

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/7/68

VINCENT THOMAS DI PIERRO, 1645 Beverly Glen Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, an employee of the Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, furnished the following signed statement:

"Los Angeles, Calif.  
June 7, 1968

"I, Vincent Thomas Di Pierro, born [redacted] and residing at 1635 South Beverly Glen Blvd. Los Angeles Calif. home phone number 279-1411 furnished the following voluntary statement to William A. Bailey who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Bailey has advised me that I may be required to testify in Federal Court regarding this statement.

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"I am employed as a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel and although I was not working in that capacity at the hotel on June 5 1968, I was present at the hotel to observe Senator Robert Kennedy's victory speech. I arrived at the Ambassador Hotel after leaving my home at approx. 11:35 pm and went to the Ambassador Room which is below the Embassy Room. I then left the Ambassador Room and went upstairs to the kitchen via back stairs to avoid hotel security guards. I arrived in the kitchen and then went to the pantry area. My reason for doing this was to shake hands with Senator Kennedy. Shortly after this Senator Kennedy entered this room and then exited to the Embassy Room. As he went out the door to the Embassy Room Senator Kennedy shook hands with me and then went out into the Embassy Room. As I entered in this small room I was challenged by a hotel security guard but Martin Patrusky, a hotel employee, told him I worked for the hotel.

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by SA WILLIAM A. BAILEY and  
SA ROBERT F. PICKARD/mmc Date dictated 6/7/68

"I remained by the door leading to the Embassy Room and shortly thereafter, Eddie Manasian, another hotel employee, told me that Senator Kennedy was finished his speech and that he was going to the Colonial Room for a press conference and that I was to make an aisle for him. Senator Kennedy, after his speech, then left the stage in the Embassy Room and went through a door at the rear of the stage. He then turned to his right, walked down a ramp and was then in the same room as I was. As Senator Kennedy walked through this room I began walking next (approx. 3 feet) to him. Senator KENNEDY walked through the swinging door on the left side and I went through the swinging door on the right side. At this time we were both (Senator Kennedy and I) in the kitchen.

"There were approx. 40-50 people were in this pantry room including hotel employees and spectators. I was walking next to Senator Kennedy while in the pantry area and at that time another unknown individual walked between myself and Senator Kennedy. At that time I was then walking approx. 5 feet away and slightly behind Senator Kennedy.

"I was stopped at the ice machine when Senator Kennedy stopped, shook hands with Martin Patrusky, turned and shook my hand as I was standing on the Senator's right, then turned to his left and went to shake hands with a busboy. Senator Kennedy then moved to his right and toward the heating cabinets to shake hands with a hotel cook and a female Caucasian standing next to the cook. At this time I stopped to observe Senator Kennedy as did the others in the room.

"Prior to this occurrence and the time that Senator Kennedy shook my hand I observed a white male and a white female standing on a tray holder at the opposite end of the ice machine which is approx. 12 - 15 feet away. This white male turned toward the white female

"and appeared to converse with her very briefly. He then dismounted from the tray holder went into the crowd and I did not observe him until shortly thereafter when I then saw him standing at the heating cabinet behind Mr. Karl Uecker, another hotel employee. I did not see this white female again after this time.

"As Senator Kennedy shook the hand of the hotel cook he then turned to his right in the direction of the heating cabinet and at that time I saw the white male who was previously standing on the tray holder now standing behind Mr. Uecker at the heating cabinet. I saw this individual reach his right arm around Mr. Uecker and in his hand he had a revolver which was pointed directly at Senator Kennedy's head. The revolver was about 3 - 5 feet from Senator Kennedy's head. This individual then shot Senator Kennedy in the head. Senator Kennedy at this time threw his hands and arms up, reeled backwards and fell to the floor. During this period of time and after the first shot was fired I heard 3 more rapidly fired shots.

"At this time the individual standing next to me on my left fell into my arms and I saw that he had been shot in the forehead. I eased this person to the floor, then went to the aid of Senator Kennedy who was on the floor and being helped by the bus boy. Senator Kennedy was dazed and said "Is everybody alright?" Senator Kennedy said "I'm alright" then mumbled something else.

"I then observed the individual who shot Senator Kennedy being subdued by Rafer Johnson, Karl Uecker and Roosevelt Grier. I saw someone hand Senator Kennedy a rosary and was then asked

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to leave by Mr. Unruh who is a State Senator.

"The same white male that I saw standing on the tray holder is the same person who stood behind Mr. Uecker and shot Senator Kennedy and was later taken away by Los Angeles Police Officers after being captured by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Grier and Mr. Uecker.

"I have read the foregoing statement, consisting of this page and four (4) additional pages and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"Vincent Di Pierro

"Witnessed:

William A. Bailey, SA, FBI, Los Angeles,  
Calif. 6/7/68

Robert F. Pickard, Special Agent, FBI, Los  
Angeles, 6/7/68"

In addition to the above signed statement, DI PIERRO furnished the following information:

He stated that both of the individuals described in the signed statement, who were standing on the tray holder, one of whom was the gunman who shot Senator KENNEDY were not seen by him in the hotel at any time prior to the above described incident. He stated the gunman was dressed in what appeared to be a powder blue sport coat and white shirt and wearing what appeared to be blue pants with a small white check in them. He stated that the white female standing on the tray holder with the gunman would be described as follows:

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White, female, 5'4" - 5'6", 21 to 25 years of age, dark brown hair, shapely figure wearing a white dress, described as form fitting, with a scoop neck and ruffled collar, and the dress appeared to have black or dark violet polka dots. He stated that he thought he might recognize her again if he saw her, but did not have the opportunity to observe her after the shooting occurred.

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Date 6/7/68

JUAN ANTONIO ROMERO, 475 South Mc Donald Street, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, where he is employed as a busboy.

He furnished the following information, including the signed statement set out below:

"Los Angeles, California  
June 6, 1968

"I, JUAN ANTONIO ROMERO, hereby furnish the following voluntary statement to ROBERT F. PICKARD and WILLIAM A. BAILEY, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that I could be required to testify in court regarding this matter.

"I was born [redacted] at Masatan, Mexico. I entered the United States approximately 1962. I reside with my stepfather, FLAVIANO ROMERO, and my mother, ANTONIA ROMERO, at 475 Mc Donald Street, Los Angeles, California. I am in grade A-11 at Roosevelt High School, Los Angeles, California. I am employed as a room service busboy at the Ambassador Hotel and have been so employed for approximately 2½ years

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"On June 4, 1968, I arrived at the hotel at approximately 3:30 p.m. and was assigned to room service as a busboy. I assisted the waiters with the deliveries to the various rooms. These duties took me to the kitchen on several occasions. There were eight or ten waiters assigned to room service and two busboys including myself. Because there were so many waiters assigned I had freedom to move around.

"At approximately midnight I was in the Embassy Room with JOSE CARDENAS and NICOLAS VALENZUELA. I

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by WILLIAM A. BAILEY (RFP:jmk) Date dictated 6/7/68

"observed Senator KENNEDY completing his talk to the people in the Embassy Room and noticed him shaking hands with the people.

"I knew he was about to leave the Embassy Room and that he would pass through the hallway near the kitchen. My companions and I rushed over to the hallway to await Mr. KENNEDY so that we could shake his hand. I had shaken hands with Senator KENNEDY on two previous occasions.

