

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

*Classification*

de una paz estable y de una convivencia provechosa y fecunda entre todas las naciones del orbe. Formulo votos porque vuestro gran pueblo supere esta nueva y dolorosa prueba y porque se restablezca el clima de concordia necesario para el normal desarrollo de su proceso democratico como el mejor homenaje a ~~quien~~ quien busco incansablemente el imperio de la justicia. Presento a vuestra excelencia las seguridades de mi mas elevada consideracion.

Carlos Lleras Restrepo Presidente de la Republica de Colombia UNQTE

END

**RUSK**

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

12 JUN 68 14 18z

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy RIO DE JANEIRO

Info:

STATE

Please pass following message from President to President Costa e Silva:

1. QTE The tragic and untimely death of Senator ~~Mr~~ 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~~ Johnson UNQTE
3. White House does not plan to release message, but has no objection to release by President Costa e Silva.
4. Following, FYI, is English translation of President Costa e Silva's message to the President:

~~QTE~~ QTE In the name of the Brazilian people, I join with Your Excellency and the American people in their deep sorrow and in paying homage to Senator Robert Kennedy whose public life was always inspired by the ideals of peace and human brotherhood. With deep regards, Arthur da Costa e Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil. UNQTE

RUSK

Drafted by:

ARA/BR:RDSscarfo:me:6/10/68

Tel. Ext.

2627

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: ARA/BR - Mr. Lewis

Clearances:

ARA - Miss Regina Eltz

S/S - Mr. Parker

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(21) OUTGOING TELEGRAM

Page 1 of telegram to \_\_\_\_\_

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POL 6-2 US Kennedy  
181308  
Robert F.  
"A"

ACTION: Amembassy, HELSINKI

STATE

12 JUN 68 17 16z

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT  
KEKKONEN:

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 President.
4. Following, FYI, is text of President Kekkonen's message to the President:

QTE Deeply grieved by the great loss to the United States and to the world incurred by the tragic death of Senator Robert Kennedy. I extend to you and the American people my warmest sympathy. Urho Kekkonen UNQTE

Drafted by: Q  
EUR/SCAN:RADwyer:acw X4207  
Clearances:  
EUR/SCAN - Mr. Ingram Gray  
S/S - Mr. Parker ap

Approved by: RUSK  
EUR - George S. Springsteen, Acting

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**OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State**

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

### Classification

### Origin

**ACTION:** Amconsul PARAMARIBO

**Info:**

STATE

Ref: Paramaribo's 325

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO MINISTER PRESIDENT

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. UNOTE

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 Minister President.

**MICROFILMED BY** **BS/**

~~X X X K e t o n i k e r k s e c t o f M h d e t P r e s i d e n t s m e s s a g e t o t h e~~

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

~~ONE X THE PROPER X SUGAR AND CHEE X SHAKE X YEBB X BAG X DEAL X~~

~~XOXSdpxLxxXboKkxXenKacvXXXOfakWYRavefcmactcshadpeapeahsehdapce~~

~~and pray that under your eminent leadership violence may be put~~

~~not only in your nation but in the whole world and that men may believe~~

~~XanXKiveXXdeGeJenXKiveXXJohanXKengeXNinaXStenXEsseXXXXXXXX~~

END **RUSK**

**Drafted by:**

EUR:FBX:BBean:msa

6/11/68

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

EUR - Mr. Springsteen

**Clearances:**

S/S - Mr. Parker

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## Classification

- 34

Pol 6-2 US/Kennedy, Robert F.  
181305

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT  
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy MONTEVIDEO

12 JUN 68 17 15z

Info:

STATE

PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT TO PRESIDENT PACHECO:

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 messages 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 President Pacheco.
4. Following, FYI, is ~~Spanish~~ text of President Pacheco's messages, dated / respectively June 5 and June 6, to the President:

QTE Honrame presentar vuestra excelencia hondo sentimiento gobierno y pueblo Uruguay por alevoso atentado contra Senador Robert Kennedy manifestando nuestros mas fervientes votos por rapido y completo restablecimiento ilustre paciente stop Reciba vuestra excelencia las seguridades de mis mas alta consideracion. Jorge Pacheco Areco UNQTE

QTE Profundamente emocionado tengo honor presentar vuestra excelencia mas sentidas condolencias gobierno y pueblo Uruguay por irreparable perdida eminente Senador Robert Kennedy ~~come~~ cuyo fallecimiento enluta no solamente a

Drafted by:  
ARA/APU/U:ILS/nders

Tel. Ext.  
2310

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

ARA/APU John Dreyfuss

Clearance:  
ARA - R. Eltz

S/S - AParker

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Classification

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy MONTEVIDEO

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*Classification*

[ los Estados Unidos de America sino tambien a todo el mundo democratico stop Reitero  
a vuestra excelencia las seguridades de mi mas alta consideracion. Jorge Pacheco  
Areco UNQTE

END

**RUSK**

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
**AIRGRAM**

Original to be Filed in \_\_\_\_\_ Decentralized Files.

HANDLING INDICATOR UNCLASSIFIED

TO : Department of State

FROM : Amembassy LUSAKA

SUBJECT : Reactions to Senator Robert F. Kennedy's Assassination

REF : Lusaka 2022

DATE: June 12, 1968

Although the Embassy has already reported telegraphically on reactions to Senator Robert F. Kennedy's tragic assassination, the account that follows and the enclosures are submitted as of possible historical interest. In general, Zambian reactions were quick and bitter, generally directed against the supposed sickness of American society, even against "those in power." The Ambassador replied to the latter (Enclosure 8), but by June 9 most reactions had subsided. Contrary to original fears, no demonstrations developed.

