

UNCLASSIFIED

Ambassy CANBERRA

STATE

1. Please pass the following message to Lord Casey from the President:

"Dear Lord Casey: I was deeply grateful for your telegram. The knowledge that your countrymen share our grief at the tragic loss of Senator Kennedy is a source of great comfort and consolation to me and to my fellow Americans.

Lyndon B. Johnson"

2. White House does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by Governor General.
3. Following, FYI, is text of Governor General's message to the President:

~~XXX~~
QTE: We share with you the shock and horror of this dreadful happening. Casey Governor-General. UNQTE.

END

EA/ANZ:CCBrower:rlw 6/14/68

52092

EA/ANZ - Carleton C. Brower

EA - Mr. Blackburn

White House -

S/S

UNCLASSIFIED

Pl-6-2 US/Kennedy, Robert

Australia
The Sydney News
Whitby

1968 JUN 6 AM 9 59

WA212 INTL FR

PORMORESBY 21/20 JUNE 6

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WE SHARE WITH YOU THE SHOCK AND HORROR OF THIS
DREADFUL HAPPENING

CASEY GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

21
POL 6-2 US/Kennedy
183883
183883
FOR OC/T USE ONLY
14 JUN 68 23 112
Robert F. Kennedy
UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy BONN

Info:

STATE

1. Please pass following message from Vice President to Bundestag President Gerstenmaier:

QTE Dear Dr. Gerstenmaier:

Please accept my own heart-felt thanks and the thanks of my Senate colleagues for your thoughtful condolences on the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. ~~In addition, the Kennedy family has asked me to say how much they appreciate your kindness.~~

Sincerely,

Hubert H. Humphrey UNQTE

Vice President's Office

2. ~~XXXXXX~~ does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by Gerstenmaier.

3. Following, FYI, is English text of ~~CHANGE~~ Gerstenmaier's message to the Vice President:

QTE Deeply moved, I express to you, Mr. President, and to the Senate of the United States of America, the sincere participation of the German Bundestag in the painful and tragic loss which you

Drafted by:

6/11/68

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

EUR - George S. Springsteen

EUR/GER:TJHirschfeld:lpb

Clearances:

EUR/GER - Mr. Puhan

S/S - ~~XXXXXX~~ Mrs. Davis

~~XXXXXX~~

Vice President's office - Mr. Riehl

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

and the United States have suffered through the death of Senator Robert Kennedy. The German Bundestag is in mourning with you over a great hope of your country. It also is thinking with heartfelt sympathy of the again so severely tried Kennedy family.

Very sincerely yours,

Gerstenmaier,

President of the German Bundestag UNOTE

END.

RUSK

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

(21)
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

POL 6-22US / Kennedy
183209
Robert F.
Jew
FOR OC/IT USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy BONN

Info:

14 JUN 68 15 14z

STATE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER BRANDT:

1. QTE Thank you for your thoughtful message of condolence on the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Your sympathy at this time of national sorrow is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely, Dean Rusk UNQTE

2. Department does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by Foreign Minister Brandt.

3. Following, FYI, is English translation of Foreign Minister Brandt's message to the Secretary:

QTE In this difficult hour, in which one of the most outstanding political personalities of your country has fallen victim to murder, I should like to assure you, that we feel ourselves united with the American people in common grief and indignation at this reprehensible act. May the death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, whom I was privileged to learn to know and appreciate in Berlin, lead all peoples finally to the sober realization that violent fanaticism in a world striving

183209

RECORDED BY 15/2

Drafted by: 6/13/68 Tel. Ext. 4989 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: EUR - George S. Springsteen
EUR/GER:TJHirschfeld:lpb
Clearances: EUR/GER - Mr. Puhane S/S - Mr. Parker

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

for peace, is not to be permitted as a means of political
disputation.

Willy Brandt. UNQTE

END

RUSK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

Pol 6-2 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

1 8 3 3 4 8

FOR OC/IT USE ONLY

43

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA

Info:

STATE

14 JUN 68 18 47z

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO TIBURCIO CARIAS CASTILLO,
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

1. QTE Thank you for your thoughtful message of condolence on the
tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Your sympathy at this
time of national sorrow is deeply appreciated.

2. QTE I shall, as you requested, transmit your message to
Mrs. Kennedy and members of the Senator's family. Sincerely,

Dean Rusk UNQTE

3. Department does not plan to release message, but has no objection
to release by Minister of Foreign Affairs.

END

RUSK

RECEIVED BY 12/1

Drafted by:

ARA/CEN/H: LW Warner: pcb

6/13/68

Tel. Ext.

4774

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

ARA/CEN-ORRUTOWS

Clearances:

ARA-REltz
S/S-Mr. Parker

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

Pol 6-2 45/Kennedy, Robert F.

183577

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

43

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy TEGUCIGALPA

Info:

STATE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO ACTING PRESIDENT ARMIJO
OF CABEI:

1. QTE The tragic and untimely death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy has come as a great shock to all Americans. On behalf of the people of the United States, I express my deepest appreciation for your words of sympathy. Lyndon B. Johnson UNQTE
2. White House does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by CABEI.
3. Following, FYI, is ~~Spanish~~ text of Armijo's message to the President:
QTE El Banco Centroamericano de Integracion Economica al lamentar el sencible deceso del Senador Robert Kennedy, se une a la pena que embarga al pueblo hermano de los Estados Unidos de America.

Jorge Armijo Mejia

Presidente En Funciones Oancadie UNQTE

END

RUSK

Drafted by:

ARA/CEN/H:LMWarner:pcb

6/13/68

Tel. Ext.

4774

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

ARA/CEN-CBBurrows

Clearances:

ARA-REltz

S/S-AParker

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Classification



POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 673

PAGE 01 ADDIS 4346 150608Z

17
ACTION AF 15

INFO NSA 02, AID 10, RSR 01, 1028 W

R 141715Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5985

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 4346

REF: STATE 179593: ADDIS ABABA 4343

SUBJ: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. IN COURSE CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN KETEMA I MENTIONED THAT IN WAKE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WE HAD CIRCULAR INQUIRY FROM WASHINGTON (ANSWERED IN REF B) RE HOST COUNTRIES' FIREARM CONTROL LAWS.

KETEMA SAID QTE I'M AFRAID WE ARE NOT THE RIGHT ONES TO COME TO ON THAT SUBJ: THIS COUNTRY IS FULL OF GUNS--PROBABLY AVERAGE OF TWO PER PERSON--AND OUR CONTROLS TOO ARE TOTALLY INADEQUATE. UNQTE

2. KETEMA REITERATED GENERAL DEEP CONCERN OF ETHIOPIANS OVER ASSASSINATION AND ITS IMPLICATION FOR US. HE ADDED, THOS WHO THOUGHT ABOUT MATTER CAREFULLY COULD REALIZE CONSPIRACY THEORY SCARCELY TENABLE ACROSS THREE MURDERS (PRES AND SENATOR KENNEDY AND KING), BUT IT NEVERTHELESS APPEALING AND WIDELY HELD. TO MY OBSERVATION THAT ASSASSINATION AND OTHER FORMS VIOLENCE DUE IN LARGE MEASURE TO PERMISSIVENESS AMERICAN SOCIETY AND PRESENCE NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WHO NOT YET ASSIMILATED AMERICAN LIFE AND THUS PREPARED LIVE WITHIN RQYES, HE EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE ADMITTEDLY NEEDED CONTROLS COULD SOMEHOW BE DEVELOPED WITHOUT LOSS OF AND RESPECT FOR FUNDAMENTAL PERSONAL FREEDOMS WHICH WERE AMERICA'S GREAT GIFT TO WORLD.

3. I SHOWED KETEMA COPY OF RECENT HARSH LOCAL EDITORIAL ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WHICH HE SAID HE HAD NOT READ. HE AGREED IT WAS QTE PRETTY BAD UNQTE, APOLOGIZED AND SAID HE WOULD TRY TO DO SOMETHING TO MAKE AMENDS.

HALL

CONFIDENTIAL

6-14-68
4346

AIRGRAM

POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY

ROBERT F.
FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	AF
ARA	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR
E	P	IO
I	FRG	AIU
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
OSD	USIA	NSA

Handwritten: H-2, 27, 5, 2, 3/CPR, 3, 20, 34, 10, 3, USC 6

A-209

UNCLASSIFIED

NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO: LONDON, ROME

FROM : Amembassy VALLETTA

DATE: June 14, 1968

SUBJECT: Maltese Reaction to the Assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy

REF :

ROME FOR PAO

1. Enclosed with this airgram is an envelope containing a number of clippings from local English and Maltese language newspapers covering the assassination and funeral of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. This material is being transmitted as an illustration of the intensity of Maltese feeling with respect to the late Senator and the Kennedy family. The press clippings may be forwarded to the Kennedy family if deemed appropriate.

2. The breadth and the intensity of the local reaction to this world-shaking tragedy revealed two things about the Maltese:

A. They obtained a personal identification with the tragedy through their own love of family, their strong Catholic faith and reverence for its liturgy, and their belief in what they understood to be the Senator's political aims, that is, fighting for the rights of minorities and for world peace.

B. The local news media (newspapers, television, and radio) have the ability when impelled by this type of close identification to provide quick and wide coverage to events of world interest.

3. The news media coverage started with what appeared to be an assassination "attempt" on Senator Kennedy's life. The shooting in Los Angeles was the major topic of local discussion and news coverage during the days of June 5-6. Knowledge of the assassination attempt began to circulate in Malta about 9 a.m. on June 5. By noon The Times of Malta had a

Enclosure: one envelope

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☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

DCM:CEBeaman/R.Mifsud/bj

Contents and Classification Approved by:

AMB:PHSmythe

Clearances:

special edition on the stands with a large headline "Bob Kennedy Shot." During the day Malta Rediffusion (radio) carried spot news monitored from VOA broadcasts. The island was, of course, also receiving hourly news coverage through the BBC. Many Maltese stayed glued to their television or radio sets for long hours in an effort to follow the American tragedy closely.

4. Malta Television, which only operates during the evening hours, had surprisingly current coverage of the dramatic events in Los Angeles. Pictures relayed by satellite to Europe and screened in news broadcasts on Italian television were monitored and rescreened on Malta television. Over half of the time of the evening television news periods, in Maltese and later in English, was devoted to the "attempted assassination." Many Maltese also got the news direct from Italian television channels.

5. The morning papers of June 6 carried extensive coverage (for Malta) of the shooting, the three-hour emergency operation, and the known details of the assailant, Sirhan Sirhan. The Times of Malta and the Malta News as well as the local language press had editorials deploring the senseless act of violence. The papers also printed the message of sympathy which Prime Minister Dr. G. Borg Olivier had sent to Mrs. Robert Kennedy the previous evening, c/o the Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles.

6. On the morning of June 6 the Embassy began receiving a number of calls, primarily seeking additional information concerning Senator Kennedy's condition. These calls changed to expressions of condolence when it was learned about 10 a.m. local time that the Senator had died. The Prime Minister sent Mrs. Kennedy another message, this time one of condolence. The Malta News ran off a special edition mourning the Senator's death. News reporters called the Embassy for a statement upon the Senator's death. Malta Television also asked the Embassy to make a short television clip for the evening news broadcast. This was done, the statement being an extension of the brief remarks previously given to the press. The clip was a part of the television broadcasts June 6, and the voice portion was later carried on rediffusion.

7. From June 7 onward there was an outpouring in the press of news articles and pictures of the Kennedy family. (Some of the pictures had been provided by the Embassy from USIS material.) The Embassy was also asked to participate in a memorial television broadcast June 7, along with Bishop Mgr. Emanuel Gerada and other Maltese priests and citizens. The Embassy used this occasion to read President Johnson's statement on the death of Senator Kennedy which had just been received from the Department by telegram. The program was dedicated to Senator Kennedy's role as the head of a Catholic family and the ideals for which he fought. The Embassy was asked to participate, on June 14, in a program devoted to Senator Kennedy's life.

8. Some Catholic churches on the island had some sort of prayers or memorial service for the late Senator. The tragedy was also mentioned from the pulpit

UNCLASSIFIED

3

of Protestant churches on Sunday, June 9. The Embassy has received, at this writing, 35 letters and cards of condolence as well as many oral expressions of condolence given to individual staff members of the Embassy. On Sunday, June 9, there was a Catholic Requiem Mass aboard the USS SHENANDOAH, presently in Grand Harbor, for the officers and men of the U.S. Navy ships. The chapel of Villa Monsignor Gonzi, located in Siggiewi, will on June 15 hold a mass for Robert Kennedy to demonstrate that it "associates itself with the American people in the Kennedy tragedy" and as a sign of gratitude for previous help given the chapel by Americans.

9. Flags on U.S. Government buildings were, of course, lowered to half mast when news of the Senator's death was received through VOA channels. (U.S. Navy ships already had their flags lowered in tribute to the crew of the lost USS SCORPION). In tribute to Senator Kennedy, a number of other foreign Embassies as well as Headquarters, NAVSOUTH, lowered their flags to half mast. Flags on private Maltese commercial establishments and homes were also lowered, and some shopkeepers put a picture of the Senator draped in crepe in their windows. The Queen's Birthday activities were held as scheduled in Malta on June 8; however, the Governor General directed that flags on all official buildings be put at half mast on Sunday, June 9, the day designated by President Johnson as a day of mourning.

10. On June 11 Senator Robert Kennedy was chosen by the Cana Movement as the symbol and model father for this year's Father's Day which is being celebrated June 16. There is already a memorial in Malta, a garden and circular pillars, to the late President John F. Kennedy. Some Maltese have suggested that a plaque also be established there to the memory of Robert Kennedy.

