



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 448

PAGE 01 ADEN 01419 091140Z

51
ACTION NEA 15

INFO IO 13, EA 10, CAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, /104 W

R 091050Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1630

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADEN 1419

SUBJ: SOUTHERN YEMEN

1. WITH EXCEPTION FONMIN DHALAI'S EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY CONCERNING SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH WE HAVE RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL COMMENT OTHER THAN FROM OUR DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES.

2. ADEN RADIO HAS CARRIED COMMENTS PRINTED IN AL-AHRAM AND AL-ANWAR AND OTHER ARAB NEWSPAPERS CONDEMNING POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN GENERAL AND ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR KENNEDY, AND HAS NOTED EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY BY UNGA.

3. ADEN RADIO ALSO HAS CARRIED COMMENT BY HANOI RADIO CRITICIZING ASSASSINATION, BUT PLACING BLAME ON THOSE ELEMENTS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY WHICH BELIEVE IN KILLING FOR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES. ONLY LOCAL NEWSPAPER, "14 OCTOBER," HAS NOT APPEARED SINCE ASSASSINATION OWING LOCAL HOLIDAYS.

4. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY EMPLOYEES AND OTHER ARAB SOURCES ADEN PUBLIC HAS HELD KENNEDY FAMILY IN HIGH ESTEEM AND IN GENERAL WAS BOTH SHOCKED AND REVOLTED BY ASSASSINATION. WE UNDERSTAND OTHERS HOWEVER TEND TO LOOK UPON SIRHAN'S ACTION AS PROVOKED BY GENERAL AMERICAN SUPPORT OF ISRAEL. DAVIS

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ADEN 1419

6/9/68

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

CONFIDENTIAL 204

PAGE 01 BAMAKO 1865 081354Z

44

ACTION AF 15

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, AID 28, RSR 01,

/100 W

O 081315Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1506

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 1865

REF: BAMAKO'S USINFO 1860

1. L'ESSOR EDITORIAL OF JUNE 7 ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION (BAMAKO'S USINFO #1860), BRUTAL, BUT REGRETTABLY THE ANGER, IF NOT THE IDEOLOGICAL PITCH, FAIRLY ACCURATELY REFLECTS GENERAL MALIAN SENTIMENT.

2. AFTER PUBLICATION OF EDITORIAL I IMMEDIATELY WENT TO FOREIGN OFFICE WHERE I SAW ASSISTANT SECGEN AMADOU THIAM, HIGHEST OFFICIAL AVAILABLE. I EXPRESSED MY SHOCK AND DISAPPOINTMENT OVER EDITORIAL WHICH I STATED COULD ONLY INFLAME MALIAN EMOTIONS AND RISK CREATING ATTITUDE OF HOSTILITY OF MALIAN PEOPLE TOWARDS U.S. WHICH I WAS SURE WAS NOT IN SPIRIT OF CONCILIATION FOR WHICH SENATOR KENNEDY STOOD. I COULD NOT PERSONALLY BELIEVE THAT PARTY AND GOVERNMENT WISHED TO STIR UP HOSTILITY BETWEEN OUR TWO PEOPLES AND I ASKED THIAM TO INFORM THE LEADERSHIP OF MY DEMARCHE AND MY HOPE THAT GOM WOULD SEE FIT NOT TO REPEAT EDITORIAL ON RADIO MALI. NEVERTHELESS, EDITORIAL WAS CARRIED ON RADIO YESTERDAY.

3. DURING FAREWELL CALLS ON SEVERAL MINISTERS I REITERATED MY INDIGNATION AND CONCERN. I WAS CORDIALLY RECEIVED BUT MY COMMENTS ON EDITORIAL OBVIOUSLY MADE LITTLE IMPACT. IT CLEAR THAT ASSASSINATION OF THOSE AMERICAN LEADERS THEY IDENTIFY WITH A NEW SPIRIT OF EQUALITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN U.S. HAS MADE VERY DEEP IMPRESSION AND HAS SHATTERED IMAGE WHICH, BEGRUDGINGLY, THEY ACKNOWLEDGED OF U.S. AS A MORAL AND POSITIVE FORCE IN WORLD. AS

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Bamako 1865-
6-8-68

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PAGE 02 BAMAKO 01865 081354Z

ONE MINISTER EXPLAINED, THESE SITUATIONS EXIST ELSEWHERE BUT BUT WE EXPECT MUCH MORE FROM U.S. MORE EDUCATED LEADERSHIP READILY MAKES DISTINCTION BETWEEN U.S. GOVERNMENT, AND ITS EFFORTS TO CORRECT INJUSTICES, AND RACIST AND REACTIONALLY ELEMENTS AMONG AMERICAN POPE, WHICH THEY TEND IDENTIFY WITH KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

4. IN ADDITION GIVING VENT TO GENUINELY FELT INDIGNATION, EDITORIAL UNDOUBTEDLY SERVES SOME FUNCTION OF IDEOLOGICAL INDOCTRINATION IN SITUATION WHERE TO MANY MALIANS, IDIOLOGY SEEMS REMOTE ABSTRACT THING. AS SUCH, CAPITALIZING ON EMOTION OF MOMENT, IT SEEKS TO DRIVE HOME SOME BASIC TENTS OF REVOLUTIONARY IDEOLOGY IN EXTREME FORMULATION NOT NECESSARILY SUBSCRIBED TO BY ALL OF MALIAN LEADERSHIP. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THIS EDITORIAL EFFORT CAN BE DISTINGUISHED FROM NEWS TREATMENT, WHICH IN TODAY'S L'ESSOR CONTINUES RELATIVELY FACTUAL AND BALANCED. WE DOUBT THAT THERE WILL BE REPETITION THIS IDEOLOGICAL ATTACK ON SAME LEVER OF INTENSITY UNTIL ANOTHER DRAMATIC MOMENT GIVES OPPORTUNITY TO IDEOLOGUES TO STRIKE WHILE IRON IS HOT.
MOORE

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Po/6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 CONAKR 01787 081155Z

44

ACTION AF 15

INFO SS 20,H 02,NSC 10,P 04,USIA 12,CPR 02,RSR 01,RSC 01,067 W

R 081042Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3386

UNCLAS CONAKRY 1787

A MEMORIAL MASS FOR SENATOR KENNEDY WILL BE HELD IN THE
CONAKRY CATHEDRAL AT 1700 JUNE 10.
MCILVAINE

Conakry
1787
06/04/68

MICROFILMED BY 88/R

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PO L 6 US/ Kennedy, Robert F

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PO L 23-8 Zambia

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

8 JUN 68 18 09z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin
Info:

ACTION: AMEMBASSY, LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

STATE _____

FOR Ambassador from Holmes

REF: LUSAKA 2024 and 2026

SUBJECT: Kennedy Assassination

1. We have urgently passed on contents reftels to Ambassador Banda and added our own strong concern that ~~XXX~~ lack accurate information in Zambia concerning Kennedy assassination could conceivably lead to demonstration against our embassy in Lusaka or other unfortunate developments which could seriously harm relations between our two countries. Suggested that Ambassador might wish send urgent message to his govt. placing assassination in proper context in effort head off highly inaccurate interpretations being placed upon it in Zambia.

2. Ambassador, who had not yet seen text Kaunda's statement, obviously shaken by its import. Stated that he had already sent message yesterday re assassination in order counteract misguided reactions on part some GRZ officials which had come to his attention

MICROFILMED BY RS/R

Drafted by: AFSE:EWHolmes:md 6/8/68	Tel. Ext. 2287	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Thomas Quimby
Clearances:		

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(he specifically mentioned in this respect Mainza Chona's statement cited ~~XXXXX~~ Lusaka 2022). Expressed deep appreciation our bringing matter to his attention and promised give urgent attention to steps he might take to help correct situation. Will come to Dept. Monday morning to discuss matter further.

END.

RUSK

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Pol 6 US / Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02026 081124Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, RSR 01, AID 28, /112 W
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P R 080955Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2842
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2026

SUBJECT: KAUNDA ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH

1. SUMMARY. PRESIDENT KAUNDA PUT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ASSASSINATION SQUARELY ON USG FOR PROVIDING INADEQUATE PROTECTION. SAW "STRANGE PATTERN" IN THAT "LEADERS WITH A LOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO WORLD COULD ONLY BE PROTECTED WHEN THEY WERE DEAD". CHARACTERIZED KENNEDY AS "ONE OF THIS GENERATION'S MOST OUTSTANDING AND DYNAMIC YOUNG LEADERS" AND "ONE OF THE FEW AMERICAN LEADERS WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF WITH THE POOR. KAUNDA REPEATEDLY DECLARED "WE HAVE A RIGHT TO PROTEST" TO USG BECAUSE WE ARE MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY THAT HAS BEEN DEPRIVED OF A LEADER. SET SATURDAY JUNE 8 AS DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING AND SUNDAY AS DAY OF PRAYER.

2. FOLLOWING IS EXTRACT FROM GRZ PRESS RELEASE OF AIRPORT SPEECH KAUNDA GAVE ON ARRIVAL HOME FROM VISITS TO KENYA AND UGANDA (QUOTES FROM ORIGINAL):

A. 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.

B. "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".

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C. 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.

D. " 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".

E. 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.

F. "WE REGARD THOSE PEOPLE WHO STRIKE AT THE INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS AS OUR FRIENDS". HE SAID, " BOBBY 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".

3. ACCORDING OUR NOTES, KAUNDA SEVERAL TIMES USED PHRASES LIKE " WE HAVE A RIGHT TO COMPLAIN", WE HAVE RIGHT TO CONSIDER MEN LIKE THE KENNEDYS AND MARTIN LUTHER KING AS OUR FRIENDS, AND "WE HAVE RIGHT TO PROTEST". SPEAKING OF LACK OF PROTECTION (FOR BOTH PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND HIS BROTHER) KAUNDA SAID "SOMETHING HAS TO BE DONE" ABOUT THIS "SHAMEFUL, SHAMEFUL" DEED. ACCORDING RADIO SUMMARY HE NOTED THAT SPECIAL SECRET SERVICE PROTECTION GIVEN REMAINING CANDIDATES BY PRESIDENT JOHNSON WAS ANNOUNCED "TWO MONTHS AFTER THE DEATH OF MARTIN LUTHER KING".

4. KAUNDA CONCLUDED BY DECLARING SATURDAY A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING WITH ALL FLAGS TO BE AT HALF MAST AND CALLING ON PEOPLE TO REMEMBER KENNEDY FAMILY IN PRAYERS SUNDAY. FOLLOWING HIS CONCLUDING REFERENCE TO SUNDAY AS QUIET DAY OF PRAYER HE ALSO SAID SOMETHING ABOUT "PROTEST", BUT IT NOT CLEAR THIS WAS RELATED.

5. AMONG CROWD OF SENIOR CIVIL SERVANTS, PARTY OFFICIALS, MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES IN VIP AREA BEHIND DIPLOMATS WERE SOME (UNIDENTIFIED) WHO SHOUTED EPITHETS LIKE,

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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 02026 081124Z

"JOHNSON, NUMBER ONE MURDERER," "AMERICANS ARE MURDERERS", AND "MR. AMBASSADOR, ARE YOU A CIVILIZED NATION OR A NATION OF SAVAGES?"

6. KAUNDA CONCLUDED SPEECH BY CALLING ALL TO STAND FOR MOMENT OF SILENCE DURING WHICH SEVERAL PHRASES OF CHINYANJA HYMN WERE BEGUN AND PICKED UP BY CROWD. ACCORDING ONE DIPLOMAT, CHICOM REP APPARENTLY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ENGLISH AS HE REMAINED SEATED.