"I took a position in the hallway just in front of the opening that leads to the kitchen. There were approximately 15 to 20 people in the hallway.

"Senator KENNEDY came through the door accompanied by approximately five men. He seemed to recognize me. I was smiling and Senator KENNEDY was smiling. He held out his hand and I shook it. Senator KENNEDY kept walking for approximately one or two steps.

"I continued to observe him and I noticed a man who was to my left and who was smiling and who appeared to be reaching over someone in an effort to shake Senator KENNEDY's hand.

"At about the same time I heard gunfire and I noticed that this individual was holding a gun in his hand, which hand not recalled, and that the gun was approximately one yard from Senator KENNEDY's head.

"I observed Senator KENNEDY placing his hands to his face and he staggered backwards a few steps and slumped to the floor.

"I immediately turned my attention completely to Senator KENNEDY and I ignored the gunman. I knelt on the floor at Senator KENNEDY's left side and I placed my right hand behind his head and slightly lifted his head. At this time I felt blood in my right hand.

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"I said, "Come on Mr. KENNEDY you can make it." His lips moved and he seemed to say, "Is everybody all right?" I heard someone say, "Throw that gum away Mr. KENNEDY," and I noticed he was chewing gum. I started to reach for the gum but did not as I did not want to put my fingers in his mouth. His right eye was wide open and his left eye was opening and closing.

"A white man, age not known, handed me a rosary and said, "Keep this Mr. KENNEDY." This man said something else which I could not understand. I placed the rosary around Senator KENNEDY's thumb and folded it in his left hand. He moved the hand with the rosary up to his chest.

"I looked up and I noticed that several people were taking pictures of Senator KENNEDY with cameras and TV cameras. I shouted for a doctor and a tall white man, approximately 30 - 35 years old, approached Senator KENNEDY, took off his coat and folded it and placed the coat under Senator KENNEDY's head.

"I got up from the floor and I noticed another man who was on the floor and who had blood on his forehead. This individual was very still.

"At about the time I got up, Mrs. KENNEDY came rushing up and pushed me out of the way

"I went to see if the gunman was in custody. I saw a man who was being held down on the heating table by at least four men. I noticed that ROOSEVELT GRIER was one of the men and he was holding part of the man. GRIER had the gun away from the man at the time. I saw RAFAEL JOHNSON take the gun from GRIER. CARL, one of the headwaiters, was holding the man's head and a small Japanese cook was holding down the man's right arm.



"The man I observed holding the gun and shooting Senator KENNEDY is the same individual I later observed being held by two Los Angeles Police Officers as they were taking him from the hotel.

"I do not recall ever having seen the individual who did the shooting prior to the shooting of Senator KENNEDY.

"I have read this statement of this page and four other pages. It is true and correct.

"/s/ JUAN ANTONIO ROMERO

"Witnesses:

"/s/ ROBERT F. PICKARD, Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, 6/6/68.

"/s/ WILLIAM A. BAILEY, SA, FBI, Los Angeles, California, 6/6/68."

ROMERO stated that he did not know how many shots were fired but that there were more than one. He said that there may have been some pause between shots, but he could not estimate the time of the pause. He did not notice any prolonged pause between any of the shots.

While he was assisting Senator KENNEDY, he heard someone say, "Get the gun, get the gun" several times, and he also heard people scuffling. He did not pay any attention to the individuals who were scuffling as he was concentrating his attention on Senator KENNEDY.

He did not notice the other individuals who were wounded except for the man who was lying on the floor with the blood on his forehead.

Approximately two days before the shooting occurred, date and time not recalled, he was working at the hotel when he was approached by two white males. He recalls that one of the white males was very stout, approximately six feet tall, and approximately 45 years old. He does not recall any of the description of the other individual. The stout one talked to him and asked him where he could get a hotel jacket similar to the one that ROMERO was wearing. He told ROMERO that they were police officers, but ROMERO did not ask for or see any identification.

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ROMERO reluctantly took these individuals down to the supply room area, but when they arrived there, the supply room was closed.

Both of these individuals were wearing a KENNEDY sign which was secured with a chain around their necks.

He has not seen these individuals since the above occasion and had not ever seen them before. They did not say why they wanted the jackets.

ROMERO stated that photographs of the individual he has seen in the newspapers and on television are the same individual be observed shooting Senator KENNEDY.

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Date 6/7/68

MARTIN PATRUSKY was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, where he is employed as a waiter.

"I, Martin Patrusky, furnish the following voluntary statement to Charles I. Carter, who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He has advised me that this statement may be used as evidence in a court of law.

P11 "I was born in the Bronx, New York on  P11  
 and spent most of my life in the New York area and up-state New York with the exception of two years that I served in the U.S. Army. In September 1966 I left New York and came to Los Angeles where I secured employment as a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel.

"I have been a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel from that time to the present.

"I work various hours at the Hotel Ambassador as a waiter depending upon the type of function that is being presented.

"On June 4, 1968 I was assigned to the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel as a waiter to serve drinks at a political reception for Senator Robert Kennedy. I reported for roll call at 5:00 p.m. and during the evening served drinks in the Embassy Room and several other rooms.

"The Embassy Room has a stage which is just west of the kitchen area and from the rear of the stage is a corridor which runs east into the kitchen area and a large serving room. At about midnite, the night of June 4, 1968, Senator Kennedy was brought down on a freight elevator and he

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"proceeded through the kitchen area and the serving room to the rear of the stage of the Embassy Room and entered the stage.

"I was in the kitchen serving area at the time and saw him as he went to the Embassy Room stage.

"I stayed in the kitchen serving area watching the speech of Senator Kennedy on a TV monitor.

"In about 15 or 20 minutes Senator Kennedy and a group of people came through the door from the Embassy Room to the kitchen serving area. Karl Ucker, Assistant Maitre D' Hotel had Senator Kennedys left sleeve in his hand and Ucker was attempting to lead Senator Kennedy through the crowd.

"I was standing in the serving area near a small silver table and as Senator Kennedy approached me I said to Senator Kennedy, 'Congratulations, Mr. Kennedy'. Senator Kennedy shook my hand and said 'Thank you'. Senator Kennedy then turned to his right and shook hands with Vincent Di Pierro, a fellow waiter. Senator Kennedy then turned to his left and shook hands with a chef and a bus-boy, Juan Romero.

"After Senator Kennedy shook hands with Juan Romero I noticed a man pushing his way toward Senator Kennedy and Karl Ucker. I thought this man was going to shake hands with Senator Kennedy. He pushed himself around to the right of Ucker. This man leaned around the left side of Uckers body and extended his hand toward Senator Kennedy. I do not know if this man extended his left or right hand. I immediately heard a sound like that of a firecracker. A second later I heard a series of sounds like fire crackers.

"Karl Ucker swung about and grabbed this individual by the neck and I then heard more sounds like fire crackers.

"I saw Senator Kennedy falling backwards. I looked across the serving room and saw a man falling back against Vincent Di Pierro and blood appeared on the eye glasses of Di Pierro. I also saw a man standing next to Senator Kennedy grab his stomach and fall backward.

"I saw a group of men grabbing a man who was lying face down on the steam table in the serving room. The muzzle of a gun was extending beyond the group and the gun was being waved around before some one grabbed it from the man.

"I then saw Senator Kennedy lying on the floor and a pool of blood was forming under his head. I was then pushed back by the crowd into the cooks eating area. I assisted Mr. Angelo, the Maitre D' to close off the kitchen area part with wooden benches.

