

APD) summary offers few new details RFK death

KENNEDY from Pg. 1 union official, criticized the summary released by the Los Angeles Police Commission. Schrade contended the remaining 50,000 pages of actual investigative files could contain evidence of a conspiracy and a second gunman. "First of all, they want their

rurst or all, they want their one-gun theory the only theory on record," Schrade said. "They're trying to protect that and they don't want it questioned by anyone.

tioned by anyone. "I think the public has a right to know these things and I think the files ought to be opened quickly," he added.

Schrade said he would decide in the next few days whether to go to court to get the rest of the investigative file. "Under the Public Records

Act, we have a right to make a request for the records," he said.

Kennedy, a U.S. senator from New York, was gunned down as he walked through the Ambassador Hotel pantry after declaring victory in California's Democratic presidential primary to a crowd of about 2,000 supporters

> in the hotel's Embassy Room. He was 42.

Sirhan, now 41, was arrested immediately.

The summary contains a graphic account of the killing from eyewitnesses, but discloses few, if any, new details about the assassination or the lengthy investigation.

It also describes various people and groups, including those with Arab, possible communist or right-wing ties, with which Sirhan might have been associated. Sirhan, who lived with his family in Pasadena, is Palestinian. His family fled Jordan when

In addition, the report covered the lengthy investigations into various the received by police after the assassination, including many people who came forward and claimed to either know or be the infamous "girl in the polka dot dress" who supposedly was seen talking to Sirhan before Kennedy was shot.

A witness, whose statements later were discounted by police, claimed also to have heard the "girl in the polka dot dress" run

and

releasing the remaining

out of the Embassy Room area after the shooting and shout, "We shot him. We shot him. We just shot Senator Kennedy."

A young woman who authorities believe was the "girl in the polka. dot dress" testified at Sirhan's 1969 trial. Police, according to the summary released Tuesday, discounted varleased Tuesday, that she was involved in any conspiracy.

involved in any conspiracy. The whole report also discounted any theories of a conspiracy, including a "second gun" scenario advanced by several writers and private investigators. Included in the report were accounts of all the theories, along with the investigative efforts and the police conclusion that they were in error. The heavily censored, 1,453page summary was released after years of pressure from several fronts and led by Schrade, who was shot in the head in the gunfire that also wounded four

gunfire that also wounded four others. Police commission members handed over to Mayor Tom Bradley the task of screening

> 50,000 pages of investigative files that Schrade and others have been seeking for almost 18 years. They also asked the mayor to appoint a special committee to screen the remaining documents and decide when — or if — they should be made public. "You are doing a public relations gesture by providing this summary," said Schrade, now

an American Civil Liberties Union organizer who lives in the Hollywood Hills. Schrade contended that the actual investigative documents contain a statement from an FBI investigator indicating there may have been a second gunman at the hotel because several extra bullets were

several extra bullets were found lodged in a door jam. However, he claimed evidence pointing to a second gun-

man, including X-rays and the door jam, has been destroyed. "I don't know that there was two guns firing in there," Schrade said after Tuesday's police commission hearing. "But when there is evidence that this has now been destroyed or suppressed by the Police Department, (it) leads me

> to suspect that there is more to this story than the Police Department put in its report that was put out today."

The commission, at a packed hearing at Parker Center, unanimously recommended that Bradley appoint City Archivist Hynda Rudd, City Librarian Wyman H. Jones and Dr. Amarit S. Marwah, president of the Cultural Heritage Commission, to the committee.

Bradley pledged to follow the commission's recommendations and said he would appoint other people to the committee, which also would establish a timetable for the release of the remaining

"Til act as quickly as I can," "Til act as quickly as I can," Bradley said later while attending a political event at Olvera Street in downtown Los Ange-

Kennedy at close range.

les. Sirhan was captured in the hotel pantry just after the shots that felled Kennedy and the others were fired. He was tried before a jury in Los Angeles Superior Court and convicted April 17, 1969.

His writings that were found in his home reveal the assassi-

> nation plan and express hatred for Kennedy's pro-Israeli stance.

