice and another that DICK HARWOOD of the Washington Post actually saw SIRHAN shoot Senator ROBERT KENNEDY.

TAPE # 29308

PERSON INTERVIEWED: BRESLIN, James DATE/TIME 7-30-68 4:30 PMSEX M RACE C HAIR Brn EYES Brn HT 5-9 WT 225 DOB 10-17-29RESIDENCE ADDRESS 52 Deepdene Rd. Forrest Hills, Queens PHONE (212) 793-1885

NY

BUSINESS ADDRESS 75 West St. N. Y. City PHONE (212) 944-9000

INFORMATION: (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW)

BRESLIN is a reporter for the New York Post, and traveled with Kennedy, beginning in March, 1968.

He was in the Colonial Room during the speech, and just opening the kitchen doors as the shots were fired.

BRESLIN did not know of an announced press conference. He states that Kennedy always went to the press room, and spoke with the writing press. BRESLIN states there were not many people in the Colonial Room at the time of the shooting. He states "a half dozen." BRESLIN heard 4 or 5 shots and ran into the kitchen. The crowd ran toward him and there was a great deal of confusion. He saw Sirhan, the gun waving around, a fight for the gun. People were ducking and running, Kennedy was down and BRESLIN found himself beside Sirhan. Bill BARRY was holding Sirhan and Rafer JOHNSON had the gun. BRESLIN saw the gun, the hand and the susp. face, but cannot establish that Sirhan actually was holding the gun. BRESLIN remembers Warren ROGERS (I-1021) holding Sirhan's legs, but does not remember his own actions in the kitchen. He can ID Sirhan. BRESLIN assisted in holding back the crowd until Kennedy was removed, then went to the hospital. Within a half hour after the shooting, someone was making inquiries about a woman in a polka dot dress. BRESLIN did not see such a woman and has not heard of anyone who has. He was interviewed by Frank CASHION, FBI New York Office. He did not have a camera. He wrote a story for the New York Post. He did not see Sirhan prior to the shooting.

Persons at the Hotel include:

- X DALEY, Charles - University of Chicago 5-1986
- X SHERIDAN, Walter - NBC News 5-1987

BRESLIN had been invited to the party at "The Factory" after the speech. This invitation was extended by Kennedy, while they were on the 5th floor of the Hotel.

(Con't)

kw/8-6-68

INVESTIGATORS MAKING INTERVIEW:

S/Sgt. D. D. Varney #108395 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

APPROVED BY:

27. B. A. Higley

BRESLIN - Continued

On 6-4-68 at approx. 3:30 PM, BRESLIN observed two young people (Hippies) passing out orange and black bumper stickers, which stated, in effect, "Expose Kennedy Death Hoax." He brought this to the attention of Mort GOODMAN, Hotel Public Relations, who took care of the situation. BRESLIN confirms earlier reports that these stickers referred to John KENNEDY, not Robert Kennedy.

BRESLIN states there were never any serious complaints from the press, that Kennedy gave them all a fair shake. He discounts any story that Kennedy made a last minute decision to have a press conference to appease anyone.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.

Date 6/12/68

CAESER CHAVEZ, Director, United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL - CIO, office address 102 Albany Street, Delano, California, mailing address, Post Office Box 130, Delano, California, was interviewed in Room number 6, of the Travelodge Motel, Indio, California, at which time he furnished the following information:

Mr. CHAVEZ last saw and personally talked with Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in March, 1968.

On the evening of June 4, 1968, Mr. CHAVEZ was going to see ROBERT F. KENNEDY and after the polls closed CHAVEZ left United Farm Workers Organizing Committee Headquarters, 806 Eastman, Los Angeles, California, with Father LUCE of the east side parish of the Episcopal Church. Mr. CHAVEZ arrived at the Ambassador Hotel with Father LUCE, 200 workers from his organization and a Mariachi Band.

Mr. CHAVEZ stayed at the Ambassador Hotel approximately one hour leaving at about 11:00 p.m. without seeing Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. He left as his wife had not been able to come to the affair and he was feeling tired due to a back injury. Prior to leaving, Mr. CHAVEZ told one of his associates RUDY AMADA to tell the others he had left.

Mr. CHAVEZ departed with Fathers LUCE and GARBER of the Episcopal Church and they took him by his home where they picked up Mrs. CHAVEZ and then proceeded to the eastside campaign headquarters for RICHARD CALDERON, a candidate for State Senate. CHAVEZ was there approximately ten or fifteen minutes when Senator ROBERT KENNEDY came on television and gave his victory speech. Mr. CHAVEZ watched this speech with his wife, HELEN CHAVEZ and the others at CALDERON's campaign headquarters.

CAESER CHAVEZ stated that he had seen photographs of SIRHAN SIRHAN in the newspaper and on television and did not know him. He did not see SIRHAN at the Ambassador Hotel. He stated he has had no argument with Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY

On 6/11/68 at Indio, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA THEODORE HINDERAKER/nmb Date dictated 6/12/68

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or the KENNEDY organization at any time.. He added he can furnish no information regarding the shooting of Senator KENNEDY.

Mr. CHAVEZ stated that on June 10, 1968, while stopping at his union headquarters in Los Angeles at 806 Eastman, one BILL CHANDLER commented that he (CHANDLER) knew SIRHAN SIRHAN or had gone to school with him in Pasadena, California. BILL CHANDLER is affiliated with CHAVEZ in his labor movement and was at the Ambassador Hotel on the night ROBERT F. KENNEDY was shot. CHANDLER resides at 2827 Winters, Los Angeles, California, phone 262-5479.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 9/26/68

JAMES CHARLES EVERS, also known as Charles Evers, Negro male, Field Director, Mississippi Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), was contacted at the NAACP Office, 1072 Lynch Street, Jackson, Mississippi. Mr. EVERS was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and of the nature of the inquiry.

He advised in the Spring of 1968 he was appointed Co-chairman of the Robert F. Kennedy for President Committee in Mississippi. He also campaigned for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY in the State of California during part of May and the first week of June, 1968. While in Los Angeles, California, campaigning for the late Senator KENNEDY Mr. EVERS said he resided in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. He said during the victory rally for the late Senator KENNEDY held in the Embassy Ballroom on the late evening of June 4, 1968, he was in the vicinity of the television cameras at the time Senator KENNEDY left the hall to go through the serving kitchen to another room near the Embassy Room. He said he heard a loud "pop" and saw the commotion of people going toward the serving kitchen; however, he was not in a position to observe the late Senator KENNEDY being shot or the assassin shooting him.

Mr. EVERS said he has observed photographs of the alleged assassin, SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, in many magazines, newspapers and on television and to his knowledge he had never seen SIRHAN prior to seeing his picture in various media after Senator KENNEDY was assassinated.