"While Senator Kennedy was speaking in the Embassy Room I was in the serving area and at that time there were about twenty persons in the serving area. About half of these persons were hotel employees and about half were outsiders. As I have mentioned the serving room is just east of the Embassy Room stage.

"While Senator Kennedy was speaking I noticed a man standing on a rack full of trays in the serving area. This tray rack has wheels and is raised about six inches off the floor.

"This man was standing on the tray holding on to it to maintain his position on the rack as it was full of trays. This man was looking from the service area through the door to the back of the

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"stage where Kennedy was speaking. I got a good look at this man. He was the same man who later approached Senator Kennedy with outstretched hand at the time I heard the sounds like fire crackers.

"This is also the same man with whom various persons struggled after Senator Kennedy was shot.

"I would describe this man as age twenty five to twenty nine years. He was five foot four inches to five foot six inches and weighed about one hundred twenty to one hundred thirty pounds. He had black curly hair and appeared to be Cuban or Latin-American. He had an olive skin.

"He was wearing a blue jacket and possibly blue or black pants. He was also wearing sneakers. I would recognize this man if I saw him again.

"I have read this statement which consists of this page and six other pages. it is true and correct.

"S/ Martin Patrusky

"Witness:

S/ Charles I. Carter FBI Los Angeles 6/7/68  
S/ Robert F. Pickard, Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, 5/7/68."

Mr. PATRUSKY stated that the man he saw with the gun approaching KENNEDY and after the shooting is the same individual whose photograph he has seen in the newspaper and television identified as SIRHAN SIRHAN.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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6/7/68

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. STANLEY KAWALEC, Security Officer, Ambassador Hotel, 3400 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California, advised that he was assigned as a guard at the hotel the night of June 4, 1968. KAWALEC advised that his station was in a hallway which is located directly behind a small anteroom which, in turn, is located directly behind the stage in the Embassy Room. It was on this stage that Senator KENNEDY was making his victory speech. The stage was separated from the anteroom by a closed curtain. The anteroom was occupied by musicians who had been playing intermittently during the evening and who assumed that location during Senator KENNEDY's speech.

Mr. KAWALEC stated that his main function was to keep the crowd which had gathered in the hallway out of the anteroom and in turn away from the curtain and stage area. KAWALEC stated that the hallway was very crowded but he observed no unusual activity in his area except that on one occasion, one of the band members in the anteroom came to him during the speech and claimed three "outsiders" were in the anteroom with him. KAWALEC advised that he ordered the three men out of the room and that they joined the main crowd in the hallway. KAWALEC was definite in saying that none of these men resembled the suspect, SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN.

KAWALEC advised that as Senator KENNEDY was completing his speech, he was ordered by the Chief Security Officer, Mr. WILLIAM GARDNER, to vacate the spot which he had directly behind the stage and assume a position in the Embassy kitchen area. The purpose of this station, according to KAWALEC, was to control the crowd and make a passageway for Senator KENNEDY from a side door of the Embassy Room through the Embassy kitchen to the Colonial Room where the Senator was to have a press conference. KAWALEC stated that when the Senator reached the kitchen, KAWALEC was standing at the end of a steam table, facing the Senator pushing the crowd behind him when he heard four distinct shots from a

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SA TIMOTHY L. DONOVAN/TJD/asi Date dictated 6/7/68

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.22 caliber gun, which he sensed passed him to his right. KAWALEC stated immediate confusion ensued and that he did not see the Senator hit nor fall, concentrating on the control of the crowd at that time. KAWALEC advised that the next action he observed was ROOSEVELT GRIER wrestling with an individual on the steam table. Having determined that Senator KENNEDY had been shot and had fallen to the floor, KAWALEC, together with two uniformed Los Angeles Fire Department firemen, endeavored to keep the crowd back from the Senator, allowing him air until assistance had arrived. KAWALEC continued this activity until the officers from the Central Receiving Hospital arrived with a stretcher and eventually placed the stretcher on a freight elevator leading to the ground level. KAWALEC stated that he rode the freight elevator with the Receiving Hospital officers and one of the guards, with perhaps two members of the KENNEDY staff. On reaching the ground level, they remained in the freight elevator until the ambulance arrived in the area. KAWALEC assisted in controlling the crowd near the ambulance while the stretcher was being placed therein.

KAWALEC was questioned as to whether or not he recalled having seen SIRHAN SIRHAN in the area of the kitchen prior to the Senator entering it, to which he answered that he did not have a distinct recollection but, having seen photographs of him on television and in the press, believes that he recalls seeing an individual with a hairdo similar to SIRHAN's in the large crowd which had been behind the stage and in the kitchen area.

Mr. KAWALEC was questioned as to whether or not he had seen a girl in a polka dot dress in this area and stated that there had been many girls in the crowd but he recalls no one in a polka dot dress.

Mr. KAWALEC was questioned as to how he was able to describe the caliber of the gun which had fired the four shots he heard and he stated that he has a .22 caliber gun of his own and that the resonance of the shots sounded exactly like the shots he had fired from his own weapon.



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KAWALEC advised that he resided in Apartment 107 at 502 South Westlake and would be available for interview at any time in the event that he could be of further assistance.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/8/68

DAVID MARK ESQUITH, 6321 Lindenhurst Avenue, was interviewed at his residence, at which time he furnished the following signed statement:

"June 7, 1968  
Los Angeles, California

"I, David Mark Esquith, make the following free and voluntary statement to Richard Doucette and David Pender, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

"I was born on [ ] and I now reside at 6321 Lindenhurst Avenue, Los Angeles, California. I was a volunteer worker for Robert Kennedy's presidential campaign, and I was present at the Ambassador Hotel at the time Kennedy was shot around 12:20 a.m. on June 5, 1968. For the better part of the evening I was close to the podium in the Embassy Room, helping keep people from going through the door that was close to the podium and which led to the room behind the podium. At no time during the evening did I see the man who has been identified as Sirhan Sirhan.

P11

"I stayed in the area of the podium while Robert Kennedy made his victory speech. At that time I did not know which way he planned to exit after his speech, nor did anyone else that I know of. About 5 minutes before Kennedy ended his speech, I was told that Kennedy was going to exit through the kitchen. I am not sure who the person was that told me that, but it may have been Jim Lowe, another campaign worker.

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SA DAVID R. PENDER/mmc Date dictated 6/8/68

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"When Kennedy left the podium I was at the corner of it, right in front of the Kennedy girls. Irwin Stroll left right behind Kennedy, and then some of the press and part of Kennedy's group followed them. To the best of my recollection, I was next after that. At about the time I reached the door to the serving kitchen I heard some noises which I thought to be helium balloons popping or flashbulbs. There were about 5 such noises. Stroll came to me and said he had been shot, and I helped him back into the Embassy Room. Soon after that I left in a cab with Stroll for the hospital.

"About 5 minutes before Kennedy went to the podium, I walked through the serving kitchen and it was empty. I may have glanced into the kitchen at that time, but if so I did not take particular note of the people I saw in the kitchen. I think I would have noticed anyone in the kitchen who didn't have white clothes on.