\*\*\*\*\*

The news first reached the Embassy about 11 AM, Wednesday June 5, when several telephone calls were received requesting confirmation

Enclosures:

1. Clippings from Times of Zambia, June 6, 1968
2. USIS News Release "Memorial Book Opened for Senator Kennedy"
3. Clippings from Times of Zambia, June 7, 1968
4. Clipping from Zambia Mail, June 7, 1968
5. Radio Zambia News Talk
6. GRZ Press Release No. 1023/68
7. Clippings from Times of Zambia, June 8, 1968
8. USIS News Release "Ambassador Good's Response to Local Comments on Kennedy Assassination"

FORM 10-64 DS-323 UNCLASSIFIED

Pol 6-2 US/Kennedy, Robert F.  
FILE DESIGNATION A-456

NO. ~~1~~  
RS/R file

Drafted by: Charge: WBEdmondson Drafting Date: 6-11-68 Phone No.: Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearances:

of a South African radio broadcast that Senator Kennedy had been shot. We had no official word and could neither confirm nor deny. Pirated snatches of UPI news transmissions conveyed the story, though incompletely; it seemed that he had been hit but must still be alive. A senior Foreign Ministry official called about noon and urgently requested information on behalf of the Acting Foreign Minister. We had nothing we could say beyond the news reports he had already heard. Just at lunchtime a USIS Wireless File item came in reporting the shooting and the fact that the Senator was about to be operated on. USIS put the item out as a news release.

By afternoon it was clear that Senator Kennedy was critically injured and was undergoing a very delicate operation. Local news reports the next morning were more complete than anything available officially. See clippings, Enclosure 1. Senator Kennedy's doctors were concerned at the lack of improvement; things looked rather bad. Shortly after 11 AM word was received that the Senator was dead. Anticipating instructions from Washington (finally received late in the day), the Embassy put its flag at half mast, opened a condolence book and began to make plans for a memorial service. Plans for coping with possible demonstrations against the Embassy were also reviewed, and it was decided to alert the police (through the appropriate ministries) of our concern that adequate protection be afforded in the event that any sort of demonstration should develop. The Ambassador then prepared a brief statement to be released with the announcement that a condolence book had been opened (Enclosure 2).

Shortly afterward, Mr. Stewart Marchand, an Irishman from Kitwe, called to ask if the Embassy would object if he were to open a condolence book in the lobby of the Edinburgh Hotel in Kitwe. We made no objection, suggesting only that he might find it useful to coordinate with the Catholic clergy in Kitwe, which Mr. Marchand proceeded to do.

Friday morning the independent Times of Zambia carried adverse comments by various local figures (Lusaka 2022) as well as an editorial and straight news coverage (Enclosure 3). One senior political figure expressed conviction that the murder had been masterminded by "those already in power." The government-owned Zambia Mail also covered the news, but without editorial comment (Enclosure 4). From Luwingu in the Northern Province, Vice President Simon Kapwepwe was quoted as calling the assassination "primitive, barbaric and undemocratic." From Uganda, where he was visiting a political party meeting, President Kaunda spoke bitterly of the loss, denouncing violence in American society, and characterizing this act as "the beginning of the end."



Radio Zambia's Friday morning news commentary, prepared the evening before by its Head of News, Naphy Nyalugwe, attributed the murder to "a society that is sick and growing sicker every day." This was one of the most unfair news talks we have ever heard on Radio Zambia. (See the full text, Enclosure 5).

President Kaunda returned to Zambia Friday evening and devoted most of his airport arrival speech to the assassination, holding the United States Government responsible for inadequate protection. (Press Release, Enclosure 6).

The Saturday morning Times of Zambia (clippings, Enclosure 7) reported the President's remarks and also carried most of a statement the Ambassador made earlier (Enclosure 8) to refute charges that the assassination had been schemed by "those in power" in the U.S.

A memorial requiem mass was held at St. Ignatius Catholic Church at 5 PM June 8, attended by Vice President and Mrs. Simon Kapwepwe, Foreign Minister Reuben Kamanga, and at least one other minister, plus a large number of expatriates and local people.

The Sunday papers on June 9 carried straight news about the capture in London of Martin Luther King's assassin, the arraignment of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, and the capture of a gunman at the requiem mass in New York. No more editorial comments or other local reactions were reported. By the time the Condolence Book was closed at noon there were some 433 entries (some covering more than one person), including a few ministers and senior officials.

As of Monday June 10, news media were still carrying straight news items related to the assassination and its aftermath but no editorials or other reactions, the news having been eclipsed somewhat by critical local events, especially the destruction by sabotage of an important bridge on Zambia's Great East Road.

Further comment and analysis will be submitted separately.

  
EDMONDSON

BANNER HEADLINE "KENNEDY FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE"  
Times of Zambia, June 6, 1968

LOS ANGELES, Wednesday.

**SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY** remains in "a very critical" condition after a three-hour operation to remove a bullet from his brain. This was stated in a hospital bulletin issued ten hours after the Senator was shot in the head and neck at a hotel here.

MEANWHILE, POLICE SAID A MAN HAD BEEN FORMALLY CHARGED WITH ASSAULT TO MURDER. HE WAS NAMED AS SIRHAN SIRHAN, AGED 23, OF PASADENA, BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN BORN IN JERUSALEM.

Hopes that the 42-year-old Senator's life would be saved rose with a report that the bullet which ploughed into his head had caused no damage to his brain. But doctors at the Catholic Good Samaritan Hospital warned that it would take four or five days to determine the outcome of the operation.

The operation was carried out about two hours and 50 minutes after the gunman jumped out of crowds in the Ambassador Hotel as they congratulated the Senator on his primary election victory in California over Senator Eugene McCarthy, one of his rivals for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination.

## Emptied revolver

The swarthy, dark-haired gunman emptied his revolver in the direction of the Senator, hitting Kennedy twice and wounding three other people.

Bystanders hurled themselves towards him and he was hustled away by police. Kennedy supporters clawed and screamed at him, shouting: "Lynch him, lynch him."

At the Central Receiving Hospital where Senator Kennedy was first taken, one doctor thought at first that he was dead. But Dr. Victor Barr said that when he slapped the Senator's face, calling out, "Bob, Bob", Mr. Kennedy stirred.

Dr. Barr put his stethoscope to Mr. Kennedy's chest and heard a strong heartbeat. Then he let Senator Kennedy's wife, Ethel, expecting her 11th child, use the stethoscope to convince her that he was alive.

The nation was shocked by the shooting — which came only two months after the murder of Negro civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King—and President Johnson ordered the secret service to provide an immediate body-guard for all Presidential campaign candidates and their families.