Mr. EVERS said he cannot recall seeing SIRHAN in the Ambassador Hotel on the night of June 4, 1968, or

On 9/26/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 56-94

by SA THOMAS FITZ PATRICK &
SA HAROLD M. RATCHFORD:TF/pdb Date dictated 9/26/68

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JN 56-94

on any previous date. He does not know SIRHAN and does not know anyone who knows SIRHAN.

Mr. EVERS said no information has come to his attention concerning any possible conspiracy regarding the assassination of Senator KENNEDY.

Mr. EVERS said after Senator KENNEDY was assassinated he remained in Los Angeles until the body was removed to New York and then to Washington. He attended the funeral ceremonies in New York and Washington immediately after leaving Los Angeles.

Mr. EVERS noted that while in the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles he was registered in a room by himself; however, he spent quite a bit of his time while at the hotel in the Senator Kennedy suite at the hotel.

Supple I-354

INTERVIEWS

FILE # I-1152

PERSON INTERVIEWED: FRANKENHEIMER, John DATE/TIME 7-18-68 3:15 PMSEX M RACE Cauc HAIR Brn EYES Brn HT 6-3 WT 180 DOB 2-19-30RESIDENCE ADDRESS 22400 Pacific Coast Hwy; Malibu PHONE 456-8026BUSINESS ADDRESS MGM PHONE 836-3000In Kansas on Location Phone (316) MU 52740

INFORMATION: (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW)

Mr. FRANKENHEIMER is a producer for MGM and was contacted by phone in Wichita, Kansas where he will remain until mid-September (Ph#-778-1192 & 685-2740).

Mr. FRANKENHEIMER states that Kennedy stayed at his house and that he drove Kennedy to the Ambassador. He arrived at the Hotel at approx. 8:05 PM and went to the suite Kennedy reserved. Mr. FRANKENHEIMER and Steve went downstairs to the Embassy Room about 5 minutes before Kennedy. The route Mr. FRANKENHEIMER took to the Embassy Room took him through the kitchen and he states that at that time he didn't see anyone in the kitchen. During the speech he was standing behind the right door of the stage and watched it on a TV. Approx. 5 minutes before Kennedy finished his speech, Mr. FRANKENHEIMER states a male visibly shaking pushed him (FRANKENHEIMER) and stated, "Get out of my way". Mr. FRANKENHEIMER states that his first reaction was to get mad but he disregarded the incident. He then saw the male walk behind the stage and make a right turn which would put the male going the the direction of the kitchen. Mr. FRANKENHEIMER describes this male as M/unk descent. early 20's dark bushy hair, wearing a blue sweater. Mr. FRANKENHEIMER has seen pictures of Sirhan but feels he could not ID this male if he saw him again and therefore doesn't know if this male was Sirhan or not.

He does not recall seeing any woman in a polka dot dress. He did not have a camera. He has not been contacted by the FBI.

He has made one statement to a female reporter from a Santa Monica paper and it appeared in the 6-5 edition of the paper. Other numerous reporters have attempted to contact him but he would not give any statements.

No persons seen at the Hotel.

KW/8-6-68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/14/68

Colonel JOHN H. GLENN, Room 1001, Sheraton Boston Hotel, advised that he was an aide in the campaign of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY in the California primary election. He stated that he was in an upstairs suite at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, California, when Senator KENNEDY was shot in the early morning of June 5, 1968. Colonel GLENN stated he did not see the captured gunman on that occasion nor did he recognize SIRHAN B. SIRHAN from photographs as an individual he had ever seen previously on any occasion.

Colonel GLENN stated that the only significant change he could recall in connection with Senator KENNEDY's plans was on June 4, 1968. The original plans were that he would spend the night of June 3-4, 1968, at the Ambassador Hotel. However, after a complete day of campaigning on June 3, 1968, which ended in San Diego, California, KENNEDY returned to the Ambassador Hotel late that evening and departed soon afterwards for the Malibu Beach residence of movie director JOHN FRANKENHEIMER. KENNEDY and several of his party spent the following day at Malibu Beach and returned to the Ambassador Hotel around 8:00 p.m., June 4, 1968.

Colonel GLENN could recall no other significant changes in regard to Senator KENNEDY's itinerary.

On 6/13/68 at Boston, Massachusetts File # Boston 44-646
by SA JAMES E. HARVEY/lz/alm Date dictated 6/14/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date June 12, 1968

ROOSEVELT GRIER, 1148 South Spaulding, Los Angeles, California, telephone 936-6441, furnished the following information to Special Agents JAMES CAGNASSOLA, JR. and WILLIAM P. CRAWFORD from the FBI:

At approximately 7:30 p.m. on June 4, 1968, GRIER arrived at the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, and went directly to the coffee shop. GRIER was alone at this time. At approximately 8:00 p.m. he observed Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY walk past the coffee shop followed by his wife ETHEL and other unrecalled individuals. ETHEL KENNEDY observed GRIER and invited him to the KENNEDY suite on the fifth floor of the hotel. GRIER did not go directly upstairs at that time but rather went to the "press room" where he was interviewed by members of the news media. He then went to a ballroom which was downstairs and which was occupied by KENNEDY campaign workers. GRIER thereafter went to the fifth floor of the hotel and arrived there at approximately 9:30 - 10:30 p.m.

Upon arriving at the KENNEDY suite he went to the room which was being used by KENNEDY officials. This room was located to the right of the room being used by Senator KENNEDY and his family. During this time he spoke with Mrs. JOHN GLENN, JOAN BRADEN who was in charge of the Women for KENNEDY campaign in California and BLANCHE WHITAKER (phonetic) who is the wife of JAMES WHITAKER, a friend of the KENNEDY family and RAFAEL JOHNSON. GRIER spoke to Senator KENNEDY about the California primary election returns and relayed a message from PIERRE SALINGER who requested that he tell KENNEDY that he, meaning KENNEDY, was leading with 50 percent of the votes returned in San Francisco. KENNEDY asked GRIER if SALINGER wanted to talk to him and GRIER replied no.

At an unrecalled time Senator KENNEDY left his suite and went to the fourth floor to be interviewed for television. GRIER noticed that neither BILL BARRY, KENNEDY's personal body guard, nor RAFAEL JOHNSON ~~was~~ in the area at this time and GRIER decided to escort KENNEDY to the fourth floor. At the

On 6/11/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SAs JAMES CAGNASSOLA, JR. and WILLIAM P. CRAWFORD Date dictated 6/11/68
JC:mak

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fourth floor KENNEDY conducted two or three television interviews and during the second interview GRIER observed BARRY join Senator KENNEDY and he decided to go downstairs to one of the ballrooms. Prior to his departure BARRY told GRIER "Don't go too far because the Senator is coming down". Senator KENNEDY also asked GRIER if he was leaving and GRIER indicated he would return in a short while. GRIER left the fourth floor at approximately 11:00 or 11:30 p.m. and went to the door of the press room. At this time he heard the security guard talking to some individuals, identities unknown, informing them that they could not enter the press room without a pass. As GRIER looked at the security guard, the guard motioned to the right with his head indicating to GRIER that he could gain access to the room by entering the door to the right of the main doors. GRIER turned and entered this door, proceeded to a kitchen area and entered the press room from a rear or side entrance. He remained there for an unrecalled period of time. GRIER thought that it was strange that the main entrance was guarded yet a person could pass through the kitchen and enter the rear or side door of the press room without being stopped.