"I have read the above two (2) page statement and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ David M. Esquith

"Witness:

Richard P. Doucette, SA, FBI, Los Angeles,  
Calif. 6/7/68

David R. Pender, SA, FBI, Los Angeles,  
Calif. 6/7/68"

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In addition to the above information, ESQUITH advised that the following people were in the area of the podium at the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel, at the approximate time that Senator KENNEDY was shot:

BILL COX

VICKY CUCCIA (claims she saw assailant at KENNEDY Headquarters on June 3, 1968.)

ANN FERGUSON

Mrs. TIFFANY JONAS

RICHARD ROSEN

AL ROTHSTEIN

ESQUITH could not furnish the addresses of these individuals but said they were all KENNEDY campaigners, who worked out of KENNEDY Headquarters on Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, California.

ESQUITH further advised while working at KENNEDY Headquarters he had met a man whose first name was DAVID, last name unknown, who claimed to be an exercise boy at the race track. ESQUITH suggested that in view of the assailant's previous employment as a exercise boy, it might be helpful to contact this man to determine if he was familiar with SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN. ESQUITH furnished the following description of the man named DAVID, last name unknown:

Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	23 - 24
Hair	Long dark brown hair with long sideburns.
Height	5'1"
Weight	135 pounds

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ESQUITH suggested that JUNE ISAACSON, a supervisor at KENNEDY Headquarters, would have additional information as to who DAVID was and where he might be contacted.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

WILLIAM P. MC SHERRY, television news director, Western Division, American Broadcasting Company (ABC), 4151 Prospect Street, furnished the following information.

MC SHERRY made available the video tape of the FRANK REYNOLDS newscast which was aired in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 5, 1968, on Channel 7, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

This film was viewed on June 7, 1968, at the above address. This film contains scenes of Senator KENNEDY passing through the kitchen en route to the Embassy Room to make a speech and also his return from the Embassy Room into the kitchen.

The above film was made available for exhibition to witnesses, also for lifting a still photograph of any person or persons identified from said film.

This video tape is not to be used without the issuance of a subpoena duces tecum. If it should be needed, this subpoena duces tecum should be directed to the Operations Officer, ABC.

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SA LESLIE F. WARREN and  
by SA LLOYD O. BOGSTAD/LOB/alm Date dictated 6/7/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. EUGENE COFFEE, Soundman, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He resides at 18643 Kinzie, Northridge, California, telephone [REDACTED], and is employed by NBC, Los Angeles, as a soundman. He was assigned the NBC crew which covered and filmed the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on the evening of June 4, 1968 and the morning of June 5, 1968.

Mr. COFFEE said that he and the other members of the NBC crew did not observe the actual shooting of Senator KENNEDY. He noted that the Senator had departed the speakers' platform and had departed the room via a doorway behind the platform. It was not anticipated that the Senator would exit the room in this manner and NBC had not made preparations to follow him through this exit. It was noted almost immediately that something was taking place behind the doorway and the camera crew followed and noted that KENNEDY was on the floor of the corridor. The suspect was not observed by COFFEE, and he could furnish no additional pertinent information.

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by SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/bje Date dictated 6/6/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. CHRISTOPHER MICHON, Coordinator, NBC News, 3000 Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He resides at 10855 Whipple Street, North Hollywood, California, telephone [REDACTED], and is employed by NBC News, Los Angeles, as a Coordinator. He was assigned to coordinate the activities of the NBC News coverage of the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY which took place at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on the evening of June 4, 1968 and the morning of June 5, 1968.

Mr. MICHON said that neither he nor the other NBC employees assigned this activity actually observed the shooting of Senator KENNEDY. He explained that NBC personnel were not set up to cover the doorway through which the Senator exited and did not reach him until after the shooting had taken place. He and other NBC personnel concentrated on the Senator and did not observe the suspect.

Mr. MICHON said he could furnish no additional pertinent information in connection with this matter.

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by SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/bje Date dictated 6/6/68

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. GEORGE SOZIO, Cameraman, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He was assigned as cameraman on the NBC television and news coverage of the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, on the evening of June 4, 1968. Mr. SOZIO said he was stationed in a room next door to the room in which Senator KENNEDY spoke and observed none of the activity. He did not observe the shooting, did not observe the suspect, and could furnish no information pertinent to this inquiry.

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6/6/68                      Burbank, California                      Los Angeles 56-156  
On \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ File # \_\_\_\_\_  
SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/rlz    6/6/68  
by \_\_\_\_\_ Date dictated \_\_\_\_\_

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/6/68

ROBERT RAY BRESHEARS, 5709 Ewing Canyon, La Canada, California, was interviewed at his place of employment, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 4800 Oak Grove Drive, Pasadena, California, and furnished the following information:

His wife, CAROL, has been a volunteer campaign worker for the KENNEDY organization. He was with CAROL at the Ambassador Hotel on the evening of June 4, 1968, for the election party. He was in the Embassy Room of the hotel, standing behind the stage, late in the evening watching a television monitor as Senator KENNEDY was speaking. Toward the end of the talk he walked to a position against the west wall about ten to twelve feet from the double doors leading to the kitchen area. When the speech had ended, a large group of people, including JESSE UNRUH and presumably Senator KENNEDY, came through the drapes in back of the stage and walked past him. He did not see Senator KENNEDY but just as the group passed into the kitchen area through the double doors, he heard four shots, the first shot sounding like a balloon popping. After the second and third shots, he was certain that the noise was gun shots, possibly from a small barrel gun. The shots were in rapid succession and sounded like they came from the same weapon. He did not attempt to enter the kitchen area where the noise came from, but shortly thereafter a news man came out of the area and gave a brief account of what had happened.

People milled about the area and a short while later they were all ushered, including himself, down the hall to the downstairs ballroom. He stated he ~~did not~~ see SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN and has no knowledge of this individual. He recalled that shortly before the KENNEDY party entered the double doors leading to the kitchen area, several news and television people were in the kitchen area working with cables and other television equipment. He does not know the motive for the shooting.

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On 6/7/68 at Pasadena, California File # LA 56-156  
by SA PHILLIP B. DEILY/kaf Date dictated 6/7/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

WILLIE (no middle initial) FRANKLIN, Maintenance Man, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, advised that he resides at the Hotel Ohio, 1104 $\frac{1}{2}$  West Seventh Street, Los Angeles, California.

FRANKLIN advised that he was on duty at the Ambassador Hotel on the morning of June 5, 1968. At approximately 12:20 a.m. that date, he was at the guard post at the entrance by the employees time clock, when he saw a large number of people running around in a frantic manner. He heard some of these people say, "A man is shot". Also, he heard some say, "KENNEDY's shot". FRANKLIN advised that this was the first he knew of the shooting of Senator KENNEDY, and saw nothing concerning the actual shooting, and to his knowledge, he had not seen the individual who allegedly shot Senator KENNEDY.

FRANKLIN furnished the following descriptive data concerning himself:

Sex	Male
Race	Negro
Birth Data	<input type="text"/> Houma, Louisiana
Height	5'6"
Weight	136 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark brown
Build	Slight
Marital Status	Single
Social Security Number	<input type="text"/>

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On 6/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA JOHN H. BORGMAN/rlz Date dictated 6/8/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/6/68

ACQUELINE SULLIVAN was contacted at 4630 West Santa Barbara, Apartment Number 34, advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and that the interview was concerning the shooting of ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

SULLIVAN stated that at approximately 12:10 a.m., June 5, 1968, she and another "Kennedy girl" named CAROL BRESHEARS, left the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel where KENNEDY was speaking and went into an adjoining kitchen area, in order to stop getting pushed and shoved by the newsmen. SULLIVAN stated that since people had not been allowed out of the front door of the ballroom while they were waiting for KENNEDY to arrive, some people had used the adjoining hallway and kitchen as a means of getting drinks and as a means for getting to a restroom. SULLIVAN stated that she noted at that time that the kitchen doors were wide open because it was hot in the Embassy Room. SULLIVAN stated that the only persons she noticed in the hallway and kitchen were hotel employees in their white uniforms and some men dressed in suits and ladies with dresses who were grouped around a monitor in the hallway.

