

Suppressed evidence:

Who killed Bobby?

VARLEY BROGAN

Two things are almost certain beyond a doubt: (1) that Sirhan Sirhan did not kill Bobby and (2) that a lot of information and evidence has been deliberately ignored, suppressed and covered up in the official investigation of the RFK assassination.

It is interesting to note, too, that the big, daily newspapers have reported almost nothing of the recent press conferences held by Theodore Charach and attorney Godfrey Isaac, during which sensational new information on the killing of RFK was divulged.

What Charach has come up with, after interviewing many witnesses over the past two years, is this: Sirhan Sirhan was never closer than three feet from Sen. Kennedy and was at all times IN FRONT OF HIM. He fired two shots at Kennedy—not three, but two—before he was overpowered and disarmed, and neither of these shots caused a fatal wound, Kennedy, according to witnesses, did not at any time turn his back to Sirhan during the time he was firing. Yet, the fatal wound was inflicted FROM BEHIND, by a bullet fired about ONE INCH from Kennedy's head.

So it would seem almost impossible for Sirhan to have done it.

Here are transcripts of the actual tapes of Charach's interviews, compiled over the past two years:

KARL UECKER

"No, the Embassy room was much too full and we never had in mind to bring him through the Embassy ballroom to the front doors. We had in mind—it was my order to bring him down to the Ambassador ballroom, downstairs, which was the next floor down, and it was behind the stage to the left. We came from the stage and we tried making the left, somebody stopped us and said—talked to Senator Kennedy and then somebody told me that we were going to go to the press room which is to the right instead of to the left. This is the way towards the kitchen pantry. Right from the beginning I said he was supposed to be going downstairs. Somebody was waiting downstairs in front of the Ambassador ballroom

"I saw Sirhan shooting Kennedy—

He was right in front of me, the first shot—I didn't think it was a shot—I thought it was a firecracker, and after the second shot I lost Kennedy's hand. He pulled his hand up to his head, I told the Grand Jury that Sirhan moved around me, that is around my body from the steam table on the left side to the right, and as New York Post writer Pete Hamill, told police, Sirhan had an intense look on his face, holding the gun in his right hand, stretched out and not in a down-to-up position as Dr. Noguchi discovered in the autopsy—and I was not asked in the trial, but it is a fact that Sirhan never at any time—and I was the closest to Senator Kennedy, besides Cesar behind me—Sirhan at no time was firing from behind Senator Robert Kennedy. Not an inch from Kennedy's head—I don't believe that it was Sirhan's gun firing from back to front in an upward direction. I think I would have seen it, I was the closest one.

In order for Sirhan to get that close to Senator Kennedy from behind he would have had to pass me and he didn't pass me at that point. I had him very tight, pushed against the steam table while Senator Kennedy staggered back and Mr. Schrade dropped to the floor first. So this does not fit in with what Mr. Flitts told the jury.

There was a superficial wound on Kennedy's forehead that the Los Angeles Herald Examiner reporter stated at the time. The second shot of Sirhan's own gun missed Senator Kennedy and then I stopped him and we pushed him against the steam serving tables, so he could not be firing any more shots in the direction of Mr. Kennedy.

We had his hand twisted toward the right wall, Mr. Bill Barry, Kennedy's bodyguard, was not there at the exact moment of the early shots—neither was Roosevelt Gier and Raefar Johnson. Witnesses screamed and ducked so

there was too much confusion to see what Mr. Minisian and Vincent DiPierro saw at the time.

This is why, while concentrating on the short suspect Sirhan, many witnesses missed the guard behind me pull up his weapon and drop to the floor. I did see a guard with a drawn gun and told them he must be crazy to brandish a weapon in the kitchen chaos.

Afterwards, a guard told me he pulled his weapon and I saw a guard return his gun to his holster. The police did not conduct interviews with me with regard to these aspects but Mr. Charach did continually during the past two years. When the police made the demonstration how everything happened in the kitchen in about November, 1969—the way I showed him the way the shots were fired exactly and the way I grabbed the guy, Sirhan, and then all of a sudden Buck Compton came over and said, pretty fresh, "You couldn't have acted that fast. It's impossible."

