



Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Department of State

ROBERT F.
TELEGRAM

(55) UNCLASSIFIED 192

PAGE 01 BAMAKO 01856 061831Z

46
ACTION AF 15

INFO H 02, SS 20, CPR 02, P 04, NSC 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, /055 W

P 061758Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1500
INFO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

UNCLAS BAMAKO 1856

SUBJ: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. FIRST REACTION KENNEDY DEATH THAT OF MAN IN STREET. THERE IS SHOCK, SORROW, DISBELIEF, CONTEMPT, ANGER AND EVEN READINESS BELIEVE ASSASSINATION CONNECTED SOMEHOW WITH ASSASSINATIONS PRESIDENT KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING, WITH COLLECTIVE GUILT BEING ASCRIBED AMERICAN PEOPLE.

2. FIRST MEDIA COVERAGE SINCE ANNOUNCEMENT KENNEDY DEATH WAS ON RADIO MALI NOON BROADCAST WHICH GAVE FACTUAL SUMMARY OF LAST TWELVE HOURS, DESCRIPTION AND MOTIVES OF ASSASSIN. SCHLESINGER QUOTED AS SAYING IN SPEECH IN NEW YORK LAST EVENING AMERICAN PEOPLE "TERRIFYING" (EFFRAYANT) AND THAT VIOLENT NATURE AMERICA HAS ROOTS IN MASSACRE INDIANS, USE OF NEGRO AS SLAVE AND WAR IN VIETNAM. ATTENTION ALSO GIVEN TO REACTION HARLEM.

3. CLEARER PICTURE OF OFFICIAL MALIAN REACTION SHOULD EMERGE WITH PUBLICATION TOMMORROW'S L'ESSOR, US-RDA DAILY. MOORE

(1) UNCLASSIFIED

Bamako 1856
6/6/68

32

POK 6 NS/Kennedy, Robert F.



Department of State

TELEGRAM

25

UNCLASSIFIED 690

PAGE 01 BANGKO 15695 061320Z

44

ACTION EA 15

INFO SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, SS 20, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, H 02, RSR 01,

RSC 01, /055 W

O 061255Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7994

UNCLAS BANGKOK 15695

FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR HAS BEEN ISSUED TO PRESS HERE:

THIS EVENING, AMERICANS HERE ARE PROFOUNDLY SHOCKED AND FULL OF SORROW OVER THE TRAGIC, UNTIMELY DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND THEY FEEL THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY FOR HIS BEREAVED FAMILY. A MAN OF GREAT ABILITY AND HIGH IDEALS, HE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR THE ENERGETIC AND COURAGROUS SERVICE RENDERED HIS COUNTRY BOTH IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES. HE WAS RESPECTED FOR THE DEEP SENSE OF DEDICATION WHICH LED HIM TO SEEK HIS NATION'S HIGHEST OFFICE. SENATOR KENNEDY WAS THE VICTIM OF A SENSELESS ACT OF VIOLENCE WHICH AMERICANS DEPLORE AS A NATION AND AS A PEOPLE. UNGER

Bangkok 15695
6-6-68

(1)

UNCLASSIFIED

RECEIVED BY 12.11



Department of State

TELEGRAM

45
POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F. #

UNCLASSIFIED 378

XRPOW 1445

PAGE 01 PARIS 15727 01 OF 02 062019Z

81
ACTION EUR 20

INFO P 04, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

DDDE 00, L 03, H 02, RSR 01, /074 W

R 061736Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2716
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PARIS 15727

THE ATTEMPT ON SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY OVERSHADOWED THE STRIKE SITUATION AND THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AT HOME IN THE FRENCH NEWSPAPERS WHICH WENT TO PRESS BEFORE THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SENATOR'S DEATH.

THE GAULLIST ORGAN LA NATION EDITORIALIZED: "HOW NOT TO ESTABLISH POINT OF SIMILARITY IN THE CRIMINAL ATTEMPTS AGAINST THE TWO BROTHERS AND THE ONE WHICH COST REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING HIS LIFE?... NOTHING IS CLEAR IN THE LOS ANGELES CRIME... WHAT HAVE THE KENNEDYS DONE TO BE THUS CONSIDERED AS NUISANCES THAT HAD TO BE ELIMINATED AT ANY COST? OF WHAT CONSERVATIVE ELEMENTS OR OF WHAT INTERESTS ARE THEY THE VICTIMS?" THE COMMUNIST ORGAN HUMANITE HEADLINED: "THE ATTEMPT ON ROBERT KENNEDY: NEW PHASE IN THE CONSPIRACY OF THE PARTY OF WAR." THE EDITORIAL --"THE CONSPIRACY"-- SAID: "IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT ROBERT KENNEDY WAS HIT AT THE VERY MOMENT WHEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SUCCESS HE HAD JUST WON IN THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES NOTABLY IMPROVED HIS CHANCES IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION." THE FINANCIAL DAILY LES ECHOS EDITORIALIZED: "ONE OF THE MOST GIFTED YOUNG POLITICIANS IN THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE BY THE BULLETS OF A KILLER. AMERICAN JUSTICE WILL HAVE TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE CRIME OF AN ISOLATED ELEMENT IS INVOLVED OR WHETHER THE LONG CHAIN OF KILLERS WHO, IN LESS THAN FIVE YEARS, SHOT DOWN SOME OF THE MOST ARDENT AND RESPECTED LEADERS OF THE REFORMIST MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES WAS RAISED UP AND ARMED BY POLITICAL FANATICS. AS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, IT BELONGS TO THEM TO PONDER ON THE CAUSES AND THE MEANING OF THAT RESORT TO

UNCLASSIFIED

PARIS - 15727
6-6-68

(2)



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PARIS 15727 01 OF 02 062019Z

VIOLENCE IN A STATE WHERE DEMOCRACY IS READILY CITED AS AN EXAMPLE... BOB KENNEDY'S REMOVAL FROM THE RACE IS LIKELY TO FALSIFY THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION FOR WHICH THE AMERICANS ARE PREPARING. INDEED THE LEFTIST TENDENCY IS STILL REPRESENTED BY SENATOR MCCARTHY IN THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY. THE BROTHER OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, HOWEVER, WOULD HAVE GONE TO THE BATTLE WITH BETTER TRUMPS THAN HIS RIVAL. NOW, THE WAY APPEARS CLEAR FOR VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY IN THE DEMOCRATIC CAMP."

FIGARO FEATURED ON PAGE ONE AN ARTICLE BY WRITER ROMAIN GARY WHO REVEALED THAT ROBERT KENNEDY TOLD HIM A FORTNIGHT AGO: "I KNOW THAT, SOONER OR LATER, THERE WILL BE A CRIMINAL ATTEMPT. NOT SO MUCH FOR POLITICAL REASONS: BECAUSE OF CONTAGIOUSNESS... OF EMULATION. WE LIVE IN AN ERA OF EXTRAORDINARY PSYCHIC CONTAGIOUSNESS. BECAUSE A GUY KILLS MARTIN LUTHER KING HERE, ANOTHER 'CONTAMINATED' FELLOW WILL IMMEDIATELY TRY TO KILL A GERMAN STUDENT LEADER." M. CHATELAIN REMARKED IN ANOTHER ARTICLE: "JOHN KENNEDY WAS SAID TO HAVE A SORT OF INSTINCTIVE FOREKNOWLEDGE. DID HE KNOW THAT HE WAS UNDER A DEFERRED SENTENCE OF DEATH? PEOPLE SAID IT... THE ARTICLE BY ROMAIN GARY SEEMS INDEED TO CONFIRM THAT HE (ROBERT KENNEDY) HAD FORESEEN HIS FATE."

ROGER MASSIP NOTED, ALSO IN FIGARO: "ONE CAN ALREADY HOLD AS CERTAIN THE DISAPPEARANCE OF ROBERT KENNEDY FROM THE ELECTORAL SCENE. THE CONSEQUENCES FROM THE ATTEMPT ARE GOING TO UPSET THE ELEMENTS OF THE AMERICAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN. SPECULATIONS AND ASSUMPTIONS ALREADY GO AT A GOOD ROUND PACE. ONE OF THEM CONCERNS THE CHANCES OF EUGENE MCCARTHY SINCE THE RESULTS OF THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES SHOWED THAT THE SENATOR OF MINNESOTA AND ROBERT KENNEDY COULD MUSTER TOGETHER 80-0/0 OF THE VOTES. WILL NOT THE PEOPLE WHO VOTED FOR THE SENATOR OF NEW YORK BE TEMPTED TO TRANSFER THEIR SUFFRAGES TO MCCARTHY RATHER THAN... WALLNER

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State

TELEGRAM

01/13/1968, RPL CT F

47

UNCLASSIFIED 405

PAGE 01 PARIS 15727 02 OF 02 062031Z

81
ACTION EUR 20

INFO P 04, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 20, RSC 01, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

DODE 00, L 03, H 02, RSR 01, NEA 13, /087 W
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R 061736Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2726
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 PARIS 15727

TO VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY? ANOTHER ASSUMPTION EXPECTS THE ATTEMPT TO BE BENEFICIAL TO THE REPUBLICAN PARTY SINCE AN ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS CANDIDATE HAS BEEN ELIMINATED. IN A FEW SECONDS TIME, EVERYTHING ASSUREDLY HAS BEEN CHALLENGED AGAIN."

R. FAURE WROTE IN AUREORE: "AS JOHN KENNEDY, ROBERT TOOK SIDES ON ALL PROBLEMS: AGAINST RACIAL VIOLENCE, FOR A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM, FOR ISRAEL... AT LEAST, THE LOS ANGELES TRAGEDY DOES NOT SEEM SHROUDED IN THE SAME MYSTERY AS THE ONE IN DALLAS. DID NOT THAT YOUNG PALESTINE ARAB EMPTYING HIS PISTOL ON THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IN THE EVENING OF HIS VICTORY IN THE CALIFORNIA PRIMARIES WANT TO PUNISH THE MAN WHO HAD SUPPORTED THE JEWISH PEOPLE IN THEIR DEFENSE OF THEIR RIGHT TO LIVE, IN THE STYLE OF THE EL FATAH SUICIDE COMMANDO TEAMS? THIS IS BELIEVABLE. BUT BOB KENNEDY MAY QUITE AS WELL HAVE FALLEN UNDER THE BLOWS FROM THE MAFFIA... OR UNDER THE SAME BULLETS AS THOSE WHICH KILLED REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING. ANYWAY, HIS RACE TO THE WHITE HOUSE IS FINALLY BROKEN BUT MAY OPEN THE WAY FOR EUGENE MC CARTHY, THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE WHOSE LIBERAL IDEAS ARE CLOSEST TO HIS OWN."

MICHEL VOIROL WROTE IN COMBAT: "SO MANY PEOPLE WERE INTERESTED IN THE ELIMINATION OF ROBERT KENNEDY THAT THE ASSEPTION OF A PLOT CANNOT BE RULED OUT. IN THAT CASE THE PERSONALITY OF THE MURDERER WOULD ONLY BE A CLEVER DEVICE TO CONFUSE TRACKS. AMERICAN AND WORLD PUBLIC OPINION THIS TIME WILL NOT ACCEPT THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE ASSASSIN AND THE BURIAL OF THE AFFAIR UNDER ANOTHER WARREN REPORT."

