

QUITE A LOT OF SOLID DATA HERE.

## THE NATIONAL **TATTLE**R

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 scribbles 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 17-minute documentary film, "The Second Gun," which has not been released nationally.

Charach's documentation, bolstered by extensive research and interviews by TATTLE'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 employe, 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. Eduard 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 TATTLE. 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 TATTLE issue you now hold.



An Exclusive Interview With Mary Sirhan, The Convicted Assassin's Mother

'I Know That With All We Have Found out, the Time Will Come That He Will Have a New Trial,' Says She

By VAUN WILMOTT  
Of the Tattler Staff



MRS. SIRHAN WHEN SON WAS HELD.

Mary Sirhan insists her son, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, did not go to the Ambassador Hotel deliberately to kill Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. "It just happened," Mrs. Sirhan told TATTLER in an exclusive interview. "My son was there but he didn't go as they said ... deliberately to kill."

The 63-year-old Arab mother said she is convinced new evidence and her faith in God will result in her son being granted a new trial.

"I believe in God very strongly," she said. "I know that with all we have found out, the time will come that he will have a new trial."

Mrs. Sirhan said she is unhappy with the legal representation her son has received by his various lawyers.

"SO FAR, it's been six years and until now my son never even had a defense," she said.

She revealed that the Sirhan family is negotiating with another attorney to take up her son's case. That man, TATTLER learned, is Godfrey Isaac, a prominent Beverly Hills, Calif. attorney.

Sirhan, 34, is serving life in the California state prison at San Quentin on a first degree murder conviction. A jury initially sentenced Sirhan to die in the gas chamber for the June 5, 1968, murder of Senator Kennedy.

The sentence was commuted to life imprisonment after the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed capital punishment.

Mrs. Sirhan vigorously criticized Grant Cooper, the attorney who represented Sirhan at his trial, for not presenting a different defense.

"Look at what the people say in the tran-

script," she said. "It's not me; I don't say it.

"The transcript quotes Cooper as saying, 'I'm not here to free a guilty man.' A defense (lawyer) should say this?" asked the determined mother.

She remarked that her son, who was wrestled to the floor firing a revolver when Kennedy and five other persons were shot, has adamantly insisted he doesn't remember what happened before and during the shooting.

"HE HAS TOLD THEM that many times. And he spoke the truth," said Mrs. Sirhan.

The mother said she has escaped being harassed by the public because her son is a convicted assassin.

"People comfort me because they know me; they know my son," Mrs. Sirhan said. "I wish all the people would know my son. He is not a giant; he is a simple person."

Unlike Marguerite Oswald, the mother of the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, Mary Sirhan is not interested in commercializing on her infamous son.

"There is a book they made now," she said. "You don't know what they made with that. We never would do such a thing. I myself will not accept any money from such a thing because that would be like blood money."

MRS. SIRHAN expressed concern over certain threatening letters her son has received in prison.

"But we have somebody who really takes care of him," the mother said. "God in heaven. He's the only One who watches him.

"Many times he used to tell me, 'Mom, the gas chamber is only a few steps away from me, but God puts it down there ... not people.'"



MRS. SIRHAN TODAY. SHE'S 62.

One of the Nation's Top Criminologists Checked Clues & Found:

'CIRCUMSTANCES SUGGEST THAT TWO GUNMEN HAD TO BE TRACKED'

The man credited with providing the first scientific evidence that more than one gun was used in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy has received nothing but ridicule as his reward.

The first forensic scientist to dispute the official findings in the assassination probe was William W. Harper of Pasadena, Calif., a leading criminologist for almost 40 years.

Harper, acting unofficially, spent months investigating the assassination in 1970. He made careful studies of trial evidence, including bullets and shell cases, the report of the Kennedy autopsy, autopsy photographs and portions of the trial testimony.

THE VETERAN criminologist concluded that two .22-caliber weapons were involved in the assassination and they were fired by two gunmen from different points.

The five surviving victims, Harper found, were wounded by Sirhan Sirhan while the shots that killed Kennedy were fired by a second gunman.

These findings came from an expert with extensive qualifications. For seven years he was in charge of the technical laboratory of the Pasadena Police Department. During World War II he was in charge of technical investigation for U.S. Naval intelligence at San Diego.

A fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, he has qualified as an expert in courts in seven states. During his lengthy career he has been a ballistics expert in more than 300 deaths involving firearms.

William W. Harper of Pasadena, Calif., has been a leading forensic scientist for 40 years. He pored over the Sirhan trial evidence, the bullets, the Kennedy autopsy report, and the trial testimony before he spoke out. His reward so far has been ridicule.



Now in failing health, Harper declined a lengthy interview with TATTLER on orders from his doctors. But his extensive correspondence on his probe of the Kennedy assassination evidence reveals his fascination with the bizarre case.

HARPER POSES an interesting question: What position would the Los Angeles police have taken had Sirhan Sirhan escaped the assassination scene without having been seen by witnesses? The assumption is that the autopsy, medical reports and other physical evidence remain what they are today.

"Upon completion of the autopsy it would have been immediately evident that the Senator had been fired on by some gunman in close proximity to him and to his right and

rear," Harper said. Sirhan was standing in front of Kennedy when he fired a volley of shots from a handgun, it is agreed.

Would the gunman, Harper asks, then have turned and fired indiscriminately into the crowd following Kennedy?

"THESE CIRCUMSTANCES would suggest to any experienced homicide detective, as well as to any criminalist, that two guns were involved and two gunmen had to be tracked down," Harper concludes.

Harper claims Sirhan's capture with his gun at the scene caused a mesmerization of the investigative efforts.

"The well-established teachings of criminalistics and forensic pathology were cast aside and by-passed in favor of a more

expedient solution and, unfortunately, an erroneous over-simplification," Harper said.

Harper is outspoken in his belief that the Kennedy murder case should be reopened.

"There are too many things about this that point in one direction, and I think that the Kennedy family should by all means be interested in this, because the next probably will be Ted Kennedy, and then it will go on down the line - any of them," the criminologist said.

HARPER NOTED that he is the only criminologist active on the West Coast who has no affiliation with any law enforcement agency.

The veteran detective began studying the evidence and reaching his conclusion after reading the book "Special Unit Senator," former Los Angeles Chief of Detectives Robert A. Houghton's account of the Kennedy investigation.

In correspondence with journalist Theodore Charach, Harper noted that since he started his investigation of the evidence, the district attorney's office and police officials began spreading rumors to discredit him.

Journalist Charach used Harper as a key figure in his film, "The Second Gun," to back up his theory that more than one gunman was involved in the assassination.

Harper said he is convinced that police bungled the ballistics investigation of Kennedy's death.

"If they get by with this," he said, "then you can say that the science of criminalistics was buried when they buried Robert Kennedy."



It 'Totally Convinced' Otto Preminger That Second-Gun Theory Is True

## Six-Year Struggle Produces Documentary Film So Explosive That Someone Had It Suppressed

Theodore Charach describes the six years he has spent researching the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and marketing a documentary film of his findings as "a creative nightmare."

Charach's never-say-die efforts to prove that Sirhan B. Sirhan did not act alone in Kennedy's murder resulted in a full-length documentary film called "The Second Gun."

The film was finally bought by a major distributor, National General Pictures. It opened for a few days last fall in New York and Boston - to overwhelmingly favorable reviews.

Then the film was suddenly recalled and has never been released to national audiences.

Charach charges that Warner Brothers, which recently bought National General, is suppressing the film because of pressure from state and federal officials.

Warner Brothers spokesmen deny that the film is being suppressed.

The film and the investigation of the Kennedy assassination have been an obsession with Charach for the past six years.

**WINNIPEG-BORN** West Coast freelance journalist, Charach was in the Ambassador Hotel on the night of June 4, 1968, preparing, on assignment for Continental Broadcasting News Service, a documentary film on the meteoric rise of Bobby Kennedy toward the Presidency. He heard Kennedy give his victory speech after winning the California Democratic presidential primary just before being ushered into a hallway toward another ballroom.

Crushed in the crowd, Charach himself heard the popping sounds of the shots being fired and clawed his way into the pantry area where Kennedy and five others had just been shot and Sirhan B. Sirhan was being subdued. Immediately, Charach began interviewing witnesses. He hasn't stopped to this day.

He tracked down numerous witnesses in the assassination probe, including a moonlighting security guard who, during an interview with Charach, told a different story from the one he told the Los Angeles County Grand Jury and police agencies.

**CHARACH'S SECOND GUN THEORY** is based largely on the statements of Los Angeles County Coroner Thomas T. Noguchi and Pasadena, Calif., ballistics expert William Harper.

Noguchi claims that his autopsy on Kennedy showed he was killed by a shot fired from behind him at point-blank range, while some witnesses say Sirhan was in front of Kennedy and didn't get close enough to the senator to fire at so close a range.

Harper claims that bullets removed from Kennedy and a surviving witness, William Weisel, could not have been fired from the same gun.

Charach contends Sirhan's conviction "was a monstrous coverup comparable to what's happened in the Watergate affair."

"There's no doubt in my mind," he added, "that compelling evidence has been overlooked, that evidence has been manufactured and suppressed and destroyed."

Working with Beverly Hills attorney Godfrey Isaac, who for a time represented Sirhan, Charach first put together a long-playing record album of his findings, but he couldn't get it on the shelves.

Though record company officials called the recordings "brilliant and frightening," Charach said they feared police and government pressure if the record was distributed.