7. COMMENT: THOUGH WE UNDERSTAND AND SHARE PRES KAUNDAS DEEP EMOTIONS AROUSED BY THIS APPALLING EVENT, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT PRESIDENT'S REMARKS UNWITTINGLY WILL BE VIEWED BY COMMON MAN HERE AS SIMPLY AN INVITATION TO "HATE AMERICA" (WITNESS SPONTANEOUS OUTBURSTS REPORTED ABOVE) AND TO DEMONSTRATE AGAINST US EMBASSY. THE EXCLUSIVE EMPHASIS HERE IS THAT AMERICA HAS DEPRIVED THE WORLD OF A LEADER; THERE SEEMS TO BE NO UNDERSTANDING THAT AN INSANE ALIEN NOW CHARGED WITH KILLING HAS DEPRIVED AMERICA OF LEADER. SO WHERE WE SHOULD EXPECT CONDOLENCES WE GET ONLY ABUSE.
GOOD

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Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 042

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02024 081038Z

17
ACTION AF 15

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, GPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SAH 03, O 02, OC 06,

OPR 02, CCO 00, SY 03, RSR 01, /085 W

O 080842Z JUNE 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2840

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LUSAKA 2024

FOR HOLMES AF/SE

SUBJECT: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: STATE 178369

FULL TEXT KAUNDA'S AIRPORT ARRIVAL SPEECH AND LATEST DEVELOPMENTS NOW IN PREPARATION. HIS REMARKS COULD INCITE DEMONSTRATIONS BUT NO TROUBLE ON HORIZON THUS FAR. KAUNDA DECLARED THAT TODAY SHALL BE DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING. BY ALL MEANS FEED RUPIAH BANDA ALL AVAILABLE FACTUAL MATERIAL, STRESSING WE ARE ALARMED HERE THAT PREVAILING MOTF IS THAT KENNEDY KILLING SOMEHOW WAS SCHEMED BY "THOSE IN POWER." THIS COULD DO SERIOUS HARM TO RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

EXEMPT

GOOD

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63 Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
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PAGE 01 NEW DE 15319 080525Z

11
ACTION CPR 02

INFO NEA 13,GPM 04,H 02,NSC 10,0 02,OPR 02,P 04,RSC 01,SS 20,SY

USIA 12,CU 04,SSO 00,RSR 01,1080 W

O 080502Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5843

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 15319

REF: NEW DELHI 15313

Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F

AT ELEVENTH HOUR MINISTER OF STATE BHAGAT OF EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS CANCELLED HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON. AMBASSADOR
REPRESENTING INDIA AT KENNEDY BURIAL.
WEATHERSBY

NEW DELHI

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Pal 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

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HR Doc 12 Peru

PAGE 01 LIMA 05516 081858Z

44

ACTION ARA 16

INFO SS 20, NSC 10, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, INR 07, RSR 01, RSC 01, /075 W

R 081818Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6371

UNCLAS LIMA 5516

SUBJ: REQUIEM MASS FOR SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

1. BECAUSE OF THE PROFOUND EFFECT WHICH THE DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY HAS HAD IN PERU, THE EMBASSY TOOK INITIATIVE TO ORGANIZE A REQUIEM MASS WHICH WAS CELEBRATED AT 10 OCLOCK THIS MORNING, THE HOUR FIXED FOR FUNERAL SERVICES IN NEW YORK. THE CHURCH OF SANTA MARIA REINA, THE SAME ONE IN WHICH A MASS WAS CELEBRATED FOUR AND ONE HALF YEARS AGO IN MEMORY OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, WAS CHOSEN. AN AMERICAN PRIEST THE REVEREND FATHER ROBERT HIELE OFFICIATED, ASSISTED BY A PERUVIAN PRIEST AND SPANISH PRIEST, TO SYMBOLIZE, AS HE SAID, THE INTERNATIONAL CITIZENSHIP OF ROBERT KENNEDY. THE PAPAL NUNCION, MONSIGNOR ROMULO CARBONI, WAS ALSO A PARTICIPANT ON THE ALTAR. THE SERVICE WAS CONDUCTED IN SPANISH, ALTHOUGH FATHER HIELE'S SERMON WAS IN ENGLISH. HIS THEME WAS PEACE, WHICH HE FELT WAS SENATOR KENNEDY'S QUEST, AND HE CHOSE GREEN VESTMENTS FOR THE OFFICIATING PRIESTS TO SERVE AS A SYMBOL OF HOPE.

2. THE EMBASSY SENT SPECIAL NOTIFICATION OF THE MASS TO THE PRESIDENT, THE CABINET, THE LEGISLATURE AND JUDICIARY, AND TO THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS. IT ALSO INVITED THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY AND PERUVIANS AT LARGE BY PUBLIC MEANS.

3. THE CHURCH THIS MORNING WAS ENTIRELY FILLED WITH AN ESTIMATED 500 IN ATTENDANCE. PRESIDENT BELAUNDE, WHO WAS RECEIVING CREDENTIALS OF TWO NEW CHIEFS OF MISSION, COULD NOT ATTEND BUT WAS REPRESENTED BY AN AIDE. HOWEVER, AMONG THE DIGNITARIES PRESENT WERE VICE PRESIDENT SEOANE, THE PRESIDENT OF SUPREME COURT, THE PRESIDENTS OF THE SENATE AND THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, THE MINISTERS OF FINANCE, LABOR AND DEVELOPMENT, THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, A FORMER

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PAGE 02 LIMA 05516, 081858Z

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND A NUMBER OF OTHER SENATORS, DEPUTIES AND FORMER MINISTERS. MANY MINISTERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE SENT REPRESENTATIVES AS DID THE CHIEFS OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS OF LIMA WAS ALMOST ENTIRELY REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADORS OR CHARGE D'AFFAIRS. OFFICERS OF THE VARIOUS AMERICAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION WERE PRESENT AS WERE A GREAT NUMBER OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND PERUVIANS, HIGH AND LOW, WITHOUT OFFICIAL STATUS. ONE PERUVIAN PUBLIC SCHOOL SENT A COLAR GUARD AND AN HONOR GUARD OF SOME 15 OR 20 BOYS, ALL IN UNIFORM. THE OCCASION WAS IN EVERY WAY SOLEMN AND FITTING, AND THE AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC MISSION WAS HEAVILY REPRESENTED, LED BY THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRS AD INTERIM, ERNEST V. SIRACUSA.

4. THE EMBASSY HAS REPORTED FULLY THE INTENSITY AND SINCERITY OF THE REACTION IN PERU TO THE TRAGIC DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY. THIS SERVICE THIS MORNING, AND THE REPRESENTATION IT EVOKED, WAS TESTIMONY NOT ONLY TO PERUVIAN FEELING FOR SENATOR KENNEDY AND FOR HIS FAMILY IN GENERAL, BUT ALSO TO THE FUNDAMENTAL WARMTH AND COMMUNITY OF INTEREST WHICH UNDERLIES US AND PERUVIAN RELATIONS, WHICH HAVE IN RECENT WEEKS UNDERGONE SOME STRAIN. SIRACUSA

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ORIGIN/ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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ARMY CIA NAVY

OSD USIA NSA

A-3760

NO.

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

FROM : AmEmbassy LONDON

DATE: June 8, 1968

SUBJECT: Selected British Press Comment on Kennedy Assassination

REF : xx Embtel 9659

A sampling of the more significant and thoughtful British editorial comment on Senator Kennedy's assassination is enclosed. We also include some of the typical pieces on the need for gun-sales legislation, a theme which has pervaded all sections of the press here.

BRUCE

Enclosures *llh*
As stated. *llh*

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FORM 4-62 DS-323

Drafted by:

POL/GGOplinger/ps 6/7/68

Contents and Classification Approved by:

POL/WHBrubeck *llh*

Clearances:

BUREAU
OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

1968 JUN 10 PM 4 29

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

To Department of State

ENCLOSURE TO LONDON A- 3760



PRINTING HOUSE SQUARE LONDON E.C.4 TELEPHONE 01-236 2000

A MINORITY OF ONE

It is natural to see the attack on SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY as part of a general pattern of violence in the United States and in the world. Yet before one generalizes one should particularize. This is a hateful tragedy for a man whose courage had made him the only white politician who still commanded the confidence of the Negroes and the poor of America. It is also a family tragedy for a family who have already had too many tragedies to suffer. The shooting of SENATOR KENNEDY is one of those stark events which will always be remembered with pain.

Yet the personal tragedy is a reflection of a wider tragedy. For whatever reasons violence is a growing power in the United States. For at least half a century American civilization has been subject to increasing violence, to the violence of gangsters, the casual violence of the southern states, the violence between races and now to the murder of public men. The rest of the world has often seen the United States as the vanguard of industrial society. In almost every other country the same pattern of growing violence can already be detected even though in Britain it has not reached anything like the same level.

It is natural that violence in politics should often be concentrated upon the best men. The motives of the men who shoot are usually abnormal and often obscure. The Arab in this case seems almost astonishingly irrelevant to Senator Kennedy's career. Yet one can see what the reaction is. There is in part the hatred which is the natural reaction of evil to excellence. There is in part, also, an envy which the best statesmen are more likely to provoke. The excitement of a fine political campaign is also in itself a danger. The man with the gun responds to this excitement with the excitement of his own hatred. He shows what can be done by a minority of one.

Yet those men who wish to raise themselves by destroying what others admire are alienated from society and are to be found in large numbers only in a society where alienation is common. In the United States prosperity has become an insult to those who do not share it and the process of specialization which has created such

an extraordinary prosperity is by its nature also a process of exclusion. American industry is based on mass skills, but not on universal skills, and violence is the revenge on society of those who are left out.

The paradox is that it has been the chief aim of the Kennedy family in politics to bring to an end the social alienation in the United States. PRESIDENT KENNEDY was the first Roman Catholic to become President of the United States. His victory was to some degree a victory for all the other minority groups. The purpose of the campaign of 1960, in which SENATOR KENNEDY played so large a role, was not only to get America moving but to involve all Americans in the movement. PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S work on civil rights went further than the Kennedy administration had been able to do, but the social impetus of the Democratic Party owes a great deal to both of the Kennedy brothers.

In the case of SENATOR KENNEDY this social concern became even more marked. His is a crusading personality and the crusading quality has cost him many political allies. There is no doubt that the shock of his brother's death caused in SENATOR KENNEDY'S mind a new desire to see American society changed. It is the characteristic of this meaningless violence that it is turned against those men like the Kennedys or MARTIN LUTHER KING who devote their lives to the task of reconciliation. They are the most likely of all to be attacked or to be killed.

The characteristics of American society which led to the death of one Kennedy and the wounding of another are in part peculiar to the United States. We have no powerful lobby in Britain for the promiscuous sale of firearms and the power of the National Rifle Association is an extraordinary defect of American politics. Yet in the main the growth of violence, like the growth of revolution, is something which reflects real failures of all the advanced industrial societies, irrespective of whether those societies are American or European, or even whether they are capitalist or communist. Our attitude in Britain can therefore only be one of sympathy with the people of the United States in the tragedy which has occurred.

A SECOND KENNEDY

Daily Telegraph, June 6

"THERE are no words equal to the horror of this tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers are with Senator KENNEDY, his family and other victims. All America prays for his recovery." In this moving message President JOHNSON spoke for decent people everywhere, not only for Americans but for people of all nations, not only for those who loved ROBERT KENNEDY and shared his expressed ideals but also for all those for various reasons opposed to him. Friend and foe alike stand silent and appalled; controversy is stilled; the election campaign, in which ROBERT KENNEDY had just won a victory, grinds to an awestruck halt.

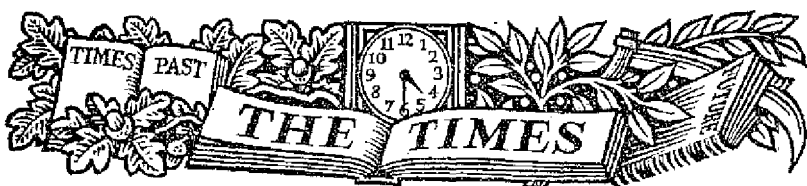
Mrs. JACQUELINE KENNEDY is said to have had some grim premonition that ROBERT KENNEDY would be shot down. If she sees the hand of fate in what has now occurred, who shall blame her? It is not five years since her own husband, President JOHN F. KENNEDY, died murdered in her arms. His older brother JOSEPH was killed in 1943 in a Liberator crash and the youngest brother, EDWARD, was nearly killed in an air crash four years ago. It is as though a curse hung over the whole family, in some respects the favourites of fortune, in others its pitiable victims.

It is a family which has always aroused passionate controversy. None was left indifferent by its rise to power and glory. To some it seemed to embody all that was young and hopeful, ardent and chivalrous in American public life. President KENNEDY's circle at Washington was likened without irony to the court of King Arthur; it seemed to have attracted to itself all that was generous, enlightened and intelligent in the nation. In other hearts, however, the KENNEDYS awoke a sour and suspicious envy, generated not so much by their wealth (not usually a disadvantage in American politics) as by their collective ambition and their apparent determination to form some sort of dynasty. Alike to those who feared and those who worshipped them, they appeared an irresistible force, predestined to govern America, one or another, now or later.

ROBERT KENNEDY must often have been warned of the dangers he ran. But what else could he do but face them, without being untrue to his destiny as he saw it? President THEODORE ROOSEVELT once said: "I do not believe there is any danger of any assault on my life, and if there were it would be simple nonsense to try to prevent it; for, as LINCOLN said, though it would be safer for a President to live in a cage, it would interfere with his business." ROBERT KENNEDY did not share ROOSEVELT's confidence in his own immunity; but he must have realised that a candidate can no more live in a cage than a President. To win trust one must show trust; no affection or respect, no votes are to be gained by those afraid to mix freely with the people. Thus he sallied boldly forth, taking no precautions, virtually unguarded, surrounded everywhere by crowds so vast that a thousand assassins might have lurked undetected among them; and has alas paid a terrible price.

It is easy to understand the shame and guilt by which Americans are assailed when they contemplate the blood which has recently stained their public life—the blood of a President, the blood of a great and pacific Negro leader and now the blood of ROBERT KENNEDY. They must wonder if there is some dark violence in the American soul of which other nations are innocent. Can this really be true? In few countries of the world are the style and temper of politics usually more civilised, the courtesies of debate more generally observed, opponents more tolerant of each other. That all this should be smirched and obscured by the crimes of a few is unfair in every respect save one. This is that America has so far conspicuously failed to disarm those who are unfit to have control of weapons. The right of every citizen to carry a gun was born in times when food had to be shot and Indians lurked behind every tree. Once the ally of order, this right has survived to become its mortal enemy. Surely it must be extinguished.

DISRAELI once remarked that assassination has never changed the history of the world. He may have been wrong about the very assassination which provoked his words—that of LINCOLN. Certainly it is probable that violence breeds violence, that one death may lead to others and that the act of a maniac may inflame the passions of sane men. General breast-beating will do no good: only the law can take the gun out of American life.



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HE STOOD FOR JUSTICE

The world knew ROBERT KENNEDY by sight and liked what it saw. People everywhere thought they knew what he stood for—justice for the underdog, tolerance between races and nations, understanding for youth, compassion for the old and deprived. They believed he was a worthy successor to his brother, and that was consciously meant as the highest tribute. If American presidents were elected by the suffrage of all countries ROBERT KENNEDY would have gone to the White House next January.