LE MONDE EDITORIALIZED: "WILL THIS MURDEROUS MADNESS EVER STOP?"

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 PARIS 15727 02 OF 02 062031Z

LESS THAN FIVE YEARS AFTER THE DALLAS TRAGEDY, TWO MONTHS AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, ANOTHER POLITICAL CRIMINAL ATTEMPT PROFOUNDLY SHATTERS THE SELF-CONFIDENCE OF AMERICA. FOR, APART FROM NAZI LEADER LINCOLN ROCKWELL, ALL THE VICTIMS OF THAT VIOLENCE BELONG TO THE FAMILY OF LIBERALS AND ADVOCATES OF INTEGRATION. IF THE ASSASSINS ARE UNBALANCED PEOPLE, THEY NEVERTHELESS CHOOSE THEIR VICTIMS IN THE SAME CAMP AND, IN PREFERENCE, AMONG THE MEN WHO EMBODY THE IMAGE WHICH PEOPLE, REGARDLESS OF PERSONAL SYMPATHIES, LIKE TO ASCRIBE TO AMERICA. FROM DALLAS TO LOS ANGELES, TRAGEDY COMES ONCE AGAIN UPON A FAMILY WHICH HAS NOT BEEN SPARED MANY OTHER ORDEALS, DESPITE EVERY EXTERNAL SIGN OF SUCCESS IN A SOCIETY MERCILESS TO WEAK AND ERRATIC PEOPLE. BOTH ADMIRER AND CONTROVERSIAL, OBJECTS OF ENVY AND JEALOUSY, THE KENNEDYS APPEAR TO BE A CHOICE TARGET FOR EMBITTERED AND NEUROTIC PEOPLE, AND ALSO PERHAPS FOR ALL PEOPLE DISQUIETED BY A PROFOUND ASPIRATION TO THE RENEWAL OF A CIVILIZATION SHAKEN BY ALARMING CRIMES. VIOLENCE IS EVERYWHERE, IN THE BIG CITIES PREY TO RACIAL STRIFE, AMONG A YOUTH WHICH CONFUSELY FEELS AN IRREPRESSIBLE UNEASINESS, AMONG THE POOR AND LOWLY WHO DID NOT FIND THEIR PLACE IN THE SUN, AS AMONG THE HAVES, AMONG THE ORGANIZED GANGS AGAINST WHICH THE POLICE WAGE A LITTLE EFFECTIVE STRUGGLE, BUT ALSO AMONG THE RIGHT THINKERS WHO, IN THE MILLIONS, JOIN SHOOTING CLUBS IN ORDER TO ASSURE THEIR OWN DEFENSE."

FRENCH COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS COVERED EXTENSIVELY THE TRAGEDY AS IT DEVELOPED -- ESPECIALLY EUROPE NUMBER ONE, WHICH HAPPENED TO HAVE THREE CORRESPONDENTS ON THE SPOT. THE GOVERNMENT-RUN RADIO AND TV CURRENTLY ON STRIKE ONLY HAD BRIEF NEWS SUMMARIES DRAFTED BY A FEW NON-STRIKING JOURNALISTS.
WALLNER

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State

TELEGRAM

Pal 6 US/Kennedy, Robert F.

43

UNCLASSIFIED 618 *PR Pal 15-6 US*

PAGE 01 062329Z

82

ACTION CPR 01

INFO GPM 04, INR 07, RSR 01, FILE 01, SS 20, H 01, /035 W

P 062057Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 9/68 1835 J-3 SENDS

SUBJECT: FLYING OF US NATIONAL FLAG

REF: JCS 1798/061122Z JUN 68

1. REFERENCE PROVIDED GUIDANCE CONCERNING
FLYING OF US FLAG DURING NATIONAL MOURNING
ON DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

2. SUNDAY, 9 JUN 68, HAS BEEN DECLARED A
NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR SENATOR
KENNEDY BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.

3. ALL US NATIONAL FLAGS, THEREFORE, WILL
CONTINUE TO BE FLOWN AT HALF STAFF THROUGH
9 JUN 68

*Joint Chief of Staff
6/6/68*

1/11/68

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UNCLASSIFIED



59 POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.
XR POL 13-10 ARAB

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

26

UNCLASSIFIED 206

PAGE 01 LONDON 09621 061845Z

47
ACTION EUR 20

INFO AF 09, NEA 13, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, NSA 02, SAH 03, CU 04, SY 00,

RSR 01, NIC 01, /134 W

P R 061805Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4015
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS LONDON 9621

SURJ KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. FOL. IS TEXT JUNE 6 EVENING STANDARD ARTICLE BY OFTEN-
SENSATIONALISTIC JON KIMCHE, FORMER EDITOR JEWISH OBSERVER.

2. QTE RESPONSIBLE ARAB LEADERS IN THIS COUNTRY HAVE BEEN
GRAVELY CONCERNED IN RECENT WEEKS OVER THE ACTIVITIES OF SPECIAL
EMISSARIES OF THE PALESTINIAN FATAH TERRORIST MOVEMENT HERE
AND IN THE U.S.A. THESE HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE AMONG
THE MANY THOUSANDS OF ARAB STUDENTS IN LONDON, OXFORD,
MANCHESTER AND OTHER CENTRES. THE HEAD OF THE FATAH MOVEMENT,
YASIR ARAFAT, WAS IN LONDON TWO WEEKS AGO TRAVELLING UNDER AN
ASSUMED NAME AND WITH A JORDANIAN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORT. HIS
FRIENDS EXPECT HIM TO BE HERE AGAIN THIS WEEKEND IN PREPARATION
FOR A JORDAN REFUGEE WEEK WHICH HAS BEEN ORGANIZED BY A GROUP
OF MPS AND SYMPATHISERS. BUT THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR THE CONCERN
OF THE RESPONSIBLE ARAB LEADERS IN THIS COUNTRY IS THE OUTCOME
OF A CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN ARAB STUDENT MOVEMENT WHICH TOOK

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LONDON 0621

UNCLASSIFIED BY 65/8



Department of State

TELEGRAM

26

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 09621 061845Z.

PLACE IN MUNICH BETWEEN MAY 21-26. THE CONFERENCE WAS ATTENDED BY 32 DELEGATES REPRESENTING ARAB STUDENT ORGANISATIONS IN EUROPE AND THOSE IN THE U.S., EGYPT, THE LEBANON AND IRAQ. IT WAS NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT MOST OF THE LEADERS AT THE CONFERENCE BELONG TO A DISTINCTLY POST-GRADUATE AGE GROUP. THE CONFERENCE PASSED TWO MANDATORY RESOLUTIONS AFTER ADDRESSES FROM LEADING ARAB NATIONALISTS FROM LIBYA, KUWAIT, JORDON AND SYRIA. THE MAIN RESOLUTION WAS PROPOSED BY DR. HASHEM BAGHI, WHO CAME FROM PARIS. THIS URGED ALL STUDENT ORGANISATIONS TO REJECT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE PALESTINE QUESTION AND TO REJECT ALSO ALL LEADERS WHO URGE SUCH A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT. IT TOLD STUDENT ORGANISATIONS "TO OUST ALL SELFISH LEADERS" WHO STAND IN THEIR WAY. EVEN MORE POINTED WAS THE SECOND RESOLUTION WHICH THE CONFERENCE PASSED AFTER MUCH HEART-SEARCHING. IT INSTRUCTED ALL ARAB STUDENT ORGANISATIONS TO ESTABLISH DIRECT LIAISON WITH THE PALESTINE RESISTANCE ORGANISATIONS, ESPECIALLY THE TERRORIST FATAH. THIS WAS PROPOSED BY THE SYRIAN, DR. DAQAQ. THE CONFERENCE ELECTED A THREE-MAN DIRECTORATE CONSISTING OF DR. BAGHI, DR. DAQAQ AND ABDUL RAZZAQ AL BESHIR TO COORDINATE OPERATIONS WITH THE FATAH LEADERS. THE CONFERENCE ENDED ON MAY 26 FIVE DAYS LATER. CAMILIE CHAMOUN, A FORMER LEBANESE PRESIDENT AND FOREMOST OPPONENT OF PRESIDENT NASSER WHO HAD JUST WON AN ELECTORIAL VICTORY WAS SHOT AND WOUNDED. DURING THESE LAST 10 DAYS A NEW RADIO STATION BROADCASTING ON AN EGYPTIAN WAVELENGTH CALLED THE VOICE OF FATAH HAS BEEN CALLING DAILY FOR THE INTENSIFICATION OF THE ATTACK ON ISRAEL AND HER FRIENDS. DAILY BULLETINS GIVE LISTS OF ATTACKS CARRIED OUT AND CASUALTIES INFLICTED. IN 10 DAYS THESE ALMOST WHOLLY FICTITIOUS COMMUNIQUE HAVE CLAIMED MORE ISRAELI CASUALTIES THAN THE ISRAELIS SUFFERED DURING THE SIX - DAY WAR LAST YEAR. THE FACTS MAY BE FALSE BUT THERE IS NO MISTAKING THE TONE OF MOUNTING HYSTERIA AND EXCITEMENT OF THESE VERY EFFECTIVE BROADCASTS FROM CAIRO. LAST FRIDAY PRESIDENT NASSER'S LEADING SPOKESMAN MR. HEIKAL DEVOTED HIS ENTIRE WEEKLY ARTICLE WHICH IS BROADCAST TO THE WHOLE ARAB WORLD TO AN ALL-OUT ATTACK ON PRESIDENT JOHNSON AND AMERICAN POLICY. A FINGER ON THE TRIGGER WAS IN BEVERLY HILLS, BUT THE INSPIRATION UNDOUBTEDLY CAME FROM OUTSIDE THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL. UNQTE. BRUCE

UNCLASSIFIED



59

POL 6 US/ KENNEDY,

ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

26

CONFIDENTIAL 228

PAGE 01 LONDON 09616 061758Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SS 20, L 03, SY 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00,

P 04, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, RSR 01, /106 W

R 061730Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4010
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMCONGEN JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 9616

SUBJ: KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

REF: STATE 176785

1. JUNE 6 FINANCIAL TIMES REFERS BRIEFLY TO STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO DR. MOHAMED MEDHI, SECRETARY OF "EXTREMIST ACTION COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN-ARAB RELATIONS." (MEHDI REPORTEDLY SAID HIS ORGANIZATION APPALLED BY SIRHAN'S ACT, BUT IT REFLECTED "FRUSTRATION OF MANY ARABS WITH AMERICAN POLITICIANS WHO HAVE SOLD THE ARAB PEOPLE OF PALESTINE TO THE ZIONIST JEWISH VOTERS.")

