l TA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGATION
THAT SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN WAS A
STEADY CUSTOMER OF FILM DEPARTMENT
AT LUCKY DISCOUNT STORE,
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

l

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Data	7/	·768	

MARGARET SCOTT, 14341 Haywood, telephonically advised that she was formerly employed at the Lucky Discount Store, 488 East Villa Street, Pasadena, California, in the Jewelry Department. She explained that the Jewelry Department also had a film processing service and that SIRHAN SIRHAN was a steady customer. She stated that he spent an average of \$10.00 to \$12.00 a week on films and processing and owned a very expensive camera.

Mrs. SCOTT stated that SIRHAN SIRHAN was particularly noticed by her and some of the other employees of the Jewelry Department, because of his personality. She stated that he would be very indignant if his films were not ready or if there was any problem with the way they were processed. She continued that they had a part-time employee at the Jewelry Department named SERGE ETIENNE who was a student at Pasadena City College. She stated that SIRHAN SIRHAN was friendly with SERGE, and when he came in for his films, he would talk with SERGE. She stated that she did not know where SERGE resided but assumed he lived locally in the Pasadena area.

Mrs. SCOTT stated that she was furnishing this information to the FBI because she felt there was a possibility that some of SIRHAN's film may still be at the store and had not been picked up by him.

On 7/18/68 Whittier, California File #Los Angeles 56-156

- 192
by SA THOMAS J. BRIDGES/eb

Date dictated 7/19/68

1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

V	
	8/2/68

Date_

ROBERT MEDINA, Manager of the jewelry and photography counter at Lucky Discount Store, 488 East Villa, advised that he has been manager of this counter since July 11, 1968. MEDINA checked his records of all film processed from his counter in 1968, without locating any record of any film ever having been deposited there by anyone named SIRHAN.

MEDINA further advised that he did not know anyone named SERGE ETIENNE who had ever been employed at the Lucky Discount Store in Pasadena, but that HENRY A. ETIENNE, 1072 North Lake Street, Pasadena, had formerly operated the concession at Lucky Discount Store. MEDINA advised that ETIENNE was a watchmaker and possibly SERGE ETIENNE was related to him.

MEDINA observed photographs of members of the SIRHAN family, including SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, and stated that he did not recall having ever seen any of them previously.

On	8/2/68 at _	Pasadena, California	Los Angeles 56-156	
	SA JOSEPH D	OYLE POWELL/jr	8/2/68	
by			Date dictated	

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

<u>l</u> _		Date8/5/68

HENRY A. ETIENNE, 1072 North Lake Street, advised that he had operated the jewelry and photography counter at Lucky Discount Store, 488 East Villa, Pasadena, prior to May 1958. He advised that SERGE ETIENNE was his son, and that SERGE had also worked part-time at the counter for a few weeks after ETIENNE gave up the concession. ETIENNE was unable to recall anyone named SIRHAN as a customer of the counter. He stated that he knew very few names of his customers, but if there had been a customer who had a volume of photography business in the range of \$10 to \$12 per week, his name would at least be familiar.

ETIENNE observed photographs of members of the SIRHAN family, including SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, and stated that he did not recall having ever seen any of them previously.

On 3/5/58 at Pasadena, California File # Los Angeles 55-155

- 194
by SA JOSEPH DOYLE POWELL/jr Date dictated 8/5/68

1 UA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ALLEGED PURCHASES
OF AMMUNITION BY SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN
AT LOCK, STOCK 'N BARREL GUN SHOP,
SAN GABRIEL, CALIFORNIA

<u>L</u>A 56-156 JOS/p.jc

It was previously reported that when interviewed on June 16, 1968, LARRY KENNETH ARNOT, Salesman for the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop, had advised that an individual, who he identified as SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, purchased ammunition at the gun shop on June 1, 1968. At that time SIRHAN was reportedly accompanied by two other individuals, one resembling SHARIF SIRHAN.

A polygraph examination was afforded ARNOT on August 5, 1968, at the Scientific Investigation Division, Los Angeles Police Department, by Lieutenant E. HERNANDEZ. A copy of the results of this polygraph examination was furnished SA R. J. LA JEUNESSE, JR., on August 12, 1968, by Detective Sergeant MIKE NIELSEN, S.U.S. Unit, Los Angeles Police Department.