**FINALLY**, Charach teamed up with journalist-cinematographer Gerard Alcan

By TOM LUTZ  
Of the Tattler Staff

and together they produced a full-length film tentatively called, "Who Killed Robert Kennedy?"

By now they had tied up a quarter-million dollars in investment and production of the film.

Famous people viewed the film, but still Charach and Alcan could not find a distributor for it. Otto Preminger saw it in New York, Charach said, and said he was so impressed that he feared for Sen. Edward Kennedy's life.

"I returned to L.A.," Charach told TATTLER, "and began a crusade to every independent film company. I was running around like a chicken with its head cut off."

Every company Charach contacted was afraid to touch it.

"They believed we had a phenomenal film," he said. "But they were afraid of the government ... the police agencies ... the Internal Revenue Service. They felt that they as big corporations would get too much static under an unhealthy atmosphere of a coverup in California. The ramifications were too great."

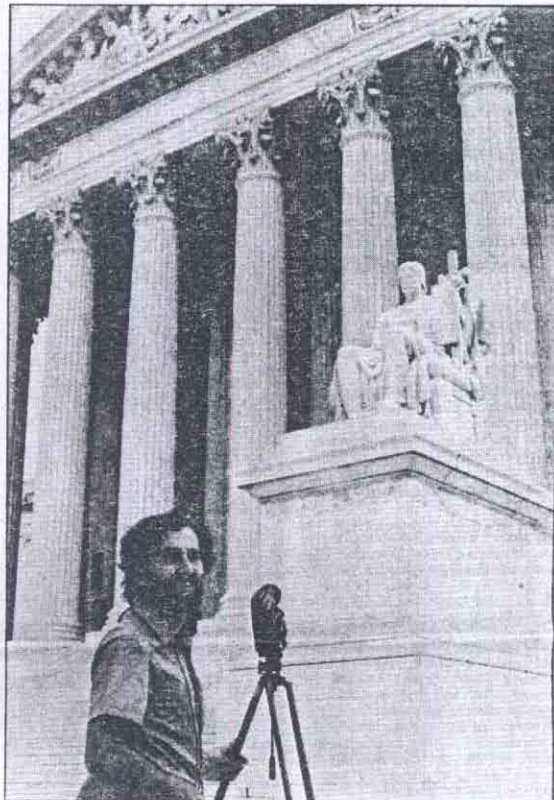
**AT LONG LAST**, Charach and Alcan signed a contract for National General to release the film. Now Charach contends that National General violated the terms of that contract by withdrawing the film after it had run only three weeks in New York.

Charach contends that the suppression of "The Second Gun" unfairly benefits two other films, "Executive Action," which was also seen last fall and "The Parallax View," which is yet to be released.

"Executive Action," based on the book by Mark Lane and Donald Freed, is a combination documentary-fictionalized version of the assassination of John F. Kennedy and "The Parallax View" is a Warren Beatty film about a political assassination.

Charach is still trying to spring "The Second Gun" loose for general distribution.

It should be well received if the reviews it received last fall are any indication.



GERARD ALCAN, journalist and cinematographer, shoots footage for "The Second Gun," shown briefly in New York City, then withdrawn from view for reasons unknown.

**THE NEW YORK POST** remarked: "It points not so much to a dark conspiracy against Kennedy as a shocking inefficiency among the investigating authorities."

Women's Wear Daily calls it "a mammoth documentary."

The Boston Evening Globe says, "The Second Gun" contains enough information to cause considerable doubt on the decision

holding Sirhan responsible for Kennedy's death."

Otto Preminger commented: "My initial skepticism was overcome completely about halfway through the film. It is a totally convincing, moving motion picture experience."

One day, America may yet get a chance to judge the film for itself.



**THEODORE CHARACH**, who has been spending his every moment investigating the assassination since he heard the shots that felled Bobby Kennedy in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on June 5, 1968. He's interviewing Sen. Ted Kennedy for the film here.



# Ted's Plea for Sirhan

## Last Surviving Brother Asked Court to Spare Condemned Man; Now He Faces Crucial Decision

By BEN STEVENS  
Of the Tattler Staff

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy found himself able to express compassion in the aftermath of the assassination of a second brother.

Ted Kennedy made an impassioned last-minute plea that Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's life be spared after the Jordanian immigrant was convicted of the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker brushed aside Kennedy's dramatic plea and sentenced Sirhan to death.

However, Sirhan, now 30, still basks in the California state prison at San Quentin, his death sentence having been commuted to life after the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed the California death penalty.

Ted Kennedy was apparently speaking for the entire Kennedy family when he went to bat for Sirhan.

"My brother was a man of love and sentiment and compassion," Kennedy wrote. "He would not have wanted his death to be a cause for the taking of another life. You may recall his pleas when he learned of the death of Martin Luther King (three months before RFK was killed).

"HE SAID THAT 'what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence or lawlessness, but love and wisdom and compassion towards one another.'

"Moreover, he was a young man totally committed to life and living. He stood against injustice, poverty and discrimination for those evils lessened life. He grew to despise war for war denies the sacredness of life. And he had a special affection for children for they held the promise of life."

The Kennedy family has given no encouragement to the assassination buffs who, through the years, have pursued conspiracy theories in the deaths of President John F. Kennedy and his brother Bobby.

In May 1966, less than a year after RFK was slain in a Los Angeles hotel kitchen, a Kennedy spokesman brushed off broadcast journalist Theodore Charach's claims that a second gunman was involved in Bobby Kennedy's death with:

"He's dead; we can care less."  
Richard Drayne, Sen. Edward Kennedy's press secretary, told Charach:

"Go to the police."  
Charach, however, had been waging a concerted battle challenging the Los Angeles Police Department's contention that Sirhan Sirhan, acting alone, was solely responsible for Bobby's murder.

NOW THOSE QUESTIONING the official conclusions about the assassination of Bobby Kennedy have spread out from merely the assassination buffs, amateur and otherwise, who are pursuing conspiracy theories.

One prominent official, Baxter Ward, member of the powerful Los Angeles County board of supervisors, has challenged the



"My brother Robert was a man of love and sentiment and compassion. He would not have wanted his death to be a cause for the taking of another life. He said that what we need in the United States is ... love and wisdom and compassion..."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's plea to Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker to spare the life of Sirhan B. Sirhan, who had just been convicted of assassinating his own brother. Sirhan still lives.

official findings and believes that evidence from outside sources should be considered.

Ward told TATTLEER that he has not yet filled in the Kennedy family with the details of his efforts, but that he plans to.

Ward's interest in the questions arose during his days as a journalist, before he entered politics. He now says he will not be satisfied until all the doubts are resolved.

NOW, MORE THAN 10 YEARS AFTER a sniper killed John Kennedy on the streets of Dallas and exactly six years after gunfire ended Bobby Kennedy's presidential aspirations, Ted Kennedy is faced with a

choice of whether to be the third Kennedy brother to aim at the Presidency — and perhaps to make himself a target for another assassin's bullets.

Bobby Kennedy had a "whatever-will-be-will-be" attitude, and traveled with minimum security during his campaigns.

In the aftermath of the political assassinations of John and Bobby Kennedy, some members of the Kennedy family have urged Ted Kennedy to quit politics.

Jackie Kennedy herself, after Bobby was murdered, was quoted by a friend as saying: "For God's sake, Ted, there've been enough Kennedy's in the obituary columns lately."

TED KENNEDY'S FEARS were no doubt heightened when Alabama Gov. George Wallace was shot in 1972.

Kennedy later told his wife, Joan, that he planned to announce that he would not seek the presidential nomination.

"You know what's going to happen to me?" he said. "I'm going to be the first Kennedy brother to die in bed."

But as Pulitzer Prize winning journalist Fred Sparks reported exclusively in TATTLEER last year, Ted's mind was changed by Rose Kennedy, 83, who is determined to see her sole surviving son in the White House.

Rose Kennedy is carrying out the wishes of Joe Kennedy, who was responsible for his sons entering politics.

Joe wanted his oldest son, Joe Jr., to become President. But Joe Jr. was killed in World War II. The next in line was the next eldest son, John.

"I GOT JACK into politics," old Joe once said. "I told him Joe Jr. was dead and now it was his responsibility."

Rose Kennedy had another selling point in urging Ted to run for President.

"If anything happens to me," President Kennedy had said, "Bobby will take my place, and if Bobby goes, we have Teddy coming along."

Still a question mark in Ted Kennedy's future as a strong presidential contender is the Chappaquiddick episode. But Rose Kennedy has refused to buy the argument that the accident that left a young woman dead has left the Kennedy political dynasty in shambles.

IN VIEW OF the scandal-ridden Republican administration of Richard Nixon, the GOP will surely attack Edward Kennedy with vigor over the Chappaquiddick incident should he run for President.

Ted Kennedy is still coy about whether he will try to be the second Kennedy to occupy the White House.

While refusing to announce, Kennedy did answer "Yes" recently when publicly asked whether he would like to be President.

But according to journalist Sparks, Ted Kennedy has already given his mother the "birthday gift" she requested on her 83rd birthday — the promise that she will see another son in the White House.

### A-Tests Could Settle Bullets Controversy

A University of California atomic scientist maintains he can clear up the controversy surrounding the evidentiary bullets in the Robert Kennedy slaying by making radioactive tests.

Los Angeles County Coroner Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi asked the scientist, Vincent P. Guinn, within days of the assassination to subject fragments of eight bullets recovered in the shooting to radioactive tests to determine if they all came from the same batch of lead, thus the same manufacturer.