2. FONOFF (COLLINGS, NEWS DEPT) CALLED TO ASK IF MEDHI'S VIEWS SHOULD BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY IN TERMS BBC COVERAGE. AFTER EMBOFF DESCRIBED MEDHI'S OPERATION, COLLINGS SAID SHE WOULD ADVISE BBC AGAINST GIVING PLAY TO THIS ITEM. GP-3.
BRUCE

LONDON 0615

01-00-00

CONFIDENTIAL

21



POL 6 US / Kennedy
Department of State / Robert F. Kennedy
TELEGRAM
43

UNCLASSIFIED 367

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00477 061859Z

82
ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 200H 020NSC 100CIAE 000DODE 000INR 070NSAE 000P 040RSC 010

USIA 120RSR 010777 W

R 061709Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 720

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 477

SUBJECT: SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION

FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION COMMENTS PRIMIN BJARNI BENEDIKTSSON ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION AS PUBLISHED VISIR JUNE 6: " THIS IS TOO SAD FOR WORDS, AND IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS IT FURTHER. PEOPLE STILL HAVE NO EXPLANATION FOR THIS HORRENDOUS ACT. THAT IS ALL THE MORE REASON TO BE WARY OF THE SPIRIT OF VIOLENCE NOW POISONING THE WORLD." ROLVAAG

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State

TELEGRAM

43

Pal to US/Kennedy, 25

Robert F.

UNCLASSIFIED 121

PAGE 01 071507Z

47

ACTION CPR 02

INFO AF 06,ARA 08,EA 06,EUR 08,NEA 06,RSC 01,GPM 04,INRI 07,H 01,

RSR 01,050 W

P 062057Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 9/68 1835 J-3 SENDS

SUBJECT: FLYING OF US NATIONAL FLAG

REF: JCS 1798/061122Z JUN 68

1. REFERENCE PROVIDED GUIDANCE CONCERNING
FLYING OF US FLAG DURING NATIONAL MOURNING
ON DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

2. SUNDAY, 9 JUN 68, HAS BEEN DECLARED A
NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING FOR SENATOR
KENNEDY BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION.

3. ALL US NATIONAL FLAGS, THEREFORE, WILL
CONTINUE TO BE FLOWN AT HALF STAFF THROUGH
9 JUN 68

*Just tel'd of staff
6/6/68*

UNCLASSIFIED

667



POL 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

Department of State

TELEGRAM

25

6-6-68
5/72

UNCLASSIFIED 790

PAGE 01 TEHRAN 05172 061415Z

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ACTION NEA 15

INFO SS 20,H 02,CPR 02,P 04,USIA 12,NSC 10,SSO 00,RSR 01,RSC 01,1067

R 061340Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5994

UNCLAS TEHRAN 5172

1. KEYHAN JUNE 6 REPORTS FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT BY SHAH TO
MRS. ROBERT KENNEDY:

"EMPRESS FARAH AND I WERE DEEPLY MOVED WHEN WE RECEIVED THE TRAGIC
AND SHAKING NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF YOUR HUSBAND. WE
EXPRESS OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY AND WISH THAT YOU KNOW OUR THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS IN THIS DIFFICULT MOMENT ARE WITH YOU." HARLAN

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State

TELEGRAM

Pal 6 45/Kennedy, Robert F.

UNCLASSIFIED

858

XR Pal 15-1 45/Johnson

PAGE 01 070148Z

88

ACTION SS 20

INFO P 03, CPR 01, H 01, SSO 00, INR 07, GPM 04, RSR 01, FILE 01, /038 W

P 062055Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO ALMILACT

UNCLAS ALMILACT 8/68 1834 J-3 SENDS
SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION AND
STATEMENT

1. THE FOLLOWING IS THE PRESIDENTIAL
PROCLAMATION CONCERNING THE DEATH OF
SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY:

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES:

A NOBLE AND COMPASSIONATE LEADER, A GOOD
AND FAITHFUL SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE, IN THE
FULL VIGOR OF HIS PROMISE, LIES DEAD FROM
AN ASSASSIN'S BULLET.

THE TRAGEDY AND THE SENSELESS VIOLENCE OF
ROBERT F. KENNEDY'S DEATH CASTS A DEEP
SHADOW OF GRIEF ACROSS AMERICA AND ACROSS
THE WORLD.

PAGE 2 RUEOJFA 0098 UNCLAS

THIS IS A MOMENT FOR ALL AMERICANS TO JOIN
HANDS AND WALK TOGETHER THROUGH THIS DARK
NIGHT OF COMMON ANGUISH INTO A NEW DAWN OF
HEALING UNITY.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LYNDON B. JOHNSON, PRESI-
DENT OF THE UNITED STATES, DO CALL UPON ALL
AMERICANS TO OBSERVE SUNDAY NEXT, THE NINTH
DAY OF JUNE, AS A DAY OF NATIONAL MOURNING
IN HIS MEMORY THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.
IN OUR CHURCHES, IN OUR HOMES, AND IN OUR
HEARTS LET US RESOLVE BEFORE GOD AND BEFORE
EACH OTHER THAT THE PURPOSE OF PROGRESS AND
JUSTICE FOR WHICH ROBERT F. KENNEDY LIVED
SHALL ENDURE.

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*Print Chief of Staff
6/6/68*

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 070148Z

I DIRECT THAT UNTIL INTERMENT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF ON ALL BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND NAVAL VESSELS OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS TERRITORIES AND POSSESSIONS.

PAGE 3 RUEQJFA 0098 UNCLWX

I ALSO DIRECT THAT THE FLAG SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF FOR THE SAME LENGTH OF TIME, AT ALL UNITED STATES EMBASSIES, LEGATIONS, CONSULAR OFFICES, AND OTHER FACILITIES ABROAD, INCLUDING ALL MILITARY FACILITIES AND NAVAL VESSELS AND STATIONS.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SET MY HAND THIS SIXTH DAY OF JUNE, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT AND OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA THE ONE HUNDRED AND NINETY-SECOND. /S/ LYNDON B. JOHNSON

2. STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT:

"THIS IS A TIME OF TRAGEDY AND LOSS.

SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IS DEAD.

ROBERT KENNEDY AFFIRMED THIS COUNTRY--

AFFIRMED THE ESSENTIAL DECENCY OF ITS

PEOPLE, THEIR LONGING FOR PEACE, THEIR

DESIRE TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR

ALL.

PAGE 4 RUEQJFA 0098 UNCLAS

DURING HIS LIFE, HE KNEW FAR MORE THAN HIS SHARE OF PERSONAL TRAGEDY.

YET HE NEVER ABANDONED HIS FAITH IN AMERICA.

HE NEVER LOST HIS CONFIDENCE IN THE SPIRITUAL

STRENGTH OF ORDINARY MEN AND WOMEN. HE

BELIEVED IN THE CAPACITY OF THE YOUNG FOR

EXCELLENCE--AND IN THE RIGHT OF THE OLD AND

POOR TO A LIFE OF DIGNITY.

UNCLASSIFIED



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 070148Z

OUR PUBLIC LIFE IS DIMINISHED BY HIS LOSS.
MRS. JOHNSON AND I EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY
TO MRS. KENNDY AND HIS FAMILY. I HAVE ISSUED
A PROCLAMATION CALLING UPON OUR NATION TO
OBSERVE A DAY OF MOURNING FOR ROBERT KENNEDY..

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

74

47

UNCLASSIFIED 299

PAGE 01 WELLIN 02028 061835Z

43
ACTION EA 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, CPR 02, RSR 01, /083 W

R 060700Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1716
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS WELLINGTON 2028

SUBJ: NZ REACTION TO SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY

1. NZ HAS REACTED WITH SHOCK AND INCOMPREHENSION TO SHOOTING OF SENATOR KENNEDY. NEWS OF SHOOTING AND REPORTS OF SENATOR'S CONDITION RECEIVING MASSIVE NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE ALMOST WITHOUT PRECEDENT IN RECENT MEMORY. COVERAGE INCLUDES ALMOST UNHEARD OF STEPS OF NEWSPAPER EXTRA EDITIONS AND INTERRUPTION OF RADIO-TV PROGRAMS WITH SPOT BULLETINS. EMBASSY RECEIVING MANY TELEGRAMS AND INNUMERABLE PERSONAL EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY AND CONCERN.

2. PM HOLYOAKE HAS ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE THIS IS AN APPALLING TRAGEDY. IT IS TERRIBLE THAT THIS

GIFTED YOUNG MAN SHOULD BE SO GRIEVOUSLY WOUNDED AT A PEAK OF HIS CAREER. WE CAN ONLY HOPE THAT, TERRIBLE THOUGH THE TRAGEDY IS, SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE WILL BE SPARED. I KNOW ALL NZEALANDERS WILL JOIN ME IN EXTENDING THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO THE SENATOR AND HIS FAMILY. UNQUOTE

3. PM TOLD PRESS HE HAD SENT FOLLOWING CABLE TO MRS. KENNEDY: QUOTE WE IN NZ WERE SHOCKED AND SADDENED BY THE NEWS OF THE ATTEMPT ON YOUR HUSBAND'S LIFE. ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY I SHOULD LIKE YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN TO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND OUR PRAYERS FOR YOUR HUSBAND'S RECOVERY. UNQUOTE

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*Wellington 2028
6/6/68*

7
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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 WELLIN 02028 061835Z

4. IN EDITORIAL ENTITLED QUOTE THE ANGUISH OF AMERICAN UNQUOTE, WELLINGTON EVENING POST COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE HORRIFIED THOUGH THE WORLD MIGHT BE AT THE SHOOTING OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY, IT IS STILL DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND FULLY THE STUNNED DESPAIR WHICH MUST AT THIS MOMENT HOLD THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN ITS GRIP. POLITICAL ASSASSINATION, LONG THOUGHT TO HAVE BECOME A THING OF A MORE VIOLENT LAWLESS PAST, HAS REAPPEARED AS A FACTOR IN AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE. UNQUOTE

5. WELLINGTON DOMINION EDITORIAL ENTITLED QUOTE GUN LAW IN THE STATES UNQUOTE CONCLUDED WITH WHAT APPEARS TO BE UNIVERSAL NZ REACTION: QUOTE NZEALANDERS, AT THIS TIME, WILL FEEL PARTICULARLY FOR THEM, I.E., KENNEDY FAMILY) AND GENERALLY FOR MANKIND EVERYWHERE WHICH CHERISH THE FREEDOM OF THE DEMOCRATIC WAY OF LIFE-- AND IS HORRIFIED TO OBSERVE THE EXCESSES IT SEEMS TO PERMIT. UNQUOTE. HENNING

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59 Pol 6 US/Kennedy,
Department of State Robert F.
TELEGRAM

42

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PAGE 01 SANTO 02762 062323Z

91-83

ACTION ARA 16

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

USIA 12,INS 03,VO 02,SCA 02,SS 00,RSR 01, /086 W

P R 062230Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5405

INFO RUESOE/AMCONSUL SAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS 816

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 2762

SUBJECT: PRD DELEGATION FOR KENNEDY FUNERAL

1. FOLLOWING PRD LEADERS GOING US FOR SENATOR KENNEDY FUNERAL:

A. SECGEN, JOSE FRANCISCO PENA GOMEZ

B. PRESS AND PROPAGANDA SEC, DEPUTY EMMANUEL ESPINAL HERNANDEZ

C. PRES. DISCIPLINARY COUNCIL AND LEADER SENATE PRD BLOC, SENATOR SECUNDINO GIL MORALES. SENATORS'S WIFE ACCOMPANYING.

2. GROUP PLANS DEPART SANTO DOMINGO 1430 JUNE 7 ON PAA 234, ARRIVING NEW YORK 1900 EDT.

3. REQUEST DEPT URGENTLY INFORM INS ORDER TO FACILITATE ENTRY NEW YORK TO AVOID REPETITION EMBARRASSING CIRCUMSTANCES PENA GOMEZ' PREVIOUS ENTRY.