The polygraph report is set out as follows:

August 7, 1968

TO: Lt. Manual Pena, OIC Background Conspiracy Section S.U.S

FROM: Lt. E. Hernandez, Investigator Background Conspiracy Team

SUBJECT: Polygraph Examination of Mr. Larry Arnot

On August 5, 1968 a polygraph examination was administered to Mr. Larry Arnot, 517 Melcanyon Rd., Duarte, California, Ph#358-8787.

The examination was administered by Lt. Hernandez in the polygraph facilities of Scientific Investigation Division Room 432A, Parker Center.

The purpose of this examination was to determine the truthfulness in Mr. Arnot's statements given to the F.B.I. on June 16, 1968. When he informed them that he had sold (4) four boxes of ammunition to suspect Sirhan Sirhan and two other dark foreign-looking Males who were present with Sirhan at the time of the ammunition purchase on June 1, 1968.

On that day, June 16, 1968, F.B.I. Agents Eruce Bradford and Norbert Linker showed Arnot (5) five photographs of Sirhan and his (4) four brothers. Arnot identified Sirhan as being the person that purchased the ammunition, and also selected a photograph of Shariff Sirhan, as "Bearing a strong resemblance to the individual that was present with him." Arnot said that he would be unable to identify the third person that was present in the store on that day.

Prior to instrumental testing on the polygraph, Arnot was questioned regarding the statement given by him to the F.B.I. on June 16, 1968. He maintained that his original story as given to the F.B.I. was true to the best of his recollection.

Arnot was shown a total of 17 look-alike photographs by Lt. Hernandez. These included four of the Sirhan brothers. Arnot looked over each of these photographs carefully and selected the following three photographs:

- (1) Photograph of Munir Sirhan
- (2) Photograph of look-alike Bk No. 63481-1965
- (3) Photograph of another look-alike Bk No. 102661-1366

After selecting Munir Sirhan's photograph, Arnot commented that he felt he had been brain-washed because he had observed Munir's photograph on a number of previous occasions and therefore he felt that this was influencing his opinion. As to the other two look-alike

photographs that he selected, Arnot stated that he believed he remembered the two people depicted on the photographs as being present with Sirhan on June 1, but was not positive.

The instrument and its functions were discussed with Mr. Arnot, as were the theory and procedures of the polygraph examination. He was given an opportunity to ask questions concerning any phase of the examination. The questions which were to be asked instrumentally were reviewed with Mr. Arnot before any instrumental testing began.

A polygraph was obtained prior to the examination, which established that patterns capable of interpretation could be obtained. Responses were provoked. This indicated that Mr. Arnot would be a proper subject for polygraph testing.

During the course of the examination, physiological tracings at points where crucial questions were asked suggest very strongly that Mr. Arnot was being untruthful. He was specifically asked if he honestly remembered seeing any person with Sirhan inside the Lock, Stock N' Barrel Gun Shop on June 1, 1968, and his responses at this salient point indicate that he does not remember seeing anyone with Sirhan on that day. Further, after carefully evaluating the examination charts, it is the opinion of this examiner that Larry Arnot does not in fact remember Sirhan or the business transaction that took place on June 1, 1968 when the ammunition was purchased by Sirhan.

Larry Arnot was informed of the results of the examination and the conclusions that were arrived.

After a short period of interrogation, Arnot ultimately admitted that the only logical explanation for his failing the test was because he had lied.

He explained that the truth was that he was confusing the sale of ammunition to three other dark complextion men, and in his mind he was trying to convince himself that this was the Sirhan incident. However, he said that he couldn'truthfully remember Sirhan being in the store on June 1. He knows that he sold Sirhan the ammunition because of a sales receipt which he made out, but he just cannot remember Sirhan or the sale.

As too the two men that he had described as being with Sirhan, he stated that he had probably been mislead by Mrs. Donna Harrick. She had told him that Sirhan and two other men had been in the store on a day previous to June 1. Therefore, he had assumed that these two men could have been with Sirhan on June 1.

Again Arnot was reminded that he had no sound basis to form this assumption, and he admitted that he did not.