However, the plan to determine if all bullets were fired from the same gun was called off at the request of De Wayne Wofler, controversial Los Angeles police crime lab expert, who claimed the tests were so sensitive they could be confusing.

Guinn outlined the procedure he felt should have been taken in an affidavit and described the proposed tests at a recent public hearing called by Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward, a candidate for the California Democratic gubernatorial nomination.



# The Hard Evidence:

## A 'Perfect Autopsy', Eyewitnesses, Ballistics Photos, Mishandled Documents, Bills of Sale — & That Lost Gun

By JOHN MOULDER  
Of the Tattler Staff

"I think we can end the divisions within the United States, the violence."

A thunderous roar from jubilant well-wishers followed Robert Francis Kennedy as he left the ballroom of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles to hand-shake his way through a dingy pantry. He was on his way to still another ballroom to celebrate his victory.

The cheers turned into screams of panic as the popping sounds of gunfire were heard.

The inheritor of John Kennedy's political empire was also an heir to his curse. And the echo of the screams and the gunfire lingers in a nation's ears.

Exactly six years after Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was killed in a decade of political assassinations, the truth behind his murder finally may emerge.

That Sirhan Bishara Sirhan did not fire the shots that killed Bobby Kennedy is the startling conclusion sworn to by experts in the field of criminal science.

The experts challenge the Los Angeles Police Department, which has defended its lone-gun, lone-assassin theory against growing dissent, expert testimony to the contrary and now, political pressure.

The latest scientific proof that a second gunman was involved in Sen. Kennedy's assassination was provided to TATTLER by Herbert Leon MacDonell, recognized as one of the country's leading experts on ballistics.

He concluded from the very evidence used by Los Angeles authorities to convict Sirhan that the young Arab immigrant could not have fired all the shots that killed Kennedy and wounded five others in the kitchen-pantry area of the Ambassador Hotel a few minutes after midnight June 5, 1968.

MacDonell's statement, backed up by a leading West Coast forensic scientist, is the latest link in a long chain of intractable facts and contradictions that indicate at least two gunmen were involved in Robert Kennedy's murder.

MacDonell, who bears an impressive list of qualifications as a ballistics expert, became interested in the Robert Kennedy murder case last fall.

**ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF CRIMINALISTICS** at both Corning Community College and Elmira College in New York and director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science, he attended a legal and forensic science seminar arranged by Dr. Cyril Wecht, the noted Pittsburgh, Pa., forensic pathologist.

At the seminar, MacDonell saw "The Second Gun," the documentary film about the Robert Kennedy assassination produced by West Coast free-lance broadcast journalist Theodore Charach. MacDonell succumbed to fascination with the case and arranged through Charach to study photographs taken of bullets removed from Kennedy and



"I think we can end the divisions within the United States, the violence."

—Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, June 5, 1968, in a speech to campaign workers after his victory in the California Democratic primary for President.

William Weisel, one of the five surviving victims.

The photographs of the bullet evidence had been taken with the Hycon Ballistic Camera, a highly sophisticated device that allowed the bullets to be photographed with a microscopic clarity.

**MacDONELL'S ASTONISHING conclusions:**

- The bullets removed from Kennedy and the bullet-removed from Weisel could not have been fired from the same weapon.
- The bullets removed from Kennedy were not fired from the Iver Johnson .22-caliber pistol, the revolver reportedly taken from Sirhan.

MacDonell swore to his findings in an affidavit provided exclusively to TATTLER

investigators.

His scientific evidence that Sirhan's gun did not kill Kennedy is buttressed by the findings of William W. Harper of Pasadena, Calif., a nationally renowned ballistics expert who has served as a forensic expert in more than 300 deaths involving firearms during a career spanning almost 40 years.

**HARPER** after almost a year of extensive examination of physical and medical evidence in the assassination probe, reached these conclusions:

- Two .22-caliber guns were involved in the assassination.
- Kennedy was shot by a second gunman standing behind the Senator, not by Sirhan, whom witnesses said was standing in front.
- The five surviving victims of the fusillade

were wounded by Sirhan firing from a position in front of Kennedy.

• It is extremely unlikely that any of the bullets fired by the Sirhan gun ever struck the body of Sen. Kennedy.

• It is also unlikely that Kennedy could have accidentally been shot by somebody trying to shoot Sirhan.

Los Angeles Police and California Attorney General Evelle Younger, who was Los Angeles County district attorney at the time of the assassination, insist that Kennedy was killed by Sirhan acting alone.

**THE LONE GUNMAN THEORY** is spelled out in "Special Unit Senator," a book on the police probe written by Robert A. Houghton, who was chief of detectives during the assassination probe. He described SUS, the code name given the investigation, as the most complete investigation ever performed by a law enforcement agency.

As TATTLER began its recent investigation of the Kennedy case, Los Angeles police clamped a lid of secrecy on their investigative files.

Present Police Chief Edward M. Davis issued an order that no member of the department could comment on the case. The order came the same day a TATTLER reporter tried to arrange an interview with DeWayne Wolfer, controversial director of the L.A.P.D. crime laboratory.

Asked why Chief Davis muzzled his men, Commander Pete Hagen told TATTLER:

"There is still litigation underway in the Kennedy case and therefore policemen are the only ones who cannot talk once something has gone to trial. We're prohibited from speaking — and, in fact, there was a court order that nobody can talk about the Kennedy case."

"Mr. Wolfer has testified in the case; his testimony is a matter of public record, and Chief Davis does not see any reason why he should expose any members of his department in this matter."

Asked whether a "gag order" was in effect in the Kennedy case, Attorney General Younger told TATTLER: "I just don't know."

Wolfer's testimony, unfortunately, has been disputed by experts who have also questioned his qualifications.

**WOLFER'S QUALIFICATIONS** were challenged three years ago by attorney Barbara Warner Blehr, who claimed the criminalist did not use four standard procedures in investigating Kennedy's death.

A few days later, Police Chief Davis scoffed at Mrs. Blehr's claims and described Wolfer as "the top expert in the country."

Mrs. Blehr's claims, in a letter to the Civil Service Commission, were based on criminalist Harper's investigation of the Kennedy evidence.

The incident spurred a chain of mystery and confusion reminiscent of some of the handling of the investigation of the John F. Kennedy assassination in Dallas.

At first, then Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Joseph P. Busch Jr. brushed off attorney Blehr's claims with the statement that inconsistencies in Wolfer's testimony might be verbal or clerical errors.

But he announced on June 4, 1971, that his office would investigate Mrs. Blehr's claims. Two weeks later he announced a June 28 press

(Continued on the next 2 pages)



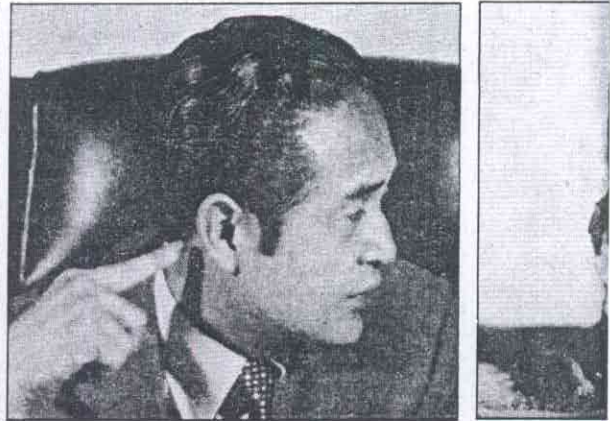
HERE IS THE PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE that has convinced expert witnesses that two gunmen were involved in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi, right, Los Angeles County coroner, ruled that Kennedy was shot from behind, as he is pointing out in the photograph. This would tend to eliminate Sirhan B. Sirhan as the killer, since witnesses said Sirhan was in front of Kennedy when he fired, as is shown in the diagram at the bottom of the page.

Herbert Leon MacDonell, a nationally famous criminologist, examined the bullets admitted in evidence against Sirhan and concluded there was no doubt that a second gun was involved.

MacDonell, director of the Laboratory of Forensic Science, examined the photographs at far right, which magnified many times the bullets taken from Kennedy and William Weisel, one of five surviving victims of the assassination.

As MacDonell observed, "Detailed examination of the Hycon Balliscan Camera photo-micrographs of the Kennedy and Weisel bullets reveal a difference of nearly one-half a degree in rifling angles. These angles reflect the rifling characteristics of the barrels from which they were fired." In short, they came from two different guns.



## Experts and Eyewitnesses the Sirhan Jury Never Really Got to Hear

# 'Sirhan Never Got That Close to Kennedy'

(Continued from the preceding page)

conference to release his findings. Then he postponed the press conference to July 6 so witnesses could be questioned further. But the press conference was again postponed — this time indefinitely.

The DA then said he was concerned that since Sirhan's trial the murder weapon and fatal bullets in the Kennedy murder case might have been tampered with.

A NEW GRAND JURY was asked to look into the possibility of the evidence having been tampered with while in the custody of County Clerk William G. Sharp. A DA's office spokesman said the exhibits might have been so carelessly handled in the county clerk's office that they might be useless in future court action.

The grand jury and the district attorney later charged that the county clerk had (1) failed to follow the judge's wish that the bullet evidence be specially packed and handled by the clerk; (2) that countless pages of Sirhan documents were so loosely supervised that they were stolen by the viewing public; and (3) the bullets could have lost their "integrity" by handling while in the clerk's custody.