Of course the universal view was not a complete one. Men find themselves—sometimes almost by chance—cast for roles of heroes and villains, and those are the roles they have to play. His fellow Americans were divided over which of the two ROBERT KENNEDY really was. Some of them hated ROBERT KENNEDY as much as they hated JOHN. Now both brothers have been murdered. It is a terrible fate—terrible for the family; terrible for America; and terrible for the world.

ROBERT KENNEDY had many qualities, good and bad, but they were all touched with an element of greatness. His death leaves an enormous gap, and the problem is how that can be filled. In a way, the least important part of this is who will get the Democratic nomination in the autumn. Probably ROBERT KENNEDY would not have got it anyway, and even if he had got it might well not have won the election. And if he had won the election he might not have proved a good president. Was he temperamentally suited to the job? Is not America's need now to find a reconciler, which is something ROBERT KENNEDY could never have been? These have ceased to be questions for the prophets and become footnotes for the historian.

What is important is the effect of ROBERT KENNEDY's death on his followers. He had lost some of his earlier

disciples—among the young, particularly the young students. But he had found new disciples. The Negroes, other second-class racial groupings like Mexicans and Puerto Ricans, the very poor of all races, had made ROBERT KENNEDY their candidate; more than their candidate, he was their apostle. They are not going to turn easily to SENATOR MCCARTHY or MR. HUMPHREY—certainly not to a Republican. Is the election going to see a large proletariat disfranchised by its own choice? This is a real prospect, and a most alarming one. Americans are desperately trying to rediscover faith in their own destiny and institutions. With both Kennedys murdered some Americans will be tempted to say that their country's institutions are a sham and its destiny a mirage.

The rest of the world will be tempted to turn away from America too. Each fresh act of violence spreads fresh doubt about American capacity for leadership. This is not hypocrisy. America has more money, more power, more skills, more weapons, than any other country in the world. For over twenty years she has exercised this unique responsibility with restraint and generosity. The American people accepted the obligations of leadership. But now? The habit of assassination destroys the authority of any country.

Americans have huge reserves of intelligence and resource. One of the best things ROBERT KENNEDY did was to remind them of this, because he profoundly believed it to be true. Who will be able to convince them that it is true now? Certainly, America will survive ROBERT KENNEDY's death as it survived his brother's. But the main question for 1968 is now no longer who is to be next president, but how that survival is to be achieved.

Kennedy victim of his nation's eroded ideals

Something like mass hysteria may be threatening America as a great dialogue of conscience breaks out after the killing of Senator Kennedy. The laxity of the law on gun control is only one result of the American system of compromise politics—a system to which the murdered candidate himself had deferred in the course of his campaign.

From LOUIS HEREN

WASHINGTON, JUNE 6

A man who challenges the King must die. Senator Eugene McCarthy thus explained his challenge to President Johnson and his determination to go on even until defeat and oblivion, but it was America's most splendid and ambitious political prince who died by an assassin's hand.

With him, the Kennedy restoration may have died. It is possible that presidents will not be challenged by this powerful family again. What some have seen as its awful curse did not deter Robert; but Edward, the one surviving brother, seems content with his lesser liegdom.

After his almost miraculous escape from an aircraft disaster (a brother and sister also died in air crashes) he is the senior Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the age of 36. His attention to duty now commands respect. He is clearly a candidate for an important committee chairmanship and the inner club, the small group of men who control the Senate and thus much of the legislative business of the United States Congress.

This has not discouraged suggestions that he would make a good vice-presidential candidate. Such is the power of the family name that a Humphrey-Kennedy ticket is seen as a sure winner for November.

The princely splendour of the Kennedys was evident again in the respect paid by the President and the princes of his church. A White House aircraft brought Robert Kennedy's remains from Los Angeles, and solemn Masses were offered in the Roman Catholic cathedral of Washington and New York.

Much of the business of government came to a standstill and everywhere flags flew at half-mast. Senator Kennedy is to be buried on Saturday in his brother's grave, which dominates Arlington National Cemetery.

It is by the mansion from which General Robert E. Lee rode away in 1860 to fight for Virginia, another of the republic's great tragic figures. It looks across the Potomac to the seat of American super-power where Robert Kennedy assumed, with the arrogance of a political prince, that he would sit next January.

Horrible symmetry to age of violence

All of that has been exploded by a young Jordan immigrant with a .22 pistol first bought, it has been stated, by some frightened man after the Watts riots in Los Angeles. The casual coincidence provides a horrible symmetry to an age of violence that now threatens mass hysteria.

Perhaps it is possible to see Sirhan Bishara Sirhan as an instrument of revenge against the Palestine policy of President Truman, or as a crazed anti-Semite, but he left Jerusalem when a boy and is said also to have envied the rich and successful.

The *Washington Post* said: "If the shooting of Senator Kennedy should bring sensible gun laws, so much the better; the need for them, however, does not stand on one, or three or three hundred homicides by firearm; it stands on the record in every American city; every night."

Only a month ago Senator Edward Kennedy said: "It

amazes me that we continue to tolerate a system of laws which make it so outrageously easy for any criminal, insane person, drug addict or child to obtain lethal firearms which can be used to rain violence and death on innocent people."

Alas, there is no cause for amazement. The continuing stupidity over gun laws is only part of the larger system under which the United States has been governed so long. It is no more of a cause for amazement than the brutal fact that the wealthiest country in the world permits millions of Americans to starve.

Stupidity flourishes in the system

A television network recently broadcast a report on starvation among Red Indians, Negroes and white tenant farmers within an hour's drive of Washington. The immediate response of Mr. Orville Freeman, the Secretary of Agriculture, was to demand equal time for a refutation.

All this and much more is not due to brutal indifference but is the price paid for national unity. It is a heavy price, but almost unavoidable because of congressional consensus politics.

There is no three-line whip. Members are thus more exposed to pressures, and urgent reform can be compromised out of existence in the search for consensus. For instance, liberals such as Senator Wayne Morse and Senator Frank Church are as much to blame as the National Rifle Association for the fact that lunatics and fanatics can still buy arms.

These representatives come from spoiling states and believe that their political survival depends upon the rejection of gun control. For the sake of this or some future consensus a majority of their colleagues have been prepared to do just that or accept a useless compromise.

The Bill passed by the House of Representatives today provides for some measure of control, but not nearly enough.

Consensus politics has another meaning when the President seeks a popular consensus wide enough to persuade a reluctant Congress to enact reforms. This is what Senator Robert Kennedy was seeking to establish during the primary campaigns.

He compromised his own ideals along the way because many of the people he sought to lead were opposed to change. He was thus as much a part of the old as the new politics, but his ideals were never quite abandoned. Had he lived, and gone on to win the election in November, his Administration almost certainly would have been as cautious as his brother's, but a little progress would have been made.

Instead, the prejudice and indifference which the American system of government is so ill-equipped to diminish has claimed him as another victim, and the country is preparing for what could be described as a state of siege.

The Army's Directorate for Civil Disturbances Planning and Operations has been in a state of alert since yesterday morning, the California National Guard has 26,800 men ready for deployment in the streets, and 10,000 regular troops are standing by outside Washington.



AND
MORNING POST

DAILY TELEGRAPH - - - June 29, 1855

MORNING POST - - - November 2, 1772

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INDEPENDENT OF ALL GROUPS

AMERICA ON TRIAL

SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY is dead. The eulogies have been spoken. All civilised countries have been revolted by the cruel murder of a gifted man who was the leading hope not only of a family which has already suffered greatly but also of many millions of Americans who saw in him—rightly or wrongly—a golden champion. He was to have been the man who would do battle for the unrepresented in the great struggle for civil rights, who might have bound up the rift between black and white in the United States, who might have led his fellow citizens in a determined attack on poverty, who might have been successful in negotiating a peaceful settlement in Vietnam. These claims, made on his behalf, were large indeed: perhaps too large.

Be that as it may, the obsequies cannot last for ever. The government of great nations cannot, must not, be long affected by the death of a single man, however eminent and however aspiring; and the immediate task before the people of the United States is the election of their next President. And, after the second KENNEDY assassination, it seems certain that the imposition of the rule of law in the United States will become an attractive theme for Mr. NIXON to begin embroidering before many weeks are out. The central issue could become "strong government."

What the Democrats will reply to that is by no means clear. There is at least a chance that, of the supporters of the late Senator KENNEDY, the mild, Leftist, scholarly and humanitarian will prefer to back Senator EUGENE MCCARTHY at the Chicago convention rather than Mr. HUBERT HUMPHREY. Although regarded by his own party as a dangerous radical 10 years ago on the civil rights issue, Mr. HUMPHREY has for the protesters become tarnished by his close association with the JOHNSON administration. As far as the restive millions who saw ROBERT KENNEDY as their idol are concerned, the risk of further rioting and bloodshed is great. It must seem to them, after three assassinations in five years, that anyone who becomes their advocate will be gunned down. The main responsibility for assuaging the nation's fears must now fall on Mr. HUMPHREY and Senator MCCARTHY.

Whichever of the two men is chosen—and the odds must now be heavily on Mr. HUMPHREY, the senior in experience of both politics and government—it should be made plain to the American electorate that the ideals and ambitions which motivated the KENNEDY brothers did not die with them. Otherwise, worse times might befall. And it will, of course, be a prime duty of any new administration to break the deadlock in Congress on arms legislation. That will not be easy, because fear engenders fear; but, after this week's dark events, the majority of Americans must realise that the freedom to bear arms endangers greater freedoms.

THE GUARDIAN

London

Friday June 7, 1968

Will the world learn anything?

Many deserved tributes have been paid and will be paid to Robert Kennedy. President Johnson has spoken of the "tragedy and senseless violence" that brought his death. The Archbishop of Canterbury has said that, in the horror at this event, "we shall renew our efforts in the cause of just and non-violent solutions of our human problems." The Swedish Foreign Minister has spoken of "a defeat not only for American democracy but for democratic values as such." The Prime Minister of New Zealand has said that "for the United States to lose its gifted men in this way is a sad distortion of the freedoms which they in turn have fought to preserve." In Cairo, the Government's official spokesman has condemned the killing of Senator Kennedy, "whatever the nationality of the assassin may be." In Britain, the President of the Zionist Federation has said that "all who love peace pray that Robert Kennedy will not have died in vain, that the message of cooperation, of brotherly love, and of righteousness that he so courageously preached will echo down the ages."

Will that message, in truth, find any echo in the Middle East? Will a genuine effort be made on both sides to stop the war in Vietnam? Will a "just and non-violent solution" be sought in Biafra or south of the Zambezi? Will American democracy (and democracy everywhere) try harder than before to rid itself of lawlessness, hatred, and violence? Shall we, as President Johnson asks, "purge the hostility from our hearts and practise moderation with our tongues"?

The killing of Robert Kennedy had seeds both in the sickness of American society and in international violence. Although much of Sirhan Sirhan's mind and motives remains to be discovered, the Arab-Israeli war and its anniversary were factors. So too was the Vietnam war, which itself has added to the severe strains within the United States. But the question remains: will Robert Kennedy's tragic death change anything in the world? Will the shock lead to any softening of rigid attitudes? In every zone of war or imminent war, the way could be opened for non-violent solutions. Over the Middle East, Vietnam, and Biafra negotiations are being sought; over each a deadlock persists. Over each the lines of

a settlement can be seen, but the willingness to reach it is never sufficiently strong. Over each a change of heart is needed, for the alternative is a relapse into more killing, devastation, and misery.

On the anniversary of the June war, is it impossible for the Arabs and Jews to meet? Mr Jarring's mission seems near its final frustration. Yet more is needed than readiness on the Arab side to meet the Israelis face to face, which so far the Arab Governments have refused, or readiness on the Israeli side to apply in practice the principles of the UN resolution. Both sides must accept in their hearts, not simply in words, that the others have just claims. The Arabs must honestly accept that the State of Israel has a right to exist in peace and security, however unjustly, in their eyes, it was carved out of Arab territory. And the Israelis, no less, must accept in their hearts that the Arabs, even on the West Bank, have the right to rule themselves in their own way and to be treated as fellow-men. The alternative here is another war of vengeance, the possible destruction of Jerusalem (a city revered by people of many faiths), and poverty for Arabs and Jews.

Vietnam calls for changes of heart no less deep. Vietnamese must learn to live with Vietnamese. The Northerners and the Vietcong will have to accept that theirs is not the only admissible form of society and that people in the South have a right to choose something different. In the South, equally, those in authority will have to accept that the National Liberation Front and its members cannot be kept out of civil and political life if peace is to be attained. When families have been torn apart, with brothers and sisters fighting on opposite sides, reconciliation is hard. But just because of such tragic divisions, the value of non-violent reconciliation ought to be the more obvious. And American hearts, too, must change: to understand that, however worthy the motives which took the US forces to Vietnam, the outcome has been terrible human suffering. That, at least, is something which Senator Kennedy himself was directly conveying to his countrymen. It is something that they have begun to understand. Here, at least, we can be sure that his message will not soon be forgotten.

And will the US this time?

President Johnson's decision to set up a Commission on Violence is the least that could be done, now that Senator Kennedy is dead. As a political tactic it is a skilful move, since its members are respected pillars of the American Establishment and weighted to the right. (One of them, Senator Roman Hruska, is chief lobbyist for the notorious National Rifle Association.) But it is hard to see what they can say about violence in America which is not instinctively known by most Americans already. The need now is not for facts, however authoritatively they are pronounced, but for action. And here the Commission has no power.