The shooting will change the face of the Presidential election campaign, in which he was one of the favourites to stand against the Republicans.

## Others hit

Three other men were shot in the fusillade of bullets which felled Senator Kennedy.

The men, standing near the Senator in the hotel ballroom, were Bill Welzel, an associate producer of the American Broadcasting Company, Paul Schrade, an official of the United Auto Workers Union, and Ira Goldstein, a radio newsmen.

Welzel, hit in the abdomen, was in undetermined condition, as was Schrade with a scalp wound. Goldstein, shot in the leg and back, was said to be in good condition in hospital.

There was speculation that more than one person was involved after an eye-witness

reported seeing a woman in a polka-dot dress running towards an exit shouting: "We shot him, we shot him."

The assistant maitre d'hotel, Karl Uecker, told reporters that he prevented the gunman firing all eight bullets at Kennedy.

"Kennedy was making hands with someone when we came through the door," he said. "Someone jumped up from the floor. I saw paper flying—it might have been a paper bag the gun was in."

"At the second shot Kennedy fell. I quickly got a headlock on the gunman but he kept shooting."

Another eye-witness said the arrested man shouted: "I did it for my country" as he was dragged away.

## Blood

Pools of blood soaked the floor.

Only seconds before the shooting — which came four-and-a-half years after his brother's assassination — the elated Senator Kennedy had promised that as President he would end violence in the United States.

Police said later that suspect Sirhan was identified through a set of fingerprints filed as a matter of routine when Sirhan, as a youth, applied for a city recreation department job as an ~~ice cream~~ boy for horses.

Four 100-dollar notes were found on him, which might indicate he was planning a getaway from the area, a police chief said.

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

According to police files Sirhan was born in the former Jordanian sector of Jerusalem but they had no idea what his nationality might be.

## Silent

He refused to speak as he was charged.

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 assassination attempt was expected to bring renewed demands for tighter federal and state controls on guns and other weapons.

Since the assassination of his brother, the Senator has himself been one of the leading advocates of stricter controls on the sale and possession of arms.

However, strong lobbies in Congress and state legislatures have so far largely resisted such pressures, claiming that tight controls would infringe the constitutional right of the American citizen to bear arms.—Rtr.

## PROFILE

# Inheritor of a myth, RFK is a crusader and political realist

LOS ANGELES, Wednesday.

**SENATOR ROBERT F. Kennedy**, energetic and wiry with some of the glamour of his late brother, John F. Kennedy, is a man who had his eyes set on the White House.

He is the inheritor of a myth cherished by millions of Americans who discovered a taste for dynasty when John Kennedy was President and who now dream of "the restoration."

Bobby Kennedy, as he is generally called, still youthful but with grey flecking his tousled hair, is 42.

His bid to gain his nation's highest office came sooner than expected. Personal differences with President Johnson, although legend in Washington, did not bring on the challenge.

Instead it stemmed from the New York Senator's deep feeling that the Johnson Administration had not been flexible enough in seeking peace in Vietnam and that at home the country was being torn apart by dissension and racial strife.

In March 1967, Senator Kennedy proposed an unqualified halt in the American bombing of North Vietnam to try to initiate peace talks.

Last February 8, in a widely-acclaimed speech, he attacked every major facet of the Johnson Administration's Vietnam policy and called the President's claims of progress "illusory."

Times of Zambia, June 6, 1968

From then on, it seemed only a question of "when would Bobby run?" — whether he would try to unseat the President in 1968 or hold back until 1972.

Bobby Kennedy was his brother's campaign manager when John Fitzgerald Kennedy became President in 1960.

He became Attorney-General and Presidential right-arm to his elder brother, who was assassinated in Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963.

## Abrasive

Married with 10 children, he was born in Boston, Massachusetts, on November 20, 1925. Though more abrasive than his brother Edward, Senator from Massachusetts and youngest member of the Kennedy dynasty, he is also more experienced and more aggressive.

He resigned as Attorney-General in September 1964 and stood successfully in the New York Senatorial elections two months later.

He has been a staunch supporter of Negro civil rights. Despite his differences with the President, the question of civil rights is one on which they see eye to eye and much of the President's legislation fulfilled policies advocated by the Senator.

As Attorney-General, Senator Kennedy sent 20,000 Federal troops into Oxford, Mississippi, in 1962 to enforce the enrolment of James Meredith as first Negro student at the university there.

He went to South Africa on a five-day visit in June 1966 at the invitation of students a visit which aroused sharp controversy here.

## Apartheid

The Government refused to meet him and he made a spectacular speech branding apartheid as evil.

Senator Kennedy afterwards expressed concern at a society based on the colour of the skin rather than on the ability of the people. He said: "This must cause a great deal of concern and I was disturbed by the fact that there were many injustices to individuals because they were black and not white."

The blue-eyed Senator once infuriated racial segregationists by prophesying that the the US would have its first Negro President by the end of the Century.

As he embarked on his campaign, he denied a report that he had in effect issued an ultimatum to Mr. Johnson that he would challenge him for the nomination unless he agreed to a proposal to establish a commission to examine Vietnam war policy.

Alleging that the report was a distorted "leak" from the White House, he said: "This incident reveals in the sharpest possible terms why the American people no longer believe the President and the White House: why the credibility of our political leadership has been so critically eroded and why it is clear that the only way we are going to change our policy in Vietnam is to change administrations in Washington."—Reuter.

# News Release

UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

P.O. BOX 2053

- CENTRAL ARCADE, CAIRO ROAD, LUSAKA

- TEL. 73002



## MEMORIAL BOOK OPENED FOR SENATOR KENNEDY

LUSAKA, June 6 -- A book of condolences in memory of the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy has been opened in the entrance lobby of the American Embassy, David Livingstone Road, here, the Embassy announced today.

The American Ambassador to Zambia, Robert C. Good, meanwhile, issued the following statement.

"For Americans, this is an hour of anguish, and for countless millions across the world, a day of dismay.

"If senseless tragedy is to be invested with any meaning at all, we must hope that the life and the terrible death of Robert Kennedy will open the eyes of his troubled country and a distraught world. He hated injustice and violence and gave himself wholly to the quest for peace and brotherhood. If we would truly honour him, we will do likewise."