But the Board of Supervisors asked the County's Chief Administrative Officer to study the charges and make a report. The CAO reported that (1) the judge's request was not transmitted to the clerk but that the bullet packaging was that provided by the LAPD and

was typical of all their bullet packaging; (2) the original documents were safely stored. Only copies were missing and they might have been bought — not stolen — since they were available for purchase at 50 cents a page; and (3) the bullets were handled regularly during the course of the trial and nobody complained about their "integrity" then.

Recently, Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward urged the County Board of Supervisors to ask District Attorney Busch to respond to the CAO report — since its answers were to the charges that supported the DA's stand against a re-examination of the bullet evidence or a test-firing of the Sirhan gun.

ABOUT THE TIME of the grand jury's investigation, attention was being focused anew on witnesses whose names were brought into the picture by Charach, the Canadian-born journalist who pursued his own probe of the Kennedy assassination like a bird dog.

Until then, he had been viewed largely as just another assassination buff looking for a conspiracy behind every tree. Owner of Telecommunications, Inc., in Studio City, Calif., he handled assignments for various broadcasters until the night of the assassination.

Since then, he has devoted all his time to proving his belief that a second gunman was overlooked in the official investigation.

He was filming a documentary on Bobby Kennedy's rise toward the Presidency on the night of June 5, 1968. He was jammed in the crowd behind the podium as

Kennedy concluded his speech as victor in the California Democratic Primary and was ushered through a rear pantry toward another ballroom.

Charach heard the popping noises inside the pantry. He pushed his way into the pantry to find the scene of panic and confusion ... Kennedy bleeding to death on the floor ... five persons wounded ... a huddle of people with their attention focused on the subdued Sirhan.

Charach began interviewing witnesses to this scene.

A KEY WITNESS who Charach injected into the subsequent investigation made the police cut-and-dried one-gunman theory uncomfortable to live with. He was Donald L. Schulman. An employee of a Los Angeles television station, Schulman was questioned by police only briefly once in the months leading up to Sirhan's trial. He was never called as a witness.

Schulman contended that he witnessed the assassination, saw Sirhan fire his pistol and saw a security guard draw a gun and fire back.

Schulman's report immediately after the shooting was that Kennedy was shot three times and a security guard fired back. He was the only witness who was right on the first count — it wasn't until the autopsy was performed that it was learned Kennedy had been shot three times.

When Charach interviewed Schulman a year later, the newsman stood by his story.

"I was in the pantryway following the Senator," he said. "He stopped and shook hands with several people and started to progress again. We were packed in there like sardines.

"There were lights and of excitement. The Senator's hands with someone and the maitre d', walked up

"AS WE WERE SLOW man stepped out and he was standing behind Kennedy fired also. The next thing shot three times."

Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi, Los Angeles County coroner, numerous headline-makers Sirhan's trial that bolstered the Senator's case.

In an interview with witnesses said Sirhan fired Kennedy.

"One gunshot wound ear," Noguchi said. "The powder deposit on the clothing firing the similar weapon the muzzle distance would ear edge and no more than

KARL Uecker, the beside Kennedy during the by Sirhan was 1 1/2 feet Kennedy when Sirhan fired Uecker, after Sirhan was Arab in a hammerlock and



THE FUROR IN THE PANTRY, as diagrammed below, was seen by the two men at left. Don Schulman, the one in spectacles, says: "The guard who was standing behind Kennedy took out his gun and he fired ...". The other eyewitness, Karl Uecker, said Sirhan was standing 1 1/2 or 2 feet in front of the Senator when he fired. Schulman was a TV newsman; Uecker was the hotel maitre d'.

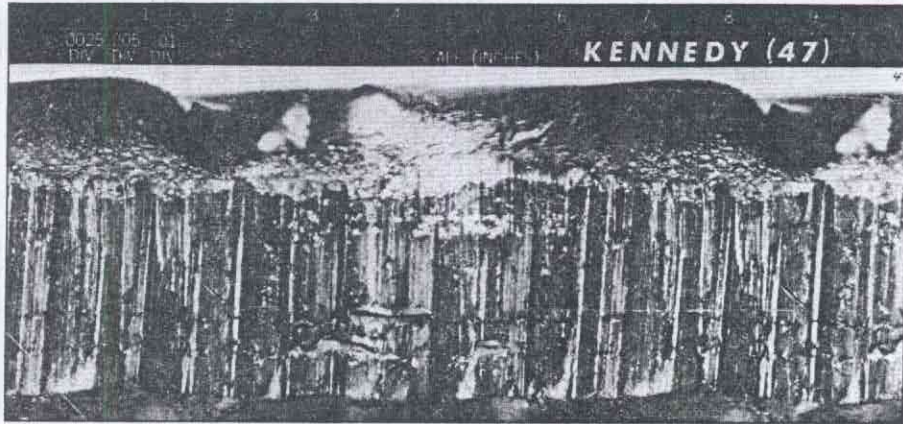


AFTER SHOOTING: Hiterto unpublished photo catches crowd pinning Sirhan.



POWDER BURNS shot bullet was fired this





**r Agree:  
lim'**

...meras and people and a lot  
...e had just finished shaking  
...another man, I think it was  
...at took his hand.

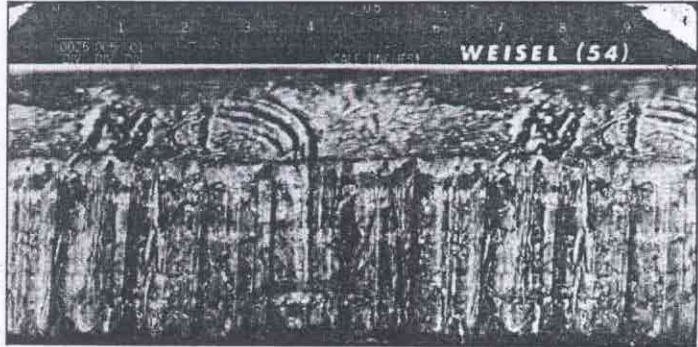
...Y pushed forward, another  
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...hi, the Japanese-born Los  
...r who has investigated  
...g murder cases (including  
...rders), gave testimony in  
...ed the second-gun theory,  
...smallist Charach, Noguchi  
...s shot from the rear, while  
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...he one inch from the right  
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...otel's maitre d', who was  
...shooting, said the gun held  
...two feet away from Sen.  
...d.  
...an firing, grabbed the young  
...wrestled him to the top of a

THESE ADVANCED BALLISTICS  
photographs are published here for the  
first time. They are far more reliable  
than those used in courts in the past. The  
bullets were placed on a revolving turn-  
table and photographed at high magnifi-  
cation by a special camera, in which the  
film turns at the same speed as the outer  
surface of the bullet, so that the entire  
surface may be seen in great detail in the  
print. The top bullet came from  
Kennedy's body. Some experts say it  
was not fired from the same gun as the  
bottom one, which came from Weisel,  
another victim of the fusillade in the  
Ambassador Hotel pantry. The fragment  
photographed above, centered, came from  
Kennedy's skull, and is so damaged no  
one can tell whether it's a .38 or .22 slug.



steam table.  
Asked if Sirhan could have fired the fatal shot into  
Kennedy's brain before Uecker grabbed him, the  
maitre d' said:

"If the bullet killed him that was shot about two feet  
away from his head, yes. But if the bullet, which Dr.  
Noguchi said from the autopsy must have been about  
an inch to three inches away from his head did, no,  
Sirhan never came that close to Kennedy."

Another witness, Eddie Masasian, testified before  
the original grand jury that Sirhan's gun was about  
three feet away from the Senator.

Uecker said it would have been "completely im-  
possible" for Sirhan to have gotten behind him and  
have shot Kennedy from behind.

BECAUSE OF THE DEPTH of the powder burns  
imbedded in Kennedy's skin tissue, Dr. Noguchi said it

would be "scientifically highly unlikely" for the shots  
that struck Kennedy to have been fired two or three  
feet away.

Not long after Sirhan's trial, Dr. Noguchi was fired  
by the County Board of Supervisors on a list of 35  
allegations, including one that he performed a "death  
dance" because he was in a hurry for Kennedy to die so  
he could perform the autopsy.

Attorney Godfrey Isaac, noting that Noguchi had  
been acclaimed as having performed "the most perfect  
autopsy in history" in the Kennedy case,  
represented Noguchi before the Civil Service Board.  
The coroner was reinstated.

Schulman, the TV station employe, backs up  
Uecker's story that Sirhan did not shoot Kennedy with  
the gun scant inches from the Senator's head.  
Schulman said Sirhan was three to six feet away from  
Kennedy when he fired. New York Post writer Pete  
Hamill also told police Sirhan was several feet away  
when he fired.

ONE OF THE KEY FIGURES to emerge in  
Charach's investigation of the Bobby Kennedy  
assassination is Thane Eugene Cesar, a plumber who  
was moonlighting as a security guard for the Ace  
Guard Service.

Kennedy was a fatalist and had only one bodyguard  
with him. The Ambassador, to protect itself, hired  
additional security guards from Ace, a "rent-a-cop"  
agency.

Cesar was questioned by the police and the FBI in the  
days following Kennedy's death.

He said that as the shooting began, he was jostled  
and knocked down backward against an ice machine.  
He said he never saw the gunman's face.

His accounts conflicted in each interview as to  
whether or not he actually went for his gun and got it  
out of the holster.

