

NATIONAL

ENQUIRER

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569-5600

September 27, 1968.

Dear Harold,

Sorry for delay in sending the Crispin Curiel Gonzalez copy. Here is
a carbon of our story for your perusal. If you want to use any
in your book, do so but credit the National Enquirer only.

Delay in sending has been because we print in Florida, and all the
material is down there. Having the devil of a job getting any stuff back
out.

Anyway, Harold, hope this material will help you. And thank you for
your help both past and present.

Still hoping to make that trip. Will call you soon, for a chat if nothing
else.

Best wishes,

Biel

*P.S: sorry for cryptic note = trying to get
this off for post. Biel*

mahoney-dick

PLOT

"I was in on the plot to kill Robert F. Kennedy," said Crispin Curiel Gonzalez, 16, who was seized by Mexican police for questioning in connection with the senator's assassination.

Seventeen days later, Curiel died mysteriously in his jail cell.

The youthful drifter--identified by the FBI as a friend of Sirhan B. Sirhan, the accused killer of Kennedy--was found dead by hanging on July 4 under circumstances which have raised doubts about the official verdict of suicide.

Curiel was arrested June 17 following the discovery of notes in his handwriting and over his signature which read:

"I will have to try to erase completely from my memory-- before the world learns about me--that I was in on the plot to kill Robert F. Kennedy.

"That crazy Arab has a tremendous hate for all the Kennedys... easy enough to get him to take some of the money and do the job. The whole world knows it was a grand plot but, unfortunately, they do not know the whole truth.

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"I never knew who organized the assassination but that's not important. I know the world will never know all about it. I'll probably die soon in some part of Mexico."

"The police know I was supposed to have been assassinated in New York. But those who tried to kill me made a little mistake. They were done with me--I had done my thing and it was time for me to die."

The notes, found in a yellow pad which Curiel had sold to the woman proprietor of a soft-drink stand, were dated, curiously, June 4-- the day before the Kennedy killing and exactly one month before he died himself.

An American patron of the soft-drink stand discovered the notes and notified police. Curiel was seized by ^{Juarez} ~~Chihuahua State~~ authorities as he walked along the Pan-American Highway ^{.During} ~~his~~ questioning, police quoted Curiel as saying:

" You wait ~~more~~ and see. The next will be Edward Kennedy. All 'they' have to do is wait--wait--wait for the best time.

" 'They' told me the Kennedys wanted to be dictators of the United States."

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Deputy ^{Juarez} ~~(Chihuahua)~~ Police Chief Jose Refugio Ruvalcava, who handled the investigation, said he ~~established that~~ on the day of the Kennedy killing, Curiel was in El Paso. He had been brought there from Los Angeles on May 31 by immigration ~~authorities~~ authorities who were trying to check his nationality.

"But there were so many factors connecting him with Los Angeles ~~and figures in the assassination~~ that we decided Curiel should be investigated thoroughly," Ruvalcava ~~said~~ told The ENQUIRER.

"When we brought him in, we checked with your FBI and a spokesman there told us definitely that Curiel knew Sirhan--was a friend of his."

In addition, Ruvalcava said Curiel's notes professed love for a girl named either Emily Biukley or Binkley, who lives at 602 South Van Ness St. in Los Angeles--an address only half a mile from the Ambassador Hotel where Kennedy was fatally shot.

When an ENQUIRER reporter called at that address a young woman who ~~answered~~ the door refused to answer questions as to her identity or whether she was acquainted with Curiel.

MORE

Then she beckoned to a young man inside the house who came to the door and told the reporter:

"We will not answer any questions. If you want to know anything go to the Salvation Army."

When the reporter called at the Salvation Army to inquire about the people at the Van Ness St. address, questions were referred to a spokesman who is in the hospital. The reporter was told at the hospital that an interview with the spokesman was out of the question.

A call to a telephone number which Curiel had put down in his notes as Emily's was answered by a man who told the reporter:

"What right have you to ask these questions?"

Then he hung up.

Ruvalcava was reluctant to disclose details of his interrogation of Curiel but he made it plain that ~~he had information besides that from~~ ^{the FBI was familiar with Curiel's} ~~movements.~~ ^{the FBI to indicate Curiel knew Sirhan}

"There is no doubt Curiel knew ~~him~~ ^{SIRHAN} they had met a number of times at the Santa Monica, Calif., library and ~~elsewhere~~ elsewhere and had usually discussed politics," the official said.

MORE

5-PLOT

"He certainly knew what he was talking about when it came to politics," Ruvalcava said.

"He understood the political workings of Mexico and most Central and South American countries to a ~~lot~~ 'T' and told me he wanted to form a political party to replace the socialistic structure of Mexico.

"The psychiatrist who examined Curiel found him immature and somewhat egomaniacal but seemingly very intelligent."

Discrepancies and conflicts, however, appeared in police and press versions of the Curiel case, starting with his arrest.