SULLIVAN stated that she was next to a refrigerator (on the left side of the hallway as one faced the kitchen) when KENNEDY passed by at approximately 12:15 a.m. and was proceeding to shake hands with the kitchen help who had lined up on the left side of the hallway to greet him. SULLIVAN stated that an unidentified man then asked her if KENNEDY had passed by yet. SULLIVAN then replied "yes" to the unidentified man and then pointed to where KENNEDY was standing. At that instant she heard sounds like "pop, pop, pop, pop" in a rapid succession and she saw KENNEDY and another man fall to the ground. SULLIVAN stated that she did not see who shot KENNEDY and that she did not see any gun that may have been used to shoot KENNEDY.

SULLIVAN stated that pandemonium broke loose and that her primary concern was for her safety because people were pushing and shoving. SULLIVAN stated that she did see an

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by SA GEORGE F. BENZ/sle      Date dictated 6/6/68

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unidentified male completely surrounded by some of the men of the KENNEDY entourage, but she has no idea as to his description or identity.

SULLIVAN stated that she had seen pictures of SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN on TV and in newspapers but that she could not recall seeing him at the hotel at any time prior to the shooting of KENNEDY and she could not recall seeing him at any of the prior KENNEDY rallies which she attended as a "Kennedy girl".

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/7/68

GEORGE GREEN, a KENNEDY campaigner, was contacted at 3801 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and that the interview was concerning the shooting of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

GREEN stated that he was in attendance when KENNEDY was speaking at 12:10 a.m. on June 5, 1968 at the Embassy Room, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California. GREEN stated that just as KENNEDY finished speaking, GREEN left the Embassy Room, went down stairs to a lower kitchen and was headed for the upper kitchen area adjoining the Embassy Room.

GREEN stated that just before he came through the upper kitchen area doorway he heard popping sounds which seemed to GREEN to be firecrackers. GREEN stated that the sound continued as he came through the doorway.

GREEN stated that once inside the kitchen door, he noticed a woman in her 20's with long blond free flowing hair in a polka dot dress and a light colored sweater and a man 5'11", thin build, black hair and in his 20's. GREEN stated that this man and woman were running with their backs toward him and they were attempting to get out of the kitchen area. GREEN stated that the reason he noticed them was that they were the only ones who seemed to be trying to get out of the kitchen area while everyone else seemed to be trying to get into the kitchen area.

GREEN stated that he then jumped up on top of a food preparation table to try to assist RAFAEL JOHNSON and ROOSEVELT GRIER who were subduing the male who had a gun in his hand. GREEN stated that after the male had been subdued, GREEN was still on the food preparation table and that he then saw KENNEDY lying on the floor and GREEN realized that KENNEDY had been shot.

GREEN stated that he had not actually seen the shooting of KENNEDY and that he had never seen SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN at any of the prior KENNEDY rallies that GREEN had attended.

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by SA GEORGE F. BENZ/nmb Date dictated 6/7/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

Miss SUSANNE LOCKE, 6545 South Victoria Street, Los Angeles, California, furnished the following information:

She was a volunteer worker for Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY during his campaign and was attending the election returns party in the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel on the evening of June 4, 1968. While Senator KENNEDY was speaking, she was stationed at a position near the rear of the stage on the right side as one faces the stage, with a friend, ACQUILINE SULLIVAN, who had hurt her foot. It was late in the evening and when Senator KENNEDY finished speaking, she and ACQUILINE had moved into the kitchen area where Senator KENNEDY was subsequently shot. She and ACQUILINE had stepped onto a shelf-like ledge about four feet off the floor on the west side of the kitchen area. Also present in this area at the time were about four or five white jacketed hotel employees. As Senator KENNEDY passed by with his party, he was surrounded by friends and newspapermen. She turned to ACQUILINE and commented about how happy Mr. KENNEDY looked. After the KENNEDY party had passed, she heard cracking noises which sounded like exploding fire-crackers. She immediately realized, however, that the sounds were gunshot sounds and they were in rapid succession, a total of about eight or ten shots. At this specific time, she had lost sight of Senator KENNEDY. The gun sounds appeared to come from her left and she immediately jumped to the floor. She does not recall seeing anyone with a gun; and people immediately began pushing into the kitchen area from the Embassy Room, apparently attracted by the noise and excitement. Her friend, ACQUILINE, was having difficulty trying to get to the floor and she attempted to grab hold of her.

LOCKE noticed several men lying on the floor, one with blood on his forehead--his eyes open and staring, but she did not recognize any of these individuals on the floor as Senator KENNEDY. Another individual in her immediate vicinity, a woman whom she did not know, had blood on her head and appeared to be stumbling backwards. She was attempting to get help from her friend ACQUILINE but had lost sight of her and her other thought was to attempt to reach the gunman who had done the

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by SA PHILLIP B. DEILY/cyn Date dictated 6/7/68

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shooting. Somehow, she got turned around as people were pushing in all directions and was headed back toward the Embassy Room. Someone was apparently trying to close the double doors leading to the Embassy Room, but she was successful in getting out of the kitchen area and into a room behind the stage. She sat down and someone gave her a cigarette.

She does not recall seeing Senator KENNEDY after the shooting but believes that she may have seen SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN at the hotel earlier in the evening; however, she is not sure of this. She recalls seeing a girl in the Embassy Room, just before Senator KENNEDY entered to speak, stationed near her immediate vicinity wearing a white shift with blue polka dots. She observed that the girl was not wearing a yellow press badge and thought that this to be very unusual since it was necessary to have such a badge to gain entry into the Embassy Room. She mentioned this to CAROL BRESHEARS who is in charge of the KENNEDY girls and Mrs. BRESHEARS pointed her out to a guard nearby. The girl was expressionless and seemed somewhat out of place where she was standing. She was a Caucasian in her early twenties, well proportioned, with long brown hair pulled back and tied behind her head. Her hair appeared to be dried out similar in appearance to hair of a girl who does a lot of swimming.

LOCKE is not acquainted with SIRHAN or his family and has no knowledge of any motive for shooting Senator KENNEDY. She realizes that many people were opposed to Senator KENNEDY as a presidential candidate, but does not consider this to be unusual.



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rhm,jr/bje

HERB CARTER, Los Angeles County Human Relations Supervisor, Room 1184, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple, Los Angeles, California, advised SAs ROBERT H. MORNEAU, Jr. and IRVIN B. WELLS, III, on June 6, 1968, that one of his field workers, DARNELL JOHNSON, had witnessed the shooting of Senator KENNEDY, and had seen a woman in a polka-dot dress at the scene. CARTER had JOHNSON come to his office for interview.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

DARNELL JOHNSON, employee, Los Angeles County Human Relations, Room 1184, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple, telephone [REDACTED], [REDACTED], advised he lives at 9225 Holmes, Los Angeles, California, telephone [REDACTED], and works 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. He was interviewed at his office. Also present was Sergeant R. JOHNSON, Rampart Detective Division, Los Angeles Police Department.