The recent report of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders is a discouraging precedent. That, too, was produced by a group of eminent Americans. It pointed out the harsh truth that the nation is moving towards two societies, one black and one white, separate and unequal. And the outcome has been inaction. Some, like Mr Nixon, preferred to look away and say that the cause of the riots was not "white racialism," as the Commission reported, but "black lawlessness." Others, like the President, greeted it with a frosty silence.

The last two major assassinations, those of President Kennedy and Dr Martin Luther King, ought to be a reminder that single incidents, however shocking, rarely move nations to make deep and painful changes in their own way of life. Those two murders brought little or no reform.

So, too, with the reports of Commissions. The tools that are really necessary are hard political campaigning and the use of economic and political power. And even this has become harder in the past five years as the contradictions of American society have been more blatantly exposed. Five years ago a summer of demonstrations and mass action in Birmingham, Alabama, brought about the Civil Rights Act of 1963. This summer the Poor People's campaign in Washington is likely to produce at best a legislative mouse—and at worst a stronger white backlash.

It is easy enough to blame a reluctant Congress, as the President has done. But there is already enough legislation on the books for him to bring about major changes, if he is willing. The Federal Government has enormous power over the economy through the contracts it awards. The Defence Department alone has an annual budget larger than that of the People's Republic of China. After the Soviet Union, the Pentagon is the largest centrally planned economy in the world. The President already has Congressional authority to use this power to cut off contracts to firms that discriminate, as had other Presidents before him. Yet it has been used reluctantly and grudgingly so far. The Federal Highway Administration and housing agencies have similar powers. Why are they not used more often? In the last resort, too, the Federal Government will have to create jobs of its own for the millions of unemployed. Private enterprise cannot and will not do so by itself.



Violent America

—Nicky Malin, Jr.

I have watched it become a socially sick nation

by DAVID ENGLISH

NATIONS, like people, can have nervous breakdowns. And America is very near the edge of this situation. Paralysed with fear, tormented by indecision, it is allowing violence—the fatal flaw in the national character—to become the most dominating influence in its life.

In neurotic times, one word is sufficient to trigger off a pointless act of destruction. Yet all through spring and early summer the word "Kennedyism" has been given that built-in potential.

So perhaps it was inevitable that Robert Kennedy would be the victim of one of those sudden and senseless acts of violence that Americans seem to accept as much a part of their daily life as popcorn and apple pie.

For there is a macabre uniqueness about the Kennedys. No other political family in America is capable of attracting such loyalty and admiration; or of fostering such enmity and hatred.

Their very name is a lightning rod for those two extremes of chivalry and viciousness which vie constantly for the control of the American personality.

The extremist opponents of Kennedy—and they are the opponents of all the other legitimate political candidates and everything that is decent and important in America—had focalised such an aura of hatred around that name that it was only a question of time before the lightning struck.

It doesn't really matter who carried the gun in Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel. He was merely the hypnotised victim of a poisoned system.

What does matter is that Americans have not learned the lesson of Dallas—that Jack Kennedy's memory is as dead as his body—and in the name of defending democracy Americans are effectively killing it.

Reflex

For how can a people talk about democracy or expect it to survive when they conduct their affairs in such a climate of unbridled viciousness?

If there is total licence to commit character assassination is it surprising that the real thing becomes a conditioned reflex of the times?

The freedom to poison the mind with hatred and fear, to publish filth and lies about the men wishing to take on the onerous task of leading the country has become blindly accepted in the United States.

God knows, their politics have always been rough but in this decade the rule book was thrown away.

Last month in America, I read articles about Robert Kennedy's life and family motivated by a malice and hatred so pathological that no civilised printer should have handled them.

But there they were. On the bookstalls.

And when I asked how it could happen... I was told "We have the freest Press in the world."

That is always the argument. Freedom must not be interdicted. Not only must there be freedom to oppose a politician: there must be freedom to break him too.

Obsession

No country can really afford the politics of hate. But America, with its obsession with guns and killing, can afford it least of all. It is incomprehensible to the rest of the world that Americans are allowed to go on buying and selling and part-exchanging guns in the name—once again—of freedom.

Why do they do it? The nonsensical argument about the constitutional right of

every citizen to carry arms has been refuted and dismissed a hundred times.

Yet after Jack Kennedy, after Martin Luther King, all attempts to bring the gun-happy psychosis of America under observation, let alone control, died in the lonely backwaters of congressional committee rooms.

Bitter

Only a few days ago, Kennedy faced the guns in Oregon. He had arrived in one of those small but quite beautiful little towns that dot the plains and mountains of the North-West and there in a picnic field were angry and bitter crowds who loathed him and showed it.

They knew that he was supporting a Senate move to introduce registration of guns. So they surrounded him with signs that said "Protect your right to keep and bear arms."

They pushed and hustled the man whose brother—the 35th President of the United States—was murdered with a £5 mail order rifle and they defied him to challenge them.

Of course he did. And he told them how he felt about guns . . . and he had reason to feel strongly, he said. There was murder and violence and senseless killing all over the United States

and he thought that there might be a little less if there was more control of firearms.

It is fascinating what they shouted back.

"You want to be another Hitler," screamed one man. "That's how it all started in Nazi Germany—when they made the people register their guns."

And a woman shouted: "We'll keep our guns and we'll keep our democracy." And she believed what she said.

These are the kind of conditions which stain and rot the fabric of American life. The richest and most powerful country in the world with more potential for good than any other nation is as dangerously ill as yesterday's election victor in California.

Impetus

Ballot boxes are useless if guns are used to carry more weight. The question is whether yesterday's ghastly shooting will break America's self-doubt and give it the impetus to throw off its internal sickness—or whether it will only make it worse.

It is very hard not to believe in America if you have lived there. And yet it is frightening to see, as

I have, the remorseless personality changes which have transformed a confident and thrusting people into a socially sick nation.

Those changes began, I believe, when Lee Harvey Oswald killed Jack Kennedy almost five years ago.

Five years later—as if ordained—his brother lies critically ill, a near parallel victim of the American syndrome of violence.

All yesterday Americans watched their TV sets, traumatised by scenes almost Freudianlike in their similarity to Dallas. They must have cut deep into the national subconscious to recall a nightmare America had chosen too easily to forget.

"Robert Kennedy is a fatalist who won't let anything interfere with his fate," a friend once said. Perhaps his fate is to call America's attention to the need to change before it is too late.

If yesterday's events succeed in doing that, even while fighting for his life, he may finish what his brother set out to start.

This day of irony in a gun-sick society

Daily Mail
June 7

From DONALD McLACHLAN

IT IS an ironic coincidence. But while Robert Kennedy lay with a bullet in his brain, Congress was taking a timid step in the direction of controlling the sale of arms.

Shaken by the shock of the shooting, it hurriedly agreed to bring President Johnson's package Bill dealing with crime to a straight vote tomorrow, and skip the usual committee stage.

The much-watered-down arms section of the Bill simply bans the sale of hand-guns by mail-order.

It does not otherwise interfere with 'the citizen's right to bear arms.'

The Bill is backed by Robert Kennedy, who wanted to go much further to control the violence

which is endemic to the American way of life.

A few seconds before he was shot down he told the election crowd in the Ambassador Hotel: 'We can work together to overcome divisions, violence, disenchantment. We are a great country, a selfless country, a compassionate country.'

OPPONENTS

But there are powerful opponents of Mr Kennedy's determination to limit the spread of guns, which since the turn of the century have killed 750,000 people in the United States—more than the dead in every war America has ever fought.

The strongest lobby in the country is the National Rifle Association which, backed by the arms manufacturers, exists solely for organised resistance to any form of weapons control.

Their immense propaganda

machine attacked Mr Kennedy repeatedly and was given attentive ear by tens of thousands of Americans puffed up by misplaced pride in their bloody and brutal beginnings.

They call it the 'citizen's right to bear arms'—a pointed mis-interpretation of the American Constitution. They believe in being permitted to take the law, as they see it, in their own hands.

A few hours after the shooting today about 200 demonstrators marched on the Washington headquarters of the 980,000-strong National Rifle Association. The demonstrators included trade unionists, members of student and religious bodies and representatives of the Poor People's Campaign.

Police stood by as the demonstrators carried banners reading: 'The sound of bullets fills the air,' 'Thank you, NRA, for bringing anarchy a little closer' and 'Stop the violence—stop the NRA.'

Many of them stood under an

inscription on the facade of the NRA building which reads: 'The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.'

Tough gun control has been Mr Kennedy's obsession since his brother, President John Kennedy, was killed with a mail-order carbine.

CHEAP

The arms manufacturers and their dealers have fought it off again and again with good times, girls, and generous donations to the funds of amenable politicians.

So America remains perhaps the only civilised(?) country in the world where you can get yourself a gun as easily as—and sometimes cheaper than—a second-hand watch.

Five pounds and a sixpenny stamp for a mail-order weapon, which gives a licence to kill.

Today there is renewed outcry for fast action by a Congress that

has stood idle. It would be bitter irony if Robert Kennedy has to die for his dream to be realised.

The feeling of those who want control was echoed today by Mr Arthur Goldberg, American Ambassador to the United Nations. He said:

'Our hearts cry out in pain and anguish at this terrible act of violence. Surely by now the lesson that violence breeds violence must be pounded into our heads.'

'Surely by now all agree that there must be an end to killing, otherwise there will be little hope for our country or for the world.'

"What in the name of conscience will it take to pass a truly effective gun control law?"—
President Johnson, May 9, 1968



Sportsmen's lobby may lose at last

BY a tragic coincidence the first small measure towards control of gun sales in America was due to come before the House of Representatives yesterday for consideration.

Its approval now is almost certain—but it is a tiny advance, compared with the controls proposed after President Kennedy's assassination and made more urgent by the shooting of Martin Luther King. It would stop mail-order sales of hand guns and over-the-counter sales to those under 21.

£2.5M fight

That most powerful lobby, the National Rifle Association, has succeeded in pressing out of the Bill—now part of a general package, law-and-order regulation—reference to rifles and shot-guns, and any question of registration of firearms. With 900,000 members, and 8,000 affiliated associations, the NRA has devoted nearly £2.5 millions to defeating attempts to control gun ownership. Besides eroding the present Bill to almost nothing, it has helped to keep the whole issue in a dormant committee stage for four years.

Two million weapons are sold

each year in America and 27 million people own guns—enough to put a gun in half of all American homes. A recent survey showed that two thirds of Americans favour some sort of Federal control and registration of firearm sales; but 55 per cent of white gun owners said they would be prepared to shoot people in a riot. Since last summer's race disturbances, gun ownership, according to another poll, has nearly doubled. This has meant a prosperous time for the country's 400 or more mail-order gunstores; President Kennedy was killed with a rifle bought through the post.

Senator Thomas Dodd of Connecticut, along with Senator Edward Kennedy, has been the main proponent of control laws.

In 1966 he produced figures to show that where gun laws are weak—they vary from State to State and city to city—a large number of killings are committed with guns. In Dallas 72 per cent of homicides are by shooting; in Phoenix, Arizona, where the laws are also weak, 66 per cent, while in tougher New York only a quarter of all killings are by shooting.

Yet in spite of the two-an-hour deaths by shooting and anguished pleading by statesmen including President Johnson—"What in the name of conscience will it take to pass a truly effective gun control law?"—the guns-for-all lobby conducts bizarre academic arguments to support its position.

In this month's "Guns and

Ammo," for instance, hunting licence figures by State are compared with crime rates to "support the conclusion the crime goes up when civilian gun ownership goes down." In Vermont, with a hunting licence rate of 33,000 per 100,000 there is a "serious crime rate" of only 700 per 100,000 residents; but in New York with a licence ratio of only 3,800 per 100,000, the crime rate is 2,400. That Vermont is rural and empty is not mentioned.

Right to bear arms

More extraordinary is a heavy abstract case argued in the same magazine which explains that the second Amendment to the Constitution—conferring the right to bear arms—"is to prevent the rise of an armed elite superior to the average man." It goes on, "Preventative controls designed to proscribe an inert act on the grounds that it only may result in crime are no more than thinly disguised Bills of Attainder."

Explaining that a bill of attainder condemns without trial for specific offences groups thought in general to be hostile to society, the author, James L.

Glackin, says "six million Jews went to the Nazi gas chambers on a Bill of Attainder signed by Adolf Hitler." From here Mr Glackin goes on to invoke Aristotle.

Summer city riots were more feared by some American gun authorities than another political assassination attempt as the bringer of gun controls. "If the summer remains fairly peaceful," says the magazine "there is still a good chance that controls will centre on mail-order hand guns and on stiffer penalties for their misuse. Pitched battles in the streets, however, would probably result in licensing and registration of all firearms."

Viewed from America Britain's gun rules seem very harsh. Certificates are issued to landowners and farmers to control vermin and other wild life, or for sport. Otherwise, the main route to a certificate is through club membership from which an assessment of competence can be obtained, which helps the police to decide on an applicant's suitability. But sportsmen here—even some who endorse the NRA's efforts in America—do not find our rules too restrictive.