SMYTHE
Smythe

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209

CROSS-SECTION OF VIEWPOINTS IN
MALTESE-LANGUAGE PRESS

Iz-Zmien (June 6)

History teaches us that great statesmen of progressive sentiments who work and make sacrifices for their country and for humanity run the risk of being continually threatened by such savage and cowardly acts. This risk is greater in the United States where there apparently still is a great movement against racial equality in regard to civil rights.

- - -

L-Orizzont (June 6)

It may be that Senator Kennedy has suffered because of his ideal to improve the lot of the poor and the negroes.

- - -

Il-Haddiem (June 6)

The attempt on Bob Kennedy's life was motivated either by madness or fanaticism. We very much fear that fanaticism and prejudice existing amongst a great section of white people in America are responsible for the two nefarious acts perpetrated in 1968.

- - -

Il-Berqa (June 6)

Incidents such as the murder of the Kennedys and of M. L. King have unfavorable repercussions on the prestige of the American people in their relations with other nations.

A reaction against the American Government and people may arise here in Malta because of this incident. While condemning such illegal actions, we must keep a sense of proportion and not also accuse a system of Government.

- - -

Dr. Herbert Ganado writing in
Lehen-Is-Sewwa (June 8)

If the millions who had hopes in the reforms of the Kennedy brothers and in the apostolate of Luther King should lose hope, the world can in a very short time experience some ugly hours.

UNCLASSIFIED

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209
Page No. 2

Lehen-Is-Sewwa (June 8)

The extermination of political leaders by pistol shots not only results in a lessening of democracy, it may also scare the best people in the world from taking an active part in politics.

- - -

Dr. Joe Micallef-Stafrace (MP MLP) writing in
It-Torca (June 9)

America is today presented before the world wherein no politician or other distinguished figure is certain of not being assassinated.

America is being presented as a nation of gangsters. A country full of corruption. A country of unbridled capitalism where you can never be sure that you have before you a genuine and sincere opinion. A Country without a soul.

Let us hope that those leaders in America who have so far escaped the bullet will understand that what Robert Kennedy stood for is still there, even though may be by the elimination of Kennedy and of Luther King there is not a sufficiently strong and respected voice to keep these ideals continually before America and the world public opinion.

- - -

Toni Farrugia writing in
It-Torca (June 9)

We accuse the American people with corruption and intolerance. The soul of the country is rotten.

With the burial of Robert F. Kennedy the world has also buried its every hope that the nation, calling itself the greatest champion of democracy, can by just means solve the racial problems which are exhausting it and spare many of its families the suffering they are experiencing because of a war in which they are unnecessarily involved.

Only if America can fulfill all that JFK, MLK and RFK died for can the world forgive, if not forget, America's deficiencies.

- - -

It-Torca (June 9)

It would be naive in the extreme to believe that President Kennedy's assassin acted on his own. And now this Palestinian who has shot Senator Kennedy has done so "for his country."

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209
Page No. 3

In spite of its acknowledged efficiency, the American Secret Service did not discover the reason for John Kennedy's assassination and maybe they will not find out why this Palestinian who has been in the United States eleven years has perpetrated this barbarous crime. Maybe, if the real reason does come out, the world will be scandalized even more.

- - -

Leli Zammit writing in
Iz-Zmien (June 10)

America is a sick country. It is paralysed by fear and full of indecisions. Violence is dominating American life. This is having disastrous repercussions. It was no surprise consequently that Senator Kennedy should be a victim of a senseless act of violence. Such acts are part and parcel of everyday life in America.

- - -

Lehen-is-Sewwa (June 11)

On Saturday, at 11 a.m. at the Church of Saint Susanna alle Terme, Rome, Archbishop Martin O'Connor, Apostolic Nuncio for Malta, celebrated a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Robert Kennedy for the personnel of the United States Embassy and for Americans residing in Rome.

- - -

Lehen-is-Sewwa (June 11)

It would be most appropriate if a dignified plaque be placed at the Kennedy grove in memory of Robert Kennedy.

I wish also to suggest to the American Embassy in Malta to organize a Requiem Mass for the late Senator's soul.

- - -

Paul Carachi MP writing in
L-Orizzont (June 11)

Even though the exaggerated ease with which firearms are bought and sold contributed enormously towards a perpetration of a crime, the principal cause is to be found in unbridled passions which emerge and grow in man; foremost among these sentiments are envy, hatred, thirst for power and money.

- - -

UNCLASSIFIED

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209
Page No. 4

Lehen-is-Sewwa (June 11)

Who knows what Robert Kennedy had in his mind? His many speeches indicated he had several fine projects to fulfill for the benefit of his country and in particular for the poor and for large families. These hopes have now vanished into thin air, as a result of violence, which has again dealt American political life a terrible blow

4/1
POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

183337

14 JUN 68 18 40z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: AmEmbassy PARIS

Info:

STATE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO DE GAULLE:

1. QTE The tragic and untimely death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy has come as a great shock to all Americans. On behalf of the people of the United States, I express my deepest appreciation for your words of sympathy. UNQTE

2. QTE The knowledge that your countrymen share our grief is a source of great comfort and consolation. I shall transmit your message to Mrs. Kennedy and members of the Senator's family.

Lyndon B. Johnson UNQTE

3. White House does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by de Gaulle.

4. Following, FYI, is English text of de Gaulle's message to the President:

QTE The tragedy that has just shaken the United States, and once again plunged the Kennedy family into mourning, deeply grieves the people of France. I wish to express their grief to you, and to assure you that I share your sorrow and that of the American people.

C. de Gaulle UNQTE

Drafted by:

eur=EUR/FBX:JJMeresca:fv 6-13-68

Tel. Ext.
4439

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

EUR/FBX: Robert Anderson

Clearances:

S/S - AP arker EUR-RMBeaudry

RUSK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

183337

6

POL 6-2 US Kennedy,
183256
Robert F.
14 JUN 68 16 48 Z

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

~~K LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~
Classification

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy DJAKARTA

Info:

STATE:

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO FONMIN MALIK:

1. QTE: Dear Mr. Minister:
2. QTE: Thank you for your thoughtful message of condolence on the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Your sympathy at this time of national sorrow is deeply appreciated. Sincerely,
Dean Rusk. ~~RM~~ UNQTE
3. Dept. does not plan to release, but has no objection to release by ~~XXXXX~~ Foreign Minister Malik.
4. ~~N~~ Following, FYI, is text of Malik's message to Secretary:
QTE: Deeply shocked by the sad news of the tragic demise of Senator Robert Kennedy, I hasten to extend to Your Excellency my sincere condolences. My thoughts are also very much with the family of the deceased, for whom ~~the~~ this loss is so great. May his soul rest in peace and may God the Almighty grant consolation to his family in their hour of bereavement. ~~Adxxxx~~ Adam Malik, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Rep. of Indonesia. UNQTE
- 183256

END

RUSK

1

Drafted by:

EA/IND: RGrich, Jr.

Tel. Ext.

6697

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

S/S - Mr. Parker

Clearances:

EA - Mr. Duemling
EA/IND - Mr. Underhill

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~
Classification

34

Pal 6-2 us/Kennedy, Robert
1832107

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

1832107
"A"
14 JUN 68 15 15z
FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy MONTEVIDEO

STATE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER

FLORES:

1. QTE Thank you for your thoughtful message of condolence on the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Your sympathy at this time of national sorrow is deeply appreciated. Sincerely,

Dean Rusk UNQTE

2. Department does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by Foreign Minister Flores.

END

RUSK

MICROFILMED BY NSA
①

Drafted by: ARA/APU:ILSanders:hsm 6/12/68	Tel. Ext. 2310	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: ARA/APU:WLowenthal
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Clearances:

ARA - Miss Eltz

S/S - Mr. Parker

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

HANDLING INDICATOR

11/11/1964

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☒ In ☐ Out

appearances:

POL/KBJenkins (draft)

COMMENT:

The attitudes expressed by the distinguished members of the Municipal Council unfortunately reflect the visceral reactions of many Venezuelans, both friends and foes of the US. (See A-919, June 7, 1968.) Despite careful and frequent repetition of the Ambassador's remarks by many members of the Country Team, a great number of Venezuelans persist in linking the Kennedy assassination to an overall condemnation of the US.

BERNBAUM
17

Enclosure: The proclamation is enclosed for presentation at the Department's discretion to the Kennedy family.

ORIGIN/ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

*Pol 6 45 / Kennedy,
Robert F.*

FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R 1	REP	AF
ARA 10	EUR	FE
NEA	CU	INR 5
E	P 2	IO
L	<i>stpp</i>	AID
54 1	<i>st</i>	<i>st</i> 10
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
ARMY	CIA 20	NAVY
OSD	USIA 10	NSA 3
		<i>NSC</i> 6

17

A-689

NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

*Pol 6-245 / Kennedy,
Robert F.*

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FROM : Amembassy LIMA

DATE: June 14, 1963

SUBJECT: Reaction in Peru to Death of Senator Kennedy

REF :

SUMMARY

The grief and consternation in Peru at the death of Senator Kennedy, who was widely admired in this country and well-known from his successful 1965 visit here, was deep, widespread and heartfelt, almost identical in tone and scarcely smaller in degree to the reaction following the assassination of President Kennedy in 1963. The upwelling of emotion in Peru occasioned by Senator Kennedy's tragic death underscored not only Peru's feeling for the Senator and his family but also the fundamental warmth and community of interests underlying US-Peruvian relations.

* * * * *

The November 10-13, 1965 visit to Peru by Senator Robert F. KENNEDY and Mrs. Kennedy was very successful. The crowds surrounding them both in Lima and in Cuzco during their visit were heavy and very friendly, and the Senator made a most favorable impression on Peruvians of all levels of society. Thus Senator Robert Kennedy was well-known and highly esteemed in Peru. News of his assassination therefore caused a wide and deep impression among Peruvians, many of whom regarded him not only as a rising U.S. political leader carrying on in the tradition of his late brother the President, but as a friend of Peru who shared many of the hopes and aspirations widely cherished by most Peruvians.

FORM 4-62 DS-323

UNCLASSIFIED

FOR DEPT. USE ONLY

☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

POL: *Mc* Randolph:mer

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Charge: *JS* Siracusa

Clearances:

POL:Fortiz

USIS:Helwood

JUN 16 11 10 56

COTAFLOPER

UNCLASSIFIED

On the morning of June 5 radio and television newscasts in Lima were overwhelmingly dominated by news of the shooting, and the afternoon papers front paged the story under huge red headlines. The Chargé d'Affaires ad interim issued a statement deploring "this horrible and senseless assassination attempt" and stating that, "as expressed previously by President JOHNSON, we can do no more at this time than pray for Senator Kennedy's recovery and for the recovery of the other victims of the shooting." This statement, together with President Johnson's, were widely carried by radio and television in Lima. President Fernando BELAUNDE Terry sent a personal message of regret to the Kennedy family, and the Peruvian Government's press spokesmen declared that the news of the shooting had "produced a mournful impact in the Presidential Palace." Declarations of horror and sadness were made by Peru's Primate, Juan Cardinal LANDAZURI Ricketts, and by spokesmen of the major political parties. Prime and Foreign Minister Oswaldo HERCELLES telephoned the Embassy to voice regret, as did the President of the Chamber of Deputies, the Chief of Protocol, and representative^s of First Vice President Edgardo SEOANE and Finance Minister Manuel ULLOA, besides political leaders, other personalities and ordinary Peruvian citizens. During the Prime and Foreign Minister's meeting with the Diplomatic Corps later in the day he expressed to the Chargé his profound sorrow, personally and for his Government, over the attack on Senator Kennedy.

On June 6 the news of Senator Kennedy's death caused great sorrow and consternation, with opinions ranging from simple expressions of sympathy to suggestions of the existence in the United States of a criminal conspiracy to silence voices of progress. President Belaúnde sent a message of condolence to Mrs. Kennedy, and Cardinal Landazuri made a public statement pointing out that "crime and violence do not produce anything positive but rather negate human rights, the basis for all democracy and social progress. Press coverage continued to be very great. Several Lima newspapers, notably El Comercio, editorially called for an end to hatred and the "reestablishment of reason" in the United States, while Expreso blamed the assassination on "powerful mafias" as well as psychological factors produced by three wars.

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RSR

June 14, 1968

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The Secretary has asked me to thank you for your thoughtful message of condolence on the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Your sympathy at this time of our national sorrow is deeply appreciated.

I shall, as you requested, transmit your message to Mrs. Kennedy and members of the Senator's family.

Sincerely,

Thomas H. E. Quimby
Acting Assistant Secretary
for African Affairs

His Excellency
Rupiah B. Banda,
Ambassador of the Republic
of Zambia,
Washington, D.C.

AFSE:TAFain:chr
6/13/68

Clearances: AFSE - Mr. Holmes
S/S - Mr. Parker

cc: Amembassy Lusaka
w/cc incoming message

MICROFILMED BY NSA

POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

66

POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

183881

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy TEHRAN

Info:

STATE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY TO FOREIGN MINISTER ZAHEDI:

1. QUOTE Thank you for your thoughtful message of condolence on the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Your sympathy at this time of national sorrow is deeply appreciated. Sincerely, Dean Rusk. UNQUOTE

2. Department does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by GOI.

3. Following, FYI, is Foreign Minister's message to Secretary.

QUOTE The news of the tragic death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy was a terrible shock and a source of great sorrow. I should like to offer you my deep condolences and sympathy and say that I share with you these sad moments. Ardeshir Zahedi Foreign Minister of Iran UNQUOTE

END.