The memorial book will be available to those who wish to pay their respects to the late Senator daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 12 noon Saturday and Sunday.

**PRESIDENT Johnson today proclaimed 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.**

It is only four and a half years since President Kennedy was himself buried in this shrine of American heroes overlooking Washington after being shot dead in Dallas, Texas, by an assassin.

Senator Edward Kennedy, 38, 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 Senator Kennedy today from an assassin's bullet means that the youngest member, 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.

President Johnson, in his proclamation today, said: "The tragedy and the 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 curb the free sale of guns and to provide greater safety for political leaders.

Senator Kennedy's body was being flown from Los Angeles to New York today in a special jet ordered by Mr. Johnson. Aboard were members of the Kennedy family and friends — among them the widows of three assassination victims.

Family members included the Senator's 40-year-old wife Ethel, expecting her 11th child, and her three oldest children; the Senator's only surviving brother, Senator Edward Kennedy, and Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy, widow of President Kennedy.

Other passengers included Mrs. Coretta King, widow of Negro civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, who was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, only two months ago.

Ethel, Edward and Jacqueline Kennedy were at the Senator's bedside when he died.

In New York the Senator's body will be taken to St. Patrick's Cathedral where it will lie in state for 15 hours.

A Requiem Mass, with New York Archbishop Terence Cooke officiating, will be celebrated in St. Patrick's on Saturday and it is likely that President Johnson and other American and foreign dignitaries will attend.

Times of Zambia, June 7, 1968

BANNER HEADLINE "THE WORLD MOURNS  
BOBBY KENNEDY"

The aide, Frank Mankiewicz walked slowly into the temporary Press room set up in the nurses' dining hall of the hospital to make the death announcement.

Looking grim, his head bowed before a battery of television cameras, he said laconically: "I have a statement which I will make at this time."

He then read the death announcement, which began: "Senator Robert Kennedy died at 1.44 a.m. today, June 6, 1968. . . ."

## Sinking

The previous bulletin on Senator Kennedy, issued at 5 pm. (midnight GMT), had made it clear that doctors feared the worst. It said that the Senator's condition was "extremely critical as to life."

Asked if Senator Kennedy had been sinking during the time between the two announcements, Mankiewicz said: "It was not a question of sinking, but of not rising."

Shortly after Senator Kennedy's death, Los Angeles police said a charge against Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, a 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant held for the shooting, would be automatically changed to murder.

Initially, after being arrested in a struggle in the hotel, he was accused of assault with intent to kill the Senator and five other people wounded in the shooting.

Sirhan refused to speak to police at all at first. Later he began talking to his interrogators, but not about the shooting.

Sirhan, who has lived in California for the past 11 years, was identified only after the .22 calibre revolver used in the shooting had been traced to him.

He had four 100-dollar bills in his pocket when arrested and a newspaper clipping unfavourable to Senator Kennedy, police said.

Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty told reporters yesterday that an entry in a diary alleged to belong to Sirhan stated that Senator Kennedy had to be killed by June 5 — the first anniversary of the start of the six-day Israeli-Arab war.

➡ (See Page 2).

Times of Zambia, June 7, 1968

Continued from Page 1

This has led to speculation that the motive for the killing was Senator Kennedy's support of the Israeli cause.

Senator Kennedy's death threw the American political scene into turmoil for the second time in nine weeks — the first being President Johnson's unexpected decision not to run for re-election.

The scene is now more confused than ever in this wildly-unpredictable Presidential race, though some analysts believe the electioneering moratorium that has followed Senator Kennedy's death will give an advantage to the "old

guard" candidates — Vice-President Hubert Humphrey for the Democrats and former Vice-President Richard Nixon for the Republicans.

President Johnson announced last night that he had ordered a special 10-member commission to try to find out "why we inflict such suffering on ourselves."

It will be headed by Dr Milton Eisenhower, 69-year-old brother of ex-President Eisenhower, and will look into the causes and control of violence.

The House of Representatives is also expected to give approval to a Bill today to control the sale of firearms in the United States.

The ease with which weapons can be obtained — even by mail order — has been cited by supporters of the Bill as one of the key factors in the nation's violence.

In Jerusalem, the father of the man accused of shooting Senator Kennedy told reporters today: "I am shocked by the action of my son."

Tracked down to the small Arab village of Taiyaba near Jerusalem, Beshara Salame Sirhan, 52, said he was an admirer of the late President John Kennedy and felt grieved about the shooting of the Senator.

In Paris, French writer and film maker Romain Gary today quoted Senator Kennedy as telling him a fortnight ago that an assassination attempt would be made on him sooner or later.

"One must rely on luck," he quoted Mr. Kennedy as saying.

## Security

New York police are already making security arrangements, like to be the tightest in the city's history, for the service. Immediately after the Mass. Senator Kennedy's body will be taken by train to Washington for the burial.

The Senator's death was announced by one of his aides just over 25 hours after he was shot through the head and neck in a Los Angeles hotel as he was celebrating his primary election victory in California.

Surgeons carried out a three-and-a-half hour operation to remove the bullet from his brain, but he never regained consciousness. There had been fears that even if he survived, his faculties would be permanently damaged.

Times of Zambia, June 7, 1968

## SAVAGE ACT SHOCKS ZAMBIA *LZ*

# *Killing 'schemed by those in power'*

THE assassination of Senator Kennedy was "only what could be expected from the cowboy government of the United States," Zambian Minister of State for the Western Province, Mr. Peter Chanda, said yesterday.

The death was regrettable and a loss to humanity. He was convinced that the mur-



Mr. Chanda

der had been master-minded by those already in power.

Mr. Chanda added that America preached democracy from the hill tops, yet was the scene of "such a brutal, savage and uncivilised murder."

President Kaunda, on his arrival back from East Africa today, is expected to make a speech on the killing.

A survey conducted by the Times of Zambia yesterday revealed that Senator Ken-



Mr. Zulu

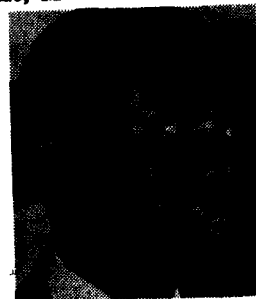
nedy had endeared himself to Zambians.