Sirhan was sentenced to die in the gas chamber on April 23, 1969. However, his sentence later was changed to life imprisonment after the California Supreme Court struck down the death penalty law in 1972.

Sirhan has been denied parole eight times. His next hearing before the Calfornia Parole Board is scheduled for March

The report released by the police commission concluded that Sirhan acted with premeditation and was legally sane when he fired the bullets into

Police commission Vice President Barbara Schlei said the delay in releasing the summary occurred because the commission wanted to establish guidlines protecting privacy for the eventual release of the actual investigative material.

Daily News staff writer John Marelius also contributed to this story.

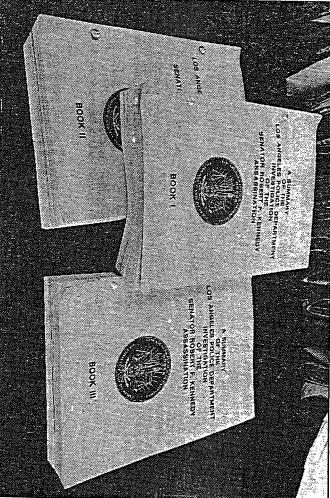
VAL F * DAILY NEWS/Wednesday, March 5, 1986 NEWS --- 9

xcerpts from police probe of

-os Angeles Ambassador Hotel: Kennedy on June 5, 1968, at the sassination of Sen. ment's investigation into the asthe Los Angeles Police Depart-Following are excerpts from Robert F.

cance of the incident. involved and the historical signifilook at the setting, the individuals grasp the scope of this (investigaspeech in a nearby bailroom... To concluded an election night victory pantry of the hotel as the senator Bishara Sirhan, waited in a serving Kennedy was mortally wounded at Jordanian immigrant named Sirhan es, California, His assailant, a young United States Senator Robert F he Ambassador Hotel in Los Ange-On June 5, 1968, at 12:15 a.m., one needs to take a brief Introduction

the head and additionally in the right tor Kennedy, fatally wounding him in shots at pointblank range into Senawishers, was led into the serving speech he left the stage and, surcelebrants and newsmen in the Emof about two thousand enthusiastic ple were proceeding through the cor-Colonial Room. As the mass of peopress headquarters in the pantry en route to rounded by staff workers and welibassy Room. At the end victory speech to an overflow crowd At midnight Senator Kenedy made a in the primary election for United idor-like pantry Sirhan fired several ston and Republican Max Rafferty. States senator, Democrat Alan Crancandidate Kennedy and the winners backdrop of election night activities leaturing supporters of presidential The shooting occurred against a the temporary nearby ণ্ his



sassination released by the police commission The three-volume summary of the Kennedy as-

the intersections and allowed vehicles in motorcade to drive through Dutton and Tuck arranged appoint-

Enforcement Division sergeant atcame to a stop and Senator Kennedy 9th and Santee Streets, the vehicles large enthusiastic crowd. A Traffic was pulled from his vehicle by a against red signal lights. At one point in the motorcade, at

security for him. Kennedy arrival Johnson provided the sole physical

ments for Kennedy, and Barry and

the presidency for personal reasons. Sirhan related that he had just spent \$20 for a drink at the Rafferty head-

who had "looked down at him" quarters to show off to a hostess

Sometime after 9:30 p.m., a West-

but, rather, that he sought to gain

as not caring about the poor people

they anticipated an unruly crowd. dy's personal security except when

of investigative files are still closed to the public. totals 1,453 pages - 50,000 additional pages

Kevin G. Roznowsk!/Daily News

at Oranna wife and four of their children arrived Senator Robert Francis Kennedy; his On the afternoon of June 2, 1968, County Dirnort 5 12212

her teletype machine in the Coloniai ern Union operator saw Sirhan near

armpit.