John O'Callaghan

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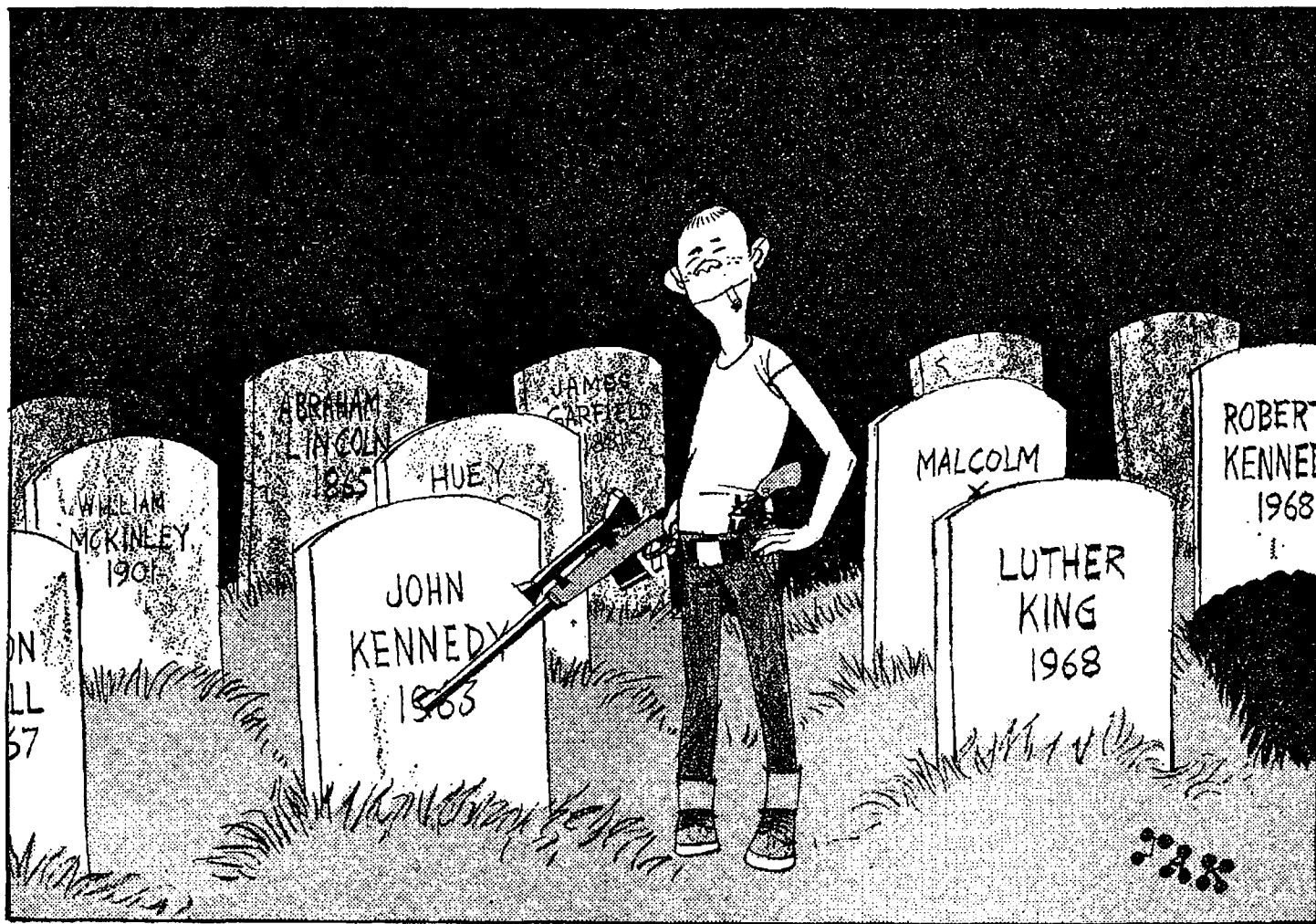
Features include smooth and dependable double and single action mechanism, swing-out cylinder with eight recessed chambers, and a simultaneous auto-retracting ejector. The barrel is precision rifled. The firing pin is separate from the hammer and spring loaded. The one-piece composition grip is correctly formed for comfortable holding and 'on target' pointing. We believe it to be the best revolver that new tooling and modern techniques can devise.

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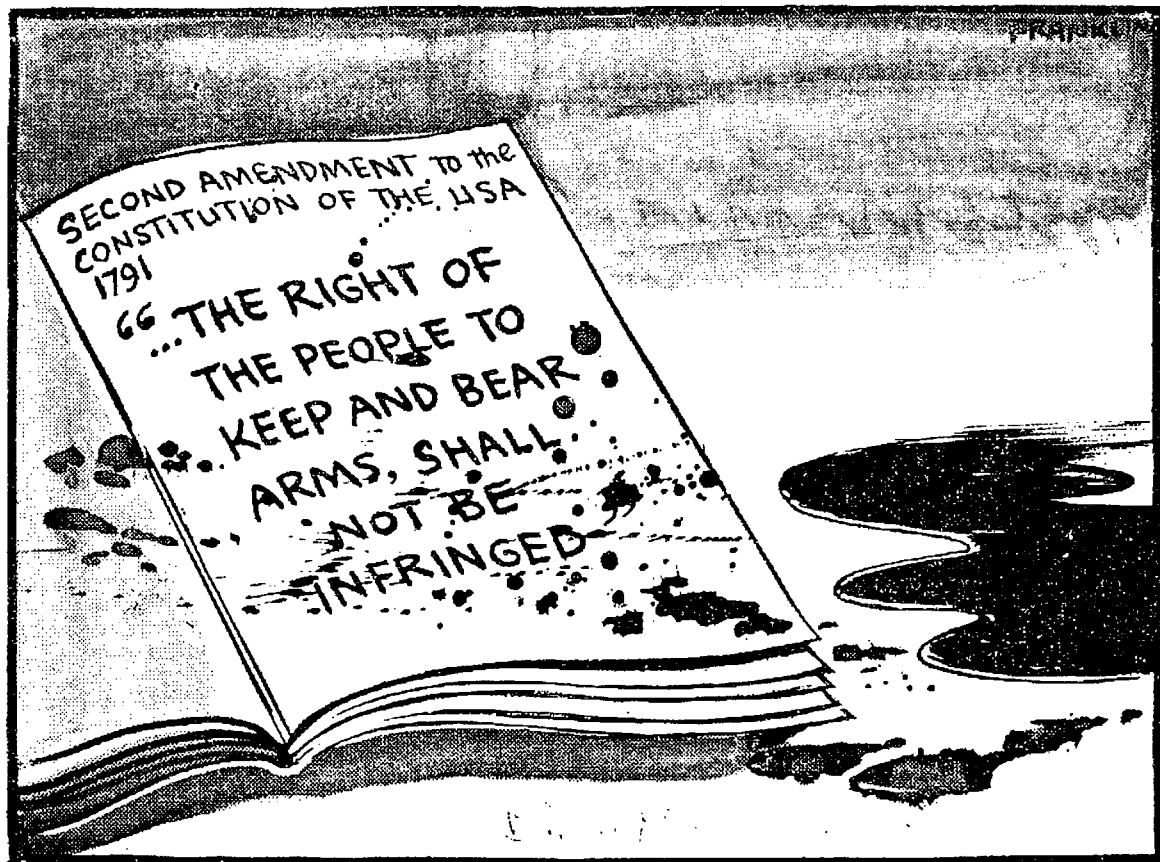
**IS AN AMERICAN CAN BUY
DOUBLE IN TOM QUAD
WITH DOROTHY GISH**

**LONDONER'S
Diary**



"The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

Second Amendment



Time for another amendment

Attack drives further wedge between races

Times June 6

From LOUIS HEREN—Washington, June 5

There was an awful inevitability about the shooting of Senator Robert Kennedy. On more than one occasion, when he was physically possessed by the crowds whose votes he sought, I had thought of his murdered brother and his own submission to a larger fate that was rarely separated from his lust for power.

There was something darkly Irish about this submission. He must have been more aware than most of the increasing violence of American life, and that his name aroused as much insane hatred as love and respect. Then there was the mean envy of those such as Lee Harvey Oswald, of the wealth, success, talent, and good looks with which the Kennedy family is so abundantly blessed.

There is nothing peculiarly American about hate and envy, but they can fester and luxuriate because of the fierce insistence on equality rather than individual liberty in this land of extreme wealth and poverty, opportunity and oppression, and insecurity of the excluded minority groups. It was Senator Kennedy's cruel fate that the nether world of stained sweatshirts, jeans and tattered sneakers was one of his natural allies in his bid for presidential power.

Inevitability did not diminish the shock and widespread shame. Speaker John McCormack exclaimed, "What is this country . . .", the thin, old voice of this other Irish Bostonian was reduced to whimpers. "It's terrible . . . it's indescribable", he declared.

Senator Ralph Yarborough, who witnessed the assassination of President Kennedy in Dallas, said: "The deep stain of criminality and assassination in American life appears to be aimed at the most brilliant and progressive among us."

Perhaps about the time that Mr. Kennedy was shot, three Negroes entered an all-night diner here and are alleged to have shot and killed two Marine officers and wounded two others. The Negroes said that they had come from California to join the Poor People's march.

In New York, a Negro is being tried on charges of terrorist con-

spiracy. A Negro detective has alleged that the accused belonged to a terrorist cell which plotted to murder Mr. Roy Wilkins, the Negro leader, and then President Johnson.

The shooting in Los Angeles is more than another crime statistic, but it has served to dramatize lawlessness and renew demands for strong counter-measures. I fear that the shooting will also further divide the races.

The demands for Draconian law enforcement are made mainly by whites. Some also seek unconstitutional interference in the right of assembly and petition, but have little enthusiasm for stricter control of guns. Their craving for law and order is tainted by fear and hatred of Negroes.

On the other hand, many Negroes and members of other oppressed minorities see Senator Kennedy as the victim of racism. No matter that the championing of their rights paid political dividends, it swung the California primary vote against Senator Eugene McCarthy, Mr. Kennedy's anguished concern was unquestionably sincere.

This was recognized almost in spite of the jazzy campaigning, the manipulating of crowds and the happenings. Coming so soon after the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, one must assume that the shooting will do more than increase Negro alienation.

The senator's very personality somehow inflamed racial emotions. Unwittingly, he has been a devious force. One coloured lady telephoned early this morning and tearfully sought some comfort, but yesterday, walking along the more fashionable blocks of Connecticut Avenue, I overheard two over-dressed matrons saying the most obscene things about him.

I am not suggesting that the republic is in great danger. It did after all survive the assassination of President Kennedy. The murder of Dr. King brought about an explosive emission of racial hatred and violence, but the burnt-out liquor stores and loan-shark offices on 7th and 9th Street here are the only obvious reminders of those wild nights.

The United States has an immense and fundamental stability, in spite of recent horrors; but the tensions have undoubtedly increased. There is no way of knowing if a breaking point is being approached, or indeed if there is a breaking point; but clearly the country must have leadership. For all his qualities, I do not believe that President Johnson can provide it.

He provided magnificently when President Kennedy was assassinated. It was his finest hour. But the country was fearful of some conspiracy and desperately anxious to be assured of the continuity of presidential rule. Today's shooting is not nearly as tragic. Objectively, it must be said that the senator is a lesser victim of violence than his brother, but some terrible things have happened since November, 1963. President Johnson is not the man, to use his own words, to bind the nation's wounds.

The United States is, however, a democracy. It has reached the half-way mark in a presidential election year of more than usual importance. The shooting, as I have suggested, will enhance violence and race as electoral issues, although the motive of the would-be murderer was probably not racial. It could help to sway the vote in November, and the campaign from now on could prove to be an adequate substitute for leadership. The candidates must rise to the situation.

One of their number has been shot as if the election was being fought in some banana republic and not in the world's oldest and most stable republic. There is the impression that continuing violence is pushing the country into an abyss far more terrible than anything that has been threatened on the streets of Paris.

One must first assume, if nothing worse, that Mr. Kennedy is no longer a candidate. If he survives his grave wounds, and is not permanently incapacitated, a long period of recuperation must keep him out of the race. The consequences within the Democratic Party are not unnaturally already being considered. The obvious questions are where will his popular support and committed state delegations go, to Vice-President Humphrey or Senator McCarthy?

At first glance, it would seem that the combination Mr. Kennedy sought earlier with Mr. McCarthy will now be brought about by his own tragic elimination. Their two followings share a contempt for the party's established order. Both seek a change of leadership and a new direction, and rightly or wrongly Mr. Humphrey is seen as one of the blemished old guard.

His record proves that he is a better man than that, but Mr. McCarthy's popular following could now represent a majority. The combined totals of the Kennedy and McCarthy votes in the primaries are not a true indication of the proportion of disaffected Democrats. Many Negroes and members of ethnic groups will now swing to Mr. Humphrey, if only because without a Kennedy they traditionally rally to established party leaders.

Nevertheless, the Vice-President must now see his fellow Minnesotan as a very real threat. In popular terms at least, Mr. McCarthy is at last a serious candidate.

The division of convention delegate votes is another matter. Mr. Humphrey has claimed that he is close to the 1,312 required for nomination with about 1,000 pledged or promised. In fact, he is at present only sure of 561 and a half votes, and with his narrow victory in California, Mr. Kennedy has 493 and a half. Mr. McCarthy has 255.

What will eventually happen to

the Kennedy delegates' votes is uncertain: these delegations have obviously been released from their obligations to vote for him on the first ballot. He will be on no ballot this year. The assumption is that many will go to the convention in Chicago unpledged to any candidate or as favourite son delegations.

In theory at least the number of favourite son delegates will be greatly increased. With many other delegates still uncommitted, the convention could be thrown wide open.

What in fact will happen is that both Mr. Humphrey and Mr. McCarthy will intensify and extend their efforts to win more delegates' votes before August. The Vice-President has the advantage, but Mr. McCarthy's cause is not hopeless.

Mr. Kennedy soundly trounced Mr. Humphrey yesterday in South Dakota, where he was born. It is unusual for a native son to be defeated in his own state, and the fact that the Vice-President campaigned vigorously there raises some doubts as to his popularity.

Mr. McCarthy did well in California, being beaten by only a few points. He denied Mr. Kennedy a decisive victory in the largest state in the Union, and thus proved that his following was not confined to lesser units such as Wisconsin and Oregon.

The cry heard in the Kennedy headquarters in Los Angeles last night, during the only too brief moments of victory, was "on to New York". Mr. McCarthy has his following there, and if he can win some Kennedy delegates, the party's so-called power brokers may have to review their opinion of him.

As I see it, much will depend upon the behaviour of the two men between now and the convention. They have stopped campaigning, as a sign of respect for Mr. Kennedy, but they will not remain long inactive. The man who can best demonstrate his capacity for leadership, and depth of understanding of the nation's problems, could win the nomination.

There are some who believe that the situation has also changed for the Republicans. Their candidates must have 667 delegate votes for

the nomination, and Mr. Richard Nixon has 392, Governor Ronald Reagan has 110, and Governor Nelson Rockefeller 77.

A good many more delegates are leaning towards Mr. Nixon, and the nomination is within his grasp. This is no cause for great satisfaction for many Republicans, who still question his ability to win independent votes. The polls have shown that he could be defeated by Senator McCarthy.

Thus the reinforced support for the Senator could have uncomfortable repercussions for Mr. Nixon. He has no rivals within the party at present. Mr. Rockefeller has fought a miserable campaign, and Mr. Reagan is not seen to be in the running, but the next round of polls could show many more Republicans crossing party lines to line up with Mr. McCarthy.

These rather mechanistic calculations can be misleading. If the senator is the unwilling beneficiary of the Kennedy tragedy, he is a Liberal pledged to racial reconciliation and social justice. I am not at all certain that they will arouse sufficient enthusiasm among the Democratic convention delegates, who with their opposite numbers in the Republican Party tend to be cautious men.

Apart from the preference of most of them for familiar faces and tried politics, they will, however, be watching the national mood closely. A hardening of racial lines, and demands for law and order at the expense of social justice, will surely swing them behind Mr. Humphrey, the rather unpersuasive representative of the status quo; but widespread revulsion from force and counter-force, and from what would appear to be another four years of consensus politics in the nastiest sense of the term, could win the nomination for Mr. McCarthy. After all, they are Democrats who want to win elections, not Republicans who would rather be right, even if it means defeat.

Little of this was heard today, and certainly not from Mr. McCarthy. When he was told of the shooting, he put his head in his hands and said: "Maybe we should do it in a different way. Maybe we should have the English system of having the Cabinet choose the President. There must be some other way."



59 PL 6 US/Kennedy
Department of State

Robert F
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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,

RSC 01,SP 02,SS 20,USIA 12,SAH 03,AID 28,PC 04,EA 10,RSR 01,

/127 W

P 080100Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5419
INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SANTO DOMINGO 2778

SUBJECT: PRD REACTS TO SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH

REF: SD 2767; SD-2762

SUMMARY

FOLLOWING SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH, PRD PRODUCED SPECIAL PROGRAM JUNE 6 FEATURING SPEECH BY SECGEN PENA GOMEZ IN WHICH HE MADE PREDICTABLE BUT NONETHELESS UNWELCOME STATEMENTS LINKING SENATOR'S DEATH TO SAME "OBSCURE FORCES" WHO KILLED HIS BROTHER AND REV. KING. PENA GOMEZ VERY PESSIMISTIC RE US AND WORLD FUTURE, SAID THESIS OF PEACEFUL REVOLUTION DIED WITH ROBERT KENNEDY; NOW PENTAGONISTS AND RACISTS MUST AWAIT INEVITABLE VIOLENT EXPRESSIONS MASS INDIGNATION. PRD SENATORS CASIMIRO CASTRO, MAXIMO LOVATON AND GIL MORALES ALL MADE STATEMENTS, WITH CASIMIRO'S AND GIL'S ON DECIDEDLY CRITICAL SIDE. SANTO DOMINGO MAYOR BAEZ ACOSTA VOICED TYPICALLY FATUOUS REMARKS (SD-2767); SANTO DOMINGO AYUNTAMIENTO NAMED STREET IN ENSANCHE ESPAILLAT FOR ROBERT KENNEDY; SANTIAGO PRD STALWARTS JOSE VEGA AND VIRGILIO MAINARDI MADE SURPRISINGLY EXAGGERATED STATEMENTS, WITH BOTH CLAIMING SEE "DECOMPOSITION" US SOCIETY, AND VEGA END OF MEANINGFUL US ELECTORAL PROCESS; AND JRD SAW NO ROAD OPEN TO DOMS BUT VIOLENT REVOLUTION. 1. IN LENGTHY AND EMOTION-CHARGED JUNE 6 SPEECH, PENA GOMEZ SAID FOLLOWING:
A. BULLET KILLING ROBERT KENNEDY ALSO KILLED HOPES MILLIONS

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THROUGHOUT WORLD WHO SAW IN HIS CANDIDACY HOPE OF REDEMPTION AND BEGINNING OF END OF INTOLERANCE, INJUSTICE AND DISCRIMINATION WITHIN US BORDERS.

B. SAME "OBSCURE FORCES" KILLED ROBERT KENNEDY, REV. KING, AND "CHE" GUEVARA; SAME FORCES WHO DESTROYING TEMPLES IN VIET-NAM KILLED ROBERT KENNEDY, HOPING DELAY MARCH OF HISTORY; AFTER HE WON CALIFORNIA PROMARY, BECAME DEADLY THREAT TO GENERALS AND MONOPOLIES MANUFACTURING WARS AND GOLPES THROUGHOUT WORLD, AND FOR FANATIC RACISTS IN US.

C. AFTER JOHN KENNEDY DEATH, US NEGROES WHO SOUGHT PEACEFUL SATISFACTION THEIR DEMANDS HAD TWO GREAT LEADERS; MARTIN LUTHER KING AND ROBERT KENNEDY; ONE DISCRIMINATED NEGRO, OTHER RICH LEADER OF WHITES OF GOOD WILL.

D. NOW ROBT KENNEDY DEAD, AND WITH HIM LIES; HOPE OF PEACEFUL REVOLUTION IN LA; HOPE OF PEACE IN VIET-NAM AND WORLD; HOPE OF JUSTICE FOR NEGROES; FAITH MILLIONS HAD PLACED IN US DEMOCRACY. LAST GREAT VOICE US PEOPLE STILLED; LAST LIGHT EXTINGUISHED. SILENCE AND DARKNESS REIGN IN LAND OF SKYSCRAPERS. LIGHT WILL SOON RE-ILLUMINATE US, BUT WILL BE MOMENTARY LIGHT GIVEN OFF BY SPARKS OF VIOLENCE; BATTLECRY OF MULTITUDES WILL SHATTER SILENCE IMPOSED BY ARMS ON VOICE OF REASON.

E. ROBERT KENNEDY REPORTEDLY IRRITATED WHEN SEN. MCCARTHY ACCUSED HIM PARTICIPATING 1965 DECISION INTERVENE IN DR. BOTH MEN VIGOROUSLY REPUDIATED INTERVENTION IN DR; BUT ROBERT KENNEDY MORE THAN ANYONE REJECTED IT BECAUSE IT WAS IN DR WHERE FORCES PROVOKING MARTYRDOM OF DALLAS FIRST FOUGHT JOHN KENNEDY, WHEN INSTITUTED OVERTHROW JUAN BOSCH AND WITH HIM HOPE OF REVOLUTION WITH LIBERTY. BOSCH AND PRD THEN VICTIMS OF EMPRESSARIOS OF EXPLOITATION AND CRIME THAT SACRIFICED PRES. KENNEDY IN TEXAS AND OF LYNDON JOHNSON, THE BENEFICIARY OF THAT CRIME. PRD KNEW ROBERT KENNEDY WOULD NOT BETRAY HIS BROTHER'S LEGACY, WOULD NOT SELL OUT TO ALL-POWERFUL MASTERS HIS NATION, AND SO PRD REJOICED OVER HIS CANDIDACY.

F. SEN. MCCARTHY A SERIOUS RIVAL FOR SEN. KENNEDY, BUT LACKS YOUTHFUL VIGOR AND CHARISMA OF LATTER. THAT WHY PENTAGONIST GENERAL STAFF DID NOT CONSIDER HIM TRUE ADVERSARY

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AND DANGEROUS AS ROBT. KENNEDY.

G. TWO LESSONS EMERGE: (1) HE WHO LACKS HEALTH PUNISH CRIME WITHIN OWN BORDERS HAS NO RIGHT BE WORLD POLICEMAN;

(2) US MUST TURN INWARD AND SEEK NEW INSPIRATION TO STOP DESTRUCTIVE FORCES LEADING ITS DECOMPOSITION, WHICH BEGAN WITH VIET-NAM WAR, WERE BORN IN OFFICES GREAT COMPANIES PROFITING FROM THAT WAR: WHEN GANGSTERS OF GREAT MONOPOLIES SEE RICHES THREATENED THEY RESORT TO VIOLENCE.

H. TWO KENNEDYS AND REV. KING ILLUSTRIOUS VICTIMS VIOLENT SOCIETY, OF VIOLENT US POWER WHICH IN LAST 5 YEARS HAS EXPRESSED SELF IN PERSONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CRIME.

I. ROBERT KENNEDY DEFEATED BEFORE ELECTIONS HELD, FOR IT CLEAR ARMS AND NOT VOTES DECIDE WHO HOLDS POWER. IN LA WE ELECT PRESIDENTS BY FORCE, AS THEY TAUGHT US; AND SINCE HE WHO SOWS WIND REAPS WHIRLWIND, THEY WHO SOW VIOLENCE WILL REAP VIOLENCE WHEN ALL AMERICAN PEOPLES FROM CANADA TO CAPE HORN APPLY LESSON OF US TEACHERS AND ELECT GOVTS. WITH BULLETS.

J. ROBERT KENNEDY'S VERY PRESENCE, GIVEN CONDITIONS IN US, WAS REVOLUTIONARY, NO MATTER HOW FAR HE INITIALLY INTENDED PROCEED: THAT WHY PRD CALLED HIM ALLY.

K. HYPOCRITICAL MERCHANTS OF DEATH NOW PRAYING IN CHURCH ASKING GOD SPARE US FROM VIOLENCE THEY SOWING ALL CORNERS OF EARTH. THEY PRAYING TO WHITE GOD, BUT VIETS AND NEGROES HAVE THEIR YELLOW AND BLACK GODS AS WELL. ALSO IN SANTO DOMINGO, SPANIARDS FOISTED MYTH THAT GOD ON THEIR SIDE AGAINST INDIANS. THOSE WHO EXPLOIT OFTEN CLAIM HAVE MONOPOLY OF GOD: BUT THEIR PRAYERS WILL NOT SAVE THEM FROM MASSES, WHO SOUGHT PEACEFUL SOLUTION WITH ROBERT KENNEDY BUT WILL SOON RISE TO OUST OLIGARCHY.

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ACTION ARA 16

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, SAH 03, AID 28, PC 04, EA 10, RSR 01,
/127 W

P 080100Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5424
INFO AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SANTO DOMINGO 2778

L. "ROBT KENNEDY TOOK THESIS PEACEFUL REVOLUTION WITH HIM TO TOMB, ALONG WITH ALLIANCE FOR PROGRESS, L.A. DEMOCRACY AND ANY MYTHS CREATED IN US TO DELAY INEVITABLE REVOLUTION."

M. "ROBERT KENNEDY WAS PERHAPS LAST OPPORTUNITY REMAINING HIS NATION STOP MAD COURSE TOWARD DISASTER"; BUT PENTAGONISM MORTALLY WOUNDED BY SAME BULLET KILLED SEN KENNEDY, AND WILL NOW SUFFER INEVITABLE DEATH CONVULSIONS. "REST IN PEACE, ROBERT F. KENNEDY, APOSTLE OF PEACE."

2. IN INTRODUCING (REJECTED) JUNE 5 RESOLUTION SUSPEND SENATE SESSION (SD-2767) PRD SEN. GIL MORALES SAID DEATH GREAT LIBERAL CAUSED TERRIBLE IMPACT ON WORLD AND LINKING DESTINIES US AND DR, WONDERED "WHAT WILL BE FATE OF THAT ALL-POWERFUL NATION, AND OF US, WHEN THAT COLOSSUS...FALLS? SEN. MAXIMO LOVATON STATED JUNE 6 THAT SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH WAS DISASTER FOR HUMANITY AND LIBERAL SECTORS IN US; HIS COLLEAGUE CASIMIRO CASTRO SAW ASSASSINATION NOT AS ISOLATED EVENT, BUT AS "EXECUTION OF PROGRAM AIMED AT ELIMINATING LEADERS WHO IN AMERICA STRUGGLING ON CONTINENTAL SCALE FOR NEW TYPE OF LIFE FOR MASSES MADE DESPERATE BY HUNGER AND MISERY," AND ADDED "OFFICIAL CIRCLE IN US NOT DISPOSED PERMIT INTERNAL CHANGES IN US POLITICS."