RUSK

Drafted by: NEA/IRN:WHHallman:gc 6/13/68

Tel. Ext. 2602

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

NEA - Stuart W. Rockwell

Clearances:

NEA/IRN - Mr. McClelland

S/S - Mr. Parker

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Classification

183881

21

POL 6-2 US

Kennedy
183808
Robert F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

90

14 JUN 68 22 422

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin
Info:

ACTION: His Excellency
Dr. Jose A. Mora
P. O. Box 268
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

State

The tragic and untimely death of
Senator Robert F. Kennedy has come as
a great shock to all Americans. I
wish to express my deep appreciation
for your words of sympathy.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON

REGISTERED BY 65/A

C

RUSK

183808

POL 6-2 US

Humphrey, Robert F.

Drafted by: MM USOAS:AHMoss:vr 6/12/68 Tel. Ext. 8751 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: USOAS:CCutter

ARA/LA:Regina Eltz
S/S:Alan Parker ap

WH: Mr Bowdler ap

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

AIRGRAM

 POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY
 ROBERT F
 FOR RE USE ONLY

A-70

UNCLASSIFIED

NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

FROM : Amconsul CURACAO

DATE: June 14, 1968

SUBJECT: Death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy

REF :

The post received many messages of condolence on the occasion of the death of Senator Robert F. Kennedy June 5, 1968. Though quite a number of the callers by telephone did not identify themselves or were unknown to the Consulate General, those who wired or wrote were in all instances known to the post. With few exceptions they requested that their message of sympathy be conveyed to the United States Government and the Kennedy family. The Chairman of the Staten (Legislative Council) requested their condolences be forwarded to the United States Senate.

Listed below are those officials, organizations and individuals who asked that their condolences be conveyed to our government and the family of Senator Kennedy. All messages have been acknowledged.

His Excellency Nicolaas Debrot, Governor of the Netherlands Antilles

His Excellency C. D. Kroon, Minister-President of the Netherlands Antilles

Mr. B. M. Leito, Acting Lieutenant Governor of Curacao

Mr. Francesco Leidenz Estevanot, Venezuelan Consul General

Mr. Alfonso Rojas Palma, Colombian Consul

Mr. Nestor P. Aristizabal, Argentine Consul

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Tauber, local merchant

Mr. J. Lopez Henriquez, local merchant

UNCLASSIFIED

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

[] [] []

ratified by:

HHHouston:mem

Contents and Classification Approved by:

[] [] []

Mr. and Mrs. S. Pimsler, local merchant
Dr. E. A. Prince, dentist
Mr. Hubert L. Spencer, President, Petroleum Workers
Federation Curacao
Mr. Rene Moreno, businessman
Mr. J.A. Rojer, President, Netherlands Antilles Credit
Union League
The Reverend Amado E. J. Romer, Manager, Netherlands
Antilles Credit Union League
Curacao Sorority Society SUFA (Sociedad Union Femenina
Antillana)
Mr. Marvin E. Zoetrum
Mr. L. A. Abraham, President, The Staten of the Netherlands
Antilles
Mr. Jose Lake, Editor and Publisher, The Windward Islands
Opinion, Philipsburg, St. Maarten
Mr. Lionel Capriles, businessman
Mr. M. F. Henriquez, businessman
Mr. A. van Os, Shell Curacao N.V.
Mr. L. Capriles, Vice President, Chamber of Commerce and
Industry of Curacao
Mr. F. W. van Ramshorst, Secretary, Chamber of Commerce and
Industry of Curacao
Mr. Aniceto Rosario, President, Ambtenaren Credit Union
Mr. Harold Silvano, Secretary, Ambtenaren Credit Union
Mr. W. Thomas Rozier, President, The Board of the U.R.A.,
local political party
Mr. Winston S.S.D. Lourens, Secretary General, The Board of
the U.R.A.
Mr. F.D. van Grieken, Secretary, The Staten of the
Netherlands Antilles

HUSTON
[Signature]

AIRGRAM

POL 6-2 US/KENNEDY
ROBERT F.
FOR RM USE ONLY

RM/R	REP	AF
1		
ARA	EUR	FE
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NEA	CU	INR
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E	P	IO
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L	FBO	AID
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
34	10	3
		NSC 6

A-209

NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO: LONDON, ROME

FROM : Amembassy VALLETTA

DATE: June 14, 1968

SUBJECT: Maltese Reaction to the Assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy

REF :

ROME FOR PAO

1. Enclosed with this airgram is an envelope containing a number of clippings from local English and Maltese language newspapers covering the assassination and funeral of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. This material is being transmitted as an illustration of the intensity of Maltese feeling with respect to the late Senator and the Kennedy family. The press clippings may be forwarded to the Kennedy family if deemed appropriate.

2. The breadth and the intensity of the local reaction to this world-shaking tragedy revealed two things about the Maltese:

A. They obtained a personal identification with the tragedy through their own love of family, their strong Catholic faith and reverence for its liturgy, and their belief in what they understood to be the Senator's political aims, that is, fighting for the rights of minorities and for world peace.

B. The local news media (newspapers, television, and radio) have the ability when impelled by this type of close identification to provide quick and wide coverage to events of world interest.

3. The news media coverage started with what appeared to be an assassination "attempt" on Senator Kennedy's life. The shooting in Los Angeles was the major topic of local discussion and news coverage during the days of June 5-6. Knowledge of the assassination attempt began to circulate in Malta about 9 a.m. on June 5. By noon The Times of Malta had a

✓ Enclosure: one envelope

FORM 4-62 DS-323

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☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by:

DCM:CEBeaman/R.M.Fsud/bj

Contents and Classification Approved by:

AMB:HHSmythe

Clearances:

special edition on the stands with a large headline "Bob Kennedy Shot." During the day Malta Rediffusion (radio) carried spot news monitored from VOA broadcasts. The island was, of course, also receiving hourly news coverage through the BBC. Many Maltese stayed glued to their television or radio sets for long hours in an effort to follow the American tragedy closely.

4. Malta Television, which only operates during the evening hours, had surprisingly current coverage of the dramatic events in Los Angeles. Pictures relayed by satellite to Europe and screened in news broadcasts on Italian television were monitored and rescreened on Malta television. Over half of the time of the evening television news periods, in Maltese and later in English, was devoted to the "attempted assassination." Many Maltese also got the news direct from Italian television channels.

5. The morning papers of June 6 carried extensive coverage (for Malta) of the shooting, the three-hour emergency operation, and the known details of the assailant, Sirhan Sirhan. The Times of Malta and the Malta News as well as the local language press had editorials deploring the senseless act of violence. The papers also printed the message of sympathy which Prime Minister Dr. G. Borg Olivier had sent to Mrs. Robert Kennedy the previous evening, c/o the Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles.

6. On the morning of June 6 the Embassy began receiving a number of calls, primarily seeking additional information concerning Senator Kennedy's condition. These calls changed to expressions of condolence when it was learned about 10 a.m. local time that the Senator had died. The Prime Minister sent Mrs. Kennedy another message, this time one of condolence. The Malta News ran off a special edition mourning the Senator's death. News reporters called the Embassy for a statement upon the Senator's death. Malta Television also asked the Embassy to make a short television clip for the evening news broadcast. This was done, the statement being an extension of the brief remarks previously given to the press. The clip was a part of the television broadcasts June 6, and the voice portion was later carried on rediffusion.

7. From June 7 onward there was an outpouring in the press of news articles and pictures of the Kennedy family. (Some of the pictures had been provided by the Embassy from USIS material.) The Embassy was also asked to participate in a memorial television broadcast June 7, along with Bishop Mgr. Emanuel Gerada and other Maltese priests and citizens. The Embassy used this occasion to read President Johnson's statement on the death of Senator Kennedy which had just been received from the Department by telegram. The program was dedicated to Senator Kennedy's role as the head of a Catholic family and the ideals for which he fought. The Embassy was asked to participate, on June 14, in a program devoted to Senator Kennedy's life.

8. Some Catholic churches on the island had some sort of prayers or memorial service for the late Senator. The tragedy was also mentioned from the pulpit

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3

of Protestant churches on Sunday, June 9. The Embassy has received, at this writing, 35 letters and cards of condolence as well as many oral expressions of condolence given to individual staff members of the Embassy. On Sunday, June 9, there was a Catholic Requiem Mass aboard the USS SHENANDOAH, presently in Grand Harbor, for the officers and men of the U.S. Navy ships. The chapel of Villa Monsignor Gonzi, located in Siggiewi, will on June 15 hold a mass for Robert Kennedy to demonstrate that it "associates itself with the American people in the Kennedy tragedy" and as a sign of gratitude for previous help given the chapel by Americans.

9. Flags on U.S. Government buildings were, of course, lowered to half mast when news of the Senator's death was received through VOA channels. (U.S. Navy ships already had their flags lowered in tribute to the crew of the lost USS SCORPION). In tribute to Senator Kennedy, a number of other foreign Embassies as well as Headquarters, NAVSOUTH, lowered their flags to half mast. Flags on private Maltese commercial establishments and homes were also lowered, and some shopkeepers put a picture of the Senator draped in crepe in their windows. The Queen's Birthday activities were held as scheduled in Malta on June 8; however, the Governor General directed that flags on all official buildings be put at half mast on Sunday, June 9, the day designated by President Johnson as a day of mourning.

10. On June 11 Senator Robert Kennedy was chosen by the Cana Movement as the symbol and model father for this year's Father's Day which is being celebrated June 16. There is already a memorial in Malta, a garden and circular pillars, to the late President John F. Kennedy. Some Maltese have suggested that a plaque also be established there to the memory of Robert Kennedy.

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209

CROSS-SECTION OF VIEWPOINTS IN
MALTESE-LANGUAGE PRESS

Iz-Zmien (June 6)

History teaches us that great statesmen of progressive sentiments who work and make sacrifices for their country and for humanity run the risk of being continually threatened by such savage and cowardly acts. This risk is greater in the United States where there apparently still is a great movement against racial equality in regard to civil rights.

- - -

L-Orizzont (June 6)

It may be that Senator Kennedy has suffered because of his ideal to improve the lot of the poor and the negroes.

- - -

Il-Haddiem (June 6)

The attempt on Bob Kennedy's life was motivated either by madness or fanaticism. We very much fear that fanaticism and prejudice existing amongst a great section of white people in America are responsible for the two nefarious acts perpetrated in 1968.

- - -

Il-Berqa (June 6)

Incidents such as the murder of the Kennedys and of M. L. King have unfavorable repercussions on the prestige of the American people in their relations with other nations.

A reaction against the American Government and people may arise here in Malta because of this incident. While condemning such illegal actions, we must keep a sense of proportion and not also accuse a system of Government.

- - -

Dr. Herbert Ganado writing in
Lehen-Is-Sewwa (June 8)

If the millions who had hopes in the reforms of the Kennedy brothers and in the apostolate of Luther King should lose hope, the world can in a very short time experience some ugly hours.

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209
Page No. 2

Lehen-Is-Sewwa (June 8)

The extermination of political leaders by pistol shots not only results in a lessening of democracy, it may also scare the best people in the world from taking an active part in politics.

- - -

Dr. Joe Micallef-Stafrace (MP MLP) writing in
It-Torca (June 9)

America is today presented before the world wherein no politician or other distinguished figure is certain of not being assassinated.

America is being presented as a nation of gangsters. A country full of corruption. A country of unbridled capitalism where you can never be sure that you have before you a genuine and sincere opinion. A Country without a soul.

Let us hope that those leaders in America who have so far escaped the bullet will understand that what Robert Kennedy stood for is still there, even though may be by the elimination of Kennedy and of Luther King there is not a sufficiently strong and respected voice to keep these ideals continually before America and the world public opinion.

- - -

Toni Farrugia writing in
It-Torca (June 9)

We accuse the American people with corruption and intolerance. The soul of the country is rotten.

With the burial of Robert F. Kennedy the world has also buried its every hope that the nation, calling itself the greatest champion of democracy, can by just means solve the racial problems which are exhausting it and spare many of its families the suffering they are experiencing because of a war in which they are unnecessarily involved.

Only if America can fulfill all that JFK, MLK and RFK died for can the world forgive, if not forget, America's deficiencies.

- - -

It-Torca (June 9)

It would be naive in the extreme to believe that President Kennedy's assassin acted on his own. And now this Palestinian who has shot Senator Kennedy has done so "for his country."

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209
Page No. 3

In spite of its acknowledged efficiency, the American Secret Service did not discover the reason for John Kennedy's assassination and maybe they will not find out why this Palestinian who has been in the United States eleven years has perpetrated this barbarous crime. Maybe, if the real reason does come out, the world will be scandalized even more.

- - -

Leli Zammit writing in
Iz-Zmien (June 10)

America is a sick country. It is paralysed by fear and full of indecisions. Violence is dominating American life. This is having disastrous repercussions. It was no surprise consequently that Senator Kennedy should be a victim of a senseless act of violence. Such acts are part and parcel of everyday life in America.

- - -

Lehen-is-Sewwa (June 11)

On Saturday, at 11 a.m. at the Church of Saint Susanna alle Terme, Rome, Archbishop Martin O'Connor, Apostolic Nuncio for Malta, celebrated a Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Robert Kennedy for the personnel of the United States Embassy and for Americans residing in Rome.

- - -

Lehen-is-Sewwa (June 11)

It would be most appropriate if a dignified plaque be placed at the Kennedy grove in memory of Robert Kennedy.

I wish also to suggest to the American Embassy in Malta to organize a Requiem Mass for the late Senator's soul.

- - -

Paul Carachi MP writing in
L-Orizzont (June 11)

Even though the exaggerated ease with which firearms are bought and sold contributed enormously towards a perpetration of a crime, the principal cause is to be found in unbridled passions which emerge and grow in man; foremost among these sentiments are envy, hatred, thirst for power and money.

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Enclosure
to Valletta A-209
Page No. 4

Lehen-is-Sewwa (June 11)

Who knows what Robert Kennedy had in his mind? His many speeches indicated he had several fine projects to fulfill for the benefit of his country and in particular for the poor and for large families. These hopes have now vanished into thin air, as a result of violence, which has again dealt American political life a terrible blow

BOB KENNEDY SHOT

Assassination attempt during victory rally

Kennedy wins vital election

LOS ANGELES, June 5. Senator Robert Kennedy, drawing large support from populous Southern California, today swept to victory over Senator Eugene McCarthy in the vital California Primary Election.