tempted to assist the senator back

8.m. onto the stage. The time was 12:02

away from the stage, "stay with the dy remarked to Barry as they walked al Room where the "writing press" was awaiting his arrival. Mrs. Kennehe moved quickly toward the Coloniempted to catch up with Kennedy as ion and William Barry. Both men atmade moments before by Fred Dutroom and serving pantry area was The decision to go through the antethrough the door to an antercom. walked to the rear of the stage and small group including Kennedy said, "This way, senator," and a finished his speech one of his aldes ed the already hot room. As Kennedy persons in the crowded auditorium. sage to an audience of about 1,500 Kennedy delivered a victory mes-Lights from the news cameras heat-The stage area was packed as

him toward the Colonial Room. the pantry and took his arm to assist nedy as he walked from the stage to ing "quite fast." Kennedy stopped hotel waiter captain, was with Kenwith the kitchen help. Karl Uecker, a for a brief moment to shake hands around Kennedy as he made his way sons noted that Kennedy was walktoward the pantry area. Several per-Vincent DiPierro, a college student A large crowd of people surged

Senator."

to be bending over, holding his right served a man standing on a tray rack looked away and turned toward Kenhand against his stomach, DiPierro sual smile on his face and appeared He recalled that the man had an unuat the east end of the ice machine. about five feet behind him. He walking to the right of Kennedy and and son of the hotel maitre d', was в,

> the man by the neck and struck at his hand to push the gun away from regain possession of the gun. hand for a moment. He was able to metal table and the gun fell from The man was wrestled to a nearby close by reached out to control him. the crowd; while several others his

arrived. During the struggle the sus-pect received injuries to his ankle to Rafer Johnson who was standing treated at Homicide Division. and held him there until the police then pinned him to the serving table nearby. The men holding the man gun from the man's hand and gave it struggling group. He wrestled the al football player, approached and right hand. These were later Roosevelt Grier, an ex-profession-football player, approached the

investigation disclosed, however, that by the time Barry reached the suspect several others had hold of him in controlling the suspect. gun and others in the crowd assisted was holding him. He stated that he were fired, told investigators that that the suspect later retrieved the took the gun from him and struck him when he reached the suspect no one wice in the face with his fist. He said feet behind Kennedy when the shots William Barry, who was several The

hospital, where he was pronounced later transferred to Good Samaritan Angeles City Receiving Hospital and dead at 1:44 a.m. June 6.) (Kennedy was first taken to Los

Conclusions

conclusions; available evidence sustain certain ation of all witness's testimony and mined by the investigation and evatu-A consideration of the facts deter-

1. Sirhan Sirhan fired the fatal

shortly involved in excess of four Police response was quick and massed in the adjoining bailroom ed into one of pandemonium and mob nundred officers. Kennedy workers and supporters still hysteria. The hysteria quickly spread lets. Instantly, the scene degenerat tinued to fire. Five additional persons as news of the shooting reached were wounded by the fusiliade of but distely grappled with him as he con armplt. These nearest the suspect imme

exhausted all possible means to uninvestigation to ascertain if we had President John F. Kennedy. The massive task confronting this departevent. sover the complete truth about the would look upon the results of our light....It was obvious that history ment must be viewed in assassination of civil rights leader nored. His death tollowed the recent parts of the world, could not be igquences of Kennedy's death, seen as a political assassination in most Martin Luther King and the murder of Moreover, the international consecance can probably not yet be made. a thorough assessment of its signifiatmosphere in the United States that The ramifications of Sirhan's act profoundly affected the political this

Senator Kennedy

ade illustrate the Kennedy party's notorcade was planned for the next ents which occurred at that motorlay. No request for security rom a Kennedy aide advising that a in May 29, 1968. On May 28th, the notorcade in downtown Los Angeles tedy campaign activities during a personnel became involved with Ken-Officers of this department were ttitude toward the police. hade to this department. The inciepartment received a telegram (Los Angeles Police) Department was

bserved during the motorcade villan motorcycle officers blockec ade route. Several violations were ven flow of traffic along the motorssigned to observe the course of le motorcade and to insure the æs