4. ESPINAL INFORMED EMBOFF GROUP THAT ALTHOUGH PLANS VAGUE, THEY EXPECT REMAIN US APPROX. ONE WEEK. SAID PENA GOMEZ MAY USE OPPORTUNITY SEE SOME US POLITICAL LEADERS, SUCH AS VICE-PRES AND SEN. MCCARTHY. EXEMPT. CRIMMINS

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Santo Domingo 2762
6-6-68

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21
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Robert F.
TELEGRAM

47

UNCLASSIFIED 214

PAGE 01 HELSIN 00667 061753Z

54

ACTION P 04

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIE 00, RSR 01, /069 W

R 061605Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1066
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS HELSINKI 667

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF ROBERT KENNEDY

1. ASSASSINATION OF ROBERT KENNEDY WAS GIVEN GREATER NEWS COVERAGE THAN ANY FOREIGN NEWS EVENT SINCE ASSASSINATION OF JOHN KENNEDY. STATEMENTS AND NEWS STORIES ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION INCLUDED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER CRITICISM OF CONDITIONS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY. PRINCIPAL POLITICAL LEADERS EXPRESSED SURPRISE AND SORROW. PRIME MINISTER KOIVISTO STATED: "IT IS TRAGIC TO OBSERVE THAT VIOLENCE ONCE AGAIN HAS STRICKEN PERSON WHOSE OWN POLITICAL ACTIVITY HAS STRIVED TO BRING CONFLICTS TO PEACEFUL SOLUTION... WORLD HAD HARDLY RECOVERED FROM OTHER ACTS OF VIOLENCE THAT RECENTLY HAD TAKEN PLACE IN UNITED STATES WHEN IT SUSTAINED THIS SHOCK. ENTIRE WORLD IS OBSERVING WITH FEAR AND APPREHENSION ALARMING INCREASE OF VIOLENCE IN UNITED STATES."

2. FOREIGN MINISTER KARJALAINEN SAID: "I AM DEEPLY SHOCKED OVER ATTEMPT TO MURDER SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY AND UTTERLY DISMAYED THAT SUCH VIOLENCE SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN OUR TIMES."

3. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION JOHANNES VIROLAINEN SAID: "I AM DEEPLY SHOCKED BY THIS ATTEMPT TO MURDER SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY AND I AM PUZZLED BY THIS WAVE OF VIOLENCE."

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 HELSIN 00667 061753Z

4. FINNISH RADIO, TELEVISION AND PRESS GAVE MAJOR COVERAGE TO ASSASSINATION. RADIO AND TELEVISION CARRIED BULLETINS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS. ALL HELSINKI NEWSPAPERS CARRIED EDITORIALS.

5. INDEPENDENT HELSINGIN SANOMAT STATED: IT MUST BE SAID THAT POLITICAL HATRED IN UNITED STATES HAS ATTAINED APPALLING PROPORTIONS REGARDLESS OF WHETHER ASSASSIN HAS ACTED ON HIS OWN INITIATIVE OR CARRIED OUT DECISION OF A CONSPIRACY... IT IS NOT EASY TO FIND ANY POLITICAL MOTIVE IN HIS PROGRAM WHICH EXPLAINS THE MURDER OF ROBERT KENNEDY."

6 SWEDISH LANGUAGE HUFVUDSTADSBLADET STATED" "THERE ARE MANY INDICATIONS THAT AMERICAN SOCIETY IS APPROACHING STATE DISASTROUSLY CLOSE TO CHAOS. THREE POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS IN A COUNTRY LIKE THE UNITED STATES WITH ITS DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS AND ITS POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, MILITARY AND CULTURAL POWER IS A SIGN OF SICKNESS...."

7. CENTER PARTY SUOMENMAA: "IT DOES NOT SEEM POSSIBLE THAT THIS EVIL DEED COULD HAVE TAKEN PLACE WITHOUT ADVANCE PLANNING OR THAT IT COULD BE THE ACT OF ONLY ONE MAN... PLANNERS OF THE MURDER WANTED THE COUNTRY'S POLICY OF WAR TO CONTINUE, THERE COULD BE NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT. THIS IS SHOCKING DEMONSTRATION OF DEGREE OF GANGSTERISM INTO WHICH UNITED STATES HAS DRIFTED."

8. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC SOSIALIDEMOKRAATTI SAID: "WHEN UNITED STATES ATTAINED ITS INDEPENDENCE IT WAS IDOL OF ALL REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENTS. NOW IT SEEMS THAT THIS NOBLE DEMOCRACY IS SUFFERING MORE AND MORE FROM DISORDERLY FRAME OF MIND IN WHICH ITS ENTIRE FUTURE HAS BECOME DEPENDENT UPON CHANCE AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE."

9. SIMONIST PAIVAN SANOMAT STATED: "VIOLENCE HAS BECOME DEEPLY ROOTED IN AMERICAN SOCIETY. IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT FATE OF ROBERT KENNEDY AS WELL AS THAT OF HIS OLDER BROTHER AND MARTIN LUTHER KING WILL AROUSE MORE AND MORE AMERICANS TO SEE DANGEROUS STATE OF THEIR SOCIETY AND TO DEMAND ACTION WHICH COULD HELP THIS SICK SOCIETY TO RECOVER."

10. COMMUNIST KANSAN UUTISET WROTE: "WHO OPPOSED ROBERT KENNEDY'S POLICIES? ARMAMENT INDUSTRY, WHICH RECEIVES ITS PROFITS THROUGH EXPLOITATION OF NEGROES. THEIR MONEY CAN AFFORD TO HIRE PHILIPPINO OR WHITE MURDERERS... IN PRESENT SHRINKING WORLD EVERYBODY

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 HELSIN 00667 061753Z

HAS RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT PEOPLE OF UNITED STATES TAKE POWER INTO
THEIR OWN HANDS AND OVERTHROW THIS 'STATE WITHIN A STATE' -
CIA AND ARMAMENT INDUSTRY AND THEIR HIRED ASSASSINS."
THOMPSON

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Department of State

POH 6 US/Kennedy,
TELEGRAM
Robert F.

UNCLASSIFIED 464

PAGE 01 RIO DE 08621 01 OF 02 062144Z

81
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, RSR 01, /070 W

P R 061850Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2108
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 RIO DE JANEIRO 8621

ALL CONSULATES BY POUCH

JOINT USIS/EMBASSY MESSAGE

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.
NEW OF KENNEDY DEATH REACHED BRAZIL 5:30
A.M. TOO LATE FOR MORNING PAPERS. FOLLOWING
IS ROUNDUP OF NEWS TREATMENT AND REACTION AS
OF NOON.

SUMMARY: DEVELOPMENT HAS COMPLETELY DOMINATED
ALL NEWS MEDIA PAST 24 HOURS. NO OTHER EVENT
OUTSIDE BRAZIL, AND ONLY ONE OF TWO WITHIN
BRAZIL, HAS RECEIVED SUCH EXTENSIVE AND INTENSIVE
NEWS COVERAGE HERE IN RECENT YEARS. ENTIRE
SECTIONS OF MAJOR PAPERS DEVOTED TO LOS ANGELES
AND RELATED EVENTS. TONE OF ALL COVERAGE REFLECTS
SHOCK AND SYMPATHY. MUCH COMMENT ON KENNEDY INTEREST
IN LATIN AMERICA AND HIS 1965 VISIT TO BRAZIL, EDITORIALS,
THINK PIECES AND COMMENTARIES PRESS RADIO TV COVER AT
GREAT LENGTH VARIETY OF THEMES ON WORLD VIOLENCE WITH
PARTICULAR ATTENTION AMERICAN VIOLENCE, OF WHICH
KENNEDY SHOOTING SEEN AS LATEST SYMPTOM. MUCH LINK-UP
WITH ASSASSINATION JOHN KENNEDY AND MANY EXPRESSIONS
CONSPIRACY THEORY.

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6/6/68



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 RIO DE 08621 01 OF 02 062144Z

NEWS TREATMENT TODAY THURSDAY:

MODERATE, PRESTIGIOUS JORNAL DO BRASIL DEVOTED TWELVE PAGES TO KENNEDY SHOOTING AND RELATED MATTERS. TREATMENT RANGED OVER HISTORY KENNEDY FAMILY, BIOGRAPHY OF ROBERT, "COMMON DESTINY" OF JOHN AND ROBERT KENNEDY, ROBERT KENNEDY'S TRAVELS AND WRITINGS ON LATIN AMERICA, REACTION TO SHOOTING AS REPORTED FROM VARIOUS WORLD CAPITALS, PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S TV/RADIO SPEECH OF WEDNESDAY NIGHT AND APPOINTMENT OF MILTON EISENHOWER COMMISSION, PENTAGON ANNOUNCEMENT THAT SEVERAL THOUSAND TROOPS PUT ON ALERT. ARTICLE ON "THE ABC OF VIOLENCE" REVIEWS WORLD HISTORY OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS CONCENTRATING ON RECENT KILLINGS IN U.S., NOTING THAT "SINCE 1900 FIREARMS HAVE KILLED 800,000 AMERICANS, NOT INCLUDING THOSE KILLED IN WARS". ALSO CARRIES EDITORIAL, TWO SIGNED COLUMNS, AND SPECIAL COMMENTARY. SIMILARLY, INDEPENDENT CORREIO DA MANHA FRONT-PAGED SHOOTING AND DEVOTED SIX INSIDE PAGES TO RELATED MATTERS. CORREIO GAVE PROMINENCE TO MCCARTHY STATEMENT THAT WHOLE AMERICAN NATION IN PART TO BLAME, TO KENNEDY'S BOOK "FIGHT FOR A BETTER WORLD" WHICH ONLY RECENTLY PUBLISHED IN PORTUGUESE HERE, AND TO "THE TWO HUNDRED HOURS OF BOB IN BRAZIL" IN NOVEMBER 1965. CORREIO, AS OTHER PAPERS, CARRIES STATEMENTS OF AMERICAN AMBASSADOR RELEASED BY EMBASSY YESTERDAY AND REPORTS STATEMENTS OF CHIEF IN BRAZILIAN CONGRESS. ENTIRE FRONT PAGE OF LEFTIST ULTIMA HORA DEALS WITH SHOOTING AND KENNEDY CONDITION, WHILE INSIDE PAGES GIVE HEAVY COVERAGE TO "THE AMERICAN TRAGEDY", USING PHOTOS OF ASSASSINATIONS OF JOHN KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING, JAMES MEREDITH, LEE HARVEY OSWALD. PAPER ALSO DEVOTES FULL PAGE SPREAD TO "RULE OF VIOLENCE" IN U.S. WITH PICTURES OF GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL, KU KLUX KLAN, MALCOLM X, ETC. OTHER PAPERS SIMILARLY CARRY EXTENSIVE NEWS COVERAGE, PHOTOS, BACKGROUNDERS AND SPECULATIVE ARTICLE. EDITORIAL REACTION: CONSERVATIVE O GLOBO: "A CRIME LIKE THIS, WHICH SHOCKS THE WORLD, AFFECTS NOT JUST ONE MAN BUT INSTITUTIONS THEMSELVES... THE DEATH OF ROBERT KENNEDY, WHICH DEPRIVES HUMANITY, MARKS THE FAITHLESSNESS WHICH IS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 RIO DE 08621 01 OF 02 062144Z

MAKING OF THIS "CENTURY OF PROGRESS" A DARK ERA OF HISTORY."