Both the National Broadcasting Company and Columbia Broadcasting System projected Senator Kennedy as the winner with a comfortable margin.

Mr. Kennedy, who trailed in early returns, gained an avalanche of votes from negroes, Mexican-Americans and other ethnic minorities from whom he has drawn the bulk of his support from across the nation.

His triumph here restored his political standing, which had been damaged by defeat by Senator McCarthy in the Oregon Primary Election last week.

It also put him in the running again in his struggle with Senator McCarthy for the Democratic Presidential nomination.

(Reuter's Service)

● SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY WAS SHOT IN HIS CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS HERE TONIGHT MINUTES AFTER WINNING THE STRATEGIC CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY.

LOS ANGELES, JUNE 5.

Screams of "get a doctor for the Senator" were heard coming from the room in which Mr. Kennedy a few moments earlier had addressed his supporters after learning he had won the California Primary Election.

One eyewitness said he believed the Senator was shot in the rear of the neck.

Other reports said he had received shots in the head or the hip.

Stephen Smith, Kennedy's brother-in-law, was also reportedly wounded in the gunfire.

Men and women, joyful only seconds before, shook with tears as they were herded out of the Celebration Room.

"Oh my God, oh my God", they yelled. Kennedy was taken by ambulance to a nearby hospital. He was apparently shot three times.

Ron Schulman, a television technician, said Senator Kennedy was walking out of the ballroom and into the hotel kitchen when a man stepped out of the crowd and fired.

Kennedy's bodyguard shot back and the assailant was hit in the leg.

He was reported to have been taken into custody immediately by police.

Three doctors rushed to Kennedy's assistance and the Senator was carried to the ambulance.

"A mad man"

Another sobbing eyewitness, an unidentified man, screamed: "It was a mad man."

He said that as he passed by, the Senator seemed to be alive.

The Senator's wife, Ethel, who is expecting her 11th child, knelt by her husband before he was taken to hospital. Her face was frozen with shock.

Eye-witnesses said the assailant fired four or five shots in rapid succession from a small gun, presumably a pistol.

A number of eye-witnesses said Senator Kennedy mumbled a few words as he was being carried to the ambulance at the front of the hotel.

While in the kitchen where he was taken later the shooting, Senator Kennedy asked: "is everybody safe?"

Witnesses said the Senator's one eye was closed and the other blinking.

Doctors at the City Hospital said his condition was "critical."

Police seized two men as the campaign room in the Ambassador Hotel here erupted in wild scenes and confused shouting.

Police said the hotel was

immediately surrounded by Law Enforcement Officers following the shooting.

First reports said they also held a short dark-haired youth detained by Kennedy aides near a kitchen in the hotel.

People clawed and screamed at the arrested youth and seemed ready to tear him away from the police.

Pools of blood soaked the concrete floor by the kitchen entrance.

The eyewitness' accounts of the shooting were wildly conflicting. Some said that they had seen as many as three other people carried away on stretchers

Latest:

Senator Kennedy's Press Secretary, Mr. Frank Manikiewicz, told reporters his condition was very critical.

Senator Kennedy was first taken to the Los Angeles Central Emergency receiving station and soon afterwards transferred to the Samaritan Hospital, with a bottle of blood plasma suspended above the stretcher.

A tragic history of assassinations of top American political figures

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The assassination of President Lincoln in 1865 began a tragic history of assassinations of top American political figures.

THREE AMERICAN PRESIDENTS HAVE BEEN KILLED SINCE THE DRAMATIC NIGHT IN FORD'S THEATRE, WASHINGTON — THE LATEST WAS JOHN F. KENNEDY, 98 YEARS LATER IN DALLAS.

Other Presidents, such as Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry Truman had narrow escapes. Many top American figures outside the White House, including negro leader Martin Luther King, have also been assassinated.

Throughout the political assassinations, going back to Lincoln, there has been agitation for tighter laws on the licensing of guns. Both the Federal and State Governments have made efforts to control the sale of lethal weapons. But even after the shooting of President

House, President Truman's temporary residence during renovation of the White House, but failed to reach the President. Three guards were shot, one fatally.

The Secret Service men who protect the President, Vice-President and his family are also in daily danger of being shot. And so are all people who ride in the presidential cavalcade.

The fatal shooting of President Kennedy on November 22, 1963, almost cost the life of Texas Governor John Connally, who later recovered from serious bullet wounds.

Other political figures since 1865 who were assassinated include U.S. Senator Huey Long of Louisiana (1935), negro (black Muslim) leader Malcolm X (1965), Nazi leader Lincoln Rockwell (1957) and Martin Luther King on April 4, 1968.

Kennedy, the new gun laws have proved ineffective.

The second U.S. President to be assassinated was James Garfield in 1881. Just 20 years later, President William McKinley was shot during a visit to Buffalo, New York.

This led to a theory that American Presidents are assassinated about every 20 years — or at least an attempt has been made on their lives.

President Warren Harding died under mysterious circumstances in San Francisco 22 years after McKinley's death. There were allegations — never proved — that the former Middle-West publisher had been poisoned.

In 1933, there was an attempt on Roosevelt's life in Miami, Florida. The bullet missed him but Mayor Anton Cermak of Chicago, who was riding with the President, was killed.

In 1950, three Puerto Rican nationalists broke into Blair

Flashback to November 1963, President John F. Kennedy (arrowed) grasps his chest after being shot in Dallas during a parade.



"Like a brother to me"

LOS ANGELES June 5.

Charles Evers, brother of negro leader Medgar Evers, another assassination victim of recent years, was with Senator Kennedy on the victory rostrum shortly before today's shooting.

"The Senator was like a brother to me. I believe he was going to do what is right for all the people," Evers told reporters.

TRAGEDY — PART OF KENNEDY FAMILY'S HISTORY

Tragedy as well as success has been part of the Kennedy family's history. Yesterday's attempt on the life of Robert Kennedy came only four and a half years after the assassination of his brother, President John F. Kennedy.

The first blow was the death of Joseph Kennedy junior, eldest son of Mr.

Joseph Kennedy and his wife Rose, on a wartime flying mission from Britain in 1944.

A month later, the Marquis of Hartington, husband of Kathleen Kennedy, was killed in action in France.

Then Kathleen herself was killed in a plane crash in France in 1948.

In August, 1962, President Kennedy's son, Patrick Bouvier, died two days after

his premature birth. Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy had previously lost two babies in miscarriages.

President Kennedy was shot dead as he drove in a motorcade in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963.

The Kennedy family has long borne another sorrow in that Rosemary, one of the five daughters, has been in an institution for the mentally retarded for many years.

Ieħen is-sewwa

Il-Ħamis, 6 ta' Ġunju, 1968

40 Sena — Nru. 530

SPARAW GĦAL ROBERT KENNEDY

Rebaħ l-Elezzjoni u f'periklu li jitlef haġtu

Is-Senatur Robert Kennedy, hu l-mejjet John Kennedy qiegħed jiġġieled għal haġtu wara attentat ta' qtil li sar fuqu waqt li kien qed iħabbar ir-rebħa tiegħu fl-elezzjoni primarja tal-Kalifornja. Dak li għamel l-attentat spara erba' ko'pi li tnejn minnhom laqtu lis-Senatur f'rasu u f'ġenbu.

Robert Kennedy kien meħud fl-isptar ta' Los Angeles fejn sa x'hin morna għall-istampa kien jinsab f'kondizzjoni kritika u f'periklu li jitlef haġtu. Robert Kennedy hu miżżewweġ u għandu 11-il tifel u tifla.

Kien hemm rapporti li l-isparar infetħ fuq is-Senatur kif spiċċa jannunzja ir-rebħa tiegħu fuq l-avversarju politiku tiegħu Eugene McCarthy fl-Istat tal-Kalifornja. Ir-rebħa tiegħu giet wara li fl-ewwel għadd ta' l-elezzjonijiet McCarthy kien qed iġhaddih, bil-vot li kien

iṅġabar mill-inħawi agrikoli tal-pajjiż. Izda minn Los Angeles Kennedy assigura r-rebħa.

Din ir-rebħa kienet mgħaqda ma' rebħa kbira li għamel illum ukoll fl-istat ta' Dakota fejn il-viċi-president Hubert Humphrey li hu minn dan l-istat irnexxielu jiġi t-tieni, wara Bobby Kennedy. McCarthy gie t-tielet f'dan l-istat.

Skond rapporti li waslu dalgħodu ngħad li persuni ġew feruti fl-istess attentat. Hames snin ilu John Kennedy kien maqtul f'attentat simili.

Ir-Radjo Vatikan waqt li habbar l-attentat li hasad lid-dinja kollha kkummenta li hu ta' min jikkundanna bil-qawwa kollha dawn l-atti ta' vjolenza li jmorru kontra t-tagħlim tal-Papa li sostna li dawn il-metodi huma ta' tfixkil għat-triq tal-paċi.

Kulhadd qed jistenna b'ansjetà kbira aktar aħbarijiet fuq l-istat kritiku tal-midrub, u hu ttamat li ma jibqax hu wkoll vittma tragika ta' din l-assurdità vjolenti.



ROBERT KENNEDY U MARTU ETHEL WAQT L-ELEZZJONI PRIMARJA TAL-KALIFORNJA

IŻ-ŻMIEN

It-Tieni Sena Nru. 387.

IL-HAMIS, 6 TA' GUNJU, 1968.

3d.

Is-Senatur Robert Kennedy f'kundizzjoni gravissima

Mitlub plegg ta' kwart ta' miljun dollaru

Los Angeles, l-Erbqha

Is-senatur Robert Kennedy, li qhadu f'kundizzjoni mill-aktar kritika, jinsab taht kura u osservazzjoni kontinwa fl-isptar ta' Los Angeles. F'operazzjoni ta' emergenza li damet sejra fliet sigħat fuq il-mohh tas-senatur il-grupp ta' tobba li hemm jikkurawh nehhew il-bullets kollha, minbarra xi frak, li dahl fuq ras Kennedy. Bullet oħra qhalissa thalliet fuq in-naħa ta' wara ta' qonqu.

It-thabbat tal-qalb u tal-polz jinsab tajjeb u qiegħed jiehu n-nifs mingħajr għajnuna artifiċjali. Izda kelliemi għall-isptar qal li s-senatur Kennedy tilef hafna demm u s-36 siegħa li jmiss se jkun kritiċi hafna.

Raġel ta' tlieta u għoxrin sena, Sehan Serhan, ġie akkużat bl-attentat tal-qtil tas-senatur Kennedy. Il-pulizija qalu li dan twield fis-settur għarbi ta' Gerusalem, izda n-nazzjonalita' prezenti mhix magħrufa. Huwa kien qiegħed iġix f'California u tnejn min-nies għarfuh. Huwa deher għal ftit tal-ħin quddiem il-qorti u niqallu li jekk irid joħroġ bi plegg irid iħallas kwart ta' miljun dollaru. Huwa issa jinsab taht għassa stretta. Qegħda tittiehed kull prekawzjoni biex ma jigrix bħal ma gara lill-assassin tal-president John F. Kennedy, Lee Harvey Oswald, li ġie maqtul b' tiri minn sid ta' club f'Dallas. L-akkużat ġie rrapportat li għajjat li għamel dan l-att

"għall-pajjiżu". Jingħad li huwa jqis lilu nnifsu bħala ġordaniż.

Huwa rrapportat ukoll li l-imghalliem ta' l-akkużat qal li l-impjegat tiegħu jinsab dispiċut hafna għat-telfa ta' l-għarab fil-gwerra tal-lvant nofsani. Is-senatur Kennedy sena ilu — meta bdiet il-gwerra bejn il-lhud u l-għarab — kien għamel sejha biex jinbiegħu jet-fighters amerikani lil Izrael.

L-attorney general ta' l-Amerika qal li s'issa m'hemm l-ebda xieħda li dan l-attentat kien imexxi minn xi kumplot.

Is-senatur Kennedy ġie milqut b'tiri f'ħukanda f'Los Angeles fejn il-partitarji tiegħu kienu qegħdin jiċcelebraw ir-rebħa tiegħu fuq is-

senatur Eugene McCarthy f'elezzjonijiet primarji f'California għan-nominazzjoni tal-partit demokratiku għall-elezzjonijiet presidenzjali.

Waqt li kien hiereg mis-sala taż-żfin ta' din il-lukanda — fejn thabbru r-riżultati — is-senatur Kennedy deher jiehu b'idejn il-purtier. F'daqqa wahda raġel għola minn mal-folla u deher jisparra erba' tiri. Huwa laqat lis-senatur Kennedy u tlieta oħra li kienu madwaru.

Kennedy waqa' mill-ewwel fl-art. Beda hiereg hafna demm li beda jcarcar ma' wiċċ is-senatur. Huwa rrapportat li waqt li kien mitluq fl-art is-senatur Kennedy beda jistaqsi jekk hux kulhadd sew.

Malajr ġew imsejġhin it-tobba u hadu lis-senatur Kennedy dritt lejn l-isptar għal operazzjoni ta' emergenza.

Fis-sala tal-lukanda qamgħet agha kbira. Kien hemm xeni mill-aktar kommoventi u mqanqlin. Mill-ewwel

ġie maqbud dak li spara u l-folla marret għal fuqu biex tagħmel għalih. Fost hafna għajjat, twerzieq u biki, dak li pprova joqtol lil Kennedy ġie meħud mill-pulizija.