> ed) disturbing the peace. cade involving this department's officers and Kennedy aides. At one considered making and arrest (delethighly inflammatory and the officers onto the street. These remarks were coming unmanageable and spilling tempting to keep the crowd from bepoint, (deleted) shouted obscenities curred along the route of the motorlice. Several other incidents ocasked for the assistance of the pogeant and told him that they had not nedy and his aides berated the serhim that Kennedy needed help. Kenat several officers who were atto his vehicle when it appeared to tempted to assist the senator back The identification of several per-

nation. interest of justice after the assassinal and vehicle code violations. The applications were withdrawn in the for the purpose of making applicalions for complaints for various crimisons in the motorcade was obtained

Personal Security

the senator for June 2-4, 1968. department to request security for agencies. Barry did not contact the for liaison with local law enforcment for Kennedy and he was responsible was to Kennedy His primary assignment acted William as sole security for Senator act as personal bodyguard Barry, an ex-FBI agent,

close to him. his desire to allow supporters to be very difficult to protect because of told investigators that Kennedy was dy on their return to New York. Barry and had intended to speak to Kennenedy's security. He had observed security problems at other events been concerned about Senator Kenadvised investigators that he had After the assassination, Barry

<u>[</u>] assassination to assist in crowd condy staff a few weeks prior Rater Johnson had joined the Kenne-Richard Tuck, another Kennedy aide. movements prior to the election night were made by Barry, Dutton and that police were not used for Kenne-Plans for Senator Kennedy's Dutton advised investigators 5 he

fireman;

reported seeing Sirhan speak to a

in the June 4th primary election. presidential electors being selected win the California Democratic Party the final two days of his campaign to at Orange County Airport to begin addressed a festival in Orange Counwife and four of their children arrived Long Beach for a speech and a mo-In the course of those two days he đ

turns and his anticipated victory... dor Hotel to await the election refriend in Malibu. At 8 p.m., on June 4th, he was driven to the Ambassa-Diego for an appearance, spent the day of the election at the home of a San Francisco for a raily, returned to ty, visited Disneyland, traveled torcade to Venice, fled (sic) to San Several witnesses came forward Sirhan activities

1968. witnesses, for the period of June 2-4, was made, based on statements the shooting. A similar chronology of Sirhan from 6 p.m. until the time of to closely establish the whereabouts statements, investigators were able the night of June 4, 1968. From their who had seen and spoken to Sirhan ġ

Sirhan asked him if he had ever seen Sirhan conversed generally and approximately 8:45 p.m. He and was very talkative. The electrician with a milky-looking liquid and he Kennedy. Sirhan was holding a glass trician at the Ambassador Hotel at appeared normal and very triendly. nesses reported that Sirhan at approximately 7:15 p.m. The witmet three other men whom they both Pasadena City College cateteria and at Bob's Big Boy restaurant in Pasanocuous subjects with them and left knew. Sirhan discussed various dena. He and the friend went to the had coffee with an ex-school friend On June 4, at 6:10 p.m., Sirhan Sirhan was next seen by an elecş

cally of Kennedy and described him hotel. Sirhan allegedly spoke critimen in the Palm Court Room of the Sirhan spoke to two young Mexican could not determine his identity. Between 9 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., however, investigators

> p.m., in the Palm Court room. the hotel. She believed that Sirhan ed seeing Sirhan later, around recognized her as he was taken from Room. After the shooting, the operaher teletype machine in the Colonial the hotel. A hotel waiter also reporttor saw the police taking Sirhan from CINCH OPDIASO 5

ing or folding some papers in his coming through the pantry. They reasked the assembled employees Perez recalled that Sirhan was twistsponded that they did not know. several times if Kennedy would be was standing in the pantry. Sirhan speech. Perez noticed that Sirhan as Kennedy was finishing his en helper, was standing in the pantry Sometime later Jesus Perez, a kitchshooting and did not see Sirhan. Sirhan attempted to enter a nearby kitchen at about 11 p.m., when the pantry area just prior to the der and asked him to leave. Sirhan door; he tapped Sirhan on the shoulurned back into the Embassy Room. Klase and Royer walked through