After completing his business in the press room GRIER returned to the KENNEDY suite on the fifth floor and observed that the Senator was preparing to go to the ballroom to deliver his victory speech. BARRY told GRIER that the party would be leaving the suite and requested that he, GRIER, escort Mrs. KENNEDY. The party proceeded towards one group of elevators on the fifth floor and then towards a second group and finally the decision was made presumably by BARRY to take the freight elevator instead of the passenger elevator. GRIER believes that this elevator was chosen since the passenger elevators were occupied and the freight elevator could accommodate the members of KENNEDY's party. At this time the KENNEDY party consisted of Senator KENNEDY, ETHEL KENNEDY, JESSE UNRUH, RAFAEL JOHNSON, BILL BARRY, BILL or FRANK DUTTON (phonetic) and GRIER. When the elevator doors opened on the first floor, GRIER recognized that they were in the kitchen or serving area of the hotel. BARRY was the first person off the elevator and he was followed by two other individuals, identities unrecalled, and they in turn were followed by Senator KENNEDY, Mrs. KENNEDY and GRIER. While

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walking through the kitchen or serving kitchen area en route to the ballroom, Senator KENNEDY stopped and shook hands with several kitchen employees. GRIER recalls that he saw five or six men dressed in white clothing who were presumably kitchen workers. Members of the KENNEDY party did not notice that the Senator had stopped and were continuing towards the ballroom. GRIER immediately told Mrs. KENNEDY that the Senator had left the group and he walked over to where Senator KENNEDY was standing to act as his escort. The Senator then turned away from the kitchen employees and entered the Embassy Ballroom through the curtains which separate the ballroom from the kitchen area. Senator KENNEDY immediately went onto the stage.

In reference to the location of the stage and the manner in which the group went onto the stage, GRIER explained that the stage was directly in front of the curtains and that if the stage was viewed from the center of the ballroom, Senator KENNEDY would have entered the stage on the right side. Once on the stage, Senator KENNEDY stood behind the podium, JESSE UNRUH was standing to his right, Mrs. KENNEDY was standing to his left and slightly behind him. GRIER was stationed behind Mrs. KENNEDY and RAFAEL JOHNSON was standing near the right side of the stage to prevent additional people from joining the group.

While Senator KENNEDY was speaking, BILL or FRANK DUTTON (phonetic) who was one of the Senator's staff members, told GRIER that Senator KENNEDY would be escorted from the stage from the left side since preparations had been made for his movement through the crowd. When Senator KENNEDY finished speaking, which GRIER recalled was shortly after Midnight, BARRY and GRIER positioned themselves along side of him. Everyone on stage was aware the speech had ended and the crowd began to move toward the left. GRIER told BARRY that the exit would be from the left side of the stage and BARRY said "no." At this time Senator KENNEDY moved to the rear of the stage possibly at BARRY's suggestion and jumped to the floor. BARRY remained with Senator KENNEDY and GRIER assisted Mrs. KENNEDY

to the floor. When the group had left the stage, they walked behind the curtain and proceeded to the right which was in the direction of the freight elevator which was used previously. GRIER could not see Senator KENNEDY at this time but since the crowd was moving in that direction he assumed Senator KENNEDY was in front of him. GRIER was walking with Mrs. KENNEDY and was acting as her escort. GRIER explained that regardless of which side of the stage KENNEDY left by he would still have to follow the original route in order to reach the elevator.

GRIER walked approximately ten or fifteen feet into the kitchen area when he heard two or three sounds which resembled the sounds of firecrackers. He then saw the group of people in front of him scatter and observed a white male standing in the opening. There were people on both sides of this man and people were standing behind him. This individual was holding a black object in his right hand which resembled a gun. The man held this object at waist level, his elbow was bent and his forearm was parallel to the floor. This man was standing on the floor. After observing this man, GRIER moved to his right and went behind a piece of kitchen equipment probably a garbage container. He then walked behind the container to the opposite end and made his way towards the man who was holding the gun. As he approached this individual, he saw two other men, one of whom was BILL BARRY wrestling with this individual. The man still had the gun in his right hand but he was now pushed back onto the top of a raised counter or table. GRIER observed the gun being knocked from his hand onto the table and at this point turned and tried to locate Senator KENNEDY. When he refocused his attention on the man who was originally holding the weapon, he noticed that this person had retrieved his gun and was holding it in his hand. At this instant GRIER was approximately six feet from him and noted that the individual's arm was extended outward to the side with the gun held in the hand. GEORGE PLIMPTON (phonetic) was now wrestling with this individual and was trying to assist BILL BARRY in seizing the gun. GRIER approached the group and

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shouted "I'll take the gun". He then grabbed the man's right hand and placed his own hand over the hammer and around the trigger housing. He twisted the gun from his hand and gained possession of the weapon. GRIER kept the gun in his right hand and immediately tightly grasped this individual around the legs. He recalls that several other people were holding this man.

Once the above individual was subdued, several people came up and tried to punch and hit him. GRIER recalled that he was pushing these other individuals away and trying to protect his prisoner. While holding this individual he observed Senator KENNEDY lying on his back on the floor approximately ten or twelve feet away. GRIER could see blood on the right side of Senator KENNEDY's head and it appeared that he was wounded behind the ear. He could not observe any other blood on Senator KENNEDY's body. He also noted that a second white male was also lying on his back near Senator KENNEDY and he appeared to be bleeding from the left side of his head. GRIER noted that Senator KENNEDY's eyes were partially open, however, he appeared to be in shock.

GRIER continued to hold his prisoner and the gun until some unrecalled person asked GRIER for the weapon. GRIER refused to surrender the gun since he did not think it was safe to give it to anyone at this time. A few moments later another person told him to give the gun to RAFAEL JOHNSON. GRIER handed JOHNSON the gun and maintained his hold on the man until police officers arrived at the scene. GRIER immediately surrendered this individual to the police officers.

GRIER did not recall that the individual whom he disarmed made any statements whatsoever while in his presence.

GRIER described the gun which he seized as being a dark colored revolver possibly black with a short barrel. He could not recall the chamber capacity of the revolver nor did he know the caliber of this weapon. It was GRIER's impression that this was an old, rather than a new, gun.

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GRIER could not remember how many gun shots he heard prior to the time he seized the revolver, however, he is certain that no shots were fired while he was disarming the assailant.

GRIER stated that he has seen photographs of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN in the newspapers and on television and is certain that this is the same individual whom he disarmed and held for the police following the shooting of Senator KENNEDY on June 5, 1968.