Because his stories varied, the guard was not  
questioned further by authorities.

Records do not reflect that any effort was made to  
determine whether the variances in his story were due  
to an effort to conceal something. The guard's gun was  
never examined.

IN "SPECIAL UNIT SENATOR," Detective Chief  
Houghton wrote that a thorough investigation showed  
that nobody with right-wing political connections was  
in the pantry when Kennedy was assassinated.

Charach found Cesar on Oct. 7, 1969, working in the  
San Fernando Valley.

In the ensuing interview, Cesar said he had drawn his  
.38-caliber pistol when Kennedy was shot, but  
hadn't fired it.

He also admitted having owned at the time a .22-  
caliber pistol just like Sirhan carried that night. He  
sold the pistol to a friend later and the .22-caliber pistol  
was subsequently reported stolen in Arkansas. It is still  
missing.

And in contrast to Houghton's statement that nobody  
with right-wing political connections was in the pantry  
that night, Cesar admitted that he was anti-Kennedy  
for allegedly giving everything to the black people,  
believed a race war was imminent and had worked in  
the campaign of Alabama Gov. George Wallace.

OTHER SHADES of mystery surrounding the of-  
ficial investigation include a missing set of pictures  
taken by Scott Eniart, a student who entered the hotel's  
Embassy Room with press passes picked up at random  
in the hotel's press room.

Eniart said six policemen with guns drawn followed  
him and seized his camera and film as he left the hotel.  
The policemen said they would contact him as to when  
the film would be returned. Six months later, when  
Eniart inquired about his film, police disavowed any  
knowledge of him.

A year after the assassination and following strong  
threats by Eniart's attorney, the police surrendered  
to the youth an incomplete set of prints, but not the film  
or negatives.

The complete set of Eniart's pictures are probably  
contained in the 16-volume LAPD investigatory report  
on the assassination. But that has never been made  
public.



THE CONTROVERSIAL People's Exhibit 55 in the Sirhan  
murder trial. It shows that the three bullets taken from the body  
of Robert Kennedy came from a weapon with the Serial Number  
H 18602. The serial number of the Sirhan gun is No. H53725.  
Authorities contended Crime lab expert DeWayne Wolfer wrote the  
wrong number on the document by mistake and "the second gun,"  
which was later destroyed, was merely used for testing purposes.

sd one  
ray.



# STRANGE ROLE OF THANE CESAR, GUARD WITH A GUN WHO STOOD NEAR RFK JUST BEFORE HE WAS SHOT

By JOHN MOULDER  
Of the Tattler Staff

The role of Thane Eugene (Gene) Cesar in the investigation of Robert Kennedy's death has been marked controversy growing out of contradictions in this eyewitness's story of the assassination.

Cesar, a plumber by trade, was moonlighting as a security guard hired by the Ambassador Hotel the night Kennedy was shot.

The guard was interviewed by the police and the FBI in the days following Kennedy's assassination.

As the shooting began in the kitchen-pantry area of the hotel, he said, he was knocked down backward, against an ice machine. He said he never saw the gunman's face — only an arm and a pistol attached and spurting red flame.

His accounts differed slightly each time he was interviewed on whether or not he went for his gun or actually got it out of his holster. Once he said he drew his gun and moved toward the wounded senator.

Another time, he said, "I reached for mine but it was too late."

ONE POLICE OFFICIAL SAID Cesar told conflicting accounts and it appeared obvious he hadn't really seen anything and had nothing to tell the authorities.

The guard, because of the variations in his story, was questioned no further by officials, who felt he was trying to interject himself into a case he knew little about.

But on Oct. 7, 1969, about 16 months after the assassination, Cesar was interviewed by Theodore Charach, a broadcast journalist who produced the documentary film strongly asserting police had bungled the investigation and that a second gun was involved in Kennedy's death.

Charach found Cesar living and working in the San Fernando Valley.

"He was friendly and affable," Charach

told TATTLER. But the new interview brought out even more contradictions, all of which remain unresolved.

FOR EXAMPLE, Robert A. Houghton, the Los Angeles chief of detectives who wrote a book called "Special Unit Senator," detailing the police investigation of the assassination, wrote:

"On July 16, 1969, I held a final Special Unit Senator meeting asking 16 last questions ... to the absolute possibility of any person with right-wing connections being in the kitchen or pantry on the night of June 4-5, 1968 ... Within a week, all of them had been answered satisfactorily."

Less than three months later, Cesar told Charach:

"I definitely wouldn't have voted for Bobby Kennedy because he had the same ideas that John did, and I think John sold the country down the road. He ... he gave it to the Commies, he gave it to everyone else who wanted to, he gave it, he literally gave it to the minority."

Cesar said he had worked actively in the American Party, passing out handbills and getting donations for George Wallace.

THE PLUMBER-GUARD PREDICTED a race war in America.

"The black man, now, for the last four to eight years, has been cramming this integrated idea down our throat and so you've learned to hate him."

"And on these days, at the rate they're going, there is going to be civil war in this country. It's going to be white against the black, and the only thing I'd say is the black will never win."

Later in the interview, Cesar said, "First of all, I think the white man is going to try and do it (fight back) with his voting power, and if they can't do it by getting the right person to straighten the thing out, then he's going to take it in his own hands. I can't see any other

way to go."

Cesar then told Charach that he was escorting Kennedy, holding onto the Senator's right arm, when Kennedy turned his head to shake hands with a busboy.

"... He started to shake hands with him, and when he did, that's when the shots were fired, and the thing I saw first, wasn't so much the noise, but was the flash. I got powder in my eyes from the flash. And I was a little behind Bobby, so I would say I was about three feet from the flash, 'cause I looked up and seen a red gun flash, and, like I say, I got a little bit of powder in my eyes."

"WHEN THE SHOTS were fired, that's when I reached for my gun, and this is when I got knocked down."

He told Charach he got his gun out of the holster, "but it didn't do me no good, because I'm on the floor. But anyways, I got back up and I had my gun out, but they already had him restrained."

Cesar had told police he pulled his gun after getting up from the floor.

(Don Schulman, a television station employe, insists that he saw a security guard pull his gun and fire after Sirhan Sirhan started firing his pistol.)

Conflicting stories were given by Cesar about his ownership of a .22-caliber pistol like the one that killed Kennedy. Cesar said he was wearing a .38-caliber pistol when he was on duty when Kennedy was shot.

Cesar told Charach in October, 1969, that he had owned a .22 pistol but had sold it about a year before — three months after the assassination.

LOS ANGELES County District Attorney Joseph Busch told a reporter that Cesar had admitted owning a .22-caliber pistol, but he had sold it before the assassination.

"He said that he sold the revolver that he had similar to the one that was used in the murder in February before the shooting occurred," Busch declared.



THANE EUGENE CESAR: His story is hard to follow...

Charach contacted Jim Yoder, a friend of Cesar's then living in Blue Mountain, Ark., who said he bought the .22-caliber pistol from Cesar on Sept. 6, 1968 — after Kennedy was killed.

Yoder provided a receipt from Cesar showing he had paid \$16 for the weapon.

Yoder said Cesar wanted to sell his gun because "he seemed a little worried, and he said that there might be repercussions..."

After Yoder bought Cesar's pistol for his gun collection, it was stolen in a burglary of Yoder's home in Arkansas.

The burglary was never solved — the gun has vanished.

## TOP PSYCHOLOGIST WHO TESTED SIRHAN CALLS DOCTORS' TESTIMONY... '...The Psychiatric Blunder of the 20th Century...'

A prominent California psychologist hotly challenges the psychiatric testimony given at Sirhan Sirhan's murder trial. He brands it "the psychiatric blunder of the 20th Century."

This statement by Dr. Eduard Simson is just one of the many conflicting aspects of the investigation of the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Dr. Simson, of Monterey, a psychologist for 17 years with thoroughgoing professional credentials, evaluated Sirhan while the doctor was in charge of San Quentin prison's psychological testing program.

In a recent affidavit made available to TATTLER, Dr. Simson wrote:

"During the summer of 1969, I interviewed and tested extensively and repeatedly during approximately 20 weekly visits one particular inmate on Death Row, Sirhan Sirhan."

After the doctor's visits with Sirhan were terminated, Sirhan sent word to Dr. Simson through his family that he wanted the psychologist to review the psychiatric testimony given at the trial.

After talking to ballistics expert William W. Harper, who contends two gunmen were involved in the assassination, Dr. Simson agreed to review the murder trial testimony.

"I AM APPALLED," Dr. Simson said, "at the conduct of the mental health professionals involved in this case."

He said he and Dr. David G. Schmidt, the San Quentin prison chief psychiatrist, concurred that the findings sworn to during Sirhan's trial were uttered at odds with their own, more leisurely examination.

"Nowhere in Sirhan's test responses was I able to find evidence that he is a 'paranoid schizophrenic' or 'psychotic,' as testified by the doctors at the trial," Dr. Simson stressed.

He accused other doctors of "bias and errors" in "IQ" testing of Sirhan.

Dr. Eduard Simson, a psychologist for 17 years, examined Sirhan in 20 weekly visits while he was imprisoned in San Quentin.

"Sirhan is not and never has been a paranoid schizophrenic," the noted physician said, contrary to testimony at the trial.

Simson's tests showed Sirhan scored a verbal IQ of 129 (very superior), a performance IQ of 119 (bright and normal) and a full-scale IQ of 127 (superior).