Throughout Wednesday and yesterday, the Times offices were flooded with inquiries on the condition of the Senator.

Radio Zambia interrupted its programmes to give details, and finally to announce his death yesterday morning.

Scheduled programmes were cancelled in the afternoon and replaced by serious music and items of news from America.

UNIP's national secretary and Minister without Portfolio, Mr. Mainza Chona, said



Mr. Munkanta

he believed that the assassin was a "mercenary."

America had lost a potential "second best President" after his brother John F. Kennedy.

"The death of Kennedy shows that to survive as President of America one has to be a thug," Mr. Chona said.

In Ndola, the Christian Church has joined in the mourning.

"Kennedy stood for human rights and equality for the



Miss Nyendwa

Negroes and had plans to end the unsolved Vietnam war," the Rev. Ben Zulu said.

Chiwala Secondary School teacher, Mr. Oliver Munkanta said: "This is a very uncivilised act. If it happened here the outcry would be that we still lived in jungle."

Miss Mary Nyendwa, an Ndola school teacher, said the killing was a culmination of racialism and activities of selfish individuals who were hungry for power.

Times of Zambia, June 7, 1968

## **PROMISE BROKEN BY A BULLET**

**T**HE BELLS toll again today for another Kennedy, for another American leader whose promise to millions was broken by the bullet of one man.

Robert Kennedy was not given even the brief display of his brother, that bright star whose short orbit never reached its apogee.

Some, with strange logic, scorned the younger Kennedy for attempting to follow his brother, arguing that agreement and imitation were opportunism.

They were wrong. On the day his mind was extinguished, it was plain that he, above all, was the white American leader who held the trust of his country's underprivileged, including the Negro minority.

What he might have done for his country has gone with him. His accomplishments remain and will continue to work among those who shared his anguished desire to cure the sickness of violence as a political method.

Out of his death we can hope for the emergence of a larger will to recognise and end the brutalising effects of both reckless privilege and hopeless poverty.

Both Kennedys used and bequeathed us a slogan for intelligent leadership everywhere: "We can do better... We must do better."

And so we must and quickly too, if we are to deserve those who, in Stephen Spender's words:

"... wore at their hearts the fire's centre.

"Born of the sun they travelled a short while towards the sun,

"And left the vivid air signed with their honour."



Times of Zambia, June 7, 1968

# **OUTRAGE BRINGS DISTRESS TO ALL AFRICA**

HEADS of state throughout Africa received the news of Senator Kennedy's death with "indignation," "profound distress," and "great shock."

The mood was of sadness and bitterness at the loss of a champion of minority ethnic groups in America.

In the north, King Hassan of MOROCCO cabled President Johnson from his capital, Rabat, that he was "profoundly afflicted by the news of the death of Senator Kennedy, victim of an odious outrage."

In TUNISIA, President Habib Bourguiba sent condolences to President Johnson and said the assassination had "profoundly moved all Tunisians."

In East Africa, Presidents Milton Obote of UGANDA, Julius Nyerere of TANZANIA, Kenneth Kaunda of ZAMBIA and Vice-President Daniel Arap Moi of KENYA endorsed a resolution in Kampala expressing "great shock" at the news.

Newspapers in Kenya questioned the U.S. law that permits "any felon or maniac" to buy any firearm he wants.

In Lagos, the head of the NIGERIAN Federal Military Government, Major General Yakubu Gowon, said that the assassination was a reckless act that deprived the American people and mankind of the Senator's devoted, conscientious and courageous services.

From ENGLAND, Queen Elizabeth sent a personal message expressing her deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy.

"I am shocked and distressed by the tragic death of your husband. I send you my deepest sympathy. My thoughts are with you and your children in your great loss," the message said.

Arab newspapers in the Middle East, while unanimous in denouncing the murder, disowned Arab responsibility for the shooting by 24-year-old Palestinian-born Sirhan Sirhan.

"The criminal may be someone carrying an Arab nationality but he was only an instrument in carrying out the crime," one paper wrote.

Meanwhile, in AMERICA, Senator Eugene McCarthy called for renewed dedication to the cause of peace and reconciliation.

He said words could do little to ease the anguish of the Senator's family and the grief of all those who loved him.—Reuter.

ZAMBIA MAIL, June 7, 1968

# DEATH OF A SENATOR

Los Angeles, Thursday

**THE** United States was plunged into mourning today by the announcement that Senator Robert F. Kennedy had died from bullet wounds suffered last night.

As news of his death circulated around the world messages of sympathy to his family from leaders of many nations were flooding in.

In a statement President Johnson paid high tribute to the dead senator — probably his bitterest political opponent in recent months — and said: "Our public life is diminished by his loss."

Directing that the Stars and Stripes be flown at half-mast throughout the United States and at American posts overseas until the time of the senator's interment, President Johnson declared next Sunday as a day of mourning.

"The tragedy and senseless violence of Robert F. Kennedy's death casts a deep shadow of grief across America and across the world," said President Johnson in a proclamation issued at the White House minutes after the announcement of the senator's death.

"This is a moment for all Americans to join hands and walk together through this dark night of anguish into a new dawn of healing unity," he said.

As Senator Kennedy died at 0844 GMT yesterday his wife Ethel, expecting her eleventh child, and other members of the Kennedy family were at his bedside in the Los Angeles Catholic Good Samaritan Hospital.

Even had he lived, the chances were that he would have been cruelly disabled by the bullet that tore through his head and damaged his brain.

## Tears

Outside the hospital women burst into tears when the death was announced. But the crowd of about 1,000, who had kept an all-night vigil, did not repeat the emotional scenes immediately after the shooting when people screaming "pray for him, pray for him" went down on their knees in the Ambassador Hotel foyer.

Later it was announced that Senator Kennedy will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery where his brother, the late President Kennedy, was interred following his assassination in November 1963.

The body of the dead senator would leave here later today on a jet airliner provided by the White House. Members of Senator Kennedy's family, friends and members of his staff will be aboard the aircraft.

In New York the senator's body will be taken to St Patrick's Cathedral where it will lie in state for 15 hours. After a Requiem Mass on Saturday

morning it will be taken by train to Washington and then nearby Arlington for burial.