The first newspaper reports of his arrest indicated that the statements relating to the Kennedy killing appeared in a letter which had dropped out of his pocket at a ~~Juarez stand~~ ^{HIGHWAY} ~~STAND~~ DAIRY STORE.

However, it later developed that Curiel was carrying a yellow pad when he stopped at a Juarez soft-drink stand. ~~and~~ ^{The} woman behind counter offered to buy it and Curiel sold it to her for one peso--about eight cents.

The remarks about the Kennedy case were discovered after a few minutes by a man ~~who~~ ^{BY} identified ~~himself~~ to police as Robert Wayne of El Paso. who said he had been idly leafing through the pad. (MORE)

6-PL0T

The writing was on the third and fourth sheets of the pad and while it was dated and signed, it was not addressed to anyone. ^{EFFORTS OF} ~~and when~~ an ENQUIRER reporter ~~tried~~ to get in touch with Wayne, ^{WERE UNSUCCESSFUL,} ~~he could not find anyone~~ by ~~that name listed in the El Paso directory.~~

After Curiel was picked up trying to hitch a ride 12 miles south of Juarez, he was brought to the police station where he made still another strange confession.

Police said he admitted making a telephone call from El Paso June 14 to the Governor of Colima, Mexico, instructing him to notify his parents in the village of Cuauhtemoc that Crispin Curiel Gonzalez had been killed in New York. ~~The following is a transcript of the call.~~ Curiel said he was making the call for the FBI.

The governor, Alejandro Saldobosque, duly delivered the message to the anguished parents. When he was confronted with this by police, Curiel said:

"I desperately wanted a reconciliation with my parents. I thought the call would first sadden them and when I showed up alive and well, they would rejoice and receive me with open arms." MORE

When Curiel was found dead, first newspaper reports said death had taken place in the ~~psychiatric~~ psychiatric ward of Juarez's Civil Liberties Hospital. One paper carried a banner headline reading: "Curiel Killed."

Later, however, police admitted Curiel had been found dead in his city jail cell.

"The boy was kept in a cell away from the other prisoners because of the serious nature of the investigation," Deputy Chief Ruvalcava said.

"For several days before he was found dead, he was shouting a great deal. A policeman making a routine hourly check discovered the death."

Ruvalcava said Curiel had torn strips from his mattress cover and made them into a rope, binding one end to his neck and the other to a bar on his window. Then he just let himself sag and strangle, Ruvalcava said.

"The boy's body was sagging to the floor, his knees actually touching, for the rope he had made had stretched with his weight," Ruvalcava said.

MORE

Ruvalcava told The ENQUIRER he could not recall if an autopsy was ~~not~~ performed on Curiel.

This point raised doubts among many Mexicans that Curiel actually had committed suicide. They also pointed out that mattress covers-- placed over mattresses to keep them clean--are seldom seen even in ^{MOST} ~~the finest~~ Mexican hotels and certainly would not be found in a city jail.

Curiel's father, Crispin Curiel Gonzalez Sr., is convinced his son did not take his own life.

"From the last letter we had from him, he hinted at a promise of big money for him--but that it was very dangerous," the father said.

"We knew that he got into ~~scapes~~ ^{scapes} and this last one was terrible but we have never heard of his attempting suicide before. As hard as it is to say this, he loved himself too much for that."

Dissenting strongly with the suicide version was Harold Weisberg, who has written a number of books criticizing the Warren Commission's investigation of the assassination of President ^(John F.) Kennedy. ~~WEEK~~

"Curiel's death fits into the pattern of the elimination of vital witnesses who could have given the lie to the Establishment's cover-up on John F. Kennedy's assassination," Weisberg said. MORE

"More than 20 witnesses who could have disproved the Warren Commission findings have died mysteriously--either by 'suicide' or in strange accidents.

"I have had the Curiel case investigated and I can not accept that this boy committed suicide. I fear that he may have known too much and was eliminated to prevent him ~~from~~ from talking."

Rumors that Curiel may have been murdered in his cell have not escaped Deputy Chief Ruvalcava. He told The ENQUIRER:

"Some of my friends have come right out and asked me if I killed that boy and, if I did, why. This, of course, is complete nonsense.

"But please be careful how you report this. I could be in danger."

Curiel was born in Ephrata, Wash., but his parents moved back to Mexico six years ago. Curiel thus enjoyed dual nationality with the choice of becoming either permanently Mexican or American when he turned 21.

Despite his knowledge of politics, he had little formal ~~schooling~~ schooling and once was picked up for vagrancy in Los Angeles. He was expelled from a Mexican military school a few years ago.

MORE

10-PLOT

"Then I went back to the United States where I became a hippie and used marijuana and LSD," he told police after his arrest in Juarez.

"Since coming back to Mexico, however, I have used no drugs because I did not have the money to buy them."

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