DARNELL JOHNSON advised he was at the Ambassador Hotel the night that Senator KENNEDY was shot. He saw KENNEDY complete his speech just before the shooting and start off the back side of the platform where the speech was made. JOHNSON walked around the platform to the narrow space in the serving area where the shooting took place and got there before KENNEDY. Already present in this area were five people described as follows:

- (1) A white female wearing a white dress, with 25¢ size black pokadots; the dress was fitted, was not miniskirt but was above the knees; was not a loose shift but was fashionable for the time. She was 23-25 years of age, tall, 5'8", medium build, well built, 145 pounds, long light brown hair, carrying an all white sweater or jacket, pretty full face, stubby heel shoes in the fashion of the time.
- (2) A person whom JOHNSON identified as SIRHAN SIRHAN from photographs shown at the time of this interview and further as the person he saw who was seized immediately following the shooting by persons in the area.
- (3) A white male, wearing a light blue washable sport coat, white shirt and tie, 6'1", tall, slim, 30-35 years, blond hair parted far over on the left side with the right side long and hanging towards his face like a surfer haircut, outdoor type.

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by SA IRVIN B. WELLS, III and  
SA ROBERT H. MORNEAU, JR./rhm,jr/bje Date dictated 6/7/68

- (4) A white male, 5'10" tall, 165 pounds, trim, 24-25 years of age, brown, long hair but not hippie, dark coat, darker trousers, white shirt and tie.
- (5) A white male, 6'1", tall, slim, darkish brown hair, shiny brown sport coat made of hopsacking, white shirt and tie.

These people were standing in a group between JOHNSON and the door through which KENNEDY came to make his way to the next ballroom for another speech. This is the same area where he was shot.

JOHNSON states these people were standing in proximity to each other; he says they were "together" but he states he has no knowledge they knew each other, were talking to each other or were members of the same party.

As the KENNEDY party entered this area, balloons were being broken, some small firecrackers were being set off and JOHNSON was not aware of any difficulties or any trouble until he saw a woman slump against the wall and say, "Oh my God, Oh my God." JOHNSON still did not realize what had happened but saw a furor around the KENNEDY party. At this time a photographer with lights on his camera took a picture of someone on the floor, who turned out to be KENNEDY. This photographer then put the lights up to take a picture of the persons standing and when his lights showed on SIRHAN, the photographer said, "Grab him, that dude has a gun." This was the first time that JOHNSON realized there had been a shooting.

Just at this point, the woman in the polka dot dress and the three men in her area left and walked toward the ballroom from where the KENNEDY party had just come. Several people seized SIRHAN and began beating on him. The crowd pressed around him and hit at him whenever they could. While SIRHAN was being held and before police arrived, the girl in the polka dot dress and the one man in the light blue washable sport coat came back and looked, then both left again. JOHNSON followed the persons who took SIRHAN out of this area and when

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he got back to the ballroom, he saw the girl in the polka dot dress talking to a white female Mexican near the podium where KENNEDY had just been speaking. This white female Mexican was 19 to 20 years of age, plump, 5'2"-5'5", long black hair, full pleated dress, avocado color, part of the KENNEDY group; JOHNSON assumed she was a Youth Campaign Manager.

JOHNSON did not see any of the others again and did not see the girl in the polka dot dress again after seeing her on the podium.

JOHNSON was shown a photograph by Sergeant JOHNSON of a white female, CHERYL WESSELS, Los Angeles Police Department DR 68-521466, and could not positively identify her as the girl he saw in the polka dot dress, although he felt the profile looked similar. DARNELL JOHNSON then said he believed he could identify photographs of the girl in the polka dot dress and the man in the light blue sport coat.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/8/68

Mr. BILL HILL, Executive Producer, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised on June 5, 1968, that NBC had filmed and had broadcasted the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY which took place at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, on the evening of June 4, 1968. Mr. HILL said that no NBC personnel assigned to the coverage of this activity witnessed the actual shooting of Senator KENNEDY and no film of the actual shooting was made by NBC.

Mr. HILL said NBC personnel filmed the activities prior to the shooting, KENNEDY's speech, and KENNEDY's departure from the speaker's rostrum. After the shooting, the NBC personnel followed into the corridor behind the rostrum and filmed activity involved in the aftermath of the shooting.

Mr. HILL said NBC currently had only the original news film which was then being aired as part of NBC's continuing news coverage of the event. He said NBC would make a copy of the film for the FBI and would make it available on June 6, 1968.

On June 6, 1968, Mr. HILL made available a copy of the above-mentioned NBC film. Mr. HILL additionally identified NBC personnel who participated in making the news film as follows:

PIERS ANDERTON, News Commentator;  
JAMES P. WATT, JR., Cameraman;  
EUGENE COFFEE, Soundman;  
CHRISTOPHER MICHON, Coordinator.

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On 6/5/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

SAs RICHARD M. WOOLF, FRANK E. CHOVANEC  
by and RICHARD C. BURRIS/RMW/asi Date dictated 6/6/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. PIERS ANDERTON, News Commentator, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He resides at 2329 Wayne Avenue, Hollywood, California, and is employed by NBC, Los Angeles, California, as a news commentator. He was the news commentator assigned the NBC coverage of the California election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY which took place at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on the evening of June 4, 1968 and the morning of June 5, 1968.

Mr. ANDERTON said that neither he nor the other members of the NBC crew at the hotel observed the actual shooting. He commented that KENNEDY departed through a door behind the rostrum, and it was then observed that a commotion of some sort was taking place. He and the camera crew followed into the corridor behind the rostrum. By the time he and the crew had arrived, Senator KENNEDY had been shot and was on the floor of the corridor.

ANDERTON said he and the crew concentrated on KENNEDY and he did not notice or observe the individual suspected as having shot KENNEDY. ANDERTON said he noted nothing significant or unusual and could furnish no additional information pertinent to this inquiry.

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On 6/6/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 56-156  
by SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/bje Date dictated 6/6/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 6/8/68

Mr. JAMES P. WATT, JR., Cameraman, NBC News, 3000 West Alameda Avenue, Burbank, California, advised as follows:

He resides at 15822 Rinaldi, Granada Hills, California, telephone [REDACTED], and is employed as a cameraman by NBC News. He was the news cameraman who filmed the election activities of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, which took place at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, on the evening of June 4, 1968, and the morning of June 5, 1968.

Mr. WATT said that neither he nor the other personnel assigned the NBC News team were in a position to observe the actual shooting of Senator KENNEDY. WATT said that the camera crew anticipated that KENNEDY would depart the Embassy room via the same door through which he entered, and were setting up in anticipation of this departure. However, rather than using this door, the Senator departed the room by using a doorway directly behind the speaker's rostrum. Shortly after the Senator departed the doorway and was out of the view of NBC personnel, it was noted that some activity was taking place beyond the doorway. He and the other NBC personnel rushed into the area and observed that the Senator was on the floor of the corridor and was bleeding from the head. The crew and the camera concentrated on the Senator. WATT does not recall seeing the suspect who shot KENNEDY.

WATT said he could furnish no additional, pertinent information concerning the shooting.