So I looked at him because I was there and he wasn't and I was going to ask him, "Who are you?" I wasn't going to stand around for continual shots—and we heard at least five, another three after the pause—while the suspect Sirhan was threatening our lives.

I blinded Sirhan with a headlock and my own physical body, so he couldn't see where he was shooting and Senator Kennedy was staggering back in the opposite direction from where we pushed Sirhan.

Afterwards I found out it was Mr. Compton, the Chief Prosecutor from the DA's office, and this is the same man Governor Reagan recently appointed to the Appellate Court, who will now have the judicial authority, we understand, to review the Sirhan case when Mr. McKissack files his appeal. That's why Mr. Flitts who was also elevated, to Superior Court position, since the Sirhan trial—said to the jury in the Sirhan trial that Karl Decker was mistaken, that it couldn't have been after the second shot that I stopped Sirhan; it was after the fourth shot.

And I still say today it was after the second shot I grabbed him. I have a witness who backed me up in the Grand Jury testimony, Edward Minisian. Sirhan was never that close with his gun to Senator Kennedy's head—Sirhan absolutely was never firing from behind Senator Kennedy and it would have been impossible for him to inflict contact wounds, as Dr. Noguchi's autopsy proves."

THEODORE CHARACH

"Karl Uecker saved the life of



Bobby Kennedy giving victory speech to his supporters, minutes before assassination.

Senator Kennedy before the intervention of the second weapon from behind, which never underwent ballistics tests by the LAPD... Sirhan's .22 caliber cadet Iyer-Johnson revolver was in evidence. It was not used, all those months, for positive ballistics testing, but Wolfer used another model and Mini-Mag ammunition bought from the Lock, Stock and Barrel store in San Gabriel where Sirhan and two others, according to Donna and Ben Herrick, the gun store owners, told Theodore Charach exclusively that Sirhan was never alone but was with two dark-haired and olive-complexioned males, and in the early hours of Saturday morning, two dark-complexioned males in informal clothes, as reported by many witnesses prior to and during the assassination, the similar description given to LAPD investigators by victim Betty Dryer. Furthermore, in the Sirhan trial, Wolfer testified, "I have looked at the fatal bullet and in my opinion this bullet has ceruleans and grooves from the barrel and when it was projected down in the valley, which projected upward, they grab the muzzle and twist it." Amazingly, Wolfer, the ballistics expert, told the Sirhan jury there was a fatal bullet and Sirhan was convicted on this point when Dr. Noguchi had 100 per cent confirmed that there could be no fatal bullet because it completely disintegrated and fragmented in Kennedy's head."

DONNA AND BEN HERRICK (of the Lock Stock and Barrel Gun Store in San Gabriel)

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DONNA: I gave a statement to the FBI and the LAPD. They had been

in my gun store six weeks earlier—Sirhan and two others.

BEN: I don't like the way the trial's been handled—like the Arnot testimony. Contradictions. They asked him, my sales employee, if he sold the ammunition, and he said yes, and they said he failed a lie detector test and they had him identify the sales slip, and the sales slip definitely proved the fact that he was telling the truth, and

then they say the lie detector said he was telling a lie and he was thrown off the witness stand. It just discredited the man's testimony and made a fool out of him! And for no reason, because he was a prosecution witness to begin with! And it was the prosecution that did it to him. And I don't like the smell of it!

Mrs. Herrick said the police harassed her and tried to get her to change her story. "They didn't even want her to testify because she wouldn't change her story," her husband said.

LARRY ARNOT (the gun store salesman who tried to tell the court, on the witness stand, that Sirhan was never alone when he purchased his ammunition):

"I was betrayed on the witness stand. I was stabbed in the back by the prosecution. On the day Sirhan was sentenced to the gas chamber, my wife and family took a vote. We agreed that as a result of our personal nightmare, and inability to get the truth out, the next time, we would talk. It would only be to Senator Teddy Kennedy or his direct, authoritative representatives from Washington.

THEODORE CHARACH:

"Nothing in the Kennedy assassination case is more bizarre than the attempt to destroy the credibility of Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi. We are told if Noguchi defends publicly the Kennedy autopsy report—by Los Angeles County Counsel Martin Weeks, after communications with the DA's office, there will be international repercussions. Suddenly, Mr. Weeks

approach the hearings. Mr. Isaac is consulted and the bizarre RFX autopsy charges are dropped. What did Dr. Noguchi discover? Medical evidence that differed substantially from what the witnesses agree they saw inside the kitchen pantry.