Jesse Unruh, (then) speaker of the California Assembly, spoke to the enthusiastic crowd. His legislative ask the Senator to come down to the Senator Kennedy's fifth floor suite to assistant, Jack Crose, had gone to The Victory Speech

bassy Ballroom through an honor admirer. and he autographed a poster for an shake hands with numerous people lunch area and Kennedy stopped to then walked through the employee's crowd in the lobby of the hotel. They quest so that they could avoid the the kitchen area at Kenendy's re-Kennedy took a service elevator to ballroom... The small group accompanying Kennedy entered the ş

the pantry area twice during the eveer, reported asking Sirhan to leave Judy Royer, a Kennedy staff worknedy. The Shooting

standing in the antercom to Klase, a Kennedy supporter, was ning prior to the shooting. Robert ħ

and that he appeared ner-

looked away and turned toward Keni SIGNERIT DR. IBILD

coat and struck Paul Schrade, a United Automobile Workers Union ofhad struck him in the head behind under his right arm. The first shot through the padding of Kennedy's head and two of the shots entered icial, in the head. the right ear; the second went Kennedy raised his arms over his Pierro. As he let go of the our shots quickly at the senator his right arm fully extended, he firec ee, a man moved toward Kennedy Jesus Perez, another hotet employwith a hotel waiter and then with Di Kennedy stopped to shake hands hand of

a flame come from it. man holding the gun and then he saw cause of the chaos that followed. A but could not identify the suspect be-13-year-old Kennedy worker saw the toward the back of Kennedy's head witness saw the man push the determined" look in his face. One raise a pistol and saw an "angry and the senator. Another saw the man man was going to shake hands with shooting varied. One thought Witnesses' recollections of Qun ۱ħe the

mendous look of concentration on his face." He fired eight shots; the witness recalled that "he had a trecontinued firing at Kennedy and one man as he fired the first shots. He Uecker immediately grabbed the

last four while the confused crowd Many witnesses thought that they to apprehend him. Five others

hands

Subsequent laboratory examination shot came from point blank range. placed the distance of the first and Another witness thought the first was three feet from Kennedy's head. ied. A hotel busboy thought the gun ers. from the suspect and Kennedy varthought the sounds were firecrackheard balloons popping and others were wounded in the shooting. tried The accounts of the distance

fatal shot at one inch. The Capture

nedy fell to the floor. Uecker seized Karl Uecker swung around as Ken-

guard of Kennedy Girls, and (walked)

preme Court. April 23, 1969. The death sentence was later overturned by the state Sufirst degree murder on Sirhan Sirhan was convicted of first degree murder on April 17, 1969, and sentenced to death on Conviction

shots that killed Senator Robert F. evidence). doubt by eyewitnesses and physical (This was established beyond Kennedy and wounded five others. ooliolaarolla 1. Sirhan Sirhan fired the fatal any

self for the assassination and to put the necessary steps to prepare himevidence indicated that Sirhan took and his act was premeditated. the intent to kill Senator Kennedy 2. Sirhan fired these shots with ≧

enced officers found his pupil reacsymptom of intoxication. Experinot one observed any objective immediately following the shooting, contact with Sirhan (in) the minutes police and lay witnesses in close time of the shooting. (Of the many ence of a drug or intoxicant at the himself in a position to kill Kennedy). 3. Sirhan was not under the influ-

tric evaluation reports. The issue is established by available psychiatime of the incident. (This conclusion dition alert and responsive.) tion to be normal and his mental con-4. Sirhan was legally sane at the q

spiracy in the crime. (A complete detense.) his sanity has not been raised by the 5. There was no evidence of a con-

ments regarding each specific allesubject and makes conclusive statechapter of the report deals with this

such as the Ambassador rally.) curity present at public appearances the senator did not desire police sewas any offered by the department. tions. Staff members confirmed that functioned bodyguard and his various aldes who personal security was provided by a (The investigation revealed that his quest any police protection from the Los Angeles Police Department nor gation). 6. The Kennedy Staff did not rein crowd handling situa-