Arnot requested that the previous reports as given to the F.B.I. be corrected. (Statements of Larry Arnot in file S.U.S Tape #29325)

<u>l</u> LA 56-156 JOS/p.jc

It was previously reported that when interviewed on June 16, 1968, Mrs. DONNA HERRICK, wife of BENJAMIN J. HERRICK, owners of Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Gun Shop, had advised that on or about April 3, 1968, she had observed SIRHAN SIRHAN in company with two males of foreign descent at her place of business. She further advised that SIRHAN had attempted to purchase some 357 Magnum Tank Piercing ammunition on April 3, 1968.

A polygraph examination was afforded Mrs. HERRICK on August 5, 1968, at the Scientific Investigation Division, Los Angeles Police Department, by Lieutenant E. HERNANDEZ. A copy of the results of this polygraph examination was furnished SA R. J. LA JEUNESSE, JR., on August 12, 1968, by Detective Sergeant MIKE NIELSEN, S.U.S. Unit, Los Angeles Police Department.

The polygraph report is set out as follows:

August 7, 1968

To: Lt. Manual Pena

OIC Background Conspiracy Section S.U.S

FROM: Lt. E. Hernandez

Investigator, Background Conspiracy Team

SUBJECT: Polygraph Examination of Mrs. Donna Herrick

9436 Pentland, Temple City, Calif. Pha AT 67877

Mrs. Herrick was administered a polygraph examination on August 6, 1968 at the Polygraph Facilities of Scientific Investigation Division.

Mrs. Herrick informed that she was the wife of Benjamin J. Herrick and that they owned the Lock, Stock N' Barrel Gun Shop at 8972 East Hungtington Drive, San Gabriel, Calif.

The purpose of this examination was to determine if Donna Herrick had been truthful to agents of the F.B.I. when she told them that on or about April 3, 1968 she had observed Sirhan Sirhan in company of two Males of foreign decent at her place of business.

On that day, June 16, 1968, she informed the F.B.I. that she was positive Sirhan had attempted to purchase some 357 Magnum Tank Piercing ammunition, and she selected photographs of Adel and Munir Sirhan as bearing a strong resemblance to the men that were with Sirhan. Further, Herrick stated that she remembered Sirhan had such a heavy accent that she was unable to understand him. In fact, she asked her husband for assistance to help interpret what Sirhan was saying.

During the pre-test interview, Donna Herrick was questioned regarding the statement she had given to the F.B.I. on June 16, 1968, and she maintained that the statement was true.

Additional questions were asked relative to the date that she observed Sirhan (on or about April 3, 1968). She then modified her statement, and then changed it again ultimately saying that Sirhan could have been in the store during the week of March 27 or during the week of April 10, 1968. However, she definitely remembered Sirhan having a very heavy accent.

When Mrs. Herrick was informed that as a matter of fact, suspect Sirhan speaks English very well and has no trace of any accent what so ever, Mrs. Herrick stated "Well, maybe he was mumbling."

At this point of the pre-test interview, Mrs. Herrick was asked if she would voluntarily submit to a polygraph examination, she considere for a few moments and then agreed to take the test. The instrument and its functions were discussed with Mrs. Herrick and she was explained the theory and the procedures that would be followed during the course of the examination.

Prior to instrumental testing, a polygramowas obtained to determine whether she was a proper subject and capable of producing patterns adequate for interpretation. Responses were provoked, which indicated that Mrs. Herrick was a proper subject.

During the course of the examination, physiological tracings at points where crucial key questions were asked, indicate quite strongly that Mrs. Herrick was being untruthful.

After the initial tests, two additional series of questions were asked and each of these contained questions relative to four key issues which had been previously asked and to which Mrs. Herrick had responded strongly with indications of deception.

- (1) Was there anything that Mrs. Herrick had told the polygraph examinor about Sirhan that was not true?
- (2) Did Mrs. Herrick honestly remember ever seeing Sirhan inside her store in person?
- (3) Did Sirhan ever try to buy ammunition from Mrs. Herrick in person?
- (4) Did Mrs. Herrick honestly believe that the person she had told the examinor about was not Sirhan?