DR. THOMAS T. NOGUCHI: We were able to determine the muzzle distance based on the powder deposit in the right ear, powder deposits in the scalp behind the right ear—that powder was imbedded so deeply that it did not come out. The fatal wound was contact distance.

THEODORE CHARACH: How close was the weapon that killed Senator Kennedy?

DR. THOMAS T. NOGUCHI: One inch and no more than three inches from the surface of behind the right ear.

(The bullet that struck Kennedy's brain fragmented. Dr. Noguchi could not tell us what caliber bullet it was. But remember the bullet direction was from back to front, right to left, down to up, in an upward projectory. Completely different from where and how the witnesses observed Sirhan's gun.)

THEODORE CHARACH: Dr. Noguchi, are you aware that there is not one witness and the prosecution could not produce one witness that saw Sirhan fire his gun at contact range, one, two or three inches from behind Kennedy's right ear?

DR. THOMAS T. NOGUCHI: Well, I'm aware of it, but it does not change my scientific testimony.

ATTORNEY GODFREY ISAAC: The District Attorney's office of Los Angeles County founded a murder prosecution on the findings of that autopsy. John Miner, Deputy District Attorney, acknowledges it was a splendid autopsy as do many of the nation's leading pathologists. Obviously, the District Attorney's office was endorsing the findings of that autopsy or they would not so proceed in the Sirhan trial.

DR. NOGUCHI: It's ridiculous; it's ridiculous indeed, to destroy the reputation of a scientist and physician. There may be more of this story to be told than we know.

THEODORE CHARACH: In the trial, do you think all the important questions concerning Kennedy's wounds were brought out?

DR. NOGUCHI: I did not testify and I was not asked. I was told the details would be too gory and I was interrupted on the witness stand. Judge Walker, the prosecution and defense did not go into complete examination. There were questions that could have been asked in the Sirhan trial that were not asked—a number which could have been

asked, Senator Robert F. Kennedy had three gunshot wounds. Gunshot wound number one was in the back of the head which was the gunshot wound in the right mastoid—behind the right ear. The wound track was from back to front and upward and the wound track entered into the brain tissue—and scattered bullet fragments were found in the right hemisphere of the brain. Wound number two and three were found under the right armpit, also almost contact wounds—so close—one inch apart and in a very upward direction. Kennedy most certainly, during these inflections, had to have his arm stretched out or at least heading up in an angle toward his face.

DON SCHULMAN (Formerly with CBS News):

"I was standing behind Kennedy as he was taking his assigned route into the kitchen. A Caucasian gentleman stepped out and fired. The security guard hit Kennedy all three times. Kennedy slumped to the floor. The security guard fired back and I saw the man who shot Kennedy in the leg, he—before they could get him, he shot a—it looked like he shot a woman and he shot two other men. They then proceeded to carry Kennedy into the kitchen and I don't know how his condition is now... he had—was definitely hit three times. The thing happened so quickly that—there was another eyewitness standing next to me—and she is in shock and very fuzzy, as I am, because it happened so quickly. I was about six people behind the Senator, I heard about six or seven shots in succession."

Q. Is this the security guard firing?

DON SCHULMAN: "Yes."

THEODORE CHARACH: Don, where was this man in uniform whom you observed firing a gun?

DON SCHULMAN: He wasn't very far from Kennedy. He was just behind Mr. Uecker and on Kennedy's right side, but there was another guard in front of Senator Kennedy and one on Kennedy's left side in the very crowded sardine-like conditions. Everything happened so fast but I saw what I saw. I thought at the time there were bodyguards, but I was alone, and they only had Sirhan in custody. Even the police in their book admit it was a case unparalleled in the history of Los Angeles—with extreme confusion, chaos, noise and everyone started to fight with each other in hysteria and duck, with the guard dropping to the floor, then getting up and then getting out, no wonder so many witnesses missed seeing what I saw, but I understand that during the Nouguchi hearings many persons, including a woman corroborating my testimony, called Godfrey Isaac and there was a woman next to me in shock.

