

COPIES
MAILED

FILE COPY

FILE # I-3953

(Y) INTERVIEWS

PERSON INTERVIEWED: AMBROSE, John J. DATE/TIME 6-10-68

SEX M RACE C HAIR BRN EYES GRN HT 5-8 WT 100 DOB 3-21-39

Suppl to I-67

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 3707 Bagley, L.A. 34 PHONE 836-5685

BUSINESS ADDRESS Deputy D.A., L.A. County Div. 5 PHONE 61593

INFORMATION: (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW)

In connection with our telephone conversation, the following is a recital of the events with which I was concerned in the early morning hours of the shooting of Senator Kennedy.

I was standing outside the main guest entrance to the Ambassador Hotel approximately 15 minutes after the shooting of Senator Kennedy. At that time a short, heavy, Mexican-American girl came up to me, obviously excited, and said that she had to tell someone what she had seen. She related that she was standing in a corridor of the Ambassador Hotel before she had heard any announcement of the shooting when a Mexican-American male, about 23 years old, wearing a gold sweater, and a Caucasian girl, between 22 and 26 years of age, approximately 5-5, wearing a white dress with black polka dots and heels, with a good figure and a bib collar on the dress, which also had long sleeves, walked by her and said, "We just shot him," to which statement the girl asked the question, "Who shot who?" to which the girl in the polka dot dress answered, "We just shot Senator Kennedy." The girl in the polka dot dress and the Mexican-American then departed.

At that time I secured the name, address and telephone number of the girl who identified herself as Sandra Serrano, 2212 North Marango, Altadena, telephone 794-6514. I then took her toward the main halls of the Ambassador where the main body of police and press men were. I identified myself as a Deputy District Attorney and indicated that the girl with me was a witness whose statement the police would be wanting. After identifying myself as such to one or more than one such police officer standing guard, one police officer led Sandra and myself to a room in the Ambassador where the detectives were. The detectives then took Sandra aside and a moment later she appeared to appear on television with a man who appeared to be Sander Van Oker. At that time I indicated to one of the officers whether he thought it was a good idea to have Sandra interviewed by the press before the police had gotten the story, to which the reply was, "I guess there is nothing we can do about that now." At approximately this time, but before Sandra appeared on the television, another man who had identified himself as a witness to the shooting, was over-hearing Sandra relate what she had seen and volunteered he had seen a girl of the same description with the same type dress, and implied, to the best of my memory, that he had seen her at the time of the shooting.

6/10-7-68

(Continued)

INTERVIEWER'S NAME: _____

APPROVED BY: _____

H. P. ...

AMBROSE - Continued

I would be able to identify that witness again (the one who recognized the description of the girl) as I saw him again that evening outside the Rampart Street Station, questioning me concerning how long the people inside the station were going to stay there. I was informed by the police that they were going to take Sandra to Rampart Street Station and that she wanted me to come along and instructed me how to get there. I then telephoned Sandra's aunt and uncle informing them Sandra was all right but was going to be questioned by the police and set out for Rampart Street station. Upon arrival I entered the station, gave the police at the desk my reason for being there and a short while later they informed me that I would not be needed. Upon exiting the Rampart Street Station I saw the male witness and had the conversation with him that I previously described. At that time he mentioned going over to the Good Samaritan Hospital and getting in. I asked him if he had anything to do with the press or if he was a police officer and he said no. I asked him how he would get in and he said he was a burglar.

On Wednesday I called the Rampart Street Detectives and gave a message to a secretary and related the facts of who I was and the voluntary identification that had been given by the male witness of the girl in the polka dot dress. They asked for my telephone number and I have heard nothing from them. Sandra Serrano impressed me as a very sincere girl and had been a dedicated Kennedy fan, not interested in publicity in any way. On Wednesday evening I called her at her home to see how she was and she was sorry her name had been given on the radio and television since she had had numerous telephone calls and had a fear for her safety. She also indicated that she was about to leave the Ambassador when she saw me and felt compelled to tell someone her story.