And Los Angeles police said today that Sirhan Sirhan — accused of shooting Senator Kennedy — would be charged with his murder as soon as the necessary formalities were completed.

In Kampala, today — Presidents Milton Obote of Uganda, Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Vice-President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya endorsed a resolution expressing "great shock" at the death of Senator Kennedy.

The resolution, passed unanimously by 3,000 delegates, observers and guests at the opening ceremony of the annual conference of the ruling Uganda People's Congress, sent heartfelt condolences to the Senator's widow and the Kennedy family.

In Luwingu, Northern Zambia, the Vice-President, Mr Simon Kapwepwe, described the assassination as "primitive, barbaric and undemocratic".

And in Lusaka, the American Embassy announced that a book of condolences in memory of Senator Kennedy had been opened in the entrance lobby of the embassy at David Livingstone Road.

The book will be available to the public from 8 am until 6 pm and from 9 am until noon on Saturday and Sunday.

6.6.68

News Talk

American violence

Senator Robert Kennedy is dead - a victim of the wave of violence that is today gripping the body politic of America. The unguarded words of Jacqueline Kennedy have proved to be correct. On hearing that Robert Kennedy intended to run for Presidential elections she said: "But he will be killed." The question is why should Kennedy follow Mr. Evers, his brother John, Malcolm X, and Dr. Martin Luther King - all known political figures who were assassinated within the past five years? The answer is that violence has been a part of the American way of life, but only recently has it reached such gigantic, menacing and horrifying proportions.

Whereas youth in other societies have been fed on fairy tales the young in America are fed on films of horror and violence. They are not shocked any more at violent deaths or of a murderous killing. For many youths in America killing looks like a heroic deed. A gun represents violence whether it be a toy gun or a real one. America today condemns a murderer, but at the same time it loves murder. Further, large sections of the American society are ruled by gangsters. Gangsterism in America is part of Big Business today. Mafia which is worth millions of dollars today is a glaring example. Violence begets violence. Even if it seems to be impulsive, it builds up over a long time. The United States is confronted with a rising tide of violence, both individual and collective, actual and potential.

Senator Kennedy's murder did not intrude from outside into American life. It grew directly out of it. It fits into, and highlights the social and political context in which it occurred. Violence permeates the American social life on many different levels. In none has it abated during this decade. In all it has become intensified. Such has been the increase in violence that adult murders in the first quarter of last year increased by twenty-three percent. Last year there were nine thousand murders in America compared to less than two hundred in Britain.

Life has become so cheap for murderers in the United States that even national figures cannot escape their bullets. It would have been expected that after the assassination of the late President John F. Kennedy, there would have been a national shakeup of the Police force and the security forces. But nothing was done and more fell victims. Another significant fact is that none of the murderers have been brought to book. President Johnson has appointed a ten-member Commission to investigate means of ending violence in America. But it is too late. American society is split wide open, between the rich and the poor, between the whites and the Negroes, between those for and against the war in Vietnam. All these are symptoms of a society that is sick, and growing sicker day by day.

Senator Kennedy's murder can be seen as a horrible example of social contamination with violence. It was carried out in a country charged with the electricity of violence. It was not just an unfortunate incident, as some would have it. Nor was it inevitable. It was highly selective. Kennedy was a marked man. He represented an idea. He was a key person; and many regarded him as an enemy. He was opposed by those who wished everything to stay as it is. That was the effect and the underlying social motive. America has prided itself as a democracy with complete freedom. A new freedom has been added - freedom to kill and get away. If the President and candidates for Presidency are not safe, who in America is safe? After the killing of Dr. King, people asked who is next? Now with the slaying of Senator Robert Kennedy, again people ask who is next? Will it be Senator McCarthy or another Negro like Rap Brown or Stokley Carmichael?

\* \* \* \* \*

The world is in a grip of rigid shock at the dastardly and cowardly shooting of the popular American Senator Robert Kennedy in a hotel in Los Angeles yesterday after his election victory over Senator Eugene McCarthy in the California Presidential primary. The shooting has plunged the United States and many peace-loving countries of the world into a state of gloom and despair, especially as it comes exactly two months after the slaying of one of the most distinguished leaders for the cause of Human Rights and dignity - the American civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King. It was a savage act, unspeakable and has really tarnished the good name of America. It is indeed a travesty of everything America stands for. Only seconds before the shooting, Senator Kennedy had promised that as President he would end violence in the United States.

Senator Robert Kennedy, energetic and wiry with some of the glamour of his late brother who died at the hands of an assassin, is a man who had his eyes set on the Presidency of the United States. Bobby Kennedy, as he is generally known, still youthful but with grey flecking his tousled hair, is forty-two. His bid to gain the Presidency of the United States came sooner than expected. It stemmed from his deep feeling that the present administration was not flexible enough in seeking peace in Vietnam and that at home the country was being torn apart by dissension and racial strife.

He resigned as the country's Attorney General in September 1964 and stood successfully in the New York Senatorial elections two months later. He later became the champion of the liberals. As Attorney General, he sent twenty thousand federal troops into Oxford, Mississippi in 1962 to enforce the enrollment of James Meredith as the first Negro student at the University there. He went to South Africa on a five-day visit in June 1966 - a visit which aroused sharp controversy there. The Vorster Government refused to meet him but he made a spectacular speech branding

apartheid as evil. He later infuriated racial segregationists in the United States by prophesying that the United States would have its first Negro President by the end of the century.

On March the sixteenth this year he decided to enter the election race for the Presidency of the United States, and was already showing promising signs that he would turn out to be the next President of the United States. His victory in Los Angeles where he was shot was yet another step in this direction, but even before the Presidential race, Senator Robert Kennedy had become the most popular American politician on the American political scene. His popularity was rather an unusual phenomenon in modern America where one can observe the falling of prestige and a public interest to statesmen and political leaders on the whole.