L-aħbar ta' dan l-attentat mill-ewwel xterdet ma' l-Amerika u d-dinja kollha. Il-kandidati demokratiku u republikan hassru għalissa l-kampanja tagħhom ta' l-elezzjoni.

Il-president Johnson ordna lis-Secret Service — li jip-

għal pagna 2



IL-HADDIEM

USIS.

Hamis, 6 ta' Gunju, 1968.



Robert Kennedy f'Qagħda Kritika Wara Attentat Fuq Hajtu

LOS ANGELES, il-Erbgħa.

Is-Senatur Robert Kennedy, li rebaħ żewġ elezzjonijiet primarji, dik ta' Kalifornja u ta' South Dakota, il-lejla kien għadu f'kundizzjoni kritika wara attentat fuq hajtu fl-Ambassador Hotel 10 minuti wara nofs il-fejl hawnhekk. Wara operazzjoni ta' tliet sigħat li spiċċat fis-6 a.m., kelliemi għas-Senatur qal li l-grupp ta' sitt speċjalisti neħfiew kollox barra tifrika żgħira minn balla .22.

Ballu oħra se tibqa' fin-naħa ta' wara ta' għonqu fejn se tibqa' għalissa. L-istess kelliemi qal li Kennedy tilef hafna demm u s-36 siegħa wara l-operazzjoni jkun l-aktar kriki.

Kif gie mdahhal l-Ispitar-Samaritan it-Tajeb, is-Senatur Kennedy irċieva l-Grizma tal-Morda.

Martu Ethel, li qed tistenna l-11-il tarbija f'Jannar 1969 kienet il-hin kollu miegħu.

Mifi-operazzjoni rriżulta li l-ċentri tal-mohħ ma ntnesewx. Is-Senatur Kennedy wara beda jiehu n-nifs wahdu, waqt li qabel kien qed jiehdu bl-ossigenu. In-nifs tiegħu u l-qalb jinsabu tajbin.

Il-Pulizija ta' Los Angeles akkużaw raġel li nstab li jismu Shiran Bishara Sirtan mwieded fil-parti għarbi ta' Ġerusalem u joqgħod f'Pasadena, Kalifornja, b'attentat ta' qtil tas-Senatur Kennedy.

Il-liberta' provizorja tista' tingħata taht plegg ta' kwart ta' miljun dollaru.

Mr. Ramsey Clark, l-Attorney General, qal li s'issa ma hemmx xhieda li l-isparar kien riżultat ta' kumplot.

L-aħħar kliem ta' Kennedy qabel l-isparar kien: "Dan ir-riżultat jurina li nistghu naħd-

mu flimkien. Nistghu nibdew naħdmu flimkien. Ahna pa'jiz kbir, ma naħsbux fina biss, ahna pa'jiz li jahseb fl-oħrajn, jien irrid naghmlkom hekk..." (ċapċip kbir).

Is-Senatur Kennedy gie ferut kif kien se jhalli s-sala. Hu resaq lejn waiter u hadu

gel mil-lukanda l-pubbliku be-da jgħajjat: "Oqtluh, Għall-quh."

Żewġ haddiema tax-xandir, uffiċjal trade unjonistiku u mara sfaw feruti iżda mhux gravi daqs Kennedy.

Il-President Johnson qal: "Ma hemm l-ebda kliem li

kien qed jopponih. Humphrey gie t-tieni u McCarthy gie t-tielet.

Kif ngħatat l-aħbar il-ġenituri ta' Kennedy f'Massachusetts hadu xokk kbir u d-dar tas-Senatur giet imdawwra bil-pulizija. Is-Senatur Edward Kennedy telaq malajr lejn l-isptar f'Los Angeles.

Is-Senatur McCarthy, ġabar lill-mexxejja tal-kampanja tiegħu u talbu flimkien għas-Senatur ferut. Hu ppospona l-kampanja elettorali tiegħu. Is-Senatur Humphrey ukoll offra l-talb għallih.

L-aħħar aħbar kienet tgħid li jekk Kennedy jibqa haj jista' jgħama iżda jibqa jikkellem.

Ir-reazzjoni mondjali:

LONDRA: Mr. H. Wilson, il-Prim Ministru, b'għat me-sagg ta' simpatija lil Mrs. Kennedy.

VATIKAN: Il-Papa Pawlu qal li r-rabja li gab dan l-attentat għandha jkollha wara determinazzjoni għall-qerda tal-metodi ta' vjolenza u qtil.

CANBERRA: Mr. Gorton, il-Prim Ministru, qal li wiehed ihossu hażin meta jisma b'dawn l-affarijiet.

OTTAWA: Il-Prim Ministru Mr. Trudeau qal li hu

IT-TRAGEDIJ TAL-FAMILJA KENNEDY

Fil-familja Kennedy hemm lista twila ta' tragedji u disgrazzji li swew ta' tahrig iebes fl-ispirtu ta' kuraġġ li tant deher l-ewwel f'Jack, l-ex-President, u issa f'Bob.

Oht Bobby, Rosemary, twieldet mentalment inkap-aci-tata.

Fl-1944 huh, Joseph, miet meta l-ajruplan li kien fuqu sploda.

Fl-1948 ohtu, Kathleen Kennedy Barrington, mietet meta l-ajruplan li kienet fuqu kkraxxa.

Fl-1955, il-kunjati tiegħu, Mr. u Mrs. G. Skakel, mietu f'incident ta' l-ajru.

Fl-1963 huh, il-President John F. Kennedy, miet b'tiri ta' rifle f'Dallas.

Fl-1964, huh, Edward, safa midrub gravi f'incident iehor ta' l-ajru.

Missieru, l-ex-ambaxxatur Joseph Kennedy, jinsab paralizzat wara diversi attakki.

Fl-1966, Dean Markham, l-egħżēz habib ta' Bob, miet f'disgrazzja oħra ta' l-ajru.

twerwer mal-aħbar.

KUALA LUMPUR: It-Tunku Abdul Rahman, il-Prim Ministru Malasjan qal li l-grajja kienet "haġa ta' mist-hija".

NAIROBI: Il-President Kenyatta tal-Kenya u l-President Kaunda ta' Zambja qalu li din kienet grajja tal-biza'.

F'MALTA.....

Il-Prim Ministru Dr. G Borg Olivier bagħat dan it-teleg-ramm lil Mrs. R. Kennedy:

"Imnikket hafna għall-aħbar tal-biza tal-attentat fuq il-hajja tas-Senatur Kennedy. Il-Gvern u Malta kollha jibgħatu xewqat sinċieri u joffri minn qalbhom it-talb għall-fejkan tiegħu".

Il-Prim Ministru ikkumenta: "L-aħbar, tant orribli u mhux mistennja, sewditli qalbi hafna. Att brutali ta' bniedem wiehed kexkex id-dinja kollha. Bħalissa nistghu biss nittamaw u nitolbu".

Mr. Chester Beaman, id-Deputat Kap ta' Missjoni Amerikana qal li huma jingħaqqu ma l-istqarrija tal-President Johnson u jhossuhom ixxuk-ati.

Bosta bahrin Amerikani dal-ghodu kienu qegħdin jippasig-gaw fi Triq Irjali u kif semgħu l-aħbar baqgħu xxukjati. Bosta Maltin baqgħu ssummati ma l-aħbar.

Il-hinijiet huma Amerikani li jigu disa' sigħat qabel il-hin ta' Malta.

ROBERT KENNEDY FIGHTS FOR HIS LIFE

YOUNG ASSAILANT CHARGED WITH

LOS ANGELES,
June 5.

(Reuter's Service)

Senator Robert Kennedy was in an "extremely critical" condition after a three-hour emergency operation during which a bullet was removed from his brain, one of his aides said tonight.

Kennedy Aide Frank Mankiewicz said all but one fragment of the bullet had been removed from Senator Kennedy's head. The Senator had lost a considerable amount of blood as a result of the bullet, which passed through the mastoid bone on the right side of his head. The doctors said the next 12 to 36 hours would be a very critical period.

Doctors fought to save the life of Kennedy.

The 42-year-old Senator who was gunned down by a swarthy, wild-eyed youth as he emerged from making a speech celebrating a runaway victory in the California primary election, lay in the Catholic Good Samaritan Hospital in a critical condition.

A huge grieving crowd gathered outside the hospital as a team of six surgeons prepared to operate. The Last Rites were administered soon after the Senator's arrival at the Hospital.

The assassin struck as Senator Kennedy emerged from the ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel after making a speech celebrating his California primary victory over Senator Eugene McCarthy, his rival for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination.

The man stepped out from among the throng of supporters trying to mob the Senator and blazed away with his revolver, firing all eight bullets in the chamber.

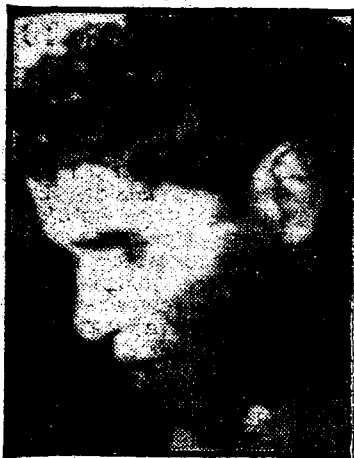
The Senator was hit by two bullets — one in the right side of the head and the other in the shoulder — and fell to the ground, silent and bleeding profusely.

The assassination attempt took place with stunning suddenness.

The gunman emptied his eight-chamber revolver and wounded five other bystanders before he was overpowered and dragged away through hysterical, sobbing Kennedy supporters who clawed at him, shouting: "Kill him, kill him."

The second medical bulletin on the condition of Senator Robert Kennedy said tonight tests showed "no measurable improvement" in his extremely critical condition.

Doctor Henry Cuneo, one of the surgeons who operated on Senator Robert Kennedy, was reliably quoted tonight as saying that Kennedy "might not make it" in his fight for survival.



While Senator Kennedy lay in hospital in a critical condition from shot wounds to the head and neck, the Los Angeles authorities named his suspected assailant as Sirhan Sirhan (above).

Police said that according to their files Sirhan was born in the former Jordanian sector of Jerusalem, but they had no idea what his nationality might be.

Sirhan's identity was disclosed at a Press conference held by Mayor Samuel Yorty and Police Chief Tom Reddin, who said Sirhan, aged 23, lived in Pasadena.

Sirhan's brother, Joe, was being questioned by Police Authorities voluntarily but Sirhan himself still refused to discuss the incident.

Police Chief Reddin displayed a photograph showing the dark clothes Sirhan was wearing when arrested.

Police said they had cleared the owner of a car whose key had been found in Sirhan's possession. A gun, an eight shot .22 revolver taken from the suspect, was not registered in his name.

The suspect also carried a derogatory news clipping about Senator Kennedy.

Sirhan is being charged on six counts of assault with intent to murder.

The assailant was disarmed by Los Angeles professional footballer Rosie Greer, according to Police Chief Reddin.

He was helped by fellow Negro athlete Rafer Johnson, former Olympic decathlon champion.

An eye-witness said the swarthy, dark-haired gunman shouted "I did it for my country" after shooting.

ASSAULT TO COMMIT MURDER

World reaction

The shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy sent a wave of incredulous shock round the world today (Wednesday).

Australian Prime Minister John Gorton summed up what millions felt when he commented in Canberra: "What can one say when a man who has had his brother assassinated is attacked in this brutal way?"

A tearful reaction came from a Negro in Los Angeles, who cried out: "What's the use us trying? What's the use?"

At the Vatican, a spokesman for the Pope expressed great sorrow at the news of the shooting.

In Rome Italian President Giuseppe Saragat condemned the shooting as "wicked and cowardly."

In Athens, Greek Prime Minister George Papadopoulos, called Senator Kennedy wishing him a speedy recovery.

In Paris, Senator Kennedy's sister Eunice, wife of the new U.S. Ambassador to France, Mr. Sargent Shriver, made several calls to Los Angeles for the latest information on his condition.

Also in Paris is Mrs. Edward Kennedy, Robert's sister-in-law. She is staying with the Shriveres.

President Johnson today described Senator Robert Kennedy's shooting as a tragedy, and said all America was praying for his recovery.

"We also pray divisiveness and violence be driven from the hearts of men everywhere," he added in a statement.

From Moscow the Soviet Government newspaper "Izvestia" said tonight that Senator Robert Kennedy had fallen victim of a society of violence where "man is wolf to man."

Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and her sister flew to Los Angeles on hearing the news.



A dramatic photograph of Senator Robert Kennedy as relayed by satellite and screened in a news bulletin of RAI-TV a few hours after the shooting. Rosary beads lie on Senator Kennedy's chest.

PRIME MINISTER'S CABLE TO MRS. KENNEDY

The Prime Minister, Dr. G. Borg Olivier, sent the following message to Mrs. Robert Kennedy.

"Deeply grieved at shocking news of attempt on Senator Kennedy's life. Government and all Malta send sincere wishes and offer heartfelt prayers for his recovery."

The Prime Minister said yesterday that the news was horrible and unexpected and has saddened him very deeply. "A brutal act of one man has shocked the whole world. We can now only hope and pray." Dr. Borg Olivier added.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1968

Horrible event *Wee*

THE UNITED STATES and the entire world were shocked yesterday at the news of the cowardly, cold blooded assassination attempt of Senator Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles, California, which has more than its fair share of minorities and extremists of different colours and creed. Kennedy, who aspires to secure the Democratic nomination in the coming Presidential elections, was critically wounded by a swarthy gunman moments after he claimed victory over fellow pacifist Senator Eugene McCarthy in the California Democratic primary election.

The shots that hit the Senator echoed around the world causing shock and sadness. In the Vatican, aides said Pope Paul VI was "shocked and deeply saddened ... by this horrible event." President Giuseppe Saragat of Italy described the attempt as "wicked and vile" and Kurt Georg Kiesinger of West Germany labelled it a "despicable crime". Tunku Abdul Rahman of Malaysia said it was "disgraceful".

