How scared can people get, or how anonymous can they want to be?

Today I received a xerox of the NYTimes 12/16/74 RFK story, Lowenstein Says Year's Study of Evidence Shows Sirhan Was Not Assassin of Kennedy, meter-dated New York 12/24/74. My names is spelled with a double "s." There is no return address. The meter is so lacking in ink the number is illegible.

Sending a newspaper is hazardous? Requires secrecy? This is something to be ashamed of? What can be the reason?

This copy was made in an office with enough xeroxing to keep a good papercutter handy. The clipping was trimmed with a straight-edged cutter, two sides. A little too close with the first column. But the copy is poor. The machine needs adjusting.

And why should someone have waited 8 days to do it? Seven not counting the Sunday the story appeared. HW 12/27/74

THE NEW YORK TIMES, MONDAY, DECEMBER 16,

Lowenstein Says Year's Study of Evidence Shows

By JOHN M. CREWDSON

Former representative Allard K. Lowenstein said yesterday that a year-long examination of the evidence bearing on the murder [illegible] Kennedy had led him to conclude that Sirhan B. Sirhan had not fired the fatal bullet.

But Mr. Lowenstein and Paul Schrade, a former Kennedy associate who was among five persons wounded when the Senator was shot June 5, 1968, the night of his victory in the California Presidential primary, emphasized that they were not proposing that Mr. Sirhan had been part of a larger conspiracy. They also said they were not prepared to suggest who might have inflicted Mr. Kennedy's fatal wounds.

"I reject conspiracy theories until the evidence is in," Mr. Schrade, a former United Automobile Workers official, told a news conference at the Statler Hilton Hotel that was called to make public some of Mr. Lowenstein's findings.

"We're asking the questions and we want the answers," he said.

Mr. Lowenstein, who served from 1968 to 1971 as a Democratic Representative from Nassau County, said he based his conclusion chiefly on the following points arising from testimony at the 1969 murder trial at which Mr. Sirhan was convicted [illegible]

¶"Apparent ballistic differences" between one bullet recovered from Senator Kennedy's body and another removed from William Weisel, a television producer who was also wounded in the kitchen of the Ambassador Hotel in Los [illegible] that cast doubt on the official conclusion that [illegible] bullets fired that night came from Mr. Sirhan's eight-shot, .22-caliber revolver.

¶Discrepancies between bystanders' recollections that Mr. Sirhan was from 2 to 10 feet from Mr. Kennedy when the Senator was shot and the conclusions of Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi, the Los Angeles County Coroner, and DeWayne A. Wolfer, a Police Department criminologist, that Mr. Kennedy was shot from a distance of one to six inches.

¶Three bullet holes in the ceiling, plus the fact that seven [illegible] from Mr. Kennedy and the five other victims, which Mr. Lowenstein said suggested that more than [illegible] fired that night.

"I do not believe on the basis of the evidence in its present [illegible] Independent ballistic experts to assess evidence al-

derer of Robert Kennedy.

"I don't view this as a matter of historical curiosity but as a question of enormous significance for the country."

He said that Los Angeles County officials, including Joseph Busch, the district attorney, had declined his request to reopen the Sirhan investigation and that he was prepared "to meet with other authorities and appeal to them to take these steps."

Mr. Lowenstein and Mr. Schrade called for a refiring of the Sirhan gun, which has not been discharged since it was test-fired by the police following the Kennedy shooting, so that new bullets could be compared with those taken from Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Weisel.

They also called for a panel

1974 L 29

Sirhan Was Not Assassin of Kennedy

ready compiled in the case as well as the results of refiring, and for a radiological examination of the Kennedy and Weisel bullets to determine the likelihood that both were fired by Mr. Sirhan.

No Innocent Bystander

Mr. Lowenstein said he did not mean to suggest that Mr. Sirhan was "an innocent bystander improperly imprisoned," and that the young Jordanian immigrant "was in the pantry shooting a .22 revolver at the time in question and persons were struck by bullets that [illegible] fired."

He asserted that the Sirhan case had never been "tried on its merits," in part because Mr. Sirhan's lawyers has conceded that he had killed Senator Kennedy.

But he noted that Grant [illegible] the defense team, had recently said "that had he known during the trial what he has since learned, he would have conducted a different defense."

Although Mr. Lowenstein said after the news conference that he knew "a lot more" about the circumstances surrounding the assassination than he had thus far disclosed, his elaboration yesterday consisted mainly of interpreting facts already made public in other forums.

Mr. Lowenstein, who said he was returning to Los Angeles this week to continue his inquiries, was asked what prompted him to become involved in such an investigation nearly seven years after the assassination.

He replied that he had been moved to do so by the "recalcitrance of the authorities" to make all of the Sirhan evidence public, and that in the light of Watergate, "the country now understands what it didn't before—that things that 'never could have occurred' have occurred."

"We must take these questions to the public," he said.

Killing of Whales Protested

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 15 (AP)—Seventeen youngsters held a march at the Oklahoma City Zoo Saturday to protest the beginning of the antarctic whale hunting season. They carried signs against the killing of whales, many of which belong to endangered species, and gathered signatures on a petition to President Ford encouraging enforcement of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

[illegible]

Mr. Harold Weissberg,
Route #8,
Frederick, Md. 21701

3