In recent years hundreds of articles have appeared in the American press attempting to explain the popularity of Senator Kennedy. Many authors of these articles are of the opinion that Robert Kennedy personifies a new trend in American political life connected with the awakening of an interest in politics among wide sections of the American youth. His popularity among the youth is compared with the popularity of the Beatles. But the main reason for Robert Kennedy's success among definite American sections is his disagreement with the policies of the present leadership of the American Democratic Party. Some link Kennedy's name with the hope that the United States could still be extricated from the tempestuous waters in which it finds itself as a result of the government's adventurist policy. The sharp divergence between Senator Kennedy's views and those of President Johnson both on matters concerning foreign policy and domestic problems are grounds for such expectation.

PRESS RELEASE NO. 1023/68.

PRESIDENT KAUNDA BACK FROM KENYA AND UGANDA.

President Kaunda arrived in Lusaka this evening after his seven-day state visit to Kenya and Uganda. At the International Airport he told a large gathering of people who came to welcome him that he had a very successful visit to Kenya.

The President said everywhere he had gone he had received warm welcome and that in one part of Kenya he had been made Sheik - Arab Chief - in remembrance of what the Zambian Government had done in helping to **quell** the Kenya/Somalia border dispute.

President Kaunda said that in Uganda he attended a conference which was similar to Mulungushi Conference. This conference, he said was also attended by President Jomo Kenyatta and it was decided that Uganda Peoples Party, Tanganyika African National Union, United National Independence Party and the ruling party of Kenya should be called The Mulungushi Club.

On the death of late Senator Robert Kennedy, President Kaunda said the sad world had lost one of this generation's outstanding, dynamic and young leaders.

"We must make our view known to the American Government," he said. "We fail to understand that leaders of that type - first it was John Kennedy, second Martin Luther King, and now Bobby Kennedy - can be assassinated at all."

Dr. Kaunda went on to say that he saw a very strange pattern where outstanding leaders with a lot to contribute to the world could only be protected when they were dead.

"I hear that there were 500 police officers at the airport," he said "only to receive a dead body. We have a right to complain because we believe that in the persons of John Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy we lost men who will never be replaced at all."

President Kaunda said he did not understand how the Kennedy family would participate in the American politics because there was only one of them remaining now.

- 2 -

"We regard those people who strike at the international problems as our friends," he said. "Boby Kennedy was one of the few American leaders who identified himself with the poor. For a rich man to come down and speak the voice of the poor is not an easy thing to achieve."

In welcoming the President, Vice-President Kapwepwe said he was very happy to see him back home. He said although there had been a strike at Kabwe zina mine and at Kitwe, where teachers went on strike, there had been a general quietness in the country. He thanked civil servants, members of the party and the general public for their co-operation during his absence.

Among the distinguished guests who came to welcome the President were the Speaker of the National Assembly, Mr. W.P. Nyirenda, the Minister Without Portfolio, Mr. M. Chona, The Commissioner of Police, Mr. M. Mataka, the Mayor of Lusaka, Councillor W. Banda, Chief Justice Blagden, the Commander Zambia Army, the Commander Zambia Air Force, many Government Ministers, top Government officials, and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

GSP/LSG.

Press Section,  
Public Relations Division,  
Zambia Information Services.

June 7, 1968. - 8.30 p.m.

BANNER HEADLINE "WEeping THOUSANDS PAY LAST TRIBUTES"

Times of Zambia, June 8, 1968

From Alan Paterson

**MORE THAN** NEW YORK, Friday.  
and grim-faced mourners an hour filed weeping  
Senator Robert Kennedy the closed coffin of assassinated  
Kennedy in St. Patrick's Cathedral  
today.

In less than six hours after dawn, when the massive doors of the cathedral swung open to admit them, more than 25,000 people were estimated to have passed the black-draped catafalque where the coffin lay.

A long procession of grieving mourners of all ages, races and religions, and many different nationalities, wound back from the doors around the heart of Manhattan for over a dozen city blocks. The grim que grew hour by hour.

Hundreds waited all night to pay their last tributes. Those arriving during the morning had to wait up to three hours to get in.

Mothers cradling babies, children, blind men, elderly cripples shuffling forward on crutches, and young students, many weeping openly, filed sadly past.

Relatives and aides of the dead Senator and stars and celebrities from all walks of life took turns in keeping 30-minute vigils around the mahogany coffin, flanked by six yellow candles. Among the honour guards were Mr. Kennedy's two oldest sons, 18-year-old Joseph and 14-year-old Robert, who stood head bowed, his hands on the coffin during his half-hour watch.

New York's Mayor John Lindsay, paying his tribute, embraced the Senator's widow, Mrs. Ethel Kennedy, and told her in broken tones: "God bless you." Mrs. Kennedy is expecting her eleventh child in mid-January.

The 42-year-old Senator's body was flown here yesterday from Los Angeles where he died from an assassin's bullet in the brain yesterday morning. It was blessed in the cathedral by New York's Roman Catholic Archbishop Terence Cooke. Throughout the sorrowing city today flags flew at half-mast.

Official mourning in New York will continue tomorrow and Sunday, when the nation will observe a day of national mourning decreed by President Johnson.

After requiem mass tomorrow, Senator Kennedy's body will be taken by train to Washington, where a funeral cortege will take him through the heart of the capital to Arlington National Cemetery.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Pitchess reported that about 10 threats against the life of Kennedy's suspected assassin, Sirhan Sirhan, have been sent to the sheriff's department since the killing. He told reporters that most messages said they would kill Sirhan or shoot him while he was being taken from the jail to the court house.

## Prosecution worried

The sheriff said Sirhan was "very reserved and totally non-committal" in conversation. He added that the prisoner had requested and was given newspapers. Some of them headlined the shooting of Kennedy and others carried the report of the Senator's death. The sheriff said there was no visible reaction on Sirhan's part when he read the papers.

Six uniformed guards are keeping a round-the-clock surveillance on Sirhan, with one deputy actually in the cell with him. Another watches through a glass porthole in the steel door and four others patrol the corridor.

Seventeen eyewitnesses are to give testimony later today on the killing, as public officials quarrel over the release of evidence about the accused assassin.

The witnesses were called before the Los Angeles Grand Jury from which lawyers hoped to secure a murder indictment against the 24-year old Jordanian refugee.

Among expected witnesses are Negro Olympic champion Rafer Johnson and football star Roosevelt Greer who pinned down Sirhan moments after Senator Kennedy was shot in the head in a kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel.