COMMENTARY IN JORNAL DO BRASIL: "HOTLY DEBATED, PRINCIPALLY WITHIN THE UNITED STATES, THE IMAGE OF BOB KENNEDY ALWAYS WAS DIFFERENT IN THE REST OF THE WORLD. BEYOND AMERICAN BORDERS, JOHN AND BOB ALWAYS SIGNIFIED DIFFERENT NAMES FOR THE SAME POLITICAL IDEAL, WHICH TODAY MAKES THE KENNEDY NAME A SYNONYM FOR DEMOCRACY AND DESTINY."

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

43

UNCLASSIFIED 579

PAGE 01 RIO DE 08621 02 OF 02 062252Z

81

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,RSR 01,070 W

P R 061850Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY RIO DE JANEIRO
TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2109
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 RIO DE JANEIRO 8621
ALL CONSULATES BY POUCH

JOINT USIS/EMBASSY MESSAGE

ALBERTO DINES IN JORNAL DO BRASIL: "A SMALL SPARK WOULD INFLAME THE COUNTRY -- THIS WAS THE SENSATION WHICH HAS HUNG IN THE AIR IN RECENT DAYS IN THE UNITED STATES. THE DESTRUCTION IN FRANCE, THE SMALL BUT UNPRECEDENTED STUDENT INCIDENTS AT COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, THE BITTER TASTE OF THE FAILURES IN VIETNAM, THE WAVE OF NEGRO REBELLION... HANGING IN THE AIR IS THE GREAT QUESTION: AFTER FRANCE, HAS THE TIME OF THE UNITED STATES COME," JORNAL DO BRASIL EDITORIAL: "THE ENTIRE WORLD WATCHES WITH HORROR THE VICTORY OF VIOLENCE OVER REASON. MEN EVERYWHERE ARE PERPLEXED BY THE WAVE OF TERROR WHICH SUBJUGATES THE REASONING OF INTELLIGENCE, AND WHICH DARES TO IMPOSE ITSELF AS A NORM FOR THE SOLUTION OF FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN PROBLEMS:

DANTON JOBIM IN ULTIMA HORA: "HE WAS, PERHAPS, THE BEST OF WHAT THERE WAS IN AMERICAN PUBLIC LIFE. HE LACKED NOTHING, NEITHER COURAGE NOR INTELLIGENCE, NOR YOUTH. HE REPRESENTED THE HOPE OF MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF HIS COMPATRIOTS TOUCHED BY THE MAGIC OF THE KENNEDY CLAN. NELSON MOTTA IN ULTIMA HORA: "THE ATTACK AGAINST BOB KENNEDY REPRESENTS THE SAME THING AS THE ASSASSINATION OF HIS BROTHER; THE ATTEMPT TO EXTINGUISH FOREVER A PHILOSOPHY FOR LIBERTY AND AGAINST PRIVILEGE AND INJUSTICE... THE FORCES OF REACTION, CONSERVATISM, SELFISH GAIN AND

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TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 RIO DE 08621 02 OF 02 062252Z

THE THIRST FOR POWER ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS CRIME, NOT AGAINST ROBERT F. KENNEDY BUT AGAINST ALL THOSE WHO STILL HAVE HOPE. THE STRIKE AGAINST BOB, INSTEAD OF BEING A MORTAL BLOW TO THE WEAK AND OPPRESSED WHOM HE DEFENDS, REPRESENTS A RENEWAL OF THE CALL. IT CREATES INDIGNATION IN THE HEART OF HUMANITY, REPRESENTS A STATE OF AFFAIRS WHICH SHOULD NOT WILL NOT CONTINUE". MOACIR WERNECK IN ULTIMA HORA: "DESPITE THE WARREN REPORT AND THE DILIGENT EFFORT OF THE WHITE HOUSE TO BURY THE CASE, THERE ARE STILL JUSTIFIED DOUBTS AS TO THE AUTHOR OF JOHN KENNEDY' DEATH. MORE THAN THE ISOLATED ACT OF A FANATIC, THAT ATTACK SEEMS TO HAVE INVOLVED A WHOLE GROUP OF PERSONS. IT IS STILL POSSIBLE THAT ONE DAY IT WILL BE REVEALED AS THE RESULT OF A DARK POLITICAL CONSPIRACY."

HELIO FERNANDES IN RIGHTIST TRIBUNA DA IMPRENSA: "WE ARE RETURNING TO THE CRUEL TIMES OF 1932, WHEN THE GREAT DEPRESSION CREATED IN GANGSTERISM A FORM OF REVOLT OF MAN AGAINST THE SYSTEM, BUT THROUGH THE ERRONEOUS MEANS OF BANDITY. NOW IT IS POLITICAL GANGSTERISM, IT IS THE PURE AND SIMPLE ELIMINATION OF THOSE WHO, FIGHTING AT THE SIDE OF POPULAR MAJORITIES, DISTURB THE PRIVILEGES OF MINORITIES MADE COMFORTABLE BY WEALTH BUT MADE FEARFUL BY THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSING IT". AUSTREGESILLO DE ATAIDE, PRESIDENT OF THE BRAZILIAN ACADEMY OF LETTERS: "THIS ACT OF VIOLENCE AGAINST SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY WOUNDS NOT ONLY THE DEMOCRATIC CONSCIENCE OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT THE MEANING ITSELF OF DEMOCRACY IN THE ENTIRE WORLD". JOSE BONIFACIO, PRESIDENT OF FEDERAL CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES, IN STATEMENT TO O GLOBO: "WE BRAZILIANS FEEL PROFOUND SADNESS, EVEN MORE BECAUSE ROBERT KENNEDY, WHEN HE WAS IN BRAZIL, LEFT US CERTAIN THAT HE WAS A GREAT DEMOCRAT, INTERESTED IN THE POLITICAL DESTINY OF THE WORLD". GILBERTO MARINHO, PRESIDENT OF SENATE: " ROBERT KENNEDY HAS PROVED HIMSELF, FOLLOWING THE SHINING STEPS OF HIS IMMORTAL BROTHER, AS ONE OF THE GREAT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE IDEALISM AND THE UNIVERSAL CALLING OF HIS PEOPLE. THE ASSASSINATION SHOWS ONCE AGAIN THAT INTOLERANCE, HATRED, AND POLITICAL FANATISM ARE NOT DETERRED FROM FROM STRIKING AGAINST EVEN A LIFE FRUITFULL IN SERVICES TO HUMANITY, TO THE PRESERVATION OF PEACE, LIBERTY AND

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

45

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 RIO DE 08621 02 OF 02 062252Z

DEMOCRACY."

RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMENTATORS (TEXTS NOT AVAILABLE) HAVE REFLECTED SAME RANGE OF EDITORIAL REACTIONS, WITH MUCH EMPHASIS VIOLENCE THEME AND EVEN MORE ATTENTION TO CONSPIRACY THEORY THAN PRESS GIVES.

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34


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 Department of State

TELEGRAM
23

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04823 071424Z

54

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, AID 28, PC 04, O 02, OPR 02, OC 06, CCD 00

SY 03, E 15, COM 08, SAH 03, RSR 01, /153 W

R 061945Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4755

INFO AMCONSUL COCHABAMBA UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 4823

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

SUBJECT: REACTION TO KENNEDY SHOOTING

REFERENCE: LA PAZ 4775

1. PUBLIC REACTION TO SHOOTING HAS BEEN ONE OF GREAT SHOCK AND DISTRESS. PRESIDENT BARRIENTOS EXPRESSED HORROR AND REGRET, ADDING IN OFFICIAL STATEMENT APPEARING AFTER NOTICE OF SENATOR'S DEATH THAT "FOR US BOLIVIANS, ROBERT KENNEDY, AS HIS GREAT BROTHER, JOHN F. KENNEDY, IS ANOTHER CATHOLIC LOST TO HUMANITY, A CHAMPION OF THE HUMBLE, OF THE PEOPLES OF LESSER DEVELOPMENT. HIS DEATH IS A HARD BLOW FOR BOLIVIA AND FOR OTHER NATIONS OF THE CONTINENT WHO JUSTLY EXPECTED A GREAT DEAL FROM THE IDEAS AND THE GENEROUS AND RENOVATING SPIRIT OF THE KENNEDYS, TRUE FRIENDS OF ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE AMERICAS." VICE PRESIDENT SILES, FOREIGN MINISTER GUILLERMO ELIO AND ACTING PRESIDENT OF SENAT MANFREDO KEMPF ALSO HAVE EXPRESSED PROFOUND REGRET.

2. HOWEVER, OTHER POLITICAL ELEMENTS, GENERALLY

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

23

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PAGE 02 LA PAZ 04823 071424Z

SPANNING POLITICAL SPECTRUM, FOCUS BITTER CRITICISM ON US SOCIETY AND HAVE CHOSEN TAKE APPROACH, IN KEEPING WITH NATURAL PREDISPOSITIONS, THAT RESPONSIBILITY LIES IN SO-CALLED REACTIONARY IMPERIALIST PLOT TO ROB WORLD OF DEMOCRATIC LEADERS AND TO SUBJUGATE ASPIRATIONS OF COMMON PEOPLE.

3. PRESENCIA TOOK UNUSUAL STEP OF PUTTING OUT SPECIAL AFTERNOON EDITION JUNE 5, WHICH CONTAINED BITTER EDITORIAL BY CO-DIRECTOR ALBERTO BAILEY, WHO SPOKE OF US AS "SICK, MATERIALISTIC SUPER-CIVILIZATION" AND BLAMED ATTACK ON "FANATICS, EXPLOITERS AND GREAT INTERESTS THAT SYMBOLIC DECOMPOSITION US SOCIETY." ON JUNE 6 BAILEY REPEATED THEME THAT US IS SICK SOCIETY, BLAMING GREAT ECONOMIC INTERESTS THAT CONTINUE VIETNAM WAR, SUBJUGATE NEGROES AND IMPOSE TERMS ON UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES. IN JUNE 5 EDITORIAL JORNADA BLAMED SHOOTING ON DE-HUMANIZING EFFECTS US SOCIETY, ADDING "INVESTIGATIONS THAT FOLLOW SUCH CRIMES ARE GROSSLY FALSIFIED." IN SEPARATE SIGNED EDITORIAL, SANTIAGO BERRIOS SAID ATTACK WAS "REPLY OF GREAT IMPEIALIST INTERESTS" TO KENNEDY'S CALIFORNIA PRIMARY VICTORY.

5. ULTIMA HORA JUNE 5 DECLARED A "MONEY MAFIA" OF GREAT CONSORTIUMS EXISTS IN US, MANIPULATING POLITICAL-ECONOMIC SYSTEM AND FAILING REALIZE THAT ITS TIME HAS PASSED.

6. EL DIARIO, WHOSE DIRECTOR, JORGE CARRASCO, DEPARTED TODAY FOR US ON LEADER GRANT, DID NOT OFFER EDITORIAL OPINION.

7. POLITICAL OPINION CARRIED BY PRESS: MPC EXPRESSED ITS REGRET IN LENGTHY AND BALANCED PUBLIC STATEMENT. PIR SUBCHIEF MIGUEL BONIFAZ SAID SHOOTING PROVES DEATH JOHN KENNEDY WAS PART OF SINISTER RACIST PLOT ELIMINATE ALL WHO FIGHT FOR RACIAL EQUALITY. FRANZ ONDARZA, MPC DEPUTY JUST RETURNED FROM US AND ALLEGEDLY A FRIEND OF SENATOR KENNEDY BLAMED "DARK AND CRIMINAL ELEMENTS AND REACTIONARY INTERESTS IN US, THE SAME WHO ASSASSINATED JFK." RICARDO ANAYA, LEADER OF PIR,

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TELEGRAM
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PAGE 03 LA PAZ 04823 071424Z

USED HIS MARXIST TERMINOLOGY IN TELLING PRESS EVENT WAS NEW MANIFESTATION BRUTALITY BY ULTRA-REACTONARY US IMPERIALISTS WHO DESIRE DOMINATE AND EXPLOIT THE PEOPLE. BENJAMIN MIGUEL, SUBCHIEF OF PDC, SAID IT WAS ANOTHER EXPRESSION OF US DECADENT CAPITALISM, A USE OF FORCE AND CRIME "AS INSTRUMENTS OF CAPITALISM TO IMPOSE AN OLIGARCHICAL GOVERNMENT." RECTOR OF COCHABAMBA UNIVERSITY DECLARED IT REVEALED DARK INTERFERENCE OF GREAT ECONOMIC CONSORTIUMS THAT OPPOSE EVEN MINIMUM ADVANCE OPPRESSED MINORITIES. COCHABAMBA STUDENT FEDERATION SAID KENNEDY WAS VICTIM GREAT MONOPOLISTIC INTERESTS WHOSE IMPEIALIST POLICIES ARE DESIGNED TO SUBJUGATE THE PEOPLE.

8. PCB PRESS RELEASE CONDEMNED THE ACT AS "CRIME COMMITTED BY PARTISANS OF WAR AND THE GREAT ARMSMAKING MONOPOLIES."

9. COMMENT: AS BROTHER PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AS CATHOLIC, AND AS ATTRACTIVE YOUTHFUL LEADER, SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY WAS UNQUESTIONABLY MOST POPULAR US POLITICIAN IN BOLIVIA. BOLIVIAN SENSE OF INDIGNATION APPEARS IN THIS INSTANCE TO HAVE SURPASSED SENSE OF GRIEF AND, CONSIDERING NATIONAL MOOD (LA PAZ 4805) WE BELIEVE SOME UNOFFICIAL ACTS OF HOSTILITY TOWARD AMERICAN ESTABLISHMENT IN BOLIVIA ARE WITHIN REALM OF POSSIBILITY. HENDERSON

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TELEGRAM

Robert F. Kennedy

UNCLASSIFIED 357

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 07090 061844Z

81
ACTION EUR 20

INFO P 04, NSC 10, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01, DODE 00, GPM 04, SP 02,

US 20, RSR 01, L 03, H 02, 074 W

R 061715Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6604
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 7090

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. ATTEMPT ON SENATOR KENNEDY'S LIFE (HIS DEATH WAS ANNOUNCED AFTER ALL PAPERS HAD APPEARED OR GONE TO PRESS) HAS BEEN MAJOR NEWS STORY AND HAS BEEN GIVEN EDITORIAL TREATMENT IN ALL PAPERS PAST TWO DAYS. RADIO AND TV HAVE MODIFIED REGULAR SCHEDULES WITH SPECIAL PROGRAMS INCLUDING FILM FOOTAGE FROM LOS ANGELES. EDITORIAL COMMENT EPITOMIZED BY EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY TO FAMILY AND AMERICAN PEOPLE. MANY EDITORIALS, HOWEVER, INCLUDED CRITICAL REFERENCES TO ALLEGED ILLS OF AMERICAN SOCIETY AND SUGGESTIONS THAT CONSPIRACY INVOLVED.

2. SOME EXAMPLES: LA CITE (LABOR CATHOLIC) PLAYING ON CONSPIRACY THEME STATED THAT "ONE CONSPIRACY" HAD LED TO ASSASSINATIONS OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, MARTIN LUTHER KING AND NOW SENATOR KENNEDY. PAPER FOLLOWED WITH ALLEGATION THAT AUTHORS OF SUCH ACTS USUALLY ACQUITTED IF THEIR VICTIM WAS NEGRO. MASS CIRCULATION LE SOIR (INDEPENDENT) RAISED THE POSSIBILITY THAT A "SINISTER CONSPIRACY" MIGHT EXIST TO ELIMINATE "MOST EMINENT LIBERAL LEADERS" IN U.S. EVEN IF SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION WAS NOT DIRECT RESULT OF SUCH PLOT, PAPER SUGGESTED, IT HAD COME OUT OF CLIMATE OF EXTREME RIGHT-WING FANATICISM. THE U.S. FACED THE "GRAVEST INTERNAL CRISIS IN A CENTURY."

3. ANOTHER COMMON THEME WAS THAT ATTACK REFLECTED DEEP-ROOTED STRAIN OF VIOLENCE IN AMERICAN LIFE AND CHARACTER. SEVERAL PAPERS ATTACKED FAILURE TO PASS STRICT LAWS AGAINST THE SALE OF

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

43

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PAGE 02 BRUSSE 07090 061844Z

GUNS. HET VOLK (LABOR CATHOLIC) SPOKE OF " CULT OF VIOLENCE" IN U.S. AND HOPED THAT AMERICAN CONSCIENCE WOULD BE AWAKENED TO REPUDIATE THIS. DE NIEUWE GIDS (CATHOLIC) EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT ANY COUNTRY IN WHICH IT WAS " SO EASY" TO BUY ARMS WAS " MORALLY SICK."

4. INFLUENTIAL LA LIBRE BELGIQUE (CATHOLIC CONSERVATIVE) SPOKE OF DISTANCE YET REMAINING BEFORE TRULY " GREAT SOCIETY" COULD EXIST IN U.S. RAPIDLY INCREASING CRIME RATE AND WAVE OF VIOLENCE RAISED QUESTION OF WHETHER US WAS " REGRESSING TO PRIMITIVE MORALITY OF IONEER DAYS." PROFOUND SOCIAL REFORMS WERE NECESSARY " TO RESTORE MORAL ORDER."

5. VOLKSGAZET (SOCIALIST) EXPRESSED OPINION THAT AMERICAN PRESTIGE ABORAD WOULD INEVITABLY BE DAMAGED BY THIS FURTHER ACT OF " BLIND VIOLENCE AND HATE." KNIGHT

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Department of State

POL 6 US/KENNEDY,
ROBERT F.

TELEGRAM

XR POL 151 R490

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223

PAGE 01 SALISB 00966 060815Z

18

ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, H 02, SS 20, SSO 00, NSC 10, CPR 02, P 04, USIA 12, RSC 01,

RSR 01, /082 W

R 060715Z JUN 68
FM AMCONSUL SALISBURY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1117
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

Salisbury 966
6/6/68

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SALISBURY 966

SUBJ: GOVERNOR'S PRIVATE MESSAGE ON KENNEDY SHOOTING.

1. GOVERNOR SIR HUMPHREY GIBBS ASKED ME LAST NIGHT TO SEND TO KENNEDY FAMILY AND TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON HIS PRIVATE EXPRESSION OF SHOCK, GRIEF AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY OVER ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION SENATOR KENNEDY. GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES IN RHODESIA HE COULD NOT SEND WRITTEN MESSAGE PURPORTING TO SPEAK FOR RHODESIANS AS WHOLE BUT HE WAS SURE HE EXPRESSED FEELINGS OF ALL DECENT RHODESIANS.

2. WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES PERMIT, BELIEVE IT WOULD OFFER SOME MILD ENCOURAGEMENT TO GOVERNOR IN HIS LONELY ROLE HERE IF SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT COULD BE MADE OF HIS MESSAGE.

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POL 6 215 / KENNEDY, Robert F

Department of State

TELEGRAM

27

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PAGE 01 TUNIS 04830 061357Z

42

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 PC 04 AID 28 CFR 02 SAH 03 SA 01

EUR 15 RSR 01 / 134 W

R 061300Z JUN 68

FM AMEMBASSY TUNIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5597

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS TUNIS 4830

SUBJ: REACTION TO KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

1. EDITORIAL IN OFFICIAL LIAISON EXPRESSED SHOCK AT ATTEMPTED MURDER AND AT FACT THAT POLITICAL ASSASSINATION WAS BECOMING INSTALLED IN AMERICAN POLITICAL LIFE. EDITORIAL PRAISED KENNEDY FOR HIS WORK TOWARD RACIAL EQUALITY, FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS, AND IN SUPPORT OF THE POOR. IT SAID U.S. WAS ENGAGED IN DECISIVE TURN IN ITS HISTORY AND THAT AFTER BECOMING ECONOMIC GIANT NEEDED TO BETTER ADAPT ITSELF TO ITS ROLE IN WORLD AND TO RECONCILE IDEALS OF DEMOCRACY, JUSTICE, AND PEACE. AMERICAN PEOPLE MUST OVERCOME THESE CONTRADICTIONS. EDITORIAL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT THE AGGRESSOR HAD IN THIS CASE BEEN TAKEN SAFE AND SOUND AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE INSTIGATORS OF THIS CRIME WOULD NOT ESCAPE JUSTICE AS PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S AND MARTIN LUTHER KING'S ASSASSINS APPARENTLY HAD.

2. PRESIDENT BOU GUISA ADDRESSED FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO MPS. KENNEDY: QUOTE IT IS WITH DEEP EMOTION AND TRUE INDIGNATION THAT I LEARNED THE NEWS OF THE ODIOUS ATTEMPT PERPETRATED AGAINST YOUR HUSBAND. WHILE EXPRESSING MY MOST FERVENT HOPES FOR THE QUICK RECOVERY OF SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY, I BEG YOU, MADAME, TO ACCEPT THE EXPRESSION OF MY SINCERE SYMPATHY. END QUOTE.

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6-6-68

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

27

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PAGE 02 TUNIS 04830 061357Z

3. TAP QUOTED OFFICIAL CIRCLES AS SAYING THAT QUOTE WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FOR FREE DIALOGUE IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES, FOR THE EXPRESSION OF IDEAS BY A HEALTHY CONFRONTATION AND NOT BY VIOLENCE. WE CONDEMN THE ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION AND REGRET THAT SUCH HABITS ARE IN DANGER OF BEING INSTALLED IN A GREAT DEMOCRACY SUCH AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. END QUOTE

4. INDEPENDENT ARABIC AS-SABAH, AFTER EXPRESSING FEAR THAT SUCH INCIDENTS WERE DESTROYING AMERICAN SOCIETY, COMMENTED ON EARLY INFORMATION THAT SUSPECT WAS OF ARABIC ORIGIN. QUOTE IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT THE GROUPS WHO ARE USING FORCE CONTINUE TO DO EVERYTHING TO FEED AND MAINTAIN IT. THEY TRY NOW TO CREATE DOUBT, NOT AS FAR AS THE VICTIM IS CONCERNED, BUT TO MAKE BELIEVE THAT THE CRIMINAL WHO SHOT ROBERT KENNEDY IS OF ARABIC ORIGIN AND THAT HE (KENNEDY) IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CREATION OF ISRAEL, THE OCCUPATION OF PALESTINE, AND MADE JERUSALEM A JEWISH CITY. END QUOTE

5. ATTACK HAS BEEN MAJOR SUBJECT OF CONVERSATION IN STREETS AND CAFES AND FEELING OF SHOCK PREVAILS. BACKGROUND OF SUSPECT JUST BECOMING PUBLICLY KNOWN SO THIS NOT YET A FACTOR.

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POL 64S/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM

26

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PAGE 01 LISBON 01539 061643Z

53

ACTION EUR 20

INFO SS 20, H 02, CPR 02, P 04, USIE 00, CIAE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, RSC 01,

NSC 10, SSD 01, PSR 01, /067 W

R 061545Z JUNE 68

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2153

INFO AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA UNN

4/6/68

Lisbon
1539

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1539

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE REACTION TO ASSASSINATION OF
SENATOR KENNEDY

JOINT EMBASSY/USIS MESSAGE

1. SHOOTING AND DEATH SENATOR KENNEDY HAS CREATED STRONG REACTION AMONG GENERAL PUBLIC AND MEDIA INCLUDING TV WITH ANTI-AMERICAN OVERTONES. INITIAL REACTION AMONG WORKING LEVEL GOVT OFFICIALS AND OTHER PERSONS IN CONTACT WITH EMBOFFS YESTERDAY IN ADDITION TO SHOCK AND HORROR WAS CHARACTERISTIC PORTUGUESE ONE THAT ATTACK WAS PART OF CONSPIRACY. CONCERN EXPRESSED BY SOME THAT VIOLENCE IN US WAS EXPRESSION OF MORE GENERALIZED MALAISE IN WESTERN SOCIETY.

2. SOME OF ABOVE REFLECTED IN GOVT-CONTROLLED MEDIA COVERAGE WHICH, HOWEVER, ALSO PLAYED THEME THAT ASSASSINATION WAS SYMPTOM OF DECADENT DEMOCRACY AND PECULIARLY VIOLENT ATMOSPHERE IN US WHICH HYPOCRITICALLY ESPOUSES IDEALIZED SOCIETY. THIS ASPECT PARTICULARLY PRONOUNCED IN TV BROADCAST LAST NIGHT WHICH SELF-RIGHTEOUSLY COMPARED STABILITY IN PORTUGAL WITH CONDITIONS IN US. GOVT PARTY DAILY DIARIO DA MANHA CARRIED PARTICULARLY BASTY EDITORIAL ENTITLED "IN THE FAR WEST."

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TELEGRAM

26

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PAGE 02 LISBON 01539 061643Z

3. BEST ANSWER THIS ARGUMENT CARRIED IN INDEPENDENT DAILY O SEculo WHICH INTERVIEWED SEVERAL PROMINENT PORTUGUESE FIGURES, INCLUDING CATHOLIC OPPOSITIONIST AND EDITOR ALCADA BAPTISTA. AFTER DEPLORING ATTACK, BAPTISTA REMARKED IN COMMENT WHICH APPARENTLY ELUDED CENSOR "I THINK OF NEUROTIC SOCIETIES AND OF OPPRESSED SOCIETIES, OF SOCIETIES IN WHICH THE KENNEDYS AND THE LUTHER KINGS ARE STRUCK DOWN AND LEAVE US THE HOPE OF WHAT THEY WERE AND WHAT THEY DID. I THINK OF SOCIETIES IN WHICH THEY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE EVEN TO HAPPEN NOR WHERE WE WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HEAR FROM THEM THE LESSONS OF COURAGE, OF LUCIDITY AND OF LIBERATION."

4. SEVERAL HUNDRED TELEPHONE CALLS RECEIVED SO FAR EXPRESSING SYMPATHY ON PART OF OFFICIALS, DIPLOMATS AND ORDINARY PEOPLE. OTHERS ARE STOPPING AT CHANCERY TO LEAVE CONDOLENCE CARDS OR TO SIGN BOOK PROVIDED FOR PURPOSE.

5. FACT THAT ASSASSIN WAS JORDANIAN NATIONAL AND THAT ASSASSINATION DID NOT REFLECT INTERNAL US POLITICAL PROBLEMS WILL PROBABLY HAVE SOME EFFECT ON PORTUGUESE OPINION, BUT NOT YET REFLECTED IN MEDIA COMMENT.

6. EMBASSY HAS CANCELLED REMAINING PERFORMANCES OF WHAT HAS BEEN HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL TOUR OF SIXTH FLEET BAND. ALSO CANCELLED WAS EMBASSY RECEPTION PLANNED FOR THIS EVENING AT SANTAREM NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR IN CONNECTION WITH US DAY AT FAIR. PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATEMENT ON SENATOR'S DEATH HAS BEEN MADE SUBJECT OF EMBASSY RELEASE TO PUBLIC MEDIA.
WELLMAN

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

POB 6 US/KENNEDY, ROBERT F.

178272

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Origin

ACTION: AmEmbassy PARIS

PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: AmEmbassy SAIGON

TODEL

382

STATE

6 JUN 68 23 25z

Following is the text of INR's Intelligence Note: "Hanoi's Reaction to the Assassination of Senator Kennedy":

Hanoi has reacted to the news of Senator Robert F. Kennedy's assassination by hinting that the assassination was plotted by the US administration. Hanoi Radio referred to the crime as a "planned assassination," and "various factions of the US monopoly capitalist class have not hesitated to resort to bloodshed and fire to liquidate one another." It linked the assassination of the Senator to that of President Kennedy five years ago, ~~that~~ adding that Senator Kennedy had been "the most redoubtable political opponent" of the administration. Although the official Hanoi spokesman in Paris stated that the assassination was an American "domestic question," members of the delegation voiced dark "suspicions" of a plot to newsmen. It is difficult to speculate whether or not Hanoi actually believes there is a plot--as it might, to the extent that it sees conspiracy everywhere--or whether it merely states this in order to make propaganda. We incline to believe the latter is the more important factor in its statements, though the former may play some role.

RECEIVED BY R/A

(2)

Drafted by:

INR/REA/AC-WB:er:pl:6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

4959

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: INR/REA - Fred Greene

Clearances:

EA - Mr. Isham

S/S - Mr. Meehan

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Classification

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Press speculation that Hanoi may revamp its negotiations tactics because of the effect of the assassination on the US political outlook seems justified to a certain degree--Hanoi may hope that the pattern of politically motivated assassination and general social unrest in the United States may lead to a greater US preoccupation with domestic matters and thus possibly force the US to soften its stand on the Vietnam issue. Hanoi doubtless also hopes that the pressures of the presidential campaign, particularly in such an atmosphere, will inhibit US military operations and soften our negotiations stand. While it recognizes the danger that domestic frustrations and uncertainties, or some coalescence of political sentiment, may prompt us to escalate the war rapidly in order to end it quickly, it probably believes that the principal effect will be a reduction in US interest in international issues, a consideration that may further affect the timing of its own negotiations strategy and tactics. The assassination may, in short, reinforce Hanoi's inclination to maintain a hard line in talks, while still holding the negotiations alternative open so as to restrain us from rapid escalation.

However, there is no basis for the press speculation that Hanoi might shift its stand--presumably toward a softer position--because it no longer sees the possibility that Senator Kennedy might become President. We do not believe that Hanoi has tied its own expectations to particular American candidates. It tends to regard all American leaders as members of the same political elite. It is keenly aware of differences between them, particularly with regard to Vietnam,

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but it does not believe that it can rely on them to act in accordance with Hanoi's wishes or even in accordance with their own earlier statements. Hanoi probably recalls that President Eisenhower, having promised peace in Korea, still insisted on Communist concessions on the key prisoner repatriation issue rather than yield on this point. Hanoi also probably recalls that President Kennedy began his administration by endorsing the Bay of Pigs effort, and that President Johnson sent American forces to Vietnam soon after the 1964 election. Hanoi is certainly sensitive to the fact that no US presidential candidate has committed himself to a rapid or unilateral withdrawal from Vietnam, no matter how critical some candidates have been of present policies. Hanoi may hope that one or another presidential candidate might be more forthcoming than others, but it will not be inclined to count on such a development. It does not expect any American President, present or potential, to yield more in negotiations than the Communist forces have been able to win in the field.

GP-1

END

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Classification

52

POL 6 US / Kennedy, Robert F.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

177511
DAC

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177511

Origin

ACTION: CIRCULAR ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS

Info:

IMMEDIATE

6 JUN 68 14 57z

STATE _____

Department spokesman made following statement approximately
5:40 p.m., ~~EDT~~ EDT, June 5 on question of foreign involvement
in attack on Senator Kennedy:

QUOTE I want to say since I had a question from the A.P. that
the Department of State has absolutely no evidence that any
foreign government is involved or has been involved in this
tragic incident. END QUOTE.

END

RUSK

RECEIVED BY 22

Drafted by:

S/S: JWDavis:hbb 6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

7741

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

S/S - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ fm

Clearances:

P - Mr. McCloskey (substance)

Mr. Meehan
NEA/P - Mr. Brown (subs.)

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

52

Pol 6 US Kennedy, 178273

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

Origin

ACTION: CIRCULAR TO POSTS ON ATTACHED LIST

Info:

IMMEDIATE

6 JUN 68 23 27Z

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178273

STATE
BRUSSELS ALSO BUSEC
SUBJECT: Kennedy Funeral and Interment

1. As of 6:00 p.m. Washington time, June 6, we understand from Kennedy family that following are plans for funeral and interment of Senator Robert F. Kennedy:

(a) The Senator's body will ~~lie~~ lie in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City from ~~8~~ 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EDT, Friday, June 7.

(b) ~~Funeral~~ Funeral services will be held in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City at 10:00 a.m. EDT Saturday morning June 8.

(c) Following funeral services, body will be taken from New York to Washington by special train, arriving approximately 4:00 p.m. EDT.

(d) After procession, ^{burial} ~~XXXXXX~~ will be at Arlington ~~Cemetery~~ Cemetary at approximately 5-5:30 p.m. EDT, Saturday, June 8.

2. Invitations from family will be limited to two attendees for each country which may desire to have representatives

Drafted by:

S/S:BHRead:hbb 6/6/68

Tel. Ext.

7741

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

S/- The Secretary

Clearances:

S/CPR - Mr. Sancho-Bonet

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attend funeral. Space in Cathedral will be ~~severely~~ severely limited, and it will not rpt not be possible to assure attendance of any additional representatives. We assume most governments who wish to have representative ~~representative~~ attend will designate their local Ambassador or UN Rep.

3. We have received indications from a few countries that they will send special representatives to the funeral. Only if asked rpt only if asked by host government concerning level of such representatives, you are authorized to say that a Parliamentary or Ministerial level representative would be appropriate. At same time you should indicate severe space problem described above.

4. Burial at Arlington will be open ~~to the public~~ to the public and there will be a less stringent limit on other country representation at burial. Transportation will be provided for diplomatic and special representatives to and from New York City and Washington on June 8.

5. Social functions scheduled ~~for the~~ by mission and mission attendance at social functions of host government and others should be limited through Sunday, June 9 in discretion of Ambassador. Many social functions in Washington have been cancelled but others which have important official purposes are proceeding on schedule.

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ACTION ADDRESSEES:

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ALL EUR CAPITALS ✓

Amembassy RABAT

ADDIS ~~XXXXX~~ ABABA

NAIROBI

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AMMAN

ATHENS

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TEHRAN

RAWALPINDI

NEW DELHI

TOKYO

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CANBERRA

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Department of State

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PAGE 01 MANILA 11314 060405Z

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ACTION EA 15

INFO SS 20, H 02, PR 02, P 04, USIA 12, NSC 10, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01, /067 W
R 060129Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2426

UNCLAS MANILA 11314

SUBJ: MARCOS STATEMENT ON KENNEDY SHOOTING

FOLLOWING IS PRESIDENT MARCOS' STATEMENT ON KENNEDY SHOOTING ISSUED BY MALACANANG JUNE 5 AND AS REPORTED ALL MORNING DAILIES JUNE 6:

"THE SHOOTING OF U.S. SENATOR ROBERT KENNEDY IS SHOCKING BEYOND BELIEF. IT IS AN OUTRAGE NOT ONLY TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, BUT TO ALL MEN EVERYWHERE WHO HAVE ALWAYS LOOKED TO THE LEADERS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR HOPE AND GUIDANCE.

"SENATOR KENNEDY IS ONE SUCH LEADER, AND I SINCERELY HOPE THAT SENATOR KENNEDY WILL RECOVER FROM HIS INJURY. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT THE KEEN SENSE OF JUSTICE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THE FORCES OF ORDER WILL BRING THE PERPETRATORS OF THIS CRIME BEFORE THE LAW AND AT LEAST TO THAT EXTENT ALLEVIATE THIS NATIONAL TRAGEDY."

"IN BEHALF OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE, I OFFER TO SENATOR KENNEDY'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS OUR PROFOUNDEST SYMPATHIES."
WILSON

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Department of State

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TELEGRAM

Robert F. F

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PAGE 01 MADRID 03996 070610Z

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ACTION EUR 20

INFO CIAE 00, DODE 00, INR 07, NSAE 00, P 04, RSC 01, RSR 01, H 02, /035 W
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R 061824Z JUN 68
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO USINFO
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3821

UNCLAS MADRID 3996

COVERAGE: SPANISH MEDIA REACTED IMMEDIATELY TO NEWS KENNEDY WOUNDING. TVE WENT ON AIR SHORTLY AFTER WORD REACHED MADRID (ABOUT 8:15 AM JUNE 5). TVE AND RADIO NACIONAL BROADCAST ALMOST CONTINUOUSLY BULLETINS, BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS, BACKGROUND AND PROGRESS REPORTS WOUNDED SENATOR. FOLLOWING HIS DEATH, MEDIA KEPT IN ALMOST CONSTANT TELEPHONE CONTACT THEIR NEW YORK CORRESPONDENTS JESUS HERMIDA AND CIRILO RODRIGUEZ. HERMIDA APPEARED LIVE TV ROUNDUP NOON NEWSCAST JUNE 6 FROM NEW YORK VIA SATELLITE. RNE SEVERAL TIMES DAILY BROADCAST REACTION ROUNDUP EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENTS. PRESS GAVE PROMINENT PLAY UPI TELPHOTOS ASSASSINATION AND CAPTURED GUNMAN.

EVENING EL ALCAZAR GAVE MOST COMPLETE NEWSPAPER COVERAGE WITH THREE SPECIAL JUNE 5 EDITIONS. ALCAZAR CORRESPONDENT MANUEL BUENO, PRESENT AMBASSADOR HOTEL, FILED MOVING FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT. INFORMACIONES AND PUEBLO PUBLISHED EXTRAS OR SUPPLEMENTS REGULAR EDITIONS. PUEBLO DOUBLED JUNE 5 PRESS RUN. PRINCIPAL MADRID DAILIES JUNE 6 SOLD OUT BEFORE 11:00 AM. MIDDAY TV NEWS COVERAGE KENNEDY DEATH LASTED 42 MINUTES JUNE 6. INCLUDED REGRETS THREE CABINET MINISTERS AND MOVING PROFILE BY NUNO AGUIRRE DE CARCER, MFA DESK OFFICER AMERICAN AFFAIRS, WASHINGTON NEIGHBOR AND FRIEND KENNEDY. PRESS AND RADIO REPEATED CHARGE WALKER'S 200 WORD STATEMENT OF SYMPATHY. NEWSPAPER AND RADIO ACCOUNTS LARGELY BASED COMMERCIAL WIRE STORIES, OFTEN WITH CONFLICTING DETAILS. USIS MONITORED USAF (TORREJON) RETRANSMISSIONS AFRS AND ANSWERED UNENDING

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 MADRID 03996 070610Z

STREAM QUEIRIES BOTH SPANISH AND US CITIZENS AND PROVIDED MISSION PROGRESS REPORTS.

THEMES: MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM FRAGA IRIBARNE SET TONE SUBSEQUENT COMMENT ASSASSINATION IN STATEMENT DEPLORING "RETURN AGAIN TO POLITICAL ASSASSINATION" IN "MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRY" IN "FREE AND CHRISTIAN WORLD." IN ALLUDING TO SPANISH ORDER SR. FRAGA SAID "PEACE AND LIBERTY CAN ONLY EXIST AUTHENTICALLY WHEN LAW AND THE PRINCIPLE OF AUTHORITY ESTABLISH A PATTERN OF CITIZENSHIP IN WHICH A RESORT TO VIOLENCE IN POLITICAL CONFLICTS FIND NO ROOM." HE REFERRED TO THE TRANSIENT QUALITY OF A DEMOCRACY IN WHICH VIOLENCE CAN AFFECT THE POLITICAL STRUCTURE. ADMONISHING THE SPANISH READER HE SAID, "FOR THAT WE SHOULD PURSUE WITH ALL OUR POLITICAL STRENGTH THE MAINTENANCE OF ORDER AND THE SUBMISSION TO THE LAW AND THE ELIMINATION OF THREATS AGAINST PEACE AND LIBERTY WHICH MAY ERUPT IN ANY PLACE AND ON ANY OCCASION."

RODRIGO ROYO WROTE SCURRILOUS CONDEMNATION DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN JUNE 5 SP. REFERRING TO RECENT PAST ASSASSINATIONS ROYO ACCUSED AN AMORPHOUS "THEY" OF HAVING KILLED US LEADERS. IN REFERENCE TO THE SENATOR'S DEATH HE SAID "DEMOCRACY KILLED HIM." IN REPLYING TO THE QUESTION "HOW," ROYO SAID "DEMOCRACY CANNOT TOLERATE GREAT MEN; CANNOT DIGEST THEM, SUFFERS INDIGESTION FROM THE LEADERS OF PEOPLE." ROYO THEN STRUCK OUT AT GROUPS WHICH HE REPORTS REPRESENT DEMOCRATIC TENDENCIES IN SPAIN. IN REFERRING TO THE US, ROYO SAID THAT WITH THE SENATOR'S DEATH "DEMOCRACY HAD EXPIRED." AFTER WITNESSING THE EVENTS IN LOS ANGELES ROYO DOUBTED THAT ANYONE COULD PUBLICLY EXPOUSE "THE INTRODUCTION IN SPAIN OF A POLITICAL SYSTEM WHOSE SPECIALTY IS THE ASSASSINATION OF ITS BEST MEN, DISORDER, INJUSTICE, PERSONAL INSECURITY, LOOTING, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, CRIME, EXPLOITATION OF MAN BY MAN." HE CONCLUDED ARTICLE BY STATING OTHERS MAY CHOOSE THE GOVERNMENT THEY WANT BUT "WE ARE IN FAVOR OF NATIONAL SYNDICALISM." WHILE THE ROYO ARTICLE IN A RIGHT-WING REGIME PAPER WAS EXTREME, IT REFLECTED PERVASIVE FEELING DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM UNABLE COPE WITH MOUNTING NATIONAL PROBLEMS.

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

7

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PAGE 03 MADRID 03996 070610Z

SOME COMMENTATORS SPOKE OF EXCESSIVE FREEDOM, EACH WITH WHICH FIREARMS ARE BOUGHT, MALAISE AMONG POPULATION, MORAL SICKNESS, ETC.

SENATOR KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION FOLLOWING TWO MONTHS KING'S DEATH REOPENED ASSUMPTION LATEST ASSASSINATION PART OF CONSPIRACY. THIS IDEA ESPECIALLY PREVALENT EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENTS' RADIO ROUNDUPS.

WHILE OTHER SPECULATIONS AND CONCLUSION EMERGE FROM LATEST ASSASSINATION, THESE TWO PROMINENT THEMES DETECTABLE LOCAL COMMENT. NISWANDER

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POL 6 US/Kennedy,
Robert F.
Department of State
TELEGRAM
28

UNCLASSIFIED 842 POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 061339Z

47

ACTION CPR 02

INFO AF 06,ARA 08,EA 06,EUR 08,NEA 06,RSC 01,SS 20,H 01,L 03,P 03,

RSR 01,FILE 01,SSO 00,INR 07,1073 W

0 061122Z JUN 68 ZEO ZFP

FM JCS

TO RUEHOT

RUEHDT

RUEHBAC

RUEHGN

RUEHC

UNCLAS 001798

JCSS SENDS ALMILACT 7/68

SUBJECT: FLYING OF US NATIONAL FLAG

1. BY PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION, THE US FLAG
WILL BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF AT ALL US MILITARY
INSTALLATIONS AND NAVAL VESSELS UPON RECEIPT OF
THIS MESSAGE THROUGH THE DATE OF INTERMENT IN
HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KEN-
NEDY. DATE OF INTERMENT IS UNKNOWN AT THIS
TIME. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE FURNISHED
WHEN EXACT DATE OF INTERMENT IS ESTABLISHED.
2. AT THOSE INSTALLATIONS WHERE OTHER NATION'S
FLAG IS FLOWN AT FULL-STAFF, THE US NATIONAL

PAGE 2 RUEOJFA 9565 UNCLAS

FLAG WILL BE FLOWN AT FULL STAFF ALSO. AT THOSE
INSTALLATIONS WHERE ONLY THE US NATIONAL FLAG
IS FLOWN, PARAGRAPH 1 APPLIES. FOR GUIDANCE,
AT NO TIME WILL THE US NATIONAL FLAG BE FLOWN
AT A LESSER HEIGHT THAN OTHER FLAGS AT THE
SAME INSTALLATION.

1

UNCLASSIFIED

Joint Chiefs of Staff
6/6/68