(The attempt came less than five years after the irrational forces which undermine American society had struck at another member of the Kennedy family.) President John F. Kennedy was at the pinnacle of his inspiring career when he was shot in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963, in circumstances which until this very day are shrouded in mystery and confusion.

It is also two months since the moderate leader of American Negroes Dr Martin Luther King fell victim to the sniper's bullets in Memphis, Tennessee. Dr King was a Nobel Prize winner whose slogan was non-violence.

Senator Kennedy is looked at by the White middle-class radicals and the growing army of discontented students as a politician in the worst sense of the word: cynical, ruthless and calculating. To the paranoid Right-wingers he is the greatest enemy, the embodiment of all that they hated in his late brother.

But to the poor and under-privileged, the submerged third of American society, he is their champion and hope. Wherever he has campaigned he has won increasing support from the East Europeans, Spanish-Americans, Mexicans, Negroes and other financially-oppressed minorities.

As Attorney General in the eventful Kennedy Administration, Robert Kennedy assisted his brother in using the full force of the executive power to end discrimination in education, in voting and in housing. To this end, he still strives. Moreover, he regards poverty and unemployment as great a national scandal as segregation.

Kennedy's assassination attempt is as shocking as the killing of President Kennedy and as revolting as that of Martin Luther King. It is an act, which as Senate Republican leader Everett M. Dirksen said, emphasises the lawlessness which grips America. It is an act condemned by all, causing consternation and sadness.

MALTA NEWS

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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1968

3d.

ROBERT KENNEDY FIGHTS FOR LIFE

SENATOR Robert F. Kennedy was fighting for his life today in Good Samaritan Hospital after being shot in the head as he left a jubilant election victory celebration. After a brain operation lasting nearly four hours doctors said his condition encouraged hope he would recover, but his Press Aide said later he was in "extremely critical condition" and the next 12 to 36 hours "will be critical."

The 42-year-old brother of the late President Kennedy was shot from about three feet away by a man identified as Sirhan Sirhan of Pasadena and recently of Jerusalem. He was abducted by three Kennedy aides — but not until he had emptied eight bullets from a .22 calibre revolver toward the Senator. One of the team of doctors who had just claimed victory in the California primary, were wounded. Kennedy's wife Ethel, who is expecting their 11th child, was not hurt. She bent over her husband as he lay bleeding from the wound near his right ear and another in his shoulder, whispering to him and trying to

Dr Henry Cuneo, who assisted in the three-hour operation over Senator Kennedy, said the Senator's brain had suffered extensive loss of blood and oxygen as well as several blood clots. Cuneo said Kennedy also suffered injuries to the spinal cord.

A spokesman from Beverly Hills, where Senator Kennedy is in hospital, said the brain injuries were much worse than at first thought.

The spokesman continued that the bullet which entered Kennedy's head carried fragments of bones with it and itself broke up. He continued that an important artery had been torn.

Five other persons in the surging crowd around the victorious Presidential candidate,

console him just as Jacqueline Kennedy had bent over her husband in a Dallas convertible in 1963 when he was assassinated.

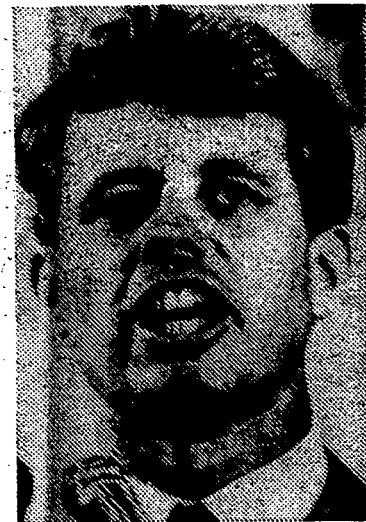
Kennedy was taken by ambulance to the Central Receiving Hospital where the examining physician, Dr Victor Baz, first believed he was dead. He slapped him on the face, saying "Bob, Bob," and the wounded Kennedy stirred.

Kennedy was then switch-

ed to the Good Samaritan hospital.

President Lyndon Johnson, awakened at the White House shortly after the shooting at 12.20 a.m., ordered secret service agents immediately assigned to all candidates in the 1968 Presidential election.

The tragedy was stunning in its suddenness and the pandemonium which followed.



WORLD REACTION

VALLETTA — Prime Minister Dr Borg Olivier has sent a message to Mrs Ethel Kennedy saying: "Deeply grieved at shocking news of attempt on Senator Kennedy's life. Government and all Malta send sincere wishes and offer heartfelt prayers for his recovery." Dr Borg Olivier has said that the news, so horrible and unexpected, has saddened him very deeply. "A brutal act of one man has shocked the whole world. We can now only hope and pray."

VATICAN CITY — Pope Paul VI has strongly deplored the attempt on the life of Senator Robert Kennedy and has prayed that "the means of violence and crime will be banished

from the world." Vatican sources said the Pope was "shocked and deeply saddened" by the news.

LONDON — Prime Minister and Mrs Harold Wilson have sent a personal message of deepest sympathy to Mrs Ethel Kennedy. The announcement of the message was made shortly after Foreign Secretary Michael Steward expressed "great shock and a sense of outrage at the news."

MOSCOW — Moscow Radio has blamed the shooting of Senator Kennedy on the "notorious freedom of Capitalist Society — the freedom to kill."

An unidentified commentator called the shooting a political crime. "The hawks in politicsresort sometimes to the service of hired assassins," he said.

UNITED NATIONS — General Secretary U Thant has expressed shock and distress at the news and said as he arrived at UN Headquarters: "I am praying for his speedy recovery."

CANBERRA — Australian Prime Minister Mr Gorton has said that the news of the attempt on Kennedy's life "has made my stomach turn."

STOCKHOLM — Swedish Foreign Minister Torsten Nilsson

has said the shooting shocked "the whole democratic world." The acts of violence that "apparently tend to spread in political life today are ominous and must be opposed."

PARIS — The French Cabinet has issued a statement "expressing our sympathy for Mr Kennedy and concern over the eventual consequences of this attack."

DUBLIN — President Eamon de Valera has sent a message to Senator Robert Kennedy's wife saying: "Deeply grieved to hear of the wicked attempt on your husband's life. May God spare him to you, his family and his country."

CAPETOWN — South African Prime Minister John Vorster has said of the shooting: "The incident is more than shocking and deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs Kennedy and her family."



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THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1968

ACT OF VIOLENCE

World opinion was stunned yesterday morning as the news spread that an attempt had been made on the life of Senator ROBERT KENNEDY, a Democratic candidate for the United States presidential election. On November 22, 1963, his brother, President JOHN KENNEDY, met his death by an assassin's bullet — a victim of violence, hatred and intolerance carried to the extreme.

ROBERT KENNEDY was shot through the ear and the bullet lodged in the brain. As he fell he was heard to ask, "Is everyone O.K.? Is everybody safe?" The attempt came after the Senator's victory in the California Primary Election.

It is a tragic paradox that in a country that has taken its place in recent years as the standard bearer of democratic principles, two brothers belonging to a family that has rendered outstanding service at home and abroad should be the targets of persons not subscribing to their opinions. On the other hand, the genuine shock caused by the Senator's Presidential rivals, including Senator McCARTHY who immediately cancelled all electoral engagements and offered prayers at a special service held in his hotel, focuses attention on the better side of human nature. Messages of sympathy and condemnation similarly flowed in from most European capitals.

Senator ROBERT KENNEDY had a distinguished legal career and was successively Assistant Counsel of the Senate Permanent Sub-committee on Investigations; Chief Counsel under the Committee Chairman; and Attorney-General of the U.S. from 1961 to 1964 when he was elected Senator for New York State. There was an interruption in 1959 when ROBERT KENNEDY served as his brother's campaign manager in the presidential election.

The people of Malta, who form part of the world's democratic front, share in the condemnation of the act of violence and join in the prayers for the recovery of the victim.

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Jun 6 1968

(A SAVAGE AND COWARDLY DEED) ATTENTAT SELVAGG U KODARD

L-AHBAR ta' l-attentat brutali ta' qtil fuq il-persuna simpatika u rispettata tas-senatur Robert Kennedy li waslet u griet fostna l-bierah fil-ghodu, hasdet u kexkxet lil kul hadd. Robert gie midrub gravament f'rasu u ftit wara saritlu operazzjoni li hadet fuq thiet sighet. Ghal-kemm il-polz u qalbu qeghdin ihabbtu regulari t-tobba qalu, skond ma gie mhabbar, li s-36 siegha ta' wara l-operazzjoni huma ghas-senatur Kennedy kritici kemm jista' jkun.

Minn dawn il-kolonna rridu nikkundannaw bl-akbar qawwa dan l-agir vjolenti selvagg u kodard kontra bniedem kuraggjuz b'ideali demokratici u progressivi. U meta qeghdin nesprimu rwiehna b'dan il-mod ninsabu zguri li qeghdin ninterpretaw is-sentiment tal-poplu malti li jemmnen bis-shih fil-liberta' tal-kelma u jistmerr b'qalbu kollha atti vjolenti malizzjuzi u kodardi.

Ma din l-ahbar kerha dwar is-senatur Robert Kennedy, il-poplu malti, flimkien mad-dinja icivilizzata, ixokkja ruhu, tbikkem u hass l-akbar sens ta' moghdrija. Dan ghal diversi ragunijiet. L-ewwelnett ghax ghadha friska fil-memorja ta' kulhadd il-mewt kiefra li garrab huh il-president John F. Kennedy erba' snin u nofs ilu; it-tie, ni ghax Robert ghandu hafna meriti persunali tieghu.

Is-senatur Robert Kennedy huwa pulitiku sincier u kuraggjuz u qatt ma qaghad lura jew laqlaq biex publikament jesprimi l-fehmiet tieghu. F'dawn l-ahhar snin Robert kien wiehed mis-senaturi minn ta' quddiem biex jikkritika l-pulitika amerikana dwar il-gwerra fil-Vjetnam u huwa maghruf tajjeb bhala difensur tad-drittijiet civili tas-suwed.

Imma l-istorja tghallimna li nies kbar b'sentimenti progressivi li jahdmu u jissagrifikaw irwiehhom ghal nieshom u ghal-humanita', jiehdu r-riskju li jkun kontinwament imminaccjati minn attentati vijakki bhal dak li kexkex lid-dinja l-bierah. Dan ir-riskju huwa xi haga akbar fl-Amerika fejn donnu ghad hemm moviment qawwi kontra l-ugwaljanza tar-razzez fir-rigward tad-drittijiet civili.

Fil-waqt li mill-gdid nikkundannaw il-att selvagg li twettaq il-bierah kontra l-hajja ta' Robert Kennedy, ahna nestendu s-simpatija profonda taghna lejn il-familja u b'herqa kbira nittamaw ghal ahbarijiet tajbin dwar sahtu.

L-orizzont

IL-HAMIS, 6 TA' GUNJU, 1968.

6-6-68

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ATTEMPT ON KENNEDY'S LIFE L-ATTENTAT FUQ IL-HAJJA TA' KENNEDY

IN-NIFS tad-dinja kollha waqaf għal ftit mumentanti l-bierah ma' l-ahbar kerha ta' l-attentat brutali ta' qtil fuq il-hajja tas-Senatur Amerikan Robert F. Kennedy f'California, fl-Istati Uniti ta' l-Amerika. Id-dinja kollha hadet xokk kbir u fl-istess waqt imtliet kollha kemm hi għadab kontra l-bniedem li wettaq din il-vjolenza hekk mill-agħar.

Robert Kennedy kien qed jikkontesta n-nominazzjoni presidenzjali tal-Partit Demokratiku għall-elezzjonijiet presidenzjali li għandhom isiru fl-Amerika f'Novembru li ġej. L-attentat fuq il-hajja tiegħu sar inqas minn hames snin wara l-assassinju ta' huf il-President John F. Kennedy fit-22 ta' Novembru, 1963.

L-ahbar ta' l-attentat fuq il-hajja tas-Senatur Kennedy għet meta l-Amerika u d-dinja kollha kienet għadha qed tistejjer mix-xokk kbir li hadet u tifli sewwa l-kuxjenza tagħha wara l-assassinju drammatiku ta' Dr Martin Luther King, il-mexxej kbir u moderat tas-suwed fl-Amerika, li temm ukoll hajtu b'tiri ta' xkubetta bħall-President Kennedy.

Is-Senatur Kennedy kien mahbub hafna fl-Amerika mill-foqra, mill-batuti, mill-morda, min-nies ta' ftit mezz u fuq kollox kien mahbub mis-suwed li għalihom iġġieled bis-shif, speċjalment meta kien Attorney General fl-amministrazzjoni ta' huf il-President Kennedy. Jista' jkun hemm il-possibiltà li huwa sofra minhabba dan l-ideal tiegħu li jgħib lill-foqra 'l quddiem u jgħid lis-suwed fil-post tagħhom fis-soċjeta' Amerikana.

Il-problema razzjali fl-Amerika hija xi haġa ta' l-għaġeb. Gabet magħha inkwiet kbir, storbi, irvellijiet, qtil, hsarat kbar fl-ibliet u halliet mejta fuq l-altar tas-sagrifiċċju suprem mexxejja kbar u ta' ispirazzjoni. Hija problema li ilha ġejja snin kbar u sa mill-bidu nett tagħha kienet swiet il-hajja tal-President Abraham Lincoln ta' l-Istati Uniti li kien ġe assassinat ukoll.

Mhux l-Amerika biss hija mifnija b'din il-problema razzjali imma wkoll għadd ta' pajjiżi oħra, speċjalment fl-Afrika. Din il-problema hija ġejja għaliex il-bnedmin għadhom ma għarfux li huma ikoll ahwa ġejjin minn Missier wieħed u mahluqin il-koll l-istess.