THEODORE CHARACH: Did the LAPD ever conduct an in-depth re-

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corded interview with you? The Houghton report identified everyone in the kitchen and interviewed almost 5,000 persons.

DONSCHULMAN: No, the Los Angeles Police Department never did interview me despite the fact that I gave interviews to Newman Jeff Beent and CBS news personnel. I believe my interview with Brent was among the earliest about 10 minutes after we both escaped the kitchen pantry trauma.

THEODORE CHARACH:

"Eyewitness Richar Lubic confirms that there certainly were security guards surrounding Kennedy, including Thane Eugene Cesar identified by an LAPD diagram and Charach's documentation placing accurately Cesar close to RFK on the right side and behind Uecker with a drawn gun in his hand before he dropped down against the ice machine and scrambled out of the kitchen pantry within minutes of the assassination. The FBI, Charach says, has in its possession a misleading false and inaccurate report stating—without foundation—that Cesar drew his gun only after scrambling to his feet from the kitchen floor, the LAPD report acknowledges Cesar was a George Wallace supporter, opposed to the Kennedy family, who stated that he was definitely opposed to President John and Senator Robert Kennedy. This same man, in uniform with a weapon, was escorting Kennedy through the kitchen and was trusted with Kennedy's life."

THEODORE CHARACH: Who is the mysterious girl in the black and white polkadot dress? No less than Sirhan's Chief Defense Counsel Grant Cooper observes that the description given the Grand Jury by Vincent Dipierro did not match that of Valarie Schulte. Valarie Schulte is a blond.

A girl on crutches in a green and yellow dress who approached news documentarian Theodore Charach inside the kitchen crying, within five minutes of the assassination, and Charach introduced the Schulte girl to newsman Carl George with an ABC camera hook-up and the Schulte girl obviously could not be running anywhere.

All the witnesses we talked with gave the same description as Dipierro originally testified: "A girl with a good figure, a lousy dress with a bib, white with black or dark, purple polkadots, KGFI newsman Booker Griffin heard ten or twelve shots and told police "There are two guns being fired."

BOOKER GRIFFIN: (Replying to the DA—"before the DA's May, 1969 Press Conference, preserved secretly on the Charach discs.)

As an eyewitness to the assassination, it is very interesting to note that I was not subpoenaed to testify in the Sirhan trial. I saw Sirhan and a lady and another gentleman consistently throughout the evening. Upon the shooting, inside the kitchen pantry, I followed the course through the kitchen to the back all the way up to the ground level of the Ambassador leading to the parking lot in pursuit of two individuals fleeing at the time of the shooting. There was a girl in a black and white—some type of a dress—that was involved with Sirhan. I do recall seeing Sirhan as early as around 10:30 that evening. I do recall eyeball-eyeball contact with him. I do recall seeing him several times in the corridor of the kitchen pantry prior to the assassination. There were several people of pretty much determined Arabic or Latin-like dark complexioned, swarthy nature—these type of genetic features—who were in very—like placed areas in doors throughout certain areas inside the Embassy and Ambassador ballrooms, upstair and downstairs, and there had been no doubt in my mind from the beginning, nor my good friend Bud Schulberg as I told him, and as Louise Carter told him, and witness George Green told Mr. Charach on the morning of the assassination: **THAT THIS WAS NOT THE ACT OF ONE INDIVIDUAL.**

THEODORE CHARACH: Booker, is Valarie the girl you saw with Sirhan? The girl on crutches that made the surprise appearance on the witness stand as the so-called girl in the polkadot dress?

BOOKER GRIFFIN: Unalterably, and impossibly she is not the same girl. The Schulte girl is a Nordic type, highly Anglo. The girl that I saw was a swarthy type, Mediterranean type, her hair was dark, very dark, it was not blond in any manner and she did not have the clean-cut vivacious look of the Schulte girl. I was very unhappy with the police department when I went down to the administration building. I was very much struck by their desire to fabricate a story and by their effort to strongarm me mentally, stating that there were things that I did not agree with. I feel the police department is making every effort and the city fathers of this city are making every effort to save the face of the City of Los Angeles.