3. IN SANTIAGO E STWHILE MAYORAL CANDIDATE VIRGILIO MAINARDI REPORTEDLY CALLED ASSASSINATION PRODUCT DECOMPOSITION US

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SOCIETY, AND LAMENTED THAT WAVE OF VIOLENCE AFFECTING MEN IN US MOST CAPABLE EFFECTING CHANGE IN SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND IN POLICY TOWARD LA. FELLOW PRD STALWART JOSE VEGA ALSO NOTED ALLEGED "GREAT SOCIAL DECOMPOSITION" IN US AND OMINOUSLY WARNED RORT. KENNEDY DEATH HAS CLOSED DOORS IN US TO CHANGE BY ELECTORAL PATH: "NOW IT REALIZED (HE SAID) ATTAINMENT OF POWER TO CHANGE STATUS QUO CANNOT BE EFFECTED IN THIS WAY."

4. IN PLAINLY REVOLUTIONARY STATEMENT ON JUNE 7 RADIO PROGRAM JRD SAID SEN. KENNEDY'S DEATH " CLEAR MANIFESTATION THAT NEITHER FOR US PEOPLE NOR FOR COLONIZED PEOPLES LIKE OURS EXISTS MOST REMOTE POSSIBILITY ELIMINATING EXPLOITATION OF YANKEE MONOPOLIES BY PEACEFUL MEANS...DOMS HAVE MADE EVERY EFFORT BE ALLOWED ACHIEVE POWER THROUGH PEACEFUL MEANS, BUT WE DEFINITELY ONLY LEFT ROAD OF VIOLENCE TO PUT END OUR EARTHLY SUFFERINGS."

5. COMMENT: A. EMBASSY REPORTING ABOVE PRD COMMENTS AT LENGTH SO THAT DEPARTMENT WILL BE FULLY AWARE NATURE PARTY'S REACTION AND EXPLOITATION SEN. KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION IN EVENT PENA GOMEZ OR OTHER PRD LEADERS NOW IN US SHOULD VISIT WASHINGTON (SD-2762). DEPT. MAY WISH CONSIDER BRIEFING POSSIBLE INTERLOCUTORS OF PENA GOMEZ (FM.G., JOHN FIELLY, PAT HOLT.)

B. PRD'S HIGHLY EMOTIONAL AND VEHEMENT REACTION TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH WAS PREDICTABLE. MUST, OF COURSE, BE VIEWED AGAINST PARTY'S RECENT INCREASING ATTENTION TO BOSCH'S "PENTAGONISM" THESIS AND PRD'S INTENSE ATTACHMENT OF ITS INTERESTS TO FORTUNES OF US LIBERALS REPRESENTED (TO PRD) BY SENATOR KENNEDY. WHILE STRONG LANGUAGE USED IS PRODUCT OF INTENSE EMOTION AND FRUSTRATION WHICH SENATOR'S DEATH REPRESENTS FOR PRD, IT ALSO REFLECTS SOME PROGRESSION OF PRD POSITION AT LEAST IN PROPAGANDA FIELD TOWARD VIOLENT REVOLUTION. C. CONSUL IN SANTIAGO REPORTED PERSONAL INTERVIEW WITH PRD ACTIVIST VEGA IN WHICH NUSTTER (BRACED WITH OWN EXTREME STATEMENTS REPORTED ABOVE) IMPRESSED CONSUL THAT VEGA, AT LEAST, HIGHLY UPSET BY SENATOR'S DEATH, AND HIS STATEMENTS REFLECTED PRIMARILY PERSONAL SHOCK AND CONSTERNATION. D. PRD MAY BE EXPECTED CONTINUE EXTREME REVOLUZIONARY PROPAGANDA LINE AT LEAST DURING ABSENCE PARTY LEADERS IN US, WITH RADICALS JOTTIN CURY AND NAPOLEON NUNEZ ACTING SEC GEN AND PRESS AND PROPAGANDA SEC. RESPECTIVELY, AND "RAFA" GAMUNDI OUT OF JAIL AND BACK ON JOB AS ORGANIZATION SEC. THIS TRIO REPRESENTS MOST RADICAL HANDS IN WHICH PARTY HAS EVER

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BEEN LEFT EVEN TEMPORARILY.
GP-3 CRIMMINS

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63 Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

4 Pol 7 INDIA 23

UNCLASSIFIED 119

PAGE 01 NEW DE 15313 071449Z

44
ACTION CPR 02

INFO NEA 13,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,SS 20,GPM 04,H 02,NSC 10,0 02

SY 03,P 04,CIAE 00,INR 07,NSAE 00,RSC 01,EUR 15,RSR 01,CU 04,

/088 W

0 071326Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5839

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 15313

REF: STATE 178273, DELHI 15262

1. B.R. BHAGAT, MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, WILL DEPART TONIGHT FOR WASHINGTON TO ATTEND BURIAL OF SENATOR KENNEDY, ACCORDING TO MEA.

2. HE IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE NEW YORK BOAC FLIGHT 503 SATURDAY AT 1240 AND TENTATIVELY TO PROCEED FROM KENNEDY AIRPORT TO WASHINGTON, ARRIVING AT 1520. NEW YORK TO WASHINGTON FLIGHT SUBJECT TO CHANGE BUT INDIAN EMBASSY WILL HAVE FINAL SCHEDULE.

3. BHAGAT PLANS TO BE IN WASHINGTON JUNE 9 AND 10, IN NEW YORK JUNE 11 AND 12 AND TENTATIVELY THEREAFTER GO TO OTTAWA JUNE 13.

4. I REALIZE PROBLEMS BUT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT TO ARRANGE FOR HIM TO SEE APPROPRIATE PEOPLE IN DEPARTMENT JUNE 10. INFORM AMBASSADOR BOWLES.
WEATHERSBY

NEW DELHI

15313

6/7/68

Pol 6 us/Kennedy, Robert F

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

Info:

STATE _____

SUBJECT: Kennedy Assassination

REF: Lusaka 2015

1. Concerned by your report of ugly mood in Zambia and hope you will keep us informed as situation develops.
2. Do you see any usefulness in our approaching Ambassador Banda here in attempt get him send factual reports?
3. References to assassin should be qualified "suspected" or "alleged" until he actually convicted.

EXEMPT.

RUSK

Drafted by: AFSE:MPHoyt:par 6-7-68

Tel. Ext. 3519

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AFSE - Edward W. Holmes

Clearances:

1/AF - Mr. Runyon (draft)

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POL 6 US/Kennedy
Robert F.
Department of State

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PPB 9 BEL

UNCLASSIFIED 272

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07134 071913Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, 074 W

R 071710Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6620
USCA WASHDC

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 7134

SUBJECT: FURTHER REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: BRUSSELS 7090

1. BULK OF PRESS COMMENT CONTINUED IN TONES SHARPLY CRITICAL OF ALLEGED ILLS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY.

2. THERE ALSO WAS TREMOR OF FOREBODING DERIVING FROM FEELING THAT WESTERN EUROPE'S DESTINY IS LINKED TO OURS. (THIS THEME HAS COME THROUGH REPEATEDLY IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL BELGIANS.) MOST PRESS COMMENT IS PUNCTUATED BY NUMEROUS EXPRESSIONS OF GRIEF AT SENATOR KENNEDY'S DEATH AND SYMPATHY FOR HIS FAMILY AND COUNTRYMEN.

3. MANY PAPERS CARRIED FULL TEXT OF DECLARATION MADE BY AMBASSADOR ON TV IN FRENCH AND DUTCH THANKING BELGIANS FOR THEIR SYMPATHY AT THIS SAD TIME. MOST OTHER PAPERS SUMMARIZED STATEMENT.

4. MOST COMMON THEME WAS AGAIN STRAIN OF VIOLENCE ALLEGED TO RUN THROUGH AMERICAN LIFE AND CHARACTER. INFLUENTIAL LA LIBRE BELGIQUE (CATHOLIC CONSERVATIVE) RAN FRONT-PAGE EDITORIAL ENTITLED "LAST WARNING" WHICH SUGGESTED THAT "AMERICAN CHALLENGE AS TOPIC OF INTEREST HAD BEEN REPLACED BY "AMERICAN SICKNESS - PLAGUE OF VIOLENCE. REFORM WOULD NOT COME QUICKLY THROUGH PASSAGE OF SOME NEW LAW BUT NECESSITATED "BASIC CHANGES IN THE FAMOUS AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE" TO WEED OUR GLORIFICATION OF VIOLENCE IN TV AND FILMS. LA LIBRE SAID

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THAT " OLD EUROPE" WAS WATCHING AN " AMERICAN DISASTER WHICH LEFT HER (ERUOPE) DISTRESSED AND WORRIED AND PLUNGED HER INTO NEW UNCERTAINTIES."

5. DE NIEUWE GIDS (CATHOLIC) REMARKED THAT " DRIVE FOR POWER" SEEMED TO BE ASSUMING PLACE AS " DOMINATING FORCE" IN AMERICAN LIFE. VOLKSGAZET IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED " WAVE OF INTOLERANCE" TOOK SIMILAR LINE, POINTING OUT THAT PRESIDENT'S ACTION IN APPOINTING SPECIAL COMMISSION WAS RECOGNITION BY HIGHEST AUTHORITY OF VIOLENCE AS SPECIAL PROBLEM IN AMERICAN LIFE.

6. GAZET VAN ANTWERPEN (CATHOLIC), AFTER NOTING MASSIVE LOCAL INTEREST IN KENNEDY'S CONDITION UP UNTIL HIS DEATH WAS ACTUALLY ANNOUNCED, HELD THAT AMERICAN PRESTIGE WAS BADLY DAMAGED. U.S. SEEMED TO BE A " STILL SMOKING MELTING-POT OF RACISM," AMERICANS MUST CONTINUE FIGHT AGAINST " SICKNESSES" OF THEIR SOCIETY.

7. LA DERNIERE HEURE (LIBERAL) TOOK MORE BALANCED APPROACH, COMMENTING THAT US HAD NO MONOPOLY ON ACTS OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE. PAPER SUGGESTED THAT THOSE WHO SPREAD FANATICISM OF ANY SORT WERE REAL AUTHORS OF THIS HORRIBLE CRIME. KNIGHT

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2835

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2015

1. UGLY MOOD DEVELOPING HERE, SPAWNED PARTLY BY IGNORANCE AND TAKING VIEW KENNEDY KILLING "SCHEMED BY THOSE IN POWER." KAUNDA DUE HERE TODAY AT 1630 TO MAKE AIRPORT ADDRESS ON ANNOUNCED THEME OF KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. IT LIKELY HE TOO IS NOT FULLY INFORMED.

2. IF POSSIBLE, WOULD BE DEEPLY GRATEFUL IF EMBASSY KAMPALA OR DAR (WE DO NOT KNOW HIS ITINERARY) COULD GATHER BATCH OF WIRE SERVICE REPORTS EMPHASIZING THAT KILLING DONE BY ALIEN, EVIDENTLY AGITATED BY ISSUES TOTALLY DIVORCED FROM AMERICAN DOMESTIC SCENE, AND GET THESE TO KAUNDA BEFORE DEPARTURE FOR LUSAKA WITH FOLLOWING OVERING NOTE FROM ME.

3. "DEAR MR PRESIDENT. I KNOW THAT WITH ALL OF US YOU MUST BE SHOCKED BEYOND BELIEF BY THIS MOST RECENT AMERICAN TRAGEDY. NOT KNOWING WHETHER YOU HAVE HAD TIME TO EXAMINE DETAILED ACCOUNTS OF THE ASSASSINATION, THE ASSASSIN AND HIS PRESUMED MOTIVES, I AM ASKING OUR EMBASSY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH AN UP-TO-DATE FILE OF MATERIAL.

I AM PARTICULARLY CONCERNED BECAUSE THERE SEEMS TO BE A PREVAILING VIEW HERE THAT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION WAS "SCHEMED BY THOSE IN POWER" IN THE US. NOT ONLY WILL THIS DO INCALCULABLE HARM TO RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES BUT IT SIMPLY DOESN'T SQUARE WITH ANY OF THE FACTS.

YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT IN MAKING THIS OBSERVATION I

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DO NOT MEAN TO DIMINISH ONE IOTA THE HORROR OF THE DEED AND
THE IRREPLACEABLE LOSS IT HAS CREATED. YOURS RESPECTFULLY,
ROBERT GOOD, US AMBASSADOR."

GOOD

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2839

UNCLAS LUSAKA 2022

SUBJECT: ZAMBIAN REACTIONS TO SENATOR KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. SUMMARY. STRONG EMOTIONAL REACTIONS TO ASSASSINATION TEND AT BEST TO PUT BLAME ON VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN SOCIETY AND AT WORST TO SUGGEST IT WAS "SCHEMED BY THOSE IN POWER" IN THE US. POLITICIANS SEEM INCLINED TO MORE RADICAL INTERPRETATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

2. IN ABSENCE PRESIDENT KAUNDA VICE PRESIDENT KAPWEPWE'S FIRST REACTION WAS TO CHARACTERIZE TRAGIC ACT AS "PRIMITIVE, BARBARIC, AND UNDEMOCRATIC". IN RATHER UNANIMATED INFORMAL TELEVISION INTERVIEW LATER JUNE 6, KAPWEPWE REPEATED THIS PHRASE AND, THOUGH NOT DIRECTLY AGREEING WITH INTERVIEWER'S SUGGESTION OF A CONSPIRATORIAL LINK BETWEEN THIS AND MURDERS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND DR. KING, HE SPOKE OF ALL THREE IN CONTEXT OF A SOCIETY THAT MADE IT DANGEROUS TO BE IN FOREFRONT OF LIBERAL LEADERSHIP. IN VIEW OF SUCH EVENTS HE QUESTIONED HOW ONE COULD BELIEVE AMERICAN PROTESTATIONS OF DEMOCRACY AND WORLD LEADERSHIP.