U mal-problema razzjali għandna wkoll il-problema ta' intolleranza kbira hejn pajjiż u iehor, twemmin politiku u iehor, twemmin reliġjuż u iehor. Dawn huma affarijiet li jżirgħu l-misbegħda, iġibu l-fanatizmu u mill-fanatizmu jishnu l-irjus, mohħ il-bniedem iġhama u jasal biex iwettaq attijiet brutali bħalma hu l-attentat fuq il-hajja tas-Senatur Kennedy. Izda j'Alla dan is-sagrifiċċju ma jkunx sar għalkejn u jasal biex iġieghel lill-bnedmin jigu f'sensihom.

THIS TIME IT'S BOB KENNEDY DID-DARBA BOB KENNEDY

L-arma ta' l-assassinju hija arma antika fl-Amerika. Izjed minn president wiehed qabel il-President Kennedy miet bid daqqa ta' xi qattiel. Izda li din l-arma ghadha qed tintuza f'żmenijietna, meta kullimkien tisma' l-ghajta ghat-tolleranza u r-rispett lejn il-fehmiet ta' xulxin, hija xi haġa li tkexxkek.

Din l-Amerika, li hafna jqisuha bhala l-art tad-demokrazija u l-liberta' u l-kenn ta' min jiġi persegwitat f'pajjiżu, qed is- l-art tal-fanatizmu u l-vjolenza, fejn l-ahjar nies taghha qed jaqgħu vittima tal-qattiel.

● Ta' 38 sena Robert Kennedy deher fir-ritratti u fuq it- television iwiežen lill-armila ta' huh, il-President, li miet assassinat f'Dallas, fl-eta' ta' 42 sena. U l-bierah, Robert, li għandu wkoll 42 sena, safa vittima hu stess fis-sala tal-lukanda Ambassador, f'Los Angeles, Kalifornja, proprju meta hu u l-partitarji tiegħu kienu qed jiċcelebraw ir-rebħa li kiseb fl-elezzjoni primarji tal-Partit Demokratiku f'dak l-istat.

Lil huh, Jack, ma hallewhx jibqa' jmessi l-Amerika bhala President u lil Bob ma jridhx lanqas biss jasal biex jitle' fl-istess kariga.

● Ahna ma nafux min hu dak il-guvni ta' 25 sena li ġie arrestat minnufih malli Bob Kennedy safa midrub f'rašu. Izda x'seta' ġieghel lill-qattiel imur fost tant eluf ta' nies u jisparalu minn bogħod ta' 10 piedi biss? Jew il-genn inkella l-fanatizmu. Jekk kien il-genn il-każ jiehu aspett iehor. Imma wisq nibzghu li kien il-fanatizmu u l-preġudizzji li jeżistu fost sezzjoni kbira tal-bojod Amerikani li wassal għal dan l-att bla ġieħ, li jtebba' l-isem ta' l-Amerika, diġa' mtebba' din is-sena bl-assassinju ta' Dr. Martin Luther King.

Tiskanta meta tisma' kemm hu qawwi l-fanatizmu tal-bojod fl-Amerika. Anke fost il-Kattoliċi Amerikani għad hemm min jasal għal kolloxx fil-preġudizzji tiegħu kontra s-suwed. M'hux deher rapport fil-gazzetta Ingliża "THE CATHOLIC HERALD" li jori x'reazzjoni kuntrarja għadha toflok kull mossa li ssir fost il-Kattoliċi favur is-suwed.

● Bob Kennedy kien iċ-champion ta' l-emancipazzjoni tas-suwed. Fil-kampanja elettorali, l-akbar għajta tiegħu kiġiet favur il-ġustizzja soċjali li hemm bżonn issir mal-minoranzi li jeżistu fost il-popolazzjoni ta' l-Amerika: is-Suwed, l-Amerikani ta' nisel Messikan, l-emigranti minn Puerto Rico, l-Indjani u l-haddiema li jmorru minn naha għal ohra tal-Amerika jfittxu x-xogħol. Dawn il-kategoriji huma l-partitarji l-izjed devoti ta' Kennedy u ma nistagħgbux jekk hu ġibed l-akbar ostilita' fost l-fanataċi bojod li jqisuh bhala l-ghadu Nru. I tagħhom. Ir-rebħa li kiseb fil-Kalifornja kompliet tkabbar iċ-ċans li hu jasal fil-White House f'Novembru li ġej u għalhekk ġara l-każ tal-bierah f'Los Angeles.

● Dawn il-każi kollha, fl-Amerika u f'pajjiżi ohra, huma xhieda qawwi ta' kemm hemm bżonn issir kampanja fid-dinja kollha kontra l-preġudizzji u t-tixrid tal-mibegħda. Ma tistax tgħid fejn jasal min jiġi mrobbi fil-preġudizzji u l-mibegħda. Hemm bżonn li anke f'pajjiżna iċ-ċittadini jiġu mgħallma jagħrfu sew l-opinjoni ta' haddiehor permezz ta' użu għaqli tal-mezzi ta' komunikazzjoni li jinfluwenzaw il-massa bħat-television, ir-radju, il-gazzetti, il-meetings. Hemm bżonn li l-poplu jkollu izjed okkażjonijiet jisma' l-qampiena tan-naha l-ohra kemm fil-kamp reliġjuż kif ukoll fil-kamp politiku, ekonomiku, skolastiku eċc.

Hu proprju għalhekk li ninsabu mħassbin bil-mod kif qed isiru x-xandiriet politiċi fuq ir-Rediffusion u t-television lokali. Kemm ikun izjed edukattiv għall-poplu tagħna li jisma dibattiment bejn mexxejja politiċi diversi, jew konferenza stampa li fiha mexxej politiku jkollu jwieġeb għad-diffikultajiet tal-ġurnalisti — milli diskors ta' rappreżentant politiku li jithaddet wahdu bil-periklu li izjed isammar il-preġudizzji u l-fanatizmu tas-semmiegħa.

HADDIEM

H-Mamis, 6 ta' Ġunju, 1968.
JUNE 6 1968

ROBERT KENNEDY F'KUNDIZZJONI



Is-Senatur Robert F. Kennedy.

Ir-reazzjoni dinjija

VALLETTA, l-Erbgha.

F'MESSAGG mibghut mill-Prim Ministru Malti lil Mrs Kennedy huwa qal li kien f'ossu xxukkjat bl-ahbar ta' l-attentat fuq il-hajja tas-Senatur. Il-messagg ikompli jghid li l-Gvern u l-poplu Malti jibagħtu x-xewqat sincieri tagħhom u joffru t-talb tagħhom għall-fejtan ta' malajr ta' Robert Kennedy.

● BELT TAL-VATIKAN, l-Erbgha. Il-Qdusija Tiegħu il-Papa Pawlu VI jinsab "soghbien hafna u ixxukkjat" wara l-ahbar ta' l-attentat ta' qtil fuq Kennedy, imkejjien għolja tal-Vatikan qalu li Dawn l-istess imkejjien ikompli jghidu li l-Papa qiegħed jitlob għas-Senatur u huwa iddeplora bil-qawwa l-attentat fuq il-hajja ta' Kennedy.

Imħasseb hafna il-Papa qal "l-ahbar ta' l-attentat fuq Kennedy iggib dieqa kbira. Ahna niddeploraw bil-qawwa dan l-attentat u delitt. Ahna nittamaw li t-tqanqil li qiegħed jinħass mad-dinja jsewvi sabiex jigu meqruda l-mezzi ta' vjolenza u ta' delitti."

● RUMA, l-Erbgha. Il-President Taljan, Giuseppe Saragat qal li huwa kien sema' b'dispett kbir l-attentat "vil-jakk u mill-għar" fuq il-hajja ta' Kennedy.

● BEVERLY HILLS, KALIFORNJA, l-Erbgha. Is-Senatur Eugene McCarthy illum kmieni hassar il-pjanijiet kollha tiegħu tal-kampanja elettorali wara li sparaw fuq Robert F. Kennedy. Giet impoggija għassa stretta madwar il-kamra tal-lukanda ta' McCarthy fejn dan offra talb għal fejtan tas-Senatur.

● STOCKHOLM, l-Erbgha. Il-Ministru ta' l-Affarijiet Barra-

nin ta' l-Isvezja, Torsten Nilson qal li l-attentat fuq Kennedy hasad "lid-dinja kollha". L-atti ta' vjolenza li apparentement jidhru li qed jinfirxu fil-hajja politika jehatju li jkunu mwaaqqaf huwa kompla jghid.

Il-Prim Ministru Tabe Erlander sejjah dan l-att bħala "traġedja".

● PARIGI, l-Erbgha. Il-Kabinett Franciż hareġ stqarrija fejn il-ministri esprimew is-simpatija tagħhom għal Kennedy u (ikompli f'Pagna 2)



Robert u martu indawwrin bit-tfal tagħhom.

LOS ANGELES, l-Erbgha. IS-SENATUR Robert F. Kennedy, illum kien qed jiggieled għal hajtu fl-isptar "Good Samaritan" wara li safa milqut minn tiri ta' pistola f'rasu waqt li huwa kien hiereg minn celebrazzjoni tar-rebħa tiegħu ta' l-elezzjoni.

Wara operazzjoni f'mohhu li damet sejra erba' siegħat, it-tobba qalu li Robert Kennedy għandu mnejn ma' jghix u jekk jghix jista' jsofri minn difett kbir f'mohhu. Sadanittant il-kundizzjoni tas-Senatur kienet "kritika hafna", u s-36 siegħa li għejjin se jkunu ta' importanza kbira.

Dr Henry Cunelo, li assista lil Robert Kennedy fl-operazzjoni qal li għadd ta' arterji magguri ġew milquta u mohh Robert sofra telf kbir ta' demm u ossiġe-

L-assassin maqbud

nu kif ukoll hafna għoqod tad-demm. Dr Cunelo qal li Robert sofra wkoll minn griehi fix-xewka ta' dahru.

Robert li għandu 42 sena, hu l-mejjet President Kennedy li gie assassinat ukoll, sparaw fuq minn distanza ta' tliet piedi bogħod. L-assassin gie identifikat bħala Sirhan Bishara Sirtan, ta' 24 sena, li joqgħod f'Pasadena, u li gie mill-Gordjan 11-il sena ilu.

Mart Kennedy, Ethel, li kienet miegħu, ma għalxa xejn. Hija qed tistenna il-11-il tarbija tagħha. Malli żewġha waqa fl-art hija tbaxxiet fuqu, waqt li bdiet tkellmu bil-mod u tipprova tikkunslah l-istess bħal ma għamlet Jacqueline, meta żewġha John safa assassinat.

Malli l-President Johnson sema' bl-attentat fuq il-hajja ta' Kennedy huwa ordna immedjatament sabiex agenti tas-servizz sigriet jgħassu lill-kandidati kollha li qed jiehdu sehem fl-elezzjonijiet.

KRITIKA

Kif sar l-attentat

Sparatura giet irraportata fil-għodu fil-kamra tas-Senatur Robert F. Kennedy, meta kien għadu kemm għamel rebħa fl-elezzjonijiet primarji ta' Kalifornja. Ma' din l-isparatura, Kennedy gie ferut serjament u waqa' fl-art. Gew irraportati sparaturi ohra.

Stephen Smith, li jigi haten Kennedy gie irraportat ukoll li gie milqut. L-assassin ta' Kennedy gie maqbud minn Rafer Johnson, atleta magħruf u wiehed mill-aides ta' Kennedy.

Hekk kif intlaqat Robert Kennedy, inqala' pandemonju kbir fl-Ambassador Hotel fejn kien qiegħed allogġjat. Huwa gie milqut minn balal f'rasu u f'ġenbu. Wahda mill-isparaturi laqet lil William Weisel f'idejh. Dan huwa l-Associate Director ta' l-American Broadcasting Co.

Reporter li wasal fil-hin fuq il-post iddeskriva l-każ hekk: Robert kellu d-demm fuq wiċċu, iżda kellu għajnejh miftuħa waqt li huwa kien mimdud ma l-art tal-kċina tal-lukanda fejn kien allogġjat. Rapporti kompiexw iġid li l-aides tiegħu mill-ewwel qabdu lil dak li kien issuspettat li spara.

Korrispondent tal-United Press International irraportat li wara li Kennedy niżel minn fuq fejn kien qiegħed jittkellem wara li għamel tahdita ta' vitorja "kien hemm pandemonju shih f'daqqa wahda". Griet għal quddiem minn jien kien qiegħed jittkellem u għal tet "Sparawlu, sparaw lil Kennedy." Hatn Kennedy, Stephen Smith, beda jgħajjat "Hawn ta' bib? Jinhtieg wiehed malajr ta' Robert Kennedy gie maqbud malajr fi spatar viċin.

Don Shulman, impjegat ma' l-istazzjon tat-televiżoni, qal li Kennedy kien sejjer lejn il-kċina meta raġel spara fuqu tliet darbiet. Dan hareġ minn goll-folla. Shulman, li ra b'għajnejh stess l-incident, qal li l-body guard ta' Kennedy spara lura fuq l-assassin, fejn dan gie maqbud u mehud mill-pulizija.

Xhieda ohra ta' dan l-ispettaklu tal-biża' qalu li Kennedy waqa' mill-ewwel fl-art u ma ċcaqlaqx. Iehor qal li sema' erba' jew hames tiri u ra lil Kennedy u lil mara ohra jaqgħu fl-art. Kennedy deher qiegħed iżomm in-naha tal-lemin ta' sidru u kellu d-demm f'wiċċu.

Reporter iehor qal li Kennedy kien f'sensih u kien qiegħed jittkellem wara l-incident. Huwa qal li l-assassin għamel użu minn revolver iżda xi nies ċivili qabdu u haduh 'il barra minn hemm. Kennedy gie mehud l-isptar b'għajnejh magħluqa fuq stretcher.