GRIER was questioned as to whether he observed SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN in the Ambassador Hotel during the evening of June 4, 1968 or prior to the shooting and he said that he had not seen him prior to the time that he disarmed him. GRIER was specifically asked whether he saw SIRHAN in the kitchen or serving kitchen area when Senator KENNEDY walked from the elevator to the stage and he said he did not observe him at this time. GRIER was asked whether he observed anyone run from the serving kitchen after he first heard the gun shots and he said that he did not recall anyone leave the area. GRIER was then asked whether he observed a white female wearing a white dress with black polka dots in the area when the shooting took place and said that he did not see such a person.

1 STATEMENT OF ROOSEVELT GRIER
2 TAKEN AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL

3 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19, 1968, 9:45 A.M.

4 QUESTIONED BY: SGT. F. J. PATCHETT, #7872
5 SGT. J. R. MacARTHUR, #4372
6 SGT. CHARLES COLLINS

7 SUMMARY REPORT DICTATED BY LAPD OFFICERS. REPORTED AND
8 TRANSCRIBED BY SHARON THIELMAN, CSR, ON JUNE 28, 1968.

9 Grier indicated on the night of the shooting, prior
10 to the Senator's speech, he was with him in his suite on the
11 Fifth Floor of the Ambassador Hotel. When it came time for
12 the speech, the Senator, Grier and others left the room and
13 took a freight elevator to the kitchen area adjacent to the
14 Embassy Room. They entered the room via the kitchen and again
15 Grier, along with the Senator, was on the stage with other
16 members of the Senator's campaign. At the conclusion of the
17 speech, the Senator exited the stage by a rear door. Grier
18 recalled that he assisted the Senator's wife, Ethel Kennedy,
19 in getting down from the stage. He walked with her on her
20 right side. After leaving the stage, they entered a foyer
21 area between the kitchen and the Embassy Room. Grier recalled
22 this area was quite crowded with people and television men
23 carrying cameras.

24 At the time of the shooting, he approximated that
25 he was about two paces (six to eight feet) from the double
26 doors leading into the kitchen. He recalled hearing the shots
but was not sure of the number or sequence. He immediately

1 began moving forward and recalled having to cut across the
2 room to get by and over people to get to the area where the
3 Senator was. He indicated there were a group of men struggling
4 with the suspect and that he broke into this group and placed
5 his hand on the gun which the suspect was still in possession
6 of. He wrenched the gun from the suspect's hand after an
7 episode wherein the suspect lost control of the gun, at which
8 time it was lying on the table, and then (the suspect) regained
9 control of the gun. After wrenching the gun from the suspect's
10 hand, he turned it over to Rafer Johnson who had arrived
11 during the struggle and was also assisting in the disarming of
12 the suspect. He did not see the suspect prior to or during
13 the shooting nor did he see the Senator fall. After turning
14 the gun over to Johnson, Grier maintained a physical control
15 of the suspect along with others until the arrival of the
16 police at which time the suspect was transferred to their
17 custody.

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RAMPART DETECTIVE DIVISION

PHONE CALLS - June 7, 1968

P-53
KENNEDY SHOOTING DR 68-521 466

GRIER, ROOSEVELT & BERNICE

6-7-68 10:30am
Phillips, R. &
Rathburn - Metro

Officers Phillips #12167 and Rathburn #11790, went to Roosevelt Grier's approximately 10:30am to transport him to the Grand Jury. Officers were met by Mrs. Bernice Grier, who stated, "I took my husband (Rosie) to the airport about 7:30am this date. He was on the 9am flight to New York. I believe it was American Airlines. Roosevelt called the police department and talked to a sergeant who gave him permission to fly to New York. I don't know when he will return or where he will be staying in New York City."

INTERVIEW OF ROOSEVELT GREER
1148 So. Spalding
L.A.
Ph: 936-6441

INTERVIEWED BY HENDERSON
CHIQUET
INTERVIEWED ON 6-5-68 3:30 AM/3:58 AM

TAPE FT. - 453/568

Bill Barry, the Senator, Mrs. Kennedy and I were walking away from the stage when I heard several shots. I looked up and saw a man holding a gun in his hand, I think the gun was in his right hand. I didn't see anyone fall as a result of a gunshot. I went to where the man with the gun was standing and helped some other men subdue him. He was still holding the gun so I twisted it out of his hand. I later gave the gun to Rayford Johnson. I saw two men lying on the floor, one of them was Senator Kennedy, he was bleeding from the head.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/13/63

BOOKER GRIFFIN, Director, Los Angeles Chapter, Negro Industrial and Economic Union, 3421 South Vermont Avenue, was re-interviewed and advised as follows:

GRIFFIN, after being shown a photograph of a group of people in the corridor between the Embassy and the Colonial Rooms of the Ambassador Hotel, which were taken at the time of the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, stated that he was unable to pick out any of the individuals in the photograph as identical with himself. He thought he should have appeared somewhere in the center of the photograph.

GRIFFIN identified the doors appearing in the center background of the photograph as being the doors to the Colonial Room which was being used as the Press Room on the evening of June 4, 1963, and the early morning of June 5, 1963.

On 6/12/63 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA LEROY W. SHEETS/eb Date dictated 6/12/63

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/11/68

BOOKER GRIFFIN, Director, Los Angeles Chapter of Negro Industrial and Economic Union, 3421 South Vermont Street, was interviewed and furnished the following information:

GRIFFIN stated that he had been working for the KENNEDY campaign committee in Southern California, and on June 4, 1967, at approximately 10:15 p.m., he arrived at the Ambassador Hotel and went to the Ambassador Room where he talked to several individuals whom he does not now recall. About twenty minutes later, GRIFFIN stated that he saw an individual in the Ambassador Room whom he later saw shoot Senator KENNEDY. He described him as being shabbily dressed with baggy pants and looked as though he did not belong there, that is to say, he did not look like a campaign worker or KENNEDY supporter. GRIFFIN looked this individual in the eye at which time the individual stared back. GRIFFIN stated he noticed a girl whose description he does not recall standing in close proximity to SIRHAN. He never noticed them converse with each other, but he had the feeling that they were there together. GRIFFIN then secured a press pass from PIERRE SALINGER for the Embassy Room and at approximately 10:45 p.m. he entered this room. Due to the number of people in the Embassy Room and the heat emanating from the television cameras, it was extremely warm so he went from the Embassy Room to the press room from time to time to rest and cool down.

At about 11:30 p.m., he saw SIRHAN in the kitchen corridor between the press room and the Embassy Room. This is the same corridor in which Senator KENNEDY was shot. He saw SIRHAN there prior to the time that KENNEDY went to the Embassy Room to speak. During the time KENNEDY was speaking, GRIFFIN saw SIRHAN in the corridor and also saw a white male, about 6'2", further description of which he does not recall, and a white female, 5'5", with blond bouffant hair, dressed in a white flowing-type dress with colorations, standing in close proximity with SIRHAN. Neither of these individuals had press passes or KENNEDY buttons. He saw these three ~~individuals at least two or three times in the corridor among~~ numerous other individuals who were in the area.

On 6/11/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA's LEROY W. SHEETS and
VINCENT J. HORN, Jr. (LWS:jmk) Date dictated 6/11/68

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2
LA 56-156

GRIFFIN left the Embassy Room prior to the completion of KENNEDY's speech and went to the press room. He passed the above three individuals in the corridor on his way to the press room at this time. He stayed in the press room approximately two or three minutes and as he opened the door of the press room to the corridor, he saw SIRHAN fire the shots at KENNEDY and the other individuals. He could not recall how many shots he heard. He saw somebody holding SIRHAN and struggling with him. Immediately after the shot, GRIFFIN went over to where KENNEDY was lying and spoke with him for a few moments. He then stood up and noticed the male and female whom he had seen in the corridor leave the area through the kitchen. He tried to follow these two individuals but due to the rush of the people in the corridor, he was unable to do so. GRIFFIN never noticed these three individuals conversing with one another in the corridor.

GRIFFIN added that he would be unable to identify any of these individuals except SIRHAN.

1 DETECTIVE (7) DETROIT OFFICE

2 627 West 79th Street, Los Angeles, 752-5693

3 8:15 AM 7/25/68, 11:45 AM

4 DETROIT, JULY 25, 1968, 11:45 AM

5 OBTAINED BY: SGT. C. E. COLLINS #3607, S.U.S. UNIT

6 SGT. W. J. PATCHETT #7372, S.U.S. UNIT

7 SGT. J. R. MCARTHUR #4372, S.U.S. UNIT

8 RESPOND BY: SARINA G. FORD, DETROIT ASSAULT DIVISION

9 * * * * *

10 SGT. PATCHETT: Okay, this is July 25, '68. I have
11 the statement at 11:45 a.m. This will be the statement of
12 Mr. Becker, B-o-o-k-e-r, Griffin, G-r-i-f-f-i-n. His date
13 of birth is 10-1-33. He lives at 627 West 79th Street, Los
14 Angeles. Residence phone is 752-5693. He's employed at
15 4221 South Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, 778-4360. Parties
16 present at the interview are Sgts. C. E. Collins--that is
17 your society?

18 SGT. COLLINS: 6207.

19 SGT. PATCHETT: Sgt. J. R. McArthur, K-a-o,
20 4372, and Sgt. W. J. Patchett, P-a-t-c-h-e-t-t, 7372.

21 Q BY SGT. PATCHETT: All right, Mr. Griffin, what
22 time did you arrive at the hotel?

23 A I'd say around 10:15.

24 Q And after arriving, where did you go?

25 A I went to the Embassy Room at the Ambassador
26 Hotel.

27 Q And from the Embassy Room, is it then correct
28 that you went to the Colonial Room to attempt to get a press
29 credential?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Colonial Room, and then went to the Ambassador
3 Room?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And in the Ambassador Room, did you meet anybody?

6 A I met Richard Aubry.

7 Q Where did you and Richard Aubry go, and why did
8 you go?

9 A Richard Aubry and I went through the back entrance
10 to the Ambassador to the Embassy Room to an area where
11 Pierre Salinger was located.

12 Q Let's refer to this as the staff area for the
13 rest of the conversation.

14 A All right.

15 Q And in this staff area then, with your friend Mr.
16 Aubry, what happens there?

17 A I got press credentials from Pierre Salinger.

18 Q All right, and from there you then go back down
19 to the Ambassador ballroom back up to the Ambassador--or to
20 the Ambassador Room and then from there back to the staff
21 room, and from the staff room to the Colonial Room?

22 A Right.

23 Q And en route to the Colonial Room, this is the
24 time that you see a man that you feel was the suspect, and
25 you see him standing between what would be the second and
26 third table, and he's with another man approximately six feet

1 said and a woman across the table from there, there is a
2 hotel employee--

3 Q BY SEN. GORDON: At this point let's pin down--
4 you say you walked from the staff area to the Colonial Room.
5 Is this the time that you got the sandwich?

6 A Not the first time. See, right after I got my
7 credentials, you know, I just went to the Colonial Room
8 because I hadn't been there, just to look around.

9 Q And in period of time when was it you went there
10 and saw this man, if you recall?

11 A What time?

12 Q (Indicates yes)

13 A I had been in the hotel about 30 minutes. I'd
14 say at that time about 30 minutes. After I did that, I went
15 back downstairs because I was looking for a lady. The lady
16 wasn't there, and I ran into George Green who wanted access
17 to the Embassy Room. I took George--he took the front way.
18 He went to the door of the Colonial Room whereby I was
19 admitted, and I took George with me into the Colonial Room
20 down the corridor to the staff area where George--I was then
21 able to get George a press pass so he could have entrance to
22 the Embassy Room. At that time George and I went in the
23 Embassy Room and just, you know, talked to different people,
24 and just generally having a good time. Prior to the Senator's
25 coming, I left the Embassy Room, went down the corridor of
26 the Embassy Room again, then I came back in.

1 Q On that trip did you see anybody?

2 A I can't factually say. The first time and last
3 time I can factually say I saw some people.

4 Q Then the first time you went down through that
5 corridor was about 10:45?

6 A Or 11 o'clock somewhere.

7 Q Or 11 o'clock. It was at that time you think
8 you saw--

9 A --I know there were three people I knew that I
10 saw.

11 Q And in that group?

12 A Was the short guy, the suspect; a tall lady, and
13 a tall gentleman.

14 Q All right, fine.

15 Q BY MR. PROCHER: Go ahead.

16 Q BY MR. COLLINS: Okay then, one time you went
17 to the staff room and got some sandwiches?

18 A Right.

19 Q Where--where did you go then?

20 A I went in the Cafeteria room and sat down and
21 ate the sandwich.

22 Q Do you recall about what time that was?

23 A That was maybe 15--20 minutes before the Senator
24 arrived.

25 Q All right, at the conclusion of eating this
26 sandwich, what did you do?

1 A I got up and came back, went through the corridor
2 through the staff room back into the Embassy Room.

3 Q All right, where were you when the Senator
4 arrived?

5 A Um, I was just out talking to George Green and
6 some other guys from New Image Committee. We were in the
7 Embassy Room. We were to this side of the stage having a
8 bull session, just talking, we were in the Embassy Room, and
9 we were like from the stage--

10 Q This is the stage looking--

11 A --over from the stage.

12 Q You were at the west side of the stage then or
13 to the left of the stage as you look out?

14 A We were right in front of KRC's cameras, I
15 remember that.

16 Q And did you see the Senator come on stage?

17 A No, I heard, you know, I heard the clapping. And
18 the next thing I can remember that he was there like I think
19 could say I visually saw him at the podium.