Upon conclusion of the polygraph examination, Mrs. Herrick was informed that her responses clearly indicated that she was either mistaken or that she was deliberately being untruthful, but that she could not honestly say that she remembered seeing Sirhan or talking to him in person. Further, she was informed that her answers to the above questions were clearly indicative of deception. To this, Mrs. Herrick stated that she admitted she was confused, but she did believe Sirhan had been at her store, and again she was informed that the results of the polygraph examination did not show this. (Complete statement recorded in tapes \$29328 & 29329. These tapes in file in S.U.S)

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING PHOTOGRAPH
TAKEN OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND
OTHERS BEFORE KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION WHICH
MAY INCLUDE SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN

<u>l</u> LA 56-156 JOS/p.jc

On July 31, 1968, HUGH J. MC DONALD, Assistant Press Secretary, Office of the late Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, furnished a photograph taken by STEVE SCHAPIRO, Free Lance Photographer, in May, 1968, at the Los Angeles International Airport. This photograph shows KENNEDY shaking hands with an unidentified individual while another person, who resembles SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, is standing beside KENNEDY with his hand outstretched to shake hands with KENNEDY. WILLIAM BARRY of the KENNEDY staff appears on the other side of KENNEDY in the photograph.

The following investigation was conducted to determine if the individual in the photograph is SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN:

1



STEVE SCHAPIRO, free lance photographer, 170 West 73rd Street, New York City, New York, phoneD@7-5087, who markets photographs through the Black Star Distributing Company at 450 Park Avenue South, New York City, New York, advised the following:

SCHAPIRO said that he had taken many pictures while traveling with the Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY campaign party. He remembers these photographs had been furnished to the KENNEDY family. He marketed others through the Black Star Distributing Company.

SCHAPIRO, following the examination of the photograph obtained July 31, 1968, from HUGH J. MC DONALD, Assistant Press Secretary to the late Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, said it looked like one that he had taken. said the photograph was taken at the Los Angeles International Airport sometime in March of 1968, shortly after Senator KENNEDY announced that he would run for the office of the President. KENNEDY was on a campaign tour Which carried him to Kansas and then to California. He had chartered a plane and had gone to San Francisco and on the return trip to Los Angeles, they stopped at several cities in Central California. Upon arrival at the Los Angeles International Airport about midday or early afternoon, a large crowd, larger than expected, had gathered and as KENNEDY was walking through a narrow passageway leading into the main area of the terminal, the photograph was taken. SCHAPIRO could not recall the name of the airline chartered or the name of the terminal. KENNEDY normally chartered flights through American Airlines. The only person besides KENNEDY recognized by SCHAPIRO was WILLIAM BARRY, a KENNEDY aide. He was standing beside KENNEDY. The two youths were not associated with any organized group. In fact, if any organized group had been present, SCHAPIRO had no knowledge of it. The youth in the picture in question

On 8/13/68 at _	Beverly Hills, Cali	forniæile# Los Angeles 56-156	
	- 204		
by SA LESLIE F. WAI	RREN/lg	Date dictated8/14/68	

<u>2</u> LA 56-156

who is getting ready to shake hands with Senator KENNEDY, is definitely not a picture of SIRHAN SIRHAN according to SCHAPIRO, who based his opinion on having examined numerous photographs of SIRHAN SIRHAN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

."						-			
L,		- - ,	7- j. 1	 : "				8/19/68	•
			_	 	 		 Date		

STEVE SCHAPIRO, free lance photographer, 170 West 73rd Street, New York, New York, telephone number 787-5087, called the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), and stated that on August 13, 1968, he spoke with a Special Agent of the FBI in Los Angeles, California and observed a photograph of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY that ne (SCHAPIRO) had taken sometime in March, 1968, at the Los Angeles International Airport.

SCHAPIRO states that he now recalls that he took the picture at the airport in San Francisco, California.

208

(telephonically)
On 8/19/68 New York, New York
File# NY 44-1640

SA WILLIAM C. NASH/np
Date dictated

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



ז	Date 8/19/68
<u>.</u>	Data 0/19/00
brent .	Dave

ONDINE VAUGHN, free lance photographer and actress, 1221 North Genesee Avenue, Los Angeles, California, advised the following:

Miss VAUGHN, who was previously interviewed June 21, 1968, had traveled with the Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY campaign party as a photographer. She did work for STEVE SCHAPIRO, who distributes photographs through the Black Star Distributing Company in New York City. Miss VAUGHN examined the photographs of Senator KENNEDY which had been obtained through the office of HUGH J. MC DONALD, Assistant Press Secretary of the late Senator. One picture taken by STEVE SCHAPIRO of the Black Star Distributing Company shows KENNEDY shaking hands with an unidentified individual. Another person who resembles SIRHAN SIRHAN is standing next to KENNEDY with his hand outstretched to shake hands with KENNEDY. VAUGHN said that she was unable to identify the youth who is in the photograph who is about to shake hands with KENNEDY, and the only person she knew in the photograph besides Senator KENNEDY was WILLIAM BARRY, on the right side of the photograph. 'BARRY was a Senator KENNEDY aide. VAUGHN said the photograph appeared to her to have been taken at the Los Angeles International Airport at an entrance of a terminal utilized for the arrival of important persons. She speculated that the time probably would have been in May of 1968, during one of Senator KENNEDY's campaign trips to Los Angeles.

On	8/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
	- 207 -
by .	SA LESLIE F. WARREN/1g Date dictated 8/14/68

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

INVESTIGATION CONCERNING INDIVIDUAL WHO CAME INTO PAPPY'S STEW HOUSE, RAYWOOD, TEXAS, ON MAY 23, 1968, AND STATED WAS GOING TO CALIFORNIA TO "GET ONE OF THOSE SENATORS"

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

. = OUZ TORV. S . . = OB

Data	June	6,	1968	
Llata		_ /		

JOSEPH WILLARD "PAPPY" LUKE, age 61, owner of Pappy's Stew House, General Delivery, Highway 90, Raywood, Texas, telephone 587-9059, advised around 11:00 a.m., on Thursday, one and one half weeks ago (date of May 23, 1968) a lone male came into Luke's restaurant and had a Coke and a bowl of stew. The man, believed to be named John (last name unknown) stated he was a salesman for the Broker Food Company and traveled all over the United States. stated he had just left Houston, Texas, and was traveling to New Orleans, Louisiana. LUKE told the man about LUKE's copyrighted Mulligan Stew and offered the man \$1,000 to promote the stew. The man declined and stated he was going to California. The man then made the following statement: "My life isn't worth two cents. I am going to the campaign meeting in California and straighten that s--- out there I am going to turn California upside down. I am going to get one of those Senators. I am going to kill them sons-of-b----." LUKE inquired why. man replied, "Because they are killing the Communists. want to make it good for the Communists."

The man was not carrying any papers or other articles. He never displayed any identification. Nothing was observed in the man's car. LUKE tried to get the man to take his coat off as the restaurant was quite hot, but the man refused. The man paid for his food with a roll of bills approximately three inches in diameter. The man spun his wheels and drove east on Highway 90 at a very high rate of speed.

LUKE advised that there were no other witnesses to this incident.

The man was described as follows:

	Name Race Age Height	JOHN (Last Name Unknown) Caucasian 25-28 years 5'4" - 5'6"
		20\$
On	6/5/68 Raywood, Texas	s HO 175-12 File # LA 56-156
by	SA JAMES I. McCOY/cbl	Date dictated

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.

HO 175-12 LA 56-156

> Weight Hair

Eyes Complexion Scars

Features

Jewelry Vehicle

125-135 pounds Black, long, straight, combed back Dark Dark (looks French or Syrian) Numerous short, vertical scars on both cheeks and right forehead (looked like fingernail scratches) Slim face, pointed chin, a large number of vertical wrinkles around mouth; no facial hair, tattoos, marks, or glasses; soft spoken (note LUKE is hard of hearing) Gold watch on wrist 1967-1968 tan Ford sedan, large body style, number of doors unknown, 1968 Texas license plates, white sidewall tires, Texas inspection sticker on left corner of window, commercial radio antenna, had red and yellow lights on sides of fenders, no spot light, looked brand new.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	8/7/68	
Date		

JOSEPH WILLARD "PAPPY" LUKE, Pappy's Stew House, General Delivery, Highway 90, Raywood, Texas, was shown a photograph of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN which appeared on the front page of the Beaumont Enterprise, Beaumont, Texas newspaper dated June 6, 1968. Mr. LUKE, after viewing the photograph, stated positively that this photograph was identical to the man who came into Luke's restaurant on May 23, 1968.