Xhieda iehor qal li wa' lill-mart Kennedy, Ethel, li kienet miegħu, li kienet f'idejh il-korpi ta' Robert Kennedy.

ROBERT KENNEDY F'QAGHDA KRITIKA BULLET F'RASU WARA R-REBHA

(Reuter's Service) Los Angeles.

I S-SENATUR Robert Kennedy, bil-presidenza ta' l-Amerka ghoddha f'idejh, il-bierah qala tiri ta' revolver minn zaghzugh misterjuż ta' 23 sena li twieled fit-taqsim ta' Gerusalem li qabel kienet tal-Gordan.

Waqt li s-Senatur Kennedy kien qiegħed fl-isptar f'kundizzjoni kritika minhabba l-griehi li garrab bil-balal f'rasu u f'għonq, l-Awtoritajiet ta' Los Angeles taw isem iz-zagħżuħ li sparalu bhala Sirhan Sirhan.

Sitt kirurgi għamlu operazzjoni dellkha u damet tliet sliġat lix isehhu bala li nifdet għat go mobħ is-Senatur, li għandu 42 sena waqt li kien qiegħed jiccelebha r-rebha tiegħu fl-elezzjoni Primarja ta' California.

It-tobba fl-isptar Kattołku "Good Samaritan" habbru f'bulletin mediku li saret hsara fil-provista tad-demm f'moħbu li minha jiddependu hawnha funzjonijiet importanti fil-kli u mentali. Il-frak tal-balla minbarra wahda, tneħħa minn ras is-Senatur Kennedy, qal il-bulletin, izda tliet hawnha demm, u t-12 sa 36 sliġha li gejjin se jkun "kritika hawnha".

Is-Segretarju ta' l-Istampa tas-Senatur Kennedy, Frank

Mankiewicz, li qara l-bulletin, qal: "Għadu haj, izda mhux f'sensu. Imma qiegħed jlehu n-nifs mingħajr għajjnuna."

It-tienil balla mill-i jidher għadha f'għonq Kennedy, izda dmi ma gietx meqjusa bhala problema kbira.

L-attentat ta' qtil sar għala r-rieda fil-lukanda lussuża "Ambassador", fejn is-Senatur Kennedy kien għadu kif għamel diskors tar-rebha, ftit hin tiss qabel.

Iz-zagħżuħ b'xagħru iswed qabeż minn hadd ma jaf fejn waqt li s-Senatur għadha mill-kcina ta' lukanda, blex iqassar it-triq mis-Salla tal-Ballu għall-kamra tal-Konferenzi u spara mill-vicin waqt li Kennedy kien qed jlehu b'idejn l-im-



pjegatj tal-kcina.

Is-Senatur Kennedy waqa' fl-art bid-demm hiereg mill-griehi.

Iz-zagħżuħ żvoġta r-revolver ta' tmien balal fuqu u fera hamsa min-nies ohra qabel ma' gie meġħub u mkaxkar mill-post fost il-bliki u x-xegħir tas-suppoters li pruvaw jaħtfuħ, jghajtu: "Oqtluħ, oqtluħ".

Il-mara tas-Senatur

Kennedy, Ethel, li qed tisten-na l-hdax-il tarbija tagħha, marret tigri hdejn ir-ragel u qiegħditlu rasu f'għonqha, bhalm kienet għamlet Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy meta qatlu mill-huħ, il-President f'Dallas, Texas, fit-22 ta' Novembru, 1963.

Is-Senatur hadduħ mittuf minn sensuħ mill-kamra ta' l-operazzjoni f'kamra ohra blex issirli kura intensiva, waqt li l-President Johnson qabbad wieħed mill-ahjar kirurgi tal-moħb fl-Amerka, Dr. James L. Poppen, blex jagħmel titjira ta' malajr ta' 3,500 mil minn Boston, Massachusetts, blex jagħtih l-għajjnuna tiegħu.

Ironikament, is-Senatur Kennedy sparawlu ftit wara li wiegħed, fid-diskors tar-rebha, li jegħed il-vjolenza jekk jigi ebett President — kariga li saret equeb b'r-rebha tagħha li kellu fuq is-Senatur Eugene McCarthy fl-Elezzjoni Primarja Demokratika ta' California, il-bierah.

Kien hemm pandemonju shih fil-kcina tal-lukanda u fil-lobby waqt li l-ferħ ta' mijlet ta' suppoters ta' Kennedy nbidel f'niket u għadab.

Rafer Johnson, kollega iswed fil-kampanja elettorali

Is-senatur Robert Kennedy minxur midrub fl-art qed jin-twiezen minn shabu.

ta' Kennedy, u d-deputat Maitre D'Hotel Germaniż, Karl Ueckerm, qabzu fuq l-assassin u waqqgħu fl-art u zammewh sakemm wasu l-pulizija.

Mrs. Kennedy kienet bil-wieqfa ftit priedi wara żewgħa meta gew sparati t-tiri. Hi marret miegħu fil-abulanza sac-Centru Mediku ta' Emergenza ta' Los Angeles fejn is-semmgħatlu qallbu bi stetoskopju blex tkun certa li għadu haj.

Xi siegħa wara, is-Senatur gie meħud fl-isptar "Good (Ikompil fil-faccata 8)

Messaġġ Mill-Prim Ministru Malti

Il-Prim Ministru ta' Malta, Dr. Borg Olivier bagħat dan il-messaġġ lil Mrs. Robert Kennedy.

Imnikktin għall-ahhar bl-bar kerha ta' l-attentat li sar fuq il-hajja tas-Senatur Kennedy, il-Gvern u Malta kollha jibagħtu x-xewqat sincieri tagħhom u joffru minn qalbhom it-talb għall-fejġan tiegħu.

L-Assassin Għarbi Minn Gerusalem

SIRHAN SIRHAN, zagħ-żuħ ta' 23 sena, mwieled f'Gerusalem, fejn kienet it-taqsim tal-Gordan, il-bierah gie akkuzat f'Los Angeles bl-attentat ta' qtil tas-Senatur Robert Kennedy. Hu gie akkuzat taħt sitt kapi ta' l-akkuza, li attakkah bil-hsieb li joqtlu.

Il-pulizija għa l-lewwel baqgħu mitxulha dwar l-identit ta' taz-zagħżuħ, li ma riedx jirrispondi, għall-mistoqstijiet li għamlulu, maried iħid xejn fuq id-delitt u li fuqu ma kellu l-ebda dokument li juri min hu.

Wieħed li kien hemm qal li semgħu jehid waqt il-hin ta' l-attentat: "Għamiltu għall-pajiz".

L-identita ta' Sirhan tħab-bret f'konferenza stampa li għamel is-sindku ta' Los Angeles Samuel Yorty u l-Kap tal-pulizija Tom Reddin, li qalu li Sirhan li għandu 23 sena u joqgħod f'Pasadena, ke'fu fuqu bliċa mossa minn gazzetta li tikkritika is-Senatur Kennedy.

Reddin qal li Sirhan gie identifikat minn sett ta' finger-prints li hemm fil-fil-les tal-Juvenile Bureau, izda li ma għadhomx x'jaqs-nu ma xi delitt.

Il-marki tas-swaba kienu tieħdu bhala haġa ta' rutina meta applika għal immi-les fil-Dipartiment tar-Rikreazzjoni tal-belt bhala



SIRHAN SIRHAN ta' 23 sena — spara tmien tiri.

"exercise-boy" għa-żwiemel. Il-pulizija qalu li skond il-fil-les Sirhan twieled fit-taq-sima li qabel kienet tal-Gordan ta' Gerusalem u ismu huwa Għarbi.

Mayor Yorty qal li hu Sirhan kien qed jigi mterrogat mill-pulizija minn jed-du izda Sirhan nifsu kien għadu ma jridx jiddiskuti

l-attentat ta' qtil.

Revolver .22 li tlieħed minn-fuq iz-zagħżuħ ma kienx registrat fuq ismu.

Waqt is-smiħ tax-xhieda, l-akkuzat kien rappreżentat minn difensur publiku maħ-tur mill-Qorti. Wara, l-akku-zat, tlieħed bi skorta kbira fil-habs Centrai ta' Los Angeles

L-assassin hu wieħed minn harnest ahwa jismhom Sirhan li joqgħdu fil-inħawi ta' Los Angeles, skond ma qal Said Sirhan, li qal li hu wieħed minnhom L-ohrajn huma Adel, Munir, Sharif u l-akku-zat. Said Sirhan ma riedx jagħti dettalji iżjed, barra li stqarr li Sirhan Sirhan mar l-Amerka fl-1957 u li hu nifsu wasal f'dak il-pajiz fl-1950.

Sirhan Sirhan jingħad li kien jahdem f'hanut ta' l-af-farjiet ta' l-ikel tas-sahha f'Pasadena sas-7 ta' Marzu, u supervisor themmhekk jn-ħad li b'lekkijiet bhala "rivoluzzjonarju" li jirvelja kontra kull xorta ta' awtorita'.

MOURNING FOR SENATOR KENNEDY

(Reuter's Service)
LOS ANGELES,
June 6.

President Johnson today proclaimed next Sunday a day of national mourning for Senator Robert Kennedy, victim of an assassination that has stirred the nation's conscience. The Senator, who died at 1.44 a.m. (08.44 GMT) in the Good Samaritan Hospital, is to be buried alongside his brother, President John F. Kennedy, in the Arlington National Cemetery. Nearly five years ago, President Kennedy was himself buried in this shrine of American heroes overlooking Washington after being shot dead in Dallas, Texas, by an assassin.

President Johnson, in his Proclamation today, said: "The tragedy and senseless violence of Robert F. Kennedy's death casts a deep shadow of grief across America and across the world."

He ordered that the Stars and Stripes be flown at half-mast throughout the nation, and set Sunday — the day after the funeral — as the day of national mourning.

The President's statement reflected the rising concern of the nation over lawlessness that has led to moves to cut the free sale of guns and to provide greater safety for political leaders.

Senator Kennedy's body was flown from Los Angeles to New York today in a special jet ordered by Mr. Johnson.

(Cont. on backpage col. 1)

ANOTHER CHAPTER IN THE TRAGIC STORY OF THE KENNEDY FAMILY



THE NEXT STANDARD-BEARER

Senator Kennedy's death closed another chapter in the tragic story of the Kennedy family, which has suffered one misfortune after another in recent years.

His wife Ethel, was with him when he died, along with his brother Senator Edward Kennedy — the man to whom many Americans now look for political leadership — and Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy and other members of the family.

The formal announcement of his death stated simply: "Senator Robert Francis Kennedy died at 1.44 a.m. today, June 6, 1968..."

Senator Edward Kennedy, 36, sole survivor of the four brothers groomed by their father for high political office, is already being mentioned as a possible candidate for the Democratic Party's Vice-Presidential nomination.

The death of his brother today means that the youngest brother, known as "Ted",

is now the standard-bearer for the Kennedy dynasty.

He himself narrowly averted death in a 1964 plane crash. His back was broken and for a time it looked as if he would be a cripple for life.

Throughout the United States, people were recalling a statement by President Kennedy before he was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963. Of his tragedy-prone family the President remarked that if he died, his brother Robert would take over and if Bobby died, Ted would assume the family leadership.

Joseph P. Kennedy, 79, father of the four sons and five daughters, originally intended to groom his eldest son Joseph for the American presidency. But the eldest son was killed in a World War Two plane crash on a secret flight from a British base.

Joseph Kennedy (the father) now an invalid as a result of several strokes, has lived to see three of his four sons killed.

ARAB WORLD CONDEMNS KILLER

(Reuter's Service)

BEIRUT, June 6.

The Arab world expressed shock today at the shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy and condemned his killer.

In Cairo, official Government spokesman Hassan Al-Zayyat said the killing must be condemned whatever the nationality of the assassin. "We don't accept violence under any circumstances. Of course we are all distressed," he added.

PONTIFF SAYS MASS FOR LATE SENATOR

VATICAN CITY, June 6: — Pope Paul today celebrated Mass for Senator Robert Kennedy, who died by an assassin's bullet.

The Pontiff sent condolences to Mrs. Ethel Kennedy and President Johnson, the spokesman added.

H.M. THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE

WASHINGTON, June 6: — H.M. Queen Elizabeth today sent a personal message expressing her deepest sympathy to Mrs. Robert Kennedy over the loss of her husband.

Prime Minister's message

The Prime Minister, Dr. G. Eorg Olivier, yesterday sent the following message to Mrs. Robert Kennedy.

"On behalf of the Government and people of Malta, and also on my own behalf, I wish to convey sincere condolences on the tragic and untimely demise of Senator Robert Kennedy. All Malta is stunned by this outrageous act of violence against a peace-loving leader."

Gunman's father shocked

(Reuter's Service)

JERUSALEM, June 6.

The father of the gunman accused of shooting Senator Robert Kennedy told reporters today: "I am shocked by the action of my son".

Tracked down in a small Arab village, Taiyiba, near here, Bedarra Salameh Sarhan, 52, said he heard the terrible news only when he tuned in to Amman Radio.

DE GAULLE AND HUSSEIN CABLE JOHNSON AND SENATOR'S WIDOW

(Reuter's Service)

PARIS, June 6:

President De Gaulle sent telegrams of condolences to President Johnson and the Senator's widow. In the telegram to President Johnson, he said: "The drama which has just dismayed the United States and once again bereaved the Kennedy family deeply saddens all Frenchmen."

AMMAN, June 6:

King Hussein of Jordan today sent a cable of condolences to President Johnson on the death of Senator Kennedy, offering heartfelt sympathy for the "irreparable loss" on his personal behalf and on behalf of the Jordanian people and Government.

He sent a similar cable to the Senator's widow.