Doctors at Sirhan's trial testified that Sirhan had a verbal IQ of 109 (average), a performance IQ of 82 (dull to normal) and a full scale IQ of 96 (average).

Dr. Simson is convinced that Sirhan performed below his true intelligence in the first tests because as an Arab, he distrusted and did not want to cooperate with Jewish doctors.

Simson said other doctors erred because of the widespread preconception that Sirhan killed Kennedy.



"HAD THEY KNOWN the ballistics evidence strongly contradicts Sirhan having killed Robert F. Kennedy, their approach to interpreting Sirhan's test responses and spontaneous behavior would have been different," he observed.

The court psychiatrists and psychologists could never "unlock" Sirhan's mind because he did not trust them, Dr. Simson found.

"I was well on my way to accomplishing this task, but could not complete it because my visits with Sirhan were abruptly terminated by San Quentin's associate warden James Park," said Dr. Simson.

The psychiatric-psychological court team, Dr. Simson said, pooled their efforts to prove Sirhan was guilty and insane: a paranoid schizophrenic.

"Subsequent studies I have done in a more neutral, trusting relationship at San Quentin clearly point out the simple truth: Sirhan is not and was never a paranoid schizophrenic."

SIRHAN IS THE CENTER of a drama, "the true center of which probably still lies very much concealed and unknown to the general public," Dr. Simson said.

"Was he merely a double, a stand-in, sent there to draw attention?" Dr. Simson asked.

"Was he at the scene to replace someone else? Did he actually kill Robert Kennedy? Whatever the full truth of the Robert F. Kennedy assassination might be, it still remains locked in Sirhan's mind and in other, still-anonymous minds."

Entries in notebooks found in Sirhan's home indicated his guilt in the assassination.

But Dr. Simson said Sirhan denies having written these entries.

"I strongly suspect the notebooks are a forgery, for the thinking reflected in them is foreign to the Sirhan I carefully studied," Dr. Simson concluded.



# What Sirhan's Really Like...

## Tattler's Exclusive Look at His Records in San Quentin Show the Strong, Bright, Mystical Mind That Rules Him

By TOM AYRES  
Of the Tattler Staff

Diminutive Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, a believer in the occult and self-hypnosis, claims he found himself at the Ambassador Hotel on the night of June 4, 1968, quite by accident.

Sirhan, now 30, claims he never wrote in his diary the statements attacking Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, as prosecutors have claimed.

The Jordanian-born immigrant's detailed recollections of the events on the night Kennedy was assassinated are found in his confidential prison records — obtained exclusively by TATTLER.

The documents also give an insight into the kid-gloves treatment San Quentin prison authorities afforded Sirhan. It was feared he would be attacked by other inmates on the prison's death row.

His prison records reflect a man of contrasting personalities. For example, Sirhan, a Christian Arab, refused any visits from Protestant prison chaplain Byron E. Eshelman, who remarked that the refusal "is most unusual for a person on death row."

However, he accepted visits from Catholic Chaplain Thomas F. Ahern, who found Sirhan was "courteous and affable, and seems to accept his present situation with equanimity."

IN A LETTER, he was gracious in rejecting an offer by San Francisco Attorney Melvin Bell to intervene in his case — "I sincerely appreciate Mr. Bell's interest in my predicament. However, I feel that my new attorneys are sufficiently competent to tender me the best and strongest legal counsel."

But the young Arab's fiery temper showed through when he actually wrote a threatening letter from Death Row to his older brother, Adel.

"I want you to bring (his attorney Grant) Cooper here immediately," he wrote, underlining "immediately" three times. "Tell him that he will not get his \$10,000 until he sees me. If you fail to bring Cooper here, you're going to regret it. I'll have my chance to make you regret it — laugh at me because I am in prison."

Since he has been imprisoned, Sirhan has remained "extremely concerned" with developments in the Middle East and becomes moody at times, according to his guards.

Death Row Sgt. J.J. Kentzel said most condemned prisoners in San Quentin viewed Sirhan's arrival at the prison one of two ways:

- (1) He's one of us now; he's just killed a person of note.
- (2) He'll be safe among us because we don't want any adverse publicity caused by an attempt on his life.

However, Sergeant Kentzel did single out four inmates who he believes would kill Sirhan, if only for the notoriety, and a fifth who might kill him, "but only if he was pushed."

After Sirhan had been in San Quentin for some time, various authorities found "no evidence that there is any political response to Sirhan ... that is, that someone would want to harm him because he killed Robert Kennedy."

THREE YEARS AFTER he was incarcerated associate warden James W.L. Park wrote in a memo:

"Sirhan has been wooed by militant Arab groups, but has not responded to them. If he were to cooperate, there would be a chance of rescue by them."

### DO YOU THINK THIS MAN IS A KILLER?



HE IS LED AWAY TO JUDGE AFTER SHOOTING.



A VEILED LOOK AS HE MEETS THE PRESS.



HE ARRIVES FOR TRIAL IN 1969.



HIS CURIOUS STARE IN THE PANTRY.

Perhaps the greatest insight into depths of the Sirhan personality is set forth in confidential counselor W.O. Cross' reports of detailed interviews held with Sirhan behind the walls of San Quentin.

Though Sirhan had strong pro-Arab, anti-Jewish feelings dating back to his childhood in strife-torn Jordan, he told Cross he did not see himself as a social or political activist "but as one who preferred to view social situations at a distance and evaluate them intellectually."

"He claims to have delved into philosophy at an early age and then went to mysticism and Rosicrucianism," Cross wrote in a report.

"He claims to have practiced self-hypnosis and became proficient at inducing anesthesia in various parts of his body. He claims he felt his mind was very strong and could do all sorts of things."

Sirhan had maintained an interest in the occult from 1966 until the time of the assassination.

COULD THIS HAVE PLAYED some role in Sirhan's actions on the night of the assassination?

Cross sized up that question in his report this way:

"(Sirhan) mentioned how he had successfully completed experiments on men-

talistic phenomenon and he was sure there was substance to what he was studying.

It is of note that this interest in "unusual ways of influencing events and material things" came at a period when Sirhan was having to deal with a great deal of personal loss in attempting the usual ways of influencing events and material things.

During the same period his behavior showed "some increase in irritability and possibly an easier arousal to anger when confronted with Arab-Jewish conflicts reported on television or radio."

Cross said the six-day Arab-Jewish war in 1967 was an extremely provocative topic with Sirhan. He felt the United States had sold out the Arab people. He felt betrayed by Sen. Kennedy's favorable attitude toward Israel.

Here is a capsule version of what Sirhan told counselor Cross he remembers about the night of the assassination.

HE STARTED OFF at the Pasadena City College having coffee with a friend, a foreign exchange student from India. He saw an advertisement of a pro-Zionist rally in the Los Angeles Times. It infuriated him and he could think of nothing but to reach the rally.

"He made a point that this type of compulsion was very unusual for him, as he avoided gatherings of this sort," Cross wrote.

Sirhan rose from the table in a trance-like state, got into his car and drove down the Pasadena freeway "like a madman."

He drove up and down Wilshire Blvd., looking in vain for the rally. A crowd of people attracted his attention, so he stopped his car. Somebody in the crowd told him a party was going on at the nearby Ambassador Hotel. Sirhan headed there.

He tipped a waitress \$20, but she refused to serve him a drink. But he bought one or more Tom Collins' for \$1.25 each at a bar.

SIRHAN HAD A BRIEF FLASH of memory: He recalled sitting with a girl at a coffee table, drinking coffee and offering her some. Then, Sirhan told Cross, his memory lapsed completely.

Sirhan, of course, was seized with a smoking .22-caliber pistol a few minutes past midnight in the Ambassador kitchen-pantry area as Sen. Kennedy lay dying and five other persons lay wounded.

Robert A. Houghton, Los Angeles chief of detectives at the time, wrote in his book "Special Unit Senator" that Sirhan was not intoxicated and was not under the influence of drugs when he fired the shots.

WAS HE UNDER a state of self-hypnosis? Associate Warden Park, 2 1/2 years after Sirhan's imprisonment at San Quentin, recommended that he be allowed the freedoms granted other prisoners on Death Row and noted that Sirhan's prison record was clean except for two hunger strikes.

During his various interviews with prison authorities Sirhan had a facial tic. He blinked and squinted his eyes "to release his tension." He bit his fingernails to the quick and they bled.

According to Chief Prison Psychiatrist Dr. David G. Schmidt, Sirhan "claims he really didn't mean to commit homicide, but merely to call attention to the plight of the people."

Dr. Schmidt found that while Sirhan had "a neurotic, emotionally unstable, paranoid personality," he wasn't likely to try to kill himself.





THE WIDOWED ETHEL: NO SELF-PITY

## ETHEL KENNEDY: 'A WOMAN OF GREAT CHARACTER'

By BILL HENDRICKS  
Of the Tattler Staff

The tragedy of the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy revealed his widow as a woman of much more substance than many had imagined.

In the six years since her husband was murdered, Ethel Kennedy has carried on her life under difficult circumstances with exemplary dignity.

She has been reported as romantically involved with a number of men - from tennis pro Don Hamilton to Frank Sinatra. But even the most sensational publications have failed to tarnish her with scandal.

From the first moments after her husband of 18 years fell fatally wounded on the night of June 5, 1968, Ethel Kennedy behaved with courage.

THOSE WHO RODE the train carrying the slain Kennedy's body from New York to Washington, remember his widow moving down the aisle the entire length of the 30-car train to personally thank them for being there.