On 8/5/68 at Raywood, Texas File # LA 56-156

by SA JAMES I. McCOY/cbl Date dictated 8/6/68

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.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date	8/26/68
Date	

JOSEPH WILLARD "Pappy" LUKE, owner of Pappy's Stew House, General Delivery, Highway 90, Raywood, Texas, advised he had been unable to recall anything additional concerning the description or comments of the man who came into his restaurant on May 23, 1968, and made various claims regarding his intention to kill a senator in California. advised the photograph of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN which he viewed around the first of August, 1968, was in his opinion identical to that man who came into his restaurant on May 23, 1968. LUKE advised he has never owned a television set nor has he viewed anyone else's television set within the last six months. LUKE stated he could not read and has not looked at a newspaper for several years. He advised he was certain he had not seen a photograph of SIRHAN until a photograph was shown him by the FBI. LUKE stated he was hard of hearing but he was certain the man had said what LUKE reported on June 5, 1968.

On 8/23/68 at Raywood, Texas File # HO 175-13 LA 56-156

by SA JAMES I. McCOY:yk Date dictated 8/26/68

1

HO 175-13 LA 56-156 JIM:**y**k

A photograph of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN was shown the following residents of Raywood, Texas, on August 23, 1968. None of the persons had ever observed anyone similar to SIRHAN in Raywood:

CLARENCE JOHNSON Johnson Texaco Service Station

JIMMY TAYLOR Johnson Texaco Service Station

LEON FREGIA
Johnson Texaco Service Station

PERCY L. DeCUIR
DeCuir Enco Station

CHARLES HAGEN
DeCuir Enco Station

MARTHA FRANKLIN
Ma-&-Pa's Trading Post

Mrs. APPO LaFOUR LaFour Food Market

It was noted there were no other residences or businesses in the small town of Raywood, Texas, that would have provided an opportunity for someone to view the man who spoke to J. W. LUKE on May 23, 1968.

Deputy Sheriff WILL AUTREY, Liberty County Sheriff's Office, Liberty, Texas, advised on August 23, 1968, his office had developed no information regarding the identity of the man who spoke to J. W. LUKE regarding a possible assassination attempt in the state of California.

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

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



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Tampa, Florida June 11, 1968

PERNELL EZZELI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Name: Race: Sex:

Date of Birth: Place of Birth: PERNELL EZZELL

White Male

Fayetteville, North Carolina PΙΙ

Height: Weight:

Hair:

Eyes:

Marital Status:

Wife:

Children:

Relatives:

Mother:

Route 4 Box 236

Clinton, N. C.

that marriage

ACRIE EZZELL

Sandy and wavy

636 22nd Street Orlando, Florida l infant child from

Brother:

THOMAS OZELL EZZELL

Age 33

5'10"

185

Blue

Married

FAY EZZELL

Fayetteville, N.C.

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

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

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

Date	8/27/68
Duie	

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

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

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

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

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

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

221

On	8/24/68	at Shreveport	, Louisiana	File # <u>NO</u>	173-994	
·						
by .	SA RON	ALD W. BEINNER	/bab	Date dictated	8/24/68	

NO 173-994

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

EZZELL remembers flying from Orlando, Florida,

NO 173-994

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NO 173-994

that he made none while there on these trips.

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

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

The following description was obtained from interview and observation:

Name Race	PERNELL EZZELL alias "Easy" White
Sex	Male
Date of Birth	
Place of Birth	Fayetteville, North Carolina
Height	6'1"
Weight	175
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Blue
Scars and Marks	None
Marital Status	Married to FAYE MARIE EZZELL
	636 22nd Street,
	Orlando, Florida
Children	CLINTON EARL - 11 months
P arents	Father - deceased
·	Mother - ACRIE EZZELL
	Route 4, Clinton, North Carolina
Brothers	THOMAS OZELLE EZELLE, age 33,
	Simco, Ontario, Canada
	WENDELL EZZELLE, age 25, High
	Point, North Carolina
Sister	DIANE McMILLIAN, age 19,
	Fayetteville, North Carolina
	employed Ft. Bragg, North
	Carolina
Residence	636 22nd Street, Orlando,

Florida

discharge

Serial # AF14408130

US Air Force 1951-1953, Honorable

PII

Military Service

Arrest Record

Social Security # Occupation

Friends

Numerous drunk arrests no felony arrests

T.V. repairman and security guard Previous employment Perdue Radio and T.V. - Orlando, Florida; Associates Security, Orlando, Florida; Electronic Service, Inc., Patco Division, Newport News, Virginia; American District Telegraph -Winston Salem, North Carolina American District Telegraph -Indianapolis, Indiana Previous Residences Raleigh, North Carolina, Fayetteville, North Carolina, Ashville, North Carolina, Newport News, Virginia, Indianapolis, Indiana, Orlando, Florida CHRISTINE TENDELL, Clinton, North Carolina VIOLET ALLRED, Orlando, Florida