On 6/6/68 at Burbank, California File # Los Angeles 56-156  
by SA RICHARD M. WOOLF/rlz Date dictated 6/6/68

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/8/68

On June 8, 1968, THOMAS PEREZ furnished the following information including this signed statement:

"I, Thomas Perez, make the free and voluntary statement to Bernard M. Connors who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"I live at 538 South Lorena, Los Angeles, home phone AN 9-4387 and am a Security Guard at the Ambassador Hotel 3400 Wilshire Blvd. LA. On the night of 6/4/68 I came to work at 5:50 PM and punched out about 2:48 AM 6/5/68. I was assigned to the Embassy room during Senator Kennedy's speech. My post was the first swinging door to the left of the stage as Senator Kennedy faced the guests in the Embassy room. It was my understanding that when the Senator finished his speech he was to come through the door I was on and turn left down the hallway behind the stage. As soon as the Senator finished his speech a superior of mine, whom I don't recall, told me to close my door and keep the people out. About a minute after the senator finished his speech I heard about seven shots all in a row, all in about three seconds. The crowd was starting to force there way through my door before the shots and I was busy keeping them back and did not see which way the Senator went after his speech nor did I see the shooting or the suspect.

"When I heard the shots I turned toward the swinging doors leading into the Pantry and saw a women bleeding from the head. She was still standing at these swinging doors and I helped her back into the Embassy room and a doctor, whom I don't know, asked me to get some ice, which I did. I did not go into the Pantry until about fifteen minutes later and everything was over with in there except the Los Angeles Police Officers were interviewing people in there.

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On 6/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156  
by SA BERNARD M. CONNORS and  
SA JOHN H. BORGMAN/BMC/cyn Date dictated 6/8/68



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"As I said above I didn't see the shooting as I was too busy keeping the crowd from coming through my post.

"I have readed the above and it is true to the bast of my knowledge

"S/ Thomas Perez

"Witness:

S/ Bernard M. Connors, Special Agent FBI Los Angeles  
S/ John H. Borgman, Special Agent FBI, La 6/8/68"

PEREZ advised that the woman whom he helped into the Embassy Room was named Mrs. ELIZABETH EVANS. He stated, after he got her ice, he went and found her shoes and purse and brought them to her.

He furnished the following information on himself:

Date of Birth	<input type="text"/>
Place of Birth	El Paso, Texas
Height	5'11"
Weight	165
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Brown
Social Security Number	<input type="text"/>

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He stated he has been a Security Guard at the Ambassador Hotel since November, 1967.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

Mr. UNO TIMANSON, Vice President, Banquet and Sales, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, was interviewed at the hotel and furnished the following information:

Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY arrived back at the Ambassador Hotel at approximately 8:00 p.m., on June 4, 1968, and went immediately to the Royal Suite. At approximately 11:45 p.m., he instructed EDDIE MANASIAN, one of the assistant maitre d's, to hold the north elevator so that Senator KENNEDY could go down to the Embassy Room to make his victory statement.

He was escorting the Senator to the elevator and when they were only two or three feet from the elevator, the Senator decided not to go through the crowds that were in the hallways but to use the service elevator.

They took the service elevator to the kitchen level and he, TIMANSON, led the way for the Senator into the Embassy Room.

The Embassy Room was completely crowded at the time and he, TIMANSON, was concerned that too many people might get up on the platform and cause it to collapse.

After the Senator had completed his victory speech in the Embassy Room, he was preparing to lead the Senator down to the Ambassador Room through the enclosed stairway. Just before the Senator's speech was completed, FRED DUTTON, one of the Senator's aides, asked TIMANSON if there were television sets in the Ambassador Room, and TIMANSON told him there were. It was then decided that the Senator would visit the Press Room to make a press release. TIMANSON escorted the Senator and his party through the hallway behind the Embassy Room and into the pantry area.

TIMANSON stated that he was approximately six feet ahead of the Senator when he heard what sounded like a fire cracker. He heard the sound three or four times in quick order and he thought it was some sort of celebration.

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Immediately, however, TIMANSON observed that Senator KENNEDY was down on the floor in front of the big ice machine located in the pantry. At this time, there were numerous screams and pandemonium broke out in the immediate area.

Mr. MURPHY, one of the hotel security guards, told TIMANSON that he had called an ambulance but TIMANSON wanted to make sure and he ran into the Colonial Room in an effort to contact the operator but was unsuccessful. He was assured by the people present that an ambulance had been called and was on the way. Mr. TIMANSON stated that from the time of the shots to this time when he was inquiring about an ambulance was just a matter of seconds.

He ran immediately to the kitchen steps and took the steps down to the Casino level and out to the back ramp to the outside of the hotel to await the arrival of the ambulance. The ambulance arrived in a very few minutes and he escorted the ambulance attendants to the area where Senator KENNEDY was lying.

Senator KENNEDY was taken by the ambulance attendants to the ambulance almost immediately. TIMANSON attempted to ride in the ambulance but was not allowed. He rode on the back of a motorcycle following the ambulance to the hospital.

Mr. TIMANSON advised that he did not see the actual shooting of Senator KENNEDY and he did not observe the individual holding the gun at the time of the shooting.

He did observe the individual who was being held down by several people following the shooting of Senator KENNEDY and has seen photographs in the newspapers and appearances on television of the individual accused of the crime. The individual he observed in the newspapers and on television is the same individual he observed being held down following the shooting of Senator KENNEDY.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 6/7/68

Mr. ANGELO DI PIERRO, 1635 South Beverly Glen Boulevard, Los Angeles, telephone Number [REDACTED], was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, where he is employed as the maitre d' hotel.

He furnished the following information, including the signed statement set out below:

"June 7, 1968  
Los Angeles, California

"I, Angelo Di Pierro, hereby furnish the following voluntary statement to Robert F. Pickard, who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised that I could be required to testify in court regarding this matter.

"I was born [REDACTED] Furci Province of Chieti, Italy. I have been in the United States since May 7, 1936. I received my naturalization papers in May of 1954. I am the Maitre D' Hotel at the Ambassador Hotel. I have had this position approximately two years. PII

"At approximately 12:10 am, 6/5/68, I was in the Embassy Room at the hotel. Senator Robert F. Kennedy was on the platform talking to the people in the room.

"Senator completed his talk a few minutes later. Just prior to the time he completed his talk, I moved out of the Embassy Room to the hallway at the rear of the room.

"The Senator was suppose to come through the door located immediately next to the platform and into the hallway were I was located.

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On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA ROBERT F. PICKARD/sro Date dictated 6/7/68

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"The Senator went out a door located immediately behind the platform, turned right and walked down the hallway to the pantry.

"As Senator Kennedy passed by me in the hallway he was being escorted by Mr. UNO TIMANSON, a vice president of the hotel, and two of my assistants, Karl UECKER and Edward MINASIAN. Mr. UNO TIMANSON was leading the way.

"As soon as Senator Kennedy passed, Mrs. Kennedy came out into the hallway where I was standing. She was being accompanied by Mr. Roosevelt Grier. Grier was behind Mrs. Kennedy and to her left. I took a similar position to her right. We followed behind the people following Senator Kennedy.

"Shortly after Senator Kennedy entered the pantry, while we were still in the hallway, two shots rang out. A few seconds later several shots rang out as in rapid fire.