Lawmen, who believe they have an airtight case against Sirhan, voiced concern that statements made by Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty might damage the prosecution case by jeopardising the accused's legal rights.

At a Press conference, Mr. Yorty said there was "no doubt" about Sirhan's Communist sympathies and blamed the influence of Communism for the crime.

In the assassination investigation, police have put out an all-points alert to locate the white girl in a polka-dot dress thought to have been accomplice of Sirhan. Police got the tip from Miss Sandy Serrano, a Kennedy youth worker, who said she saw a young woman running from the scene of the crime, shouting, "We shot him, we shot him."



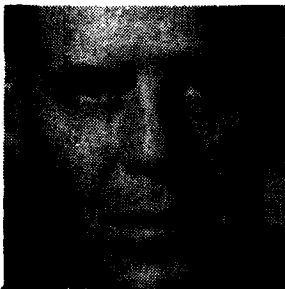
# Envoy— replies to 'killing schemed' charge

By Times Reporter  
COMMENTING on a claim that Senator Kennedy's killing was schemed by "those in power," the American Ambassador to Zambia, Mr. Robert Good, said yesterday that "those in power" stood shattered by the loss of a great humanitarian and leader.

Mr. Peter Chanda, Western Province Minister of State, made the "conspiracy" statement on Thursday.

Mr. Good replied that Senator Kennedy was assassinated by irrational and senseless hate and violence which knew no boundary and was the common enemy of all people.

"It's true that there is an ominous rising tide of violence in America, but let's be honest enough to



AMBASSADOR GOOD

admit that the trend towards violence is the more ominous because it is world-wide and not just in America," Mr. Good went on.

# Day of mourning for RFK today

By Times Reporter

PRESIDENT KAUNDA has rapped the American Government for its failure to protect a living person when it can send off thousands of troops to meet his dead body. And Zambia is to observe today as a day of mourning, with flags flying at half mast, as a protest to America and its people.

"And let's be fair enough to admit that the charged assassin was not even an American, but a foreigner, evidently agitated by an issue having nothing at all to do with American domestic problems."

Americans were accused of being reckless with the lives of their eminent men, and it was tragically true that greater controls and protection must be devised, the ambassador said.

"Our candidates take vigorous and forthright stands on controversial issues. They give themselves to the public, as Kennedy did, without stint."

"No other great power has ever conducted its political debates with more candour and complete access to the public."

The Roman Catholic Church is to conduct a memorial service for the late Senator at 5 p.m. tomorrow at St. Ignatious Church, it was announced.

Deep sorrow over the brutal murder of the Senator, the second of the Kennedy family to die by the hand of a gunman in five years.

President Kaunda said: "It is sad to see that the world has lost this generation's leader. All that we have about this young man is that he was one of the few people who identified themselves with the poor."

At the time of his death he was identified with the poor people. "It is rare that you find a person from a rich family become what Kennedy had been."

The crowd stood up to observe a minute's silence in memory of Mr. Kennedy.

Dr. Kaunda said: "We fail to understand this kind of thing. We have a right to protest to the American Government and its society for the world's loss of three irreplaceable figures."

Dr. Kaunda reminded the crowd of the dedicated work of Mr. John Kennedy, the American President assassinated four years ago, who was the older brother of Mr. Robert Kennedy, and of Mr. Martin Luther King, the civil rights leader felled by a sniper's shots two months ago.

He said the world failed to see what part the Kennedy family, now left with the youngest son, Mr. Edward Kennedy, would play in American life.

Meanwhile, the British High Commissioner has cancelled a reception in honour of the Queen's Birthday following the announcement by President Kaunda that today would be a national day of mourning for the late Senator Kennedy.

# News Release

UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE

P.O. BOX 2053

CENTRAL ARCADE, CAIRO ROAD, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

TEL. 73002



LUSAKA, JUNE 10 --- The following statement was issued June 7 by American Ambassador Robert C. Good in response to a request from the "Times of Zambia" for his reaction to published comments on Senator Kennedy's assassination.

"The brutal assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy has horrified the world, and America above all. As an American I am aghast at a hideous act that again has caused my nation to suffer an irreplaceable loss. In the face of this outrage, which has blighted the United States, Americans cannot be other than deeply contrite. But we also have a right to ask our friends to be fair.

It is true that there is an ominous rising tide of violence in America. But let us be honest enough to admit that the trend toward violence is the more ominous because it is world-wide - not just in America. And let us be fair enough to acknowledge that the charged assassin was not even an American - but a foreigner, evidently agitated by an issue having nothing to do with American domestic problems at all.

We are accused of being reckless with the lives of our eminent men. It is tragically true that greater controls and protection must be devised. Yet the other face of this weakness is a profound strength which Americans rightly cherish. Our political competition is open. Our candidates take vigorous and forthright stands on controversial issues. They give themselves to the public, as Kennedy did, without stint. No other great power has ever conducted its political debates with more candor and openness and complete access to the public.

Kennedy was not killed by a conspiracy of "those in power" who today stand shattered at the loss of this great humanitarian and leader. He was killed by the irrational and senseless hate and violence which know no boundary and are the common enemy of us all.'

ORIGIN/ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

**AIRGRAM**6-2 US/KENNEDY,  
ROBERT F.  
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RM/R REP AF

ARA EUR FE

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A-652

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECEIVED

JUN 13 1 47 PM 1968

AIR MAIL BRANCH

DATE: June 12, 1968

FROM : Amembassy SANTIAGO

SUBJECT : PR Members Express Condolences Over Death of  
Senator Kennedy

REF :

Embtel 3969 reported that Radical Party (PR) leaders were a notable exception in the stream of visitors that found its way to the Embassy, Consulate and Residence to express condolences, consternation and sympathy over the death of Senator Kennedy. In the interim, however, several PR notables including Senators Humberto Aguirre Doolan and Raul Juliet as well as others have in fact either called personally at the Embassy or telephoned or telegraphed their regrets. This airgram is to correct the record.

KORRY

FORM  
4-62 DS-323

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☒ In☐ Out

Drafted by: POL:MESinn:je 6/10/68

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MESinn

Clearances: