

Washington Star
Comment

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SECTION F * SUNDAY, JULY 16, 1978

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By Jeff Goldberg
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The case was handled as a simple accident. On Nov. 19, Daniels pleaded *nolo contendere* to Fish and Game violation number 207:37, the misdemeanor charge of carelessly shooting a human being. He was later fined \$500 and his hunting license was suspended for 10 years. Through a spokesman, the Sullivan family said it accepted the shooting as an accident and forgave the hunter. Case closed.

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At the time of his death he was scheduled to testify before the House select committee investigating the Kennedy and King assassinations. He was to be questioned in more than a dozen civil suits concerning FBI abuses that allegedly took place under his command. He was to be the star defense witness in what was billed as the most important criminal proceeding ever brought against the FBI — the case against New York City Special Agent John Kearney. And he would have testified for the government in its unprecedented prosecution of former Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray and two other bureau officials. Careers, reputations and the integrity of the FBI would hang in the balance if Sullivan chose to tell the courts and Congress what he knew.

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Daniels hesitatingly agreed to be interviewed only if the conversation was taped and a copy sent to his lawyer. He says he was hunting alone that morning, armed with his 30-06 Remington automatic rifle equipped with a four-power scope. Daniels says a friend, Randy Heath, whom he had planned to hunt with, had overslept and did not come with him. Thus the only account of the shooting is Daniels':

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Then there is the pair of gloves officials found near Sullivan's body. Daniels said they weren't his, nor did he remove them from Sullivan's hands. Whose were they? Detective David Lennon of the State Police, who received the gloves and the other exhibits, would not comment.

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