20 Q What did you do at that time?

21 A Pardon me, please. At that time I left the guys
22 that I was with and walked to--up on the stage.

23 Q Where did you go--stand on the stage?

24 A I stood on this corner, northwest corner.

25 Q Did anything unusual happen at any time while you
26 were on stage?

1 A Yes, Miss Larch, we helped her up. She almost
2 fell and then she got down.

3 Q Sometimes during this speech you left the stage?

4 A Yes, and went to the Colonial Room.

5 Q For what reason?

6 A Because it was hot, and I just wanted to get out
7 of the way.

8 Q Did you go watch TV in the Colonial Room?

9 A On this particular time? I didn't stay that--
10 lock, I think I might have glanced at it.

11 Q Did you return to the stage?

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q How long were you absent from the stage, would
14 you say?

15 A A couple of minutes.

16 Q Then you returned?

17 A Yes.

18 Q What did you do next?

19 A I stood back up on the stage. I just stood on
20 the corner until the Senator had finished his prepared-like
21 remarks. When he went into his adlib, I left the stage and
22 went back to the Colonial Room.

23 Q Did you watch TV in the Colonial Room at that
24 time?

25 A Yes, I did.

26 Q What was occurring?

1 A The Senator was concluding his remarks at that
2 time.

3 Q What occurred in the next few minutes?

4 A When the Senator was through, You know, he was
5 no longer on the camera, and I was just sitting down in the
6 chair, and everyone was waiting for the Senator to come in
7 because he was going to have a press conference. And a
8 gentleman opened the south door of the Colonial Room too
9 because they thought he was going to come out that way. There
10 was a lot of people, a lot of crowd, so they closed the door
11 back.

12 Q That is the main door, you expected the Senator
13 to arrive through that door?

14 A Right. There was some discussion about the way
15 he was coming.

16 Q How many people were in the Colonial Room at that
17 time?

18 A Oh, 15, 20, maybe.

19 Q What did you do next?

20 A Then we--after the guy closed the door, then I
21 got up and I walked, you know, I walked out the door to--
22 from the Colonial Room into the corridor.

23 Q When you say corridor, you are referring to the
24 pantry or kitchen area?

25 A Yes.

26 Q What occurred next?

1 A What occurred next? I was walking in and I
2 heard two sounds. And when I heard these sounds, I did not
3 think in terms of being shots, they were just sounds that
4 aroused my focus and attention, and I looked up and at that
5 time I saw, uh, the suspect with the gun, and I saw another
6 man--another man or two men, I don't recall which, like
7 similarly struggling with him, and he was shooting. I imagine
8 there must have been about--I'd say ten or twelve shots
9 according to the way I felt, and I just was--I just froze
10 there because I felt, you know, to me I felt that there were
11 more than one person. I did not like see anyone else, and
12 I didn't see any smoke or anything like that, but I did see
13 the man with a gun and heard the sound and saw the struggling
14 and I froze after I--you know, got my senses back together
15 again, then I moved toward--you know, everything--I saw the
16 Senator--the first couple of sounds which I looked up, I did
17 see the Senator throw--you know--throw up his hands. Uh,
18 then the next thing I can remember is seeing the Senator on
19 the ground and standing up, you know, on his feet and being
20 pushed around.

21 Q All right, going back a moment, when you looked
22 and saw the man with the gun and saw a struggle, did you
23 recognize anybody struggling with him?

24 A No, I didn't.

25 Q Could you distinguish whether the man was Negro
26 or Caucasian?

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A He was a Caucasian man.

Q Caucasian?

A Right.

Q You described the shots or the noise that you heard as two quick noises, a pause--a slight pause--and a continuation. Once you saw the gun in his hand, did you realize what the noises were?

A Yes.

Q What were they?

A Shots.

Q You realize at that point everything you heard was shots?

A Pardon me--yes.

Q You say you heard two noises?

A Yes.

Q Then a pause, then some more noises?

A Yes.

Q During the second sequence of noises, you saw a gun and realized they were shots. Did you realize that everything you heard were shots?

A Yes. But the way it happened it sounded as if there was more than one gun being used at that point.

Q Did you have any reason to believe, other than the fact that you heard the shots, there was more than one person shooting?

A No reason.

1 Q RI 823, RICHMOND: Were the first two sounds
2 that you heard, then there was a pause and more sounds, were
3 those sounds the same?

4 A Yes.

5 Q IF 827, COLLINS: How the gun, how far was that
6 gun when you saw it from the Senator? If you know.

7 A I can't answer you that question factually.

8 Q How far was the person holding the gun from the
9 Senator, if you know?

10 A I can't factually say.

11 Q All right, you then walked toward the Senator?

12 A Right after--right. That's the next thing I
13 remember. I think there was some time in there I don't know
14 what I did. I must have panicked like everyone else.

15 Q There is a loss of time, then the next thing you
16 recall, you are walking toward the Senator. Tell us what
17 happened then.

18 A When I got about at the Senator's feet and had
19 just a chance to look down there, everyone started pushing
20 and shoving, and sometime in this--and I can't chronologically
21 place it--I saw a girl leave the scene of this, and I wanted
22 to try to run, you know, to see where she might have gone,
23 but I just got pushed around. So at that point I was--was
24 just frustrated so I came back around this table, and these
25 cops were handling with the suspect, and I had forgotten
26 totally about the suspect up to that point. I went over there

1 because I just wanted to do something, and at that time I
2 saw them hassling with him. I came around this table and
3 got up on the table on my knees and tried to hit this guy.
4 At this point they were struggling with him for the gun, and
5 the gun was pointed at me, so then I heard--I don't remember
6 how, but it was a reaction, I got down off the table. Then
7 when I got down off the table, I got down and I walked back
8 around here, and that's at that that point I heard something
9 of "Get the gun, Rosie," or "Give me the gun." And that's
10 when I--Rosie was there, I heard someone say, "Give it to
11 Rafer." I did not see Rosie hand the gun to Rafer, but I
12 don't recall Rafer being there other than the point of
13 giving the gun.

14 Q When you were trying to hit the suspect, do you
15 recall anyone saying to you--

16 A --Richard Aubry said something.

17 Q Richard?

18 A A-u-b-r-y.

19 Q Do you recall Rosie saying anything to you at that
20 point such as, "Don't do that, baby," or anything like that?

21 A Rosie said something, but I don't think he said
22 it to me. Now I think about it, he was just talking and
23 crying.

24 Q All right, fine. Now, when you saw the Senator,
25 did he make any statement that you could hear?

26 A I didn't hear him make a statement. No.

1 Q How when you say you saw a girl go out the door
2 and then you went around and engaged yourself with the
3 suspect, the gun got pointed at you, you stopped back. You
4 heard other conversation about "Give the gun to Rafer," then
5 at this point what did you do?