THEODORE CHARACH: George Green jumped on top of a serving table in the kitchen pantry. Green, the Chairman of the New Image Committee for Kennedy, is another witness not called to testify in the Sirhan trial.

GEORGE GREEN: There were

three people. I remember seeing these people in the kitchen area the first time I went upstairs and this is when I noticed the three individuals—one of them was peeping through a door or glass. They were looking in at an interview. This was Sirhan Sirhan and others. I do remember seeing a short, dark complected individual, a tall dark complected individual and a girl. She was tall, statuesque and

dark hair—well built. I did notice that. I remember that she had on a polkadot dress.

THEODORE CHARACH: When you saw Rosie Grier in the kitchen grappling with Sirhan, did you recognize him as the same individual you had seen earlier with the others?

GEORGE GREEN: I did. I am sure. There was no question in my mind. I recognized him immediately.

(SPECIAL NOTE: Uno Timanson, former Ambassador Hotel official, walking in front of Mr. Uecker, informed Mr. Charach he is very critical, agitated and very disturbed that the police failed completely to disclose and look deeper into the many reports of Sirhan's confederates and other suspicious suspects in this case)

THEODORE CHARACH: George, what did the stranger with Sirhan look like?

GEORGE GREEN: He was tall; he was dark complected, black hair. Thin.

THEODORE CHARACH: In the kitchen we both saw Valarie on crutches. You're looking at her photos now, George. Is this the girl with Sirhan and the second stranger?

GEORGE GREEN: No, it is not. The young lady was standing on the outside with two other individuals so that if there were crutches they would have been in view. It is a conspiracy by whomever, to destroy certain factions of our leadership. And these people, like Senator Robert Kennedy, are pinpointed and assassinated with precision.

RICHARD LUBIC: (eyewitness) I feel that Sirhan Sirhan did not act alone. The DA said that I did not testify. And the police report claimed I was a liar. But I most certainly did testify in the Sirhan trial! Called by the defense to report that I heard Sirhan mutter, "You son-of-a-bitch," which psychiatrist Dr. Bernard Diamond and Seymour Pollock verify in their taped recordings of Sirhan under hypnosis inside his jail cell.

I think it's very peculiar that Sirhan Sirhan, the horse trainer,

would have ended up with the walking bible minister, Jerry Owen, the horse owner. The same minister, the DA said, had a criminal record over many years over several states. And Mayor Sam Yorty, who made frequently anti-Kennedy statements before the campaign and linked Sirhan to Communist and leftist causes and released unconstitutionally Sirhan's notebooks, to create the impression that this was a left-wing assassination—this same Mayor Sam appeared with Minister Owen on his television show in the early summer of 1969 and the Houghton Report admitted that Owen DID know members of the Minutemen.

I feel that Sirhan was a hired gun, and the Los Angeles police don't have anything to worry about. They got a man that shot Kennedy. That's all they wanted to worry about. A conspiracy would blow

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MARK LANE AND JANE FONDA VE

look feminine (with good sized breasts), you might as well be a boy."

Also some breathtaking predictions. "Pretty soon a woman of 100 years old may have the best breasts on the beach." We were told the many advantages of the operation. "It's absolutely reversible. As the styles change the breasts can be made smaller or bigger."

And of the professional ethics involved: "The AMA absolutely approves of these operations." Yet opposes medical assistance to those whose lives may depend upon it—he might have, but did not add.

"There is no limit to the size the breast can be enlarged." Asked to comment upon the young actress also on the same day, the doctor took a look at the actress and said, "Maybe we oughta

writing fiction, inflaming the wave of fear and intimidating instead of keeping the promise to the public that every new thread of evidence would prompt a reopening of the case. Deputy Chief of Police Robert A. Houghton, in his book, said there were absolutely no right-wingers in the kitchen pantry, and the district attorney told newsmen over the air it was untrue that there were security guards inside the kitchen pantry when there is ample evidence in LAPD and FBI files that this is untrue. Senator Kennedy's office has the affidavits now in this matter.

The intruders who assaulted Betty Dryer in her home in the middle of the night desired new evidence, which would indicate

there were others involved in the assassination besides Sirhan—which the Houghton report denied.