"At this time we were at the doorway to the pantry. One door was opened (the left door) and a lady was partially blocking the door. I began to push the lady out of the way to allow Mrs. Kennedy to pass. The lady crumbled to the floor and I assumed she had been shot. I immediately pushed Mrs. Kennedy to the floor behind the closed door and I got down next to her. I did this because I thought there might be more gunfire. However, there was no more gunfire.

"I immediately got up and ran into the pantry and I noticed two men lying down on the floor and one of them was Senator Kennedy.

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"I ran into the kitchen to telephone for an ambulance. I was told the call had already been made.

"I returned to the shooting scene to control the people. Camerman were taking pictures.

"I noticed that a man was held down on the heating table in the pantry. I did not see this man's face as I was busy attempting to control the people.

"After a few minutes, approximately 8 minutes, Senator Kennedy and the other wounded were taken out of the hotel by ambulance attendants.

"I have seen newspaper photographs and TV shows showing the individual accused of shooting Senator Kennedy. I do not recall having seen this individual before.

"I have read this statement of this page and 3 other pages. It is true and correct.

"/s/ Angelo Di Pierro

"Witness:

"Robert F. Pickard, Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, 6/7/68"

Mr. DI PIERRO began work at approximately 10:00 a.m. on June 4, 1968.

The Embassy Room, Ambassador Room, Sunset Room, North Room, and Colonial Room (used as a Press Room) were set aside for Senator KENNEDY. The Venetian Room was set up for Mr. MAX RAFFERTY, and the Palm Court Room was set up for Mr. ALAN CRANSTON.

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DI PIERRO's duties require him to move throughout the hotel during the day.

The rooms assigned to Senator KENNEDY began filling up with people at approximately 6:00 p.m. At first the people were allowed in only if they had a badge for the particular candidate. About 7:00 p.m. word was received to allow anyone in that so desired. This was later revoked and only those with proper press credentials were allowed into the rooms. A security guard was stationed at the entrance to the Embassy Ballroom and later in the evening a security guard was stationed at the kitchen entrance. DI PIERRO could not recall the times that these guards took up their specific stations. There was also a security guard located inside the fire escape door on the level which houses the Ambassador Room. There was no security guard on the fire escape staircase that leads from the Ambassador Room level to the Embassy Room level. He believes that the fire escape door on the Embassy Room level was open the latter part of the evening of June 4, 1968.

Senator KENNEDY was supposed to leave the platform in the Embassy Room and go into the hallway behind the Embassy Room and down an enclosed stairway to the Ambassador Room level to speak to people in the Ambassador Room. Someone changed the plans and decided that Senator KENNEDY would proceed to the Press Room to make a press release.

This route would require him to pass through the pantry area of the hotel.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/7/68

ROSS-MATTHEW MILLER, JR., M.D., a surgeon with offices at 537 West Compton Boulevard, telephone number [REDACTED], residence at 1319 Atlantic Drive, Compton, California, telephone number [REDACTED], was interviewed at his office.

He advised that he is also a Compton City councilman and is president of the Compton Union High School Board and that he and his wife IRIS head up the Compton KENNEDY Headquarters, and he is a member of the Democratic delegation.

Doctor MILLER stated that on June 4, 1968, he arrived at the Ambassador Hotel between 9:00 and 9:30 p.m., accompanied by his wife. They visited with democratic delegate members and Mrs. CRANSTON and other persons during the evening, mostly on the floor level below the Embassy Room.

During the victory speech made by Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, he was with his wife and numerous other persons watching the speech on television in a small dining room located one floor below the Embassy Room. He stated that after the speech and almost simultaneously with the television announcement that someone had been shot, someone ran past the room he was in and shouted "KENNEDY has been shot". He stated that he then asked some persons just outside that dining room if they had been upstairs and what the situation was, but could learn nothing.

He then went upstairs to the Embassy Room level by the nearest stairway and attempted to go into the Press Room next to the Embassy Room. However, a security guard would not let him enter the Press Room. He stated that an unknown individual was permitted by the guard to

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On 6/7/68 at Compton, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA RICHARD BUCARO Date dictated 6/7/68

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enter the Press Room, and he pushed his way in with this individual.

He said the attention of people in the Press Room was directed to the doorway leading to a kitchen access hallway and at that time he saw uniformed policemen and men dressed in plain clothes who may or may not have been policemen, bringing a man forcefully out of this hallway into the Press Room and whom he now believes looks like the photographs he later saw of the suspect SIRHAN SIRHAN.

He stated that he then pushed his way through that doorway from the Press Room into the kitchen access hallway behind the Embassy Room, and there he saw Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY lying on the floor on his back being attended by some unidentified people.

He stated that he took Mr. KENNEDY's pulse, which he estimated was 130 beats per minute and did not consider this to be critical and by the fact he was being attended by someone, he left to attend to another man, PAUL SCHRADE, who was lying on the floor closer to the Press Room door and also checked his pulse. SCHRADE's pulse was good, and he then examined the wound high above the forehead in the hair line area at the center of the head and checked the back of the head to see if there was an exit wound and found none. He stated that the blood on Mr. SCHRADE's face and wound was clotting and bleeding had apparently stopped, so he directed his attention back to Mr. KENNEDY.

He stated that he asked the man who was attending Mr. KENNEDY if he was a physician and either that man or someone else attending KENNEDY affirmed he was a physician, and Doctor MILLER believing Mr. KENNEDY was as well attended as circumstances permitted, returned to Mr. SCHRADE.

He stated he does not know the identity of the physician who was then attending Mr. KENNEDY and does not believe he could identify him if he should meet him face to face because of the turmoil, excitement, and the fleeting seconds he was there.

He stated that a stretcher was brought in, upon which Mr. KENNEDY was placed and removed from the kitchen.

access hallway, and he went back to Mr. SCHRADE and then quickly looked at a young boy 18 or 19 years of age who had a non-critical wound in the thigh and also a grown man who was more critically wounded in the stomach, but not in danger of expiring immediately. He said he then went back to Mr. SCHRADE and helped put him into a stretcher, which had been brought in and accompanied him in the ambulance to Central Receiving Hospital, where upon arrival he directed an unknown doctor and nurses to the immediate attention of Mr. SCHRADE's wound.

Doctor MILLER said he then went to Mr. KENNEDY's room which was either adjoining Mr. SCHRADE's room or next to a service room which did adjoin Mr. SCHRADE's room and saw Senator KENNEDY being attended and noticed that Mrs. KENNEDY was also there holding her husband by the arm. He overheard hospital people discussing whether or not to remove Mrs. KENNEDY, but a nurse stated that she was not causing any disruption in his treatment and permitted her to remain.

He said Mr. KENNEDY was placed in a respirator and that he helped the other doctors administer Dextran intravenously this being a blood replacement to keep volume up until whole blood could be administered. Albumen was also being administered along with the Dextran fluid by insertion of a needle permitting the albumen to flow into the same tubing by which the Dextran was being administered. He stated that the albumen needle had come out of the Dextran tubing whereupon he cleaned this needle and replaced it into the Dextran tubing.

He stated that shortly thereafter he assisted in lifting Senator KENNEDY into a stretcher as he was being transferred to Good Samaritan Hospital and continued assisting until he was placed into an ambulance for this transfer.

He stated that he then returned to Mr. SCHRADE's room and saw that he was being well attended, whereupon he departed the hospital and upon coming out the front entrance he saw numerous news men and asked for a ride back to the Ambassador Hotel and was invited to ride with two unidentified men.