① 3. FILM CLIPS SHOWN JUST PRIOR TO TV INTERVIEW INCLUDED ONE IN WHICH SENATOR KENNEDY ANNOUNCED HIS CANDIDACY BY STATEMENT HE RUNNING FOR POLICIES, NOT AGAINST INDIVIDUALS, BUT ONE CANNOT CHANGE POLICIES WITHOUT CHANGING ADMINISTRATION. ANOTHER SHOWED KENNEDY SAYING WORDS TO EFFECT THAT "FORCES REALLY DIVIDING AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE THOSE IN POWER", THAT REALLY DIVISIVE FORCE WAS PRESIDENT JOHNSON. SUCH QUOTES MAY WELL CONTRIBUTE TO FALSE VIEW HELD BY SOME THAT KILLING MUST SOMEHOW BE SCHEME OF "THOSE IN POWER".

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4. LATTER VIEW EXPRESSED BY WESTERN PROVINCE MINISTER OF STATE PETER CHANDA WHO TOLD TIMES OF ZAMBIA ASSASSINATION WAS "ONLY WHAT COULD BE EXPECTED FROM THE COWBOY GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES". HE WAS CONVINCED THAT MURDER WAS "MASTER-MINDED BY THOSE ALREADY IN POWER". SAID AMERICA PREACHED DEMOCRACY FROM HILL TOPS YET WAS SCENE OF SUCH "BRUTAL, SAVAGE AND UNCIVILIZED MURDER".

5. UNIP NATIONAL SECRETARY AND MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO MAINZA CHONA, BELIEVED ASSASSIN WAS A "MERCENARY" AND THOUGHT MURDER "SHOWS THAT TO SURVIVE AS PRESIDENT OF AMERICA ONE HAS TO BE A THUG".

6. OTHER TIMES INTERVIEWS SHOWED SENATOR KENNEDY HAD ENDEARED HIMSELF TO ZAMBIANS AND, AS ONE CLERGY MAN PUT IT "STOOD FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUALITY FOR THE NEGROES AND HAD PLANS TO END THE UNSOLVED VIETNAM WAR".

7. ONE TEACHER SAID, "THIS IS A VERY UNCIVILIZED ACT. IF IT HAPPENED HERE THE OUTCRY WOULD BE THAT WE STILL LIVED IN A JUNGLE". ANOTHER SAW IT AS A "CULMINATION OF RACIALISM AND ACTIVITIES OF SELFISH INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE HUNGRY FOR POWER".

8. RADIO ZAMBIA NEWS TALK THIS MORNING PLAYED THEME OF THIS

TO HILT, SPOKE OF CHILDREN BEING BROUGHT UP ON TV GUNPLAY RATHER THAN FAIRY TALES, MENTIONED DEATHS OF BOTH KENNEDYS, KING, EVERS AND MALCOLM X, AND ALLUDED TO AREAS OF COUNTRY UNDER CONTROL OF ORGANIZED CRIME SYNDICATES LIKE MAFIA. IT PORTRAYED AMERICA AS "SICK SOCIETY" WHERE RICH WERE FIGHTING POOR AND BLACK FIGHTING WHITE, WITH IMPLICATION IT WAS TOO LATE TO FIND A CURE. WILL POUCH TEXT.

9. BELIEVE FOREGOING ARE FAIRLY TYPICAL OF THE RANGE OF ZAMBIAN REACTIONS. FEW SEEMED TO NOTICE OR BE INFORMED OF FACT THAT MAN CHARGED WITH MURDER WAS AN ALIEN WHOSE MOTIVE SEEMS UNCONNECTED WITH US DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. THE STRONG VISCERAL REACTIONS WOULD SEEM TO INDICATE EQUALLY STRONG FEELINGS OF PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT WITH THE AMERICAN IDEALS KENNEDY SYMBOLIZED FOR THEM. IN SHORT, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, KENNEDY SEEMED TO REPRESENT HOPE FOR THE REALIZATION OF SUCH IDEALS NOT ONLY FOR AMERICANS BUT

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OTHERS TOO, AND RESENTMENT AT THE FRUSTRATION OF THESE IDEALS
IS DIRECTED AT THE VERY AMERICAN SOCIETY FROM WHICH THEY STEM

10. ACCORDING TO PRESS, PRESIDENT KAUNDA IS EXPECTED DEAL
WITH ASSASSINATION IN SPEECH AT AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM EAST
AFRICA THIS EVENING.
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1. Indications are very few countries sending representatives to Arlington. So far we only aware of Ireland and Japan.

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Drafted by: NEA/INC:DHeck:lab 6/7/68

Tel. Ext. 4703

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CURRENT REACTION

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. NEWS CONCERNING ASSASSINATION OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY DOMINATED BOTH MORNING NEWSPAPERS. HARD NEWS STORIES WERE SUPPLIED ZP GHANA NEWS AGENCY AND LARGELY TAKEN FROM REUTER. BOTH PAPERS USED BLACK FRAMED HEADLINES ON DEATH.

2. ALL FIVE FRONT-PAGE STORIES IN DAILY GRAPHIC CONCERNED TRAGEDY, INCLUDING ONE STORY ON JORDANIAN ASSASSIN.

3. LOCALLY WRITTEN EDITORIALS AND COLUMNS WERE GENERALLY HIGHLY CRITICAL OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. GRAPHIC EDITORIAL REFERRED TO KENNEDY AS "THE ONE HOPE WHICH MANY PEOPLE SAW FOR SICK AMERICAN SOCIETY. WE CANNOT HELP BUT GET SOME VERY UNEASY AND DIRTY FEELING THAT AMERICA ALWAYS KILLS ANY OF HER CITIZENS WHO ADVOCATE SANITY AND CIVILIZATION AS AMERICAN MISSIONARIES WOULD MAKE US IN 'DARK AFRICA' UNDERSTAND," EDITORIAL SAID.

4. GHANAIAN TIMES EDITORIAL WAS MORE MODERATE. GENERALLY EXPRESSED SADNESS AT KENNEDY DEATH, BUT A FEATURE ARTICLE JUXTAPOSED TO EDITORIAL WAS MOST VICIOUS ANTI-AMERICAN ATTACK IN MORNING PRESS.

5. EDITORIAL SPOKE OF THE "IMMENSE LOSS NOT ONLY TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BUT ALSO TO THE WHOLE WORLD AT LARGE." IT CONDEMNED THE ASSASSINATION ALONG WITH "ALL DECENT-MINDED,

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LIBERAL PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD," AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT GUN CONTROL LAWS WOULD BE PASSED.

6. THE HIGHLY ANTI-AMERICAN COLUMN BY ACTING FEATURE EDITOR BOAKYE DJAN DESCRIBED KENNEDY'S DEATH AS "THE LATEST ADDITION TO THE LONG STORY OF AMERICA'S MORAL DECAY,"

AND LIBERALLY USED SUCH PHRASES AS "AMERICAN IMPERIAL DREAMS," "AMERICAN MONOPOLY CAPITALISM," AND "ULTRA-REACTIONARY RESPONSE."

7. "AMERICA'S IM ERIAL DREAMS RECEIVED A TREMENDOUS BOOST RIGHT UP TO THE END OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR WHEN THE SUCCESS STORY OF SOCIALISM IN EUROPE---ESPECIALLY IN THE EAST--- SIGNIFIED THE END OF ITS DREAM OF STEPPING INTO THE IMPERIAL SHOES OF THEIR BRITISH AND FRENCH ANCESTORS," THE DJAN COLUMN SAID.

8. "THE MEN OF AMERICAN MONOPOLY CAPITALISM, SEEING THEIR ADVANCE TO WORLD DOMINATION HALTED AND THREATENED IN THIS WAY, TURNED TO ANTI-COMMUNISM AS THEIR BASIC STATE POLICY," HE CONTINUED.

9. SPEAKING OF A ERICA'S "BOUNTS OF POLITICAL HYSTERIA AT HOME AND ABROAD," THE ARTICLE SAID THAT " THE DISTINGUISHING HALL-MARKS OF THESE HAVE BEEN BOTH ATOMIC BLACK-MAIL AND INGENUITY; SYSTEMATIC PERSECUTION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE INTELLECTUALS OF THE LEFT SINCE THE MCCARTHY DAYS, AND THE CALCULATED DESTRUCTION OF A SMALL COUNTRY AND ITS POPULATION THROUGH TERROR BOMBING OF CIVILIAN POPULATION IN VIETNAM," DJAN WROTE.

10. HIS ARTICLE ALSO PRESENTED HIS VIEW NEGRO'S POSITION IN THE UNITED STATES AS FOLLOWS: "THE MASS OF AFRO-AMERICANS WHO ARE REPORTED TO BE 'SUBSISTING ON GRASS' ESPECIALLY IN THE MISSISSIPPI AREAS ARE ALSO BELIEVED TO BE 'HUDDLED IN RAT-INFESTED GHETTOES FIGHTING DESPERATELY' TO BREATHE THE VERY 'FREE AIR' AMERICAN IS SUPPOSED TO BE EXPORTING TO AND DEFENDING IN VIETNAM AND EVEN THEN 'ONLY TO BE CLUBBED DOWN AND SHOT BY POLICE.'"

11. DJAN ARTICLE CONCLUDED, "THESE FACTS OUGHT TO BE A SOBERING THOUGHT TO OUR LEADERS WHO IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO RESCUE

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US FROM RED-RUSSIAN AND CHINESE IMPERIALISM ARE NOW PUSHING US GRADUALLY INTO THE FOLD OF THIS AMERICA! (IN CAPS) A CITADEL OF DEMOCRACY (IN CAPS) WHICH CANNOT OR IS NOT EVEN WILLING TO OFFER ADEQUATE PROTECTION FOR HER LEADERS."

12. AN ARTICLE IN GRAPHIC, ENTITLED " THE SHAME OF AMERICA," SAID THE ASSASSINATIONS OF THE TWO KENNEDYS, DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, AND MALCOLM X "PAINT A GRUESOME PICTURE OF THE UNITED STATES."

13. "WHERE DOES THE WORLD GO FROM HERE IF THEY WHO PROFESS TO BE THE LEADERS IN WEALTH, IN TECHNOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS AND IN SO CALLED CIVILIZATION CAN SO EASILY ABANDON THESE TRUTHS AND TAKE TO THE GUN LAW OF THE PAST," THE WRITER ASKED.

14. "THE DASTARDLY ACTS WERE COMMITTED BY A SMALL BAND OF WRETCHES BUT THE SHAME IS THAT OF ALL AMERICA AND AMERICANS," HE SAID.

15. ASSASSINATION NEWS GOT MUCH LESS PLAY IN KUMASI. KUMASI PIONEER EDITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGED UNITED STATES AS CHAMPION OF "THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM AND HUMAN CIVILIZATION IN WORLD TODAY" BUT EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT AMERICA IS THE ONE GREAT NATION IN WESTERN HEMISPHERE THAT "PERSISTS IN SHOCKING THE WORLD WITH THE RUDEST OF VIOLENCE TO HUMAN DIGNITY."

16. "WHILE WE EXPRESS OUR DEEPEST CONDOLENCE TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND THE FAMILY OF SENATOR KENNEDY, THIS QUESTION WE ALSO WANT ALL AMERICANS TO ANSWER: WHAT'S WRONG IN THE UNITED STATES?" FOLEY

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UNCLAS KINSHASA 9627

SUBJECT: SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION;
OFFICIAL REACTION FROM CONGO BRAZZAVILLE

1. CONGO (B)'S VOIX DE LA REVOLUTION NEWSCAST EVENING
6 JUNE 1968 CARRIED STATEMENT BY INFOMIN ANDRE HOMBESSA
DAMNING AMERICAN SOCIETY AND CALLING AMERICANS THE MOST
FRIGHTFUL PEOPLE IN THE WORLD. KINSHASA NEWSPAPER QUOTED
ONE PARAGRAPH THEREFROM, UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF WHICH
FOLLOWS.

2. QTE. THE AMERICANS ARE IRRESPONSIBLE. IT'S A SICK
SOCIETY. THEY CALL THEMSELVES CUSTODIANS OF DEMOCRACY
BUT DO NOT KNOW HOW TO APPLY THE ELEMENTAL PRECEPTS OF
DEMOCRACY. NO (OTHER) SOCIETY, EVEN BARBARIAN, HAS
COMMITTED SUCH ACTS OF SAVAGERY. END QTE.

3. ORIGINAL FRENCH VERSION READS: QTE: LES AMERICAINS
NE SONT PAS SERIEUX. C'EST UNE SOCIETE MALADE. ILS
SE DISENT DETENTEURS DE LA DEMOCRATIE, MAIS NE SAVENT
PAS APPLIQUER LES PREMIERES NOTIONS DE LA DEMOCRATIE.
AUCUNE SOCIETE, MEME BARBARE, N'EST PARVENUE A ENREGISTRER
DE TELS ACTES DE SAUVAGERIE, #
END QTE. MCGUIRE

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