The DA informed the world in May, 1969, based on SIS files, that there was no credible evidence to support the conspiracy theory in the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy. Younger promised the Sirhan case records would be made available—and they have not been. The LAPD refuses to show them to the public—yet, at the time, Younger said the LAPD has agreed without reservation that the interests of the public are best served by full disclosure. DA Younger said Deputy Police Chief Roger Mardick would make the Sirhan case records available.

MR. DAVID FITTS interrogating **DE WAYNE WOLFER**, LAPD ballistics expert

Q: Based then on your comparison of this experiment with the evidence with respect to the Senator, did you form an opinion, sir, as to the muzzle range of the pistol at the time the shot was fired in the Senator's head?

A: I did.

Q: Would you state your opinion?

A: The weapon was held approximately one inch away from the Senator's ear at the time it was fired, based upon the exemplar in People's 56 and 57 and the pattern formed in People's Exhibit Number 58.

Charach also interviewed Cesar himself.

CESAR: Well, I did pull my gun as soon as the shots were fired.

Q: What are your political views?

CESAR: Well the white man's gonna get fired of it, and the minor-

ity groups aren't gonna like what's comin' up. Me as an individual, I'm fed up. And I know a lotta people I work with have the same feelings. We haven't had it shoved down our throat enough, but one of these days, we're gonna fight back. And I know a lotta people that have the same feeling... the black man for the last four or five years has been crammin' this integration idea down our throat, and so you learn to hate 'em... I think John Kennedy sold the country down the road. He gave it to the Commies; he literally gave it to the minority. He said, "Here you take over, you run the white man..." One of these days, it's going too far.

(Cesar is now employed with the plumbing department of the Lockheed Aircraft Company, in Burbank, Calif.)

CHARACH: Sirhan was in front of Kennedy at all times, and was never less than three feet away from him. Kennedy did not turn his back to Sirhan at any time.

DONALD SCHULMAN: (former KNB newsman) I feel that some of the people testifying are also in danger. I don't know how many people want to say this, but I'm afraid that some of these witnesses may not live to testify.

(Schulman was never interviewed by the LAPD.)

Documentarian Ted Charach says he has positive evidence locked in safes, that the fire on Kennedy's right hand side in the Boris Yarrs Los Angeles Times historical photos and other photos taken by Charach's own staff belongs to the right-wing guard, Cesar, and is definitely not the clip-on tie from Senator Kennedy.

More interesting, only Cesar who tells LAPD Sirhan's gun was two feet away from Senator Kennedy—only Cesar at the time of the shootings got gun powder residue in his eyes and was seen rubbing his eyes from the discharge at the moments of assassination.

None of these facts revealed in the Charach Probe are contained in the Houghton Report which reported there was no security at the double kitchen pantry doors when there is an FBI report proving Cesar was the guard in front of the kitchen doors and is identified at those critical doors which Kennedy passed through, by an LAPD artist layout of the crime scene. Security was breached and infiltrated on the night of the Kennedy extermination.

EPILOGUE

What does it all mean? You really should get the point by now, because the same thing keeps happening over and over again.

Whenever a genuine anti-war, anti-Fascist presidential candidate appears on the scene, and it looks as though he has a good chance of getting elected, suddenly he is shot to death. And we are always told that it was a lone misfit who wanted attention, recognition. We are always told that he acted alone, that there was no conspiracy.

The allegation that President John F. Kennedy—OR—his brother Bobby—was killed by a lone assassin is so absurd, and so thoroughly disproven that it hardly need be discussed here.

The same can be said for the killings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, Fred Hampton, and a good many others.

You might as well face the fact that there is little or no chance that a genuine liberal president will take office again in America.

The word liberal has become a term of ridicule and opprobrium in our time; yet there is such a thing as a genuine liberal—not to be confused with the phony liberal of the Hubert Humphrey variety.

The genuine liberal, if nothing else, at least seeks to bring about gradual progress within the framework of the system, far not if he's shot dead.

You might as well face the fact that military-corporate Fascism has prevailed in America—that gradually, degree by degree, we will be allowed less and less freedom of expression and dissent, as the military-corporate clique consolidates its power.

The question that remains, hanging over our heads is: what can be done about it—or more specifically: what are you willing to do?