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PRESENTS A SPECIAL REPORT



Six years after this horrible moment when Robert Kennedy lay dying, ballistics experts say Sirhan didn't fire the fatal bullet and a massive amount of evidence has been accumulated to prove the official investigation didn't uncover the true story

# The Vanishing Weapon

## The Official Verdict on Sirhan is Wrong. Someone Else Killed RFK. Read the Facts.

Sen. Robert Francis Kennedy, brother of a slain President and youthful heir to his political dynasty, was shaking hands with a \$75-a-week dishwasher when, suddenly, gunshot sounds reverberated like a string of fire crackers through the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles. It was a few minutes past midnight June 5, 1968 — almost exactly six years ago.

Seconds later, the Senator lay dying on the hotel's kitchen floor as supporters wrestled down and then sat upon a young Arab immigrant who appeared to have been firing a pistol wildly.

Hopes for a second Kennedy in the White House, buoyed by the young Senator's upset victory in the California Democratic primary, were dead.

Los Angeles authorities were confident they had a cut-and-dried case with the seizure of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan. Sam Yorty, the city's highly conservative mayor, even jumped into the affair — for which he was later officially reprimanded — and revealed scribbblings in notebooks reportedly found in Sirhan's home. One notation, Yorty said, stated Kennedy must be assassinated before June 5, 1968 — the first anniversary of the Arab-Israeli war.

Sirhan was tried by California and found guilty the following year — his own lawyer did not dispute his guilt and he was sentenced to die in the gas chamber. Sirhan's death sentence was commuted to life when the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed capital punishment.

But in the six years following Bobby

Kennedy's assassination, evidence has been piling up that Sirhan did not act alone during the episode in the hotel kitchen.

Much of this evidence has been documented by a California free-lance broadcast journalist, Theodore Charach, who produced a 117-minute documentary film, "The Second Gun," which has not been released nationally.

Charach's documentation, bolstered by extensive research and interviews by TATTLER's staff, has been employed in this special 12-page section, which details why more than one gunman was involved in Sen. Kennedy's assassination — and how Sirhan Sirhan may not have fired the fatal shots at all.

**SOME OF THE EVIDENCE** within these pages:

- Statements by two of the nation's leading ballistics experts that at least two separate guns were involved in the assassination.

- The account of Don Schulman, a television station employee, who was an eyewitness to the assassination. Minutes after the shooting, he said he saw Sirhan fire his gun and saw a security guard draw a gun and fire back. Police discounted Schulman's story, claiming he was not in the kitchen pantry at the time. But a Los Angeles Police Department report shows that Schulman was in the pantry at the time.

- An interview with a security guard, Thane Eugene Cesar, who admitted to

Charach that he drew his gun after Kennedy was shot, but he quickly contended he did not fire it. Cesar said he was carrying a .38-caliber weapon while serving as a private Kennedy bodyguard, but he — despite his sworn testimony to the contrary — also owned a .22-caliber pistol, the same caliber as the one that killed the Senator. He sold the .22 pistol after the assassination and the weapon was reported stolen in Arkansas.

- The fact that while Los Angeles police insisted their extensive investigation showed no persons of right-wing political persuasion were near the pantry tumult, Cesar, the security guard, said later in an interview that he opposed both John and Bobby Kennedy and feared blacks and Communists were trying to take over the country.

- Results of the Kennedy autopsy performed by Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi, the Los Angeles county coroner, which lend credence to the "second gun" theory. Noguchi's findings were that the bullet that killed Kennedy was fired from inches behind him. Some witnesses said Sirhan was standing well in front of Kennedy when he fired.

- The resulting speculation, especially by forensic experts, that the bullets fired by Sirhan wounded the five surviving victims and that it was a second gunman who fired the shots that killed the Senator.

- Psychological examinations conducted by Dr. Edward Simson, of Sirhan while Simson was chief psychologist at San Quentin

prison. The physician claims there is a strong possibility that Sirhan did not write the notorious "diary" that was a strong factor in his conviction.

Dr. Simson's strong dissent from the findings of a team of court psychiatrists and psychologists who concluded Sirhan was a "paranoid schizophrenic." Simson, in fact, calls the Sirhan case "the psychiatric blunder of the 20th Century."

Many other discrepancies add weight to the demands that the Robert Kennedy assassination investigation be reopened to dispel the mystery that surrounds it.

At present this objective is being pursued in two ways.

1. Baxter Ward, a powerful member of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and a candidate for governor of California, has announced a new public investigation of the new allegations and new evidence we are publishing.

2. Godfrey Isaac, prominent Beverly Hills attorney, has been retained to seek a new trial for Sirhan, he revealed to TATTLER. He said he feels a court will find that the evidence will show Sirhan should receive a second trial. In short, virtually all of the Robert Kennedy assassination story that is known to date is being published together in the TATTLER issue you now hold.