If there were some who were amazed at her ability to withstand the torture of those first few days it was because to them Ethel Kennedy had seemed somewhat frivolous.

They might have expected more had they reflected on her past, for the former Ethel Skakel had endured other personal tragedies.

In the 1930s her parents were killed in an airplane accident, and her brother met the same fate in 1966.

The truth is that Ethel Kennedy has always relied heavily on her Roman Catholic faith in times of trial.

This was never more evident than in the first few months after

her husband's death.

A FRIEND RECALLS walking with Mrs. Kennedy on the grounds of the Kennedy family compound at Hyannisport, Mass. The friend told Mrs. Kennedy that the weather had been gloomy earlier in the year.

"But this month the weather really turned sunny and warm," Mrs. Kennedy replied. "Up there in heaven, Bobby must have told God that he had to do better."

The remark was typical of Mrs. Kennedy in that it not only reflected her religious faith but demonstrated her resolve not to indulge in self-pity.

SHE HAD TO MANAGE other difficulties without a husband's support. Two of her 11 children have gotten into serious trouble with authorities since their father died.

But somehow despite all the rumors and innuendos, Ethel Kennedy has retained her reputation as a woman of great character.

She most recently recalled the memory of her dead husband when she spoke to some 325 journalists and friends at the Washington Kennedy Center.

In a poignant statement to the gathering for the sixth annual presentation of the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Journalism Awards, Mrs. Kennedy thanked CBS reporter Roger Mudd, who chaired the session.

"I would like to add one personal one," she said, as she broke down in tears at the thought of the tragedy in Los Angeles.

"It was because of Roger, who led me through the crowd, that Bobby and I got to say goodbye to each other."

### In Bobby's Case, Two Who Came Forward as Witnesses Died of Unnatural Causes

## Mystery Deaths Link Both Kennedy Killings

One parallel between the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and his brother, Sen. Robert Kennedy, can be found in the mysterious deaths of several people connected with either investigations.

Since President Kennedy was gunned down on the streets of Dallas, Nov. 22, 1963, scores of persons connected with the case have died in circumstances that cannot be described as normal. Authorities have generally written three deaths off as strange coincidences.

In less than a year after Bobby Kennedy was killed in the Ambassador Hotel, June 5, 1968, two persons who came forward as witnesses in the case died violently - their deaths officially determined to be suicides.

In Dallas, John Kennedy's suspected assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, was murdered while in the custody of a veritable regiment of police officers, removing virtually forever the chance of the full truth behind the assassination being ascertained.

In Los Angeles, Bobby Kennedy's accused killer, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, received numerous death threats, prompting authorities to place him in the strictest, most isolated security in modern history, to prevent "another Dallas."

LESS THAN ONE MONTH after Bobby Kennedy was assassinated, a sniper made an attempt on the life of Saidallah Sirhan, Sirhan Sirhan's oldest brother.

But two persons who came forward as witnesses in the Robert Kennedy assassination probe met unnatural deaths.

One was Crispin Curjel Gonzalez, only 17 years old, who was found hanging in his jail cell in July 1968 in Juarez, Mexico, across the border from El Paso, Tex.

Gonzalez had told police he was once involved in a conversation in a Santa Monica, Calif., library with Sirhan Sirhan concerning the fear that, as Gonzalez put it, "the Kennedys were gaining dictatorial powers."

Gonzalez was later arrested in Juarez and placed under psychiatric observation after a passerby found and read a letter the teenager had dropped.

In the letter, Gonzalez claimed he had been an accomplice in the Bobby Kennedy assassination.

Mexican authorities said they didn't believe

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the youth's story. They wrote it off as a "fantastic desire for publicity" on the part of Gonzalez.

The FBI in El Paso, however, acknowledged it was in fact investigating the boy's claims. Then the youth was found dead, an apparent suicide. Nothing more was said about the investigation.

ON APRIL 11, 1969, 18 months after Bobby Kennedy was killed, a pretty belly dancer who believed she was the "young woman in the polka dot dress" sought by police after the assassination was found dead.

She checked into a motel with instructions that she be called at 5:30 p.m. When she didn't answer the call, the motel manager investigated and found her in a coma.

The girl, Kathy Fulmer, 19, died later of an apparent overdose of Seconal, a powerful sedative.

On the mirror of the wall of her room, she had scrawled:

"Lord you gave me a mountain .. I am love to climb ... Someday ... A wooden box will do."

An "All-points Bulletin" went out over police teletype networks after Kennedy was shot for a "young woman in a polka dot dress" whom, a Kennedy worker said, ran from the hotel after the crime, screaming, "We shot him! We shot him!"

MISS FULMER SHOWED UP two days later at the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Dept. and said she was the girl being sought.

But she said she had shouted, "They shot him" not "We shot him." She said she did not know Sirhan Sirhan but had seen him before the crime near the Ambassador hallway where Kennedy was shot.

She had been near the Senator when he was shot, she said, and had run from the building after the shooting erupted.

Miss Fulmer said she was active in the



VALERIE SCHULTE, above, was one of several women thought to be 'the girl in the polka-dot dress' for whom police broadcast a lookout just after the Los Angeles crime. But Booker Griffin, right, who saw such a girl, said she walked with a crutch and was decidedly not Valerie Schulte.



Kennedy campaign and had gone to the Ambassador with two companions - a man and a woman - to watch the Senator speak.

Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess released Miss Fulmer without a charge after hearing her story. Two other women questioned as being possibly the "girl in the polka dot dress" were also questioned and released.

NOBODY HEARD ANY MORE about Kathy Fulmer - until she was found dying in a motel room with those strange words scribbled on a mirror.

Police withdrew their search for the polka-dot mystery girl when Sandy Serrano, a

volunteer campaign worker, told police she was overwrought and imagined she had seen the polka-dot dress girl.

However, two other witnesses saw the polka-dot dress girl. Hotel waiter Vincent DiPierro said that both this girl and Sirhan were smiling at the time of the shooting.

DiPierro said Sirhan had "a very sick smile on his face" when he opened fire. Booker Griffin, a union leader, also reported seeing the girl in the polka-dot dress. He described her as a "weird cat."

Booker Griffin said he cannot possibly accept Valerie Schulte as the girl he saw run away from the scene of the crime.



# The Plans to Reopen the Case

## NEW ATTORNEY WILL USE BALLISTICS AFFIDAVIT SHOWING TWO KEY SLUGS DON'T MATCH; TO SEEK WRIT IN NEXT NINETY DAYS

By BILL SLOAN  
Of the Tattler Staff

A prominent Beverly Hills attorney plans to use new evidence in an effort to secure another trial for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the convicted assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

This new evidence, lawyer Godfrey Isaac said, will include an affidavit from a leading New York ballistics expert who said two slugs fired in the assassination do not match.

If this evidence stands up it would prove that at least two gunmen were involved in the murder of Sen. Kennedy and the wounding of five other persons a few minutes past midnight June 5, 1968, in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

Isaac disclosed to TATTLE that he has been asked by Sirhan's family to represent the convicted man in an effort to win him a new trial.

If he accepts, Isaac said he will file a writ with the trial court within 60 to 90 days.

"It will have to do with evidence that would tend toward the innocence of a defendant that was not brought out at the trial," Isaac said.

"In other words the writ will involve evidence that is outside the record, whereas an appeal involves evidence that is within the record."

The attorney observed that a mass of contradictory statements and evidence has been unearthed during the six years since Sen. Kennedy was slain.

THE EVIDENCE HAS NOT been heard by a court since Sirhan's trial, Isaac said, "because there's never actually been a procedure filed that brought it directly to the attention of a court."

Isaac represented Sirhan for a short time ending about two years ago.

When he files his new writ, Isaac said, he expects the new evidence to be heard by the court "as soon as it can be put on the calendar."

Matters uncovered by West Coast Journalist Theodore Charach "would be a substantial part of a writ of error," the attorney added.

"It was through his probe that it came to light that there was a discrepancy in ballistics evidence in testimony," Isaac said.

"It was through his probe that it came to light that the bullet from Kennedy's fourth vertebra and that from one of the other victims may not match. It was through his probe that it was brought to light the fact that in all probability Sirhan was not standing where the fatal shot came from. Obviously, to the extent admissible under the law, I would bring these things to the court's attention."

HIS WITNESSES, he said, would include nationally-known ballistics experts William W. Harper of Pasadena, Calif., and Herbert MacDonell of Elmira-Corning, N.Y.

He noted that law enforcement people do not appear impressed with the findings of the outside ballistics experts.

"Well, it's strange," said Isaac, "but I think it's consistent with the establishment's need to support its own decisions."

Current events may figure in the attorney's new efforts to break down "the case-is-closed" wall of silence built by law enforcement agencies that investigated the assassination.

"If there ever was a time, this is it - post-Watergate," said Isaac.

"When I was first involved in this case, nobody ever believed the government would cover up evidence," he continued. "Today, as a result of our national scene, I suppose



GODFREY ISAAC, the Beverly Hills attorney Mary Sirhan has asked to defend her son.



California Attorney General Evelle Younger, left, has described the Sirhan case discrepancies as 'minor.' But Grant Cooper, right, who defended Sirhan, says if he'd known then what he does now, 'I would have approached the investigation differently.'



HERBERT MacDONELL, a nationally known ballistics expert. He'd be key witness.

there's nobody in the country that doesn't believe the government would cover up evidence.

"I think the environment has changed," the attorney remarked. "I think the environment now is conducive to examination rather than cover-up."

AT THE NEW WRIT HEARING, Isaac said, he would present evidence "that would

indicate it appears physically impossible for Sirhan to have been the person who killed Senator Kennedy. At that point, if the court felt there was sufficient merit to it, they would probably order greater, more intensive hearings."

California Attorney General Evelle Younger, who was Los Angeles district attorney when Sirhan was tried, has described discrepancies in the Sirhan case as minor.

"I'm not sure when Evelle Younger so described them that he knew what he was talking about or what the discrepancies were," Isaac said. "It was a broad, rather sweeping statement on his part."

Isaac said he admires efforts by Los Angeles County Supervisor Baxter Ward to get the Kennedy death investigation reopened.

Ward, who is campaigning for the office of governor, has said he intends to hold public hearings to disclose evidence that has turned up since Sirhan's trial.

"It is the first recognition by a responsible governmental agency that there is a problem," said Isaac. "If, in fact, as a result of that hearing, it comes to the attention of a wider variety of people that there are serious questions, I don't see that it can hurt."

Ward is making an effort to have the Sirhan gun refired and the bullet compared with the bullets fired during the assassination.

"IF SUCH A COMPARISON shows that the bullets were fired from the same gun, then that's probably the end of any realistic attempt on Sirhan's part," said Isaac.

"On the other hand, if Baxter is successful in getting the gun fired and it turns out, based on reasonable scientific probabilities that it is not the same gun, Sirhan would be way ahead of the game."

Isaac said he is not critical of Sirhan's trial lawyers, who did not question the state's contention that Sirhan was guilty.

"In the atmosphere in which the Sirhan trial was held, they (the lawyers) wanted at that time to make their major effort to save Sirhan's life," said Isaac. "And they obviously felt that by admitting Sirhan's guilt, they had a better chance of not getting the death penalty."

"Now, the fact that they were in error does not invalidate their good intentions in doing that," Isaac added. "I think it was in fact an error, but I don't impugn their motivation at all."

GRANT COOPER, WHO WAS CHIEF defense lawyer at Sirhan's trial, has said in an interview:

"I have no apologies to make for the way I tried the case ... none at all. Look, we admitted before we ever started the trial that Sirhan did it. That was with his consent."

"I would have been in one hell of a situation to determine otherwise. Were we going to try and shift the blame to somebody else, who will get up from the stand and deny it?"

"If I make mistakes, I make mistakes," he added. "Show me the lawyer who tries cases and doesn't make mistakes. I did the job according to my likes and working with the lawyers I was working with, and I gave it the best I know how."

Cooper admitted he would have handled the defense differently had he known some of the things that have come out since Sirhan's trial.

"If a wrong has been done, I want to right it!" he exclaimed. "If the ballistics could show that the bullets that went into Kennedy didn't come from Sirhan's gun, now that to my mind is hard proof."

"Harper is a very conscientious and dedicated guy," Cooper added. "If I had known some of these things ahead of time, I would have approached the investigation differently."

Criminalist Harper did not begin his examinations of the evidentiary bullets until he read "Special Unit Senator," a book about the police version of the investigation of the assassination.



An L.A. County Supervisor Asks 'Whether Sirhan Was Joined That Night In His Actions'

## Candidate for California Governor Promises In Campaign to Hunt Down the Second Gunman

A crusading Los Angeles county supervisor wants to clear up the questions surrounding the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy and in so doing has made the long-dormant crime a political issue.

Now running for governor of California, Baxter Ward, 54, told TATTLER he would name a special commission if he's elected to re-investigate the assassination.

In the meantime, Ward is planning public hearings to bring what he describes as undisclosed evidence before the public.

California Atty. Gen. Evelle Younger, who, as Los Angeles County district attorney, prosecuted Sirhan Sirhan in 1969, brushed off the Ward plan as a waste of time.

"It may be to his benefit temporarily to get involved in something like that but I don't see that the public interest will be served," Younger told a TATTLER interviewer.

While Ward is running for the Democratic nomination for governor, Younger, a Republican, is himself running for re-election as state attorney general.

WARD, A FORMER veteran television newsman who has created a storm during the two years he has been a Los Angeles county supervisor, said he expects evidence at a planned public hearing to show that three bullets used as evidence in Sirhan's trial do not match. These are bullets taken from Kennedy and surviving victim William Weisel and a bullet test-fired from Sirhan's gun.

"In Sen. Kennedy's death," Ward said, "there is no doubt that Sirhan was firing a weapon, and that eyewitnesses are convinced he is guilty. It is an easy, and perhaps logical, presumption that he acted alone. And there is no question but that he now is where he should be, in prison, for the rest of his natural life."

"But despite the weight of all the testimony," the supervisor went on, "some of the physical evidence remains clouded. I am convinced that cloud should be removed. I do not know whether the results of such removal would confirm that Sirhan acted totally alone, or whether he was joined that night in his actions."

"But whatever the results might be, they should be determined and publicly announced."

AS GOVERNOR, Ward said, he would call on the California Legislature to help develop a commission that would impanel a group of nationally-recognized ballistics experts to re-examine questioned evidence, re-fire the Sirhan weapon and compare its bullets with those submitted as evidence during the trial.

Ward said his effort is the first major official attempt to get the evidence re-examined and re-tested.

But the County Board of Supervisors denied his request for the power to subpoena witnesses before his hearings.

Ward said the strongest resistance to his reopening the case has come from the district attorney's office and the Los Angeles Police Department.

As a Los Angeles newsman, Ward said he was surprised in the late summer of 1971 that authorities would not conduct a complete re-examination of the ballistics evidence after a serious controversy erupted over the reliability of the Sirhan trial evidence.

AS COUNTY SUPERVISOR, Ward said he recognizes he does not have the authority to compel the district attorney to conduct such an investigation.

Ward noted some discrepancies in a 13-page

By VAUN WILMOTT  
Of the Tattler Staff

report the Los Angeles Police Department submitted Oct. 11, 1971, to justify its stand after a ballistics controversy had arisen.

Page 7 of the report states in part: "The statement that Sirhan was pinned on the steam table firing aimlessly is contrary to testimony ..."

On Page 10, in a discussion of how a bullet got into a ceiling tile, the report says in part: "...the slug that penetrated the ceiling tile was fired from a position that traced to the top of the steam table where Sirhan was observed firing. The steep upward trajectory of the shot that penetrated the ceiling tile would in all probability be a result of the struggle during Sirhan's apprehension."

"THE AUTHORITIES are confused on that point," Ward said, "so we don't know whether Sirhan was pinned down, firing aimlessly, or not."

Atty. Gen. Younger brushes off Ward's challenge with a statement that "it will serve no purpose."

"This ground has been plowed so many times before and, as you know, I said some years ago that this is going to keep cropping up," Younger said.

Younger described the Los Angeles Police Department's investigation as "the most complete criminal investigation ever conducted in history." A similar statement was made by Robert A. Houghton, who was chief of detectives at the time, in his book "Special Unit Senator" (the code name police gave to the Kennedy assassination probe). Random House contracted with Houghton to write the book shortly after Kennedy was killed.

"THE POLICE INTERVIEWED more than 4,000 witnesses and 65 were called by the district attorney of Los Angeles county to



BAXTER WARD, left, who's seeking the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in California, is a veteran TV newsman now serving on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. He's 52. 'Despite the weight of all the testimony,' he finds, 'some of the physical evidence remains clouded. I am convinced that cloud should be removed.' A Republican Rival, Evelle Younger, who prosecuted Sirhan and is again seeking the office of state attorney general, brushes off Ward's plan as a waste of time.

testify during the trial," Younger said.

"And, at the end of the trial, testimony of 199 people who weren't called to testify was filed with the court. As a result of a request from the defense counsel, duplicates of 150 files containing interviews with potential witnesses were delivered on pre-trial discovery motions."

"Included among those files were recorded interviews with more than 70 persons who claimed to have observed the defendant at the time during the evening of June 4 and early morning of June 5 at the Ambassador."

Younger said police pursued many leads knowing they would be unproductive.

"But we resolved all doubts that we were getting the most complete possible explanation, looking to the day when somebody was going to claim ... you know ... this is some hanky-panky or this is a conspiracy."

"SO THE INEVITABLE occurred. It isn't surprising. We knew it was going to happen. It is the nature of the human animal, I guess. They don't like to believe a simple explanation like this one ... that it was just one man."

"It's much more fascinating to believe it was a conspiracy and others were involved and so you know it'll never be laid to rest."

The attorney general said the facts do not justify "any further circus-like hearings."

IF WARD'S EFFORTS lead to a court hearing, Younger said, "of course, we'll cooperate with it, but if we're just going to play fun and games ... You know they've been claiming new evidence ever since the day the jury came in."

"Some people have been writing books about the so-called new evidence," Younger added. "But just because people claim there is new evidence, that does not mean we are going to agree with them."

"But if anybody does in fact present any new evidence, I'd be the first to say the court should consider it."

Younger made it clear that answering questions about the Kennedy assassination arouses his impatience.

"I've wasted thousands of dollars of the taxpayers' money responding to questions I answered really in the court records and in the trial," he said.

"I think the jury performed their function; the court did, the district attorney did and the defense attorney did. And I think the results reflected what had occurred. So I have confidence in their verdict."

"That's all I can say."



THE JURY that convicted. Says prosecutor Evelle Younger: 'I think they performed their function ... I have confidence in their verdict.'