PII

1 IA 56-156 JOS/rem

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1.		ė		8/1/68	
				ψ ₁ Ξ, υ υ	
**			Date	• •	

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

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

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

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

On	7/24/68 Bristol,	227 Virginia	_File#.	Richmond 4 Los Angele	4-657 s 44-1574
-	SA DEAN W. GASTEIGER,	/vlr			7/29/68
by			-Date di	ctated ———	

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 BUR	EAU OF	INVEST	IGATION
-------------	--------	--------	---------

	•	•		
-				
Date				

	FRANK	GOODPAST	JRE, JR.	Goodpa	asture	Motor	Company
Bristol,							
known as							
386 State	Street	Extension	n, Fairf:	ield, Co	onnecti	cut, s	ince
1959, and	l he alwa	ws has fo	วบากส์ ไท้าท	to be a	a nersc	or of l	າຳຊຽ

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

morals, character and reputation.

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

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

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

228 Richmond 44-657 Los Angeles 44-1574 7/25/68 Bristol, Virginia On 7/29/68 SA DEAN W. CASTEIGER/vlr Date dictated

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 8/7/68

1

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

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

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

On	8/5/68	Lima, Ohio		File #	Cleveland 44-565
			- 229 -		
by	SA HOMER K.	MILLER/slk		Date dictated	8/6/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date __September 26, 1968

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

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

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

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

			230		
On	9/20/68	at Fairfield, Co	nnecticut	File # N H	157-818
)V	SA GEORGE	T. RIORDAN/mec_		Date dictated	9/23/68

your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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

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

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

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

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

•			•	
ar:				
FEDERAL	BUREAU	OF	INVESTIG	ATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

232

On .	8/12/68	_at	Nashvi:	lle,	Tennessee	 File # Memphis	44-1987	
					· .			
by _	SA WILLIAM	M.	HOBBS,	JR.	/mas;jas	 _Date dictated	8/12/68	

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

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

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

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

Following is interview of JAMES W. MUNDELL.

Date	9/30/68
Dauc	77 307 00

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

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

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

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

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

On 9/30/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

-[™]235 -

By SA CHARLES W. BADGLEY/lmt Date dictated 9/30/68
This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

2 LA 56-156

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 TA 56-156 JOS/rem

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



Poto 9/24/68

1

Mr. ANGELO DE PIERRO, Maitre d', Banquet Room, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, advised the following:

DONALD DAVID EVANGELISTA, an extra banquet waiter who had been hired at the Ambassador Hotel May 17, 1968, and who voluntarily terminated on June 19, 1968, was an established extra waiter who had been used from time to time for a period of two to three years. EVANGELISTA was reported to have taken a trip back East. Neither his specific address nor his current employment was known to DE PIERRO. DE PIERRO suggested that EVANGELISTA could be reached through Local 17 of the Waiters' Union, 321 South Bixel Street, Los Angeles.

Concerning the general character and reputation of EVANGELISTA, DE PIERRO said that there were some rumors, source of which he could not recall, that EVANGELISTA had had some trouble with the police back East, but the nature of the trouble was not known to DE PIERRO.

On	9/19/68 at	Los Angeles,	California	Los	Angeles	56-1 56
			- 238 -			
by	SA LESLIE F.	WARREN/cyn	Date dictated	l	9/23/	/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TION			

9/19/68

PII

PII

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

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

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

The records also disclosed that on May 17, 1968, EVANGELISTA had paid \$25.00 toward a reinstatement fee of \$50.00 to Local 17. There was nothing on the record to indicate that EVANGELISTA had been dispatched by Local 17 to the Ambassador Hotel.

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

On _	9/17/63	Los Angeles,			Angeles 56-156
bv	SA LESLIE F.		- 33	ate dictated —	9/18/68

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.

1

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

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

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

On -	9/19/68	_atAngeles,	California	Los Angeles 56-156 File#	
			- 240 -		
	SA LESLIE	F. WARREN/cyn		9/23/68	
by _				_Date dictated	

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.