6 A After the gun was there, that's when I decided
7 that I wanted to follow through and see what had happened
8 there, and that's when I went up through the kitchen area
9 up into the parking lot thinking that the girl was involved
10 and maybe I could find out something.

11 Q Did you find out anything?

12 A Yes, when I got there, there was a gentleman
13 there that was telling cars to get out of the way to let an
14 ambulance in, and I turned around and came back down, and
15 I made a wrong turn and I got right back, and when I came back
16 they put a table up to the entrance leading back to the
17 corridor, and first I was denied entrance to the corridor,
18 and another gentleman, who had traveled with the Kennedy
19 party, recognized me. But I don't recall by word every
20 gesture, but the guy was keeping me away, let me into the
21 area.

22 Q When you went back to the area, what did you do
23 or see?

24 A He formed a chain of arms and sort of surrounded
25 the Senator, and his wife was there at that time, as I
26 remember, and we just held our arms around. I got--I was

1 pretty close, and I just looked down at him, and his wife
2 was there, and I just left that and went to the Colonial
3 Room, and I just sat down in there, and I remember the police
4 men being there and remember Speaker Unruh in there.

5 Q Let's go back a little bit and pick up--going
6 back to the girl that you saw leave the room, the person you
7 paid attention to her leaving the room was because you had
8 seen a girl earlier with the person you had tried to hit?

9 A Yes.

10 Q And are you sure that this person that left the
11 room was, in fact, the same girl that had been earlier
12 talking--

13 A --no.

14 Q Would it be a fair statement to say that the
15 only reason any of this came to your mind later when you
16 realized the seriousness and crisis that occurred here, that
17 if there was a possible sinister motive, that you should
18 come forward with this?

19 A The whole statement of the girl?

20 Q About the girl.

21 A No, I'd say I did see a girl, and it was just a
22 part of trying to piece it together and say what I had seen.

23 Q The girl that did leave, though, did you see
24 other people leaving at the same time, could it be just
25 leaving to get away from possible injury?

26 A Right.

1 Q Do you think she could have been leaving for
2 that reason also?

3 A There is a possibility.

4 Q All right.

5 Q BY SGT. FAUCHET: You said earlier that you saw
6 this girl or a girl with the person who later is identified
7 as the suspect. Actually this could have been this press
8 woman that was--or this woman with the Kennedy party that
9 was checking people's press credentials?

10 A I couldn't say that it could be.

11 Q You don't know that this woman was with this
12 suspect either?

13 A Right. That is correct.

14 Q BY SGT. CORRIERS: Would you describe this girl
15 for us that you saw leaving?

16 A I can't very well describe the girl I saw leaving.
17 I could describe the girl I saw in the corridor.

18 Q Will you describe the girl in the corridor
19 earlier?

20 A Tall, between five-four and five-five. She had
21 on a dress that was not--there was white in the dress, but
22 I don't think it was--I can't say it was polka dot or any-
23 thing like that, but I knew there was more than one color in
24 the dress.

25 Q How old?

26 A Between 18 and 22, maybe.

1 Q Tell us about her hair.

2 A It was in an up-sweep type.

3 Q Color?

4 A I can't recall.

5 Q You said that you didn't see any other women
6 around, is that right?

7 A Let me--let me make a truthful statement. I
8 can't say for sure, but I know the women were not too apparent
9 around there.

10 Q And one of the things that attracted you to this
11 particular girl, she had a very predominant buttocks, is
12 that right?

13 A Right.

14 Q Okay, what were you wearing that night?

15 A I had on a rust-brown suit, a blue shirt, and a
16 red-flowered tie.

17 Q I have shown you some pictures, and from this
18 group of pictures you identified the one picture of Sister
19 Siskin as the one you did see in the kitchen; and the rest
20 of the--remainder of the group you didn't recognize anybody?

21 A That is right. I think for the record, you could
22 recognize pictures from the paper anyway.

23 Q Now, you saw a man earlier with this girl talking.
24 Can you describe him?

25 A At that--earlier upon just entering the Ambassa-
26 dor?

1 Q No, you said within the kitchen.

2 A No, the other man was taller, maybe six-one or
3 six-two. He was stockily built--you know--he wasn't skinny.
4 He was built pretty nice.

5 Q How old?

6 A I'd say he could be--I can't factually give a
7 statement to that.

8 Q What race would he be?

9 A Well, he was--he was white.

10 Q And he was wearing?

11 A I--as I remember, I can't factually say.

12 Q You said earlier slacks and shirt.

13 A Slacks and shirt. I can't factually say. I
14 don't--he didn't have a dress shirt like you have on.

15 Q He wasn't wearing a tie?

16 A No.

17 Q All right, can you think of anything, like, you
18 would like to cover?

19 SGT. MacLENNAN: No.

20 Q BY SGT. PATCHETT: In your article you mentioned
21 seeing people, a man and woman, in the Ambassador earlier.
22 The man you had the negative eye contact with. Now, in
23 reviewing this, you don't feel that he was definitely the
24 same person? Definitely?

25 A Let's see. I can't definitely say on a basis of
26 a life and death situation, but I'm reasonably sure. I have

1 a reasonably (sic) feeling it was.

2 Q Might have been, but you are not definite?

3 A Right.

4 Q And the girl you saw with this person, you are
5 not sure she was the person you saw later in the evening?

6 A No, I am not sure.

7 Q The woman you saw upstairs on two occasions in
8 the kitchen area that you mentioned in your statement, you
9 are not sure this was the same woman you saw in the
10 Ambassador, and it is not the same woman you saw running out
11 of the kitchen area, is that right?

12 A No, not in terms of fact.

13 Q BY SGT. HANSEN: You just saw a female. You
14 can't be sure, and the only reason you connect that with the
15 suspect before was that he was talking to a woman?

16 A Right.

17 SGT. HANSEN: Okay.

18 Q BY SGT. O'LEARY: I show you a picture of Mr.
19 Heath.

20 A Yes.

21 Q Did you see him in the kitchen area?

22 A I saw him after everything had died down.

23 Q During the speech when you made your walk
24 through, you did not see him?

25 A He was on the stage beside me sometime during
26 the speech.

1 Q But you didn't see him for the Colonial Arms when
2 you walked down there?

3 A No.

4 Q Or Mr. Dutton?

5 A No.

6 SGT. COLLINS: Do we have anything else?

7 SGT. PAROLETTI: It's now 12:15.

8 * * * * *

RAMPAUT DETECTIVE DIVISION

INTERVIEWS - JUNE 5, 1968

KENNEDY SHOOTING

DR#68-521 466

GRIFFIN, BOOKER, 8421 S. VERMONT, PHONE - 778-4360

Mr. Griffin was interviewed at the Los Angeles Office of the Negro Industrial and Educational Union at 8421 S. Vermont on 6-7-68 at 11:30 a.m. (Mr. Griffin is the Los Angeles director of the organization. He states: "THAT he has known Senator Kennedy for about 10 or 11 years and also that he was active in the Senators' California campaign. On Tuesday evening, 6-4-68, at about 10:15 p.m., Mr. Griffin arrived at the Ambassador Hotel for the election returns. He did not have a Press Pass or other pass to get into the Embassy Room, so he went downstairs to the Ambassador Room which was apparently open to the public.

While Mr. Griffin was in the Ambassador Room, he states that he observed two people whom he thought seemed out of place. He states that there was a male whom he describes as:

MALE, of some descent similar to Mexican; short, 5-4, or less; small build and shabbily dressed in old clothes: Mr. Griffin says that he is positive that this man he saw is the suspect in the Kennedy shooting; Sirhan SIRHAN, and he ID the suspect from a picture the I/O showed him. Mr. Griffin describes the other person, a

FEMALE, Cauc - or "OF NORDIC DESCENT", 5-5/6", (taller than the male), with hair of unknown color, but arranged up on her head in a fluffy manner, and wearing a dress that was predominately white, but that may have had other color in it. Mr. Griffin stated the reason he thought the two people seemed out of place was because everyone else but these two were celebrating the apparent Kennedy victory. Mr. Griffin

(continued)

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GRIFFIN, BOOKER - INTERVIEW -- continued

was standing about 8 to 10 feet from the two people but did not hear any conversation between them but stated that he had what he describes as "negative eye contact" WITH THE MALE.

After spending about 15 to 20 minutes downstairs in the Ambassador Room, I was able to obtain a press pass to go into the Embassy Room. After Mr. Griffin had been in the Embassy Room for an hour or so, he observed the same two people that he had seen in the Embassy Room, and this time there was another male with them. He described him as:

Male, with lighter complexion than the other man, tall (6-0/6-2), NFD.

The three were standing in the kitchen corridor next to the doorway that leads through the kitchen and out into a parking area. This was about 30 to 45 minutes before Senator Kennedy's arrival.

Just prior to the conclusion of Senator Kennedy's speech; Mr. Griffin passed through the kitchen corridor and went into the Press Room; he heard the first shots being fired. His position in the doorway of the Press Room gave him a clear view of the whole corridor. Almost simultaneously, he observed Senator Kennedy throw one of his arms over his face, and the female and the taller unidentified male run out of the doorway. He then observed some people struggling with the other male who still had the gun in his hand. When Mr. Griffin saw the two people run out of the doorway, he remembers saying out loud, (Continued

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GRIFFIN, BOOKER - INTERVIEW-CONTINUED

"They're getting away."

MR. GRIFFIN recalls that just prior to the shooting, he mentioned to a friend (whom he does not want to identify), that "there's a guy I've been seeing all evening and for some reason we don't seem to take to each other". He was referring to the suspect he identified as SIRHAN SIRHAN.

STATEMENT INTERVIEW BY W. M. RATHBURN #11790, R.R. PHILLIPS #1210

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 8/6/68

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Mr. PETE HAMILL was interviewed at his temporary residence, 196 Berkeley Place, Brooklyn, New York, telephone number 638-8215. He stated that he will be moving within a week to 479 14th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

He is a free lance writer and on June 4-5, 1968, while living in California, he covered the Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY campaign.

During the evening of June 4, 1968, prior to Senator KENNEDY making his victory speech, HAMILL was in Senator KENNEDY's suite in the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, with Senator KENNEDY and JIMMY BRESLIN, the writer. HAMILL went to the elevator with Senator KENNEDY when Senator KENNEDY was on his way to make his victory speech.

There was confusion at the elevators and HAMILL did not get on the same elevator with Senator KENNEDY.

During Senator KENNEDY's speech, HAMILL stood on the podium to Senator KENNEDY's rear and left. This was near the left rear corner of the podium near some drapes and some stairs that went down. Standing near HAMILL were GEORGE PLIMPTON, the writer, and PLIMPTON's wife, FREDDY. Standing near the stairs was BILL BARRY of Senator KENNEDY's staff.

During the speech "a guy" or a "kid" tried to get on the podium by coming through the drapes which were in back of HAMILL. BILL BARRY noticed this individual and told him to get out. HAMILL would not recognize this individual if he saw him again.

When Senator KENNEDY finished his speech, HAMILL or PLIMPTON asked BILL BARRY which way to go out.

On 8/5/68 at Brooklyn, New York File # NY 44-1640

by SA FRANCIS L. CASHIN/jrf Date dictated 8/5/68

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BARRY pointed to a corridor to the pantry. HAMILL and PLIMPTON went out that way which was down the nearby stairs and HAMILL did not see Senator KENNEDY leave the podium. HAMILL next saw Senator KENNEDY in the pantry. HAMILL was walking along with GEORGE PLIMPTON in front of Senator KENNEDY and to his (Senator KENNEDY's) right about ten feet. HAMILL did not know that Senator KENNEDY was going to the press room but thought Senator KENNEDY was headed for "The Factory" where a party was to be held. As HAMILL was walking along and looking back, he saw Senator KENNEDY turn to his left to shake hands with someone. After Senator KENNEDY shook hands with this individual, he (Senator KENNEDY) turned to continue walking straight ahead. At this time what HAMILL thought were five shots were fired in very rapid succession. HAMILL looked and saw SIRHAN SIRHAN who was standing in front of and to Senator KENNEDY's left about seven or eight feet with his (SIRHAN's) arm fully extended and his face in tremendous concentration shooting a gun at Senator KENNEDY. Senator KENNEDY was falling to the floor and someone caught Senator KENNEDY.

ROSIE GRIER ran by HAMILL and "slammed" SIRHAN into a table. GEORGE PLIMPTON rushed over to SIRHAN and went for the gun. RAFAEL JOHNSON came out of somewhere and HAMILL thinks that JOHNSON got the gun. SIRHAN was "thrown up on a table" or group of tables and "slid down to the end of the table" or tables.

There was much yelling and noise and HAMILL was momentarily "stupified". He then looked at his watch. It was 12:12 a.m., June 5, 1968. HAMILL heard people saying such things to SIRHAN as "Why did you do it?" HAMILL did not hear SIRHAN say anything.

HAMILL stated that he did not see or notice SIRHAN before the shooting. HAMILL did not touch SIRHAN.

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HAMILL went out of the hotel by or near the press room to get his brother BRIAN HAMILL, a photographer, who did not have a pass to get in to watch the speech.

HAMILL stated that he looked at his watch when Senator KENNEDY's body was removed and it was 12:32 a.m.

After the shooting WARREN ROGERS of "Look Magazine" and BUD SCHULBERG, a writer who lives in Los Angeles, came out of the press room and into the room where the shooting occurred.

HAMILL stated that he heard later that there was an entrance to the hotel near the press room in which entrance to the hotel and the kitchen or pantry area could be easily had.