As was to be expected, the grand jury sholeheartedly cooperated in the white-wash of the real culprits. Instead of turning a searchlight on solfer's manipulations, and the crucial question of who really fired the fatal bullet into Kennedy's head, it concentrated its fire on the County Clerk and his staff. Its report, issued on Aug. 24, contained, in the words of the hole Times, "a scathing criticism of County Clerk silliam G. Sharp's handling of evidence in the assessination of Sen. Robert Kennedy."

what was so terribly wrong about the operation of the County Clerk's office? Well, according to the grand jury, there had been "a ceneral lack of security precautions in his office." It claimed, among other things, that in the Sirhan case, labelled as being one of "historical importance," the County Clerk's office had failed to abide by an order issued by Judge herbert V, walker - who had sentenced Sirhan - that the evidence in this case should be "specially packaged."

One can well understand that the Judge, who is fuilty of one of the grossest miscarriages of justice in our time, was anxious to have the manipulated evidence "specially packaged." But apparently somebody slipped up on the execution of that judicial order for it was not until June of this year - months after the frauds and irregularities of the Sirhan case had become a matter of public knowledge - that Sharp nimself was informed of the existence of that order. By that time, quite a few cats were out of the not so specially packaged bag.

sharp, on aug. 25, rejected the grand jury's criticism as "totally unfounded" and welcomed the announcement that still another investigation, this one under the direction of asst. County administrative Officer Harry L. Hufford, was seneduled to take place. This inquiry, however, appears to be bolely concerned with the question whether or not the clerk's office is efficiently managed - not with the Sirman case and its judgled evidence. On the other hand, Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. John E. Howard amounced the same day that his office was "evaluating" the grand jury's action. The panel's findings would become "an integral part" of the district attorney's final report on the ballistics matter, he added. There the matter stands, for the time being. The uniterach which Sirhan's new lawyers had anticipated would come out of these lopsided proceedings is well under way. Now let's take a close, unofficial look at jet another startling aspect of what the DA 30 coyly described as "the ballistics matter."

## 3

## What the autopsy Report deveals

On.p. 544 of detert B. Kaiser's "R.F.K. Hust Die!" tuere is reproduced, in facsimile, an "Employee's deport" of the LaPD which is in fact a report by Mesayne a. solfer on a ballistics test which Kaiser presents, "for what it is worth," as "the official Los angeles police summary of their trajectory study of the sacts fired from Sirhan's revolver."

now, of the fatal headshot (Cunshot sound bo, lit is called in Dr. Neguchi's autopsy report), Molfer gives this description: "Mullet entered Senator Kennedy's head behind the right car and was later recovered from the victim's head and booked as evidence." The same phrase "bullet... was recovered from... and tooked as evidence" recurs seven times in the eight-point report in which, according to Kaiser, "all the bullete (fired from Sirhan's revolver) and all the wounds of all the victims meem well accounted for," - an errodeous etatement, as we shall see.

Not just erronous, but downright false and fraudulent in solfer's claim that the bullet No. 1, which caused Kennedy's death, had been "recovered" and "booked as evidence," the same as six other bullets (one reportedly was lost in the ceiling). By using deliberately an identical terminalogy in all seven causes, solfer purported to give the impression that the fatal bullet - the one and only bullet that could lead to Sivhan's conviction for murder - but been recovered in an identifiable condition, on a par with the other six bullets which had caused non-fatal injuries to various people and which were - or at least come of them - more or less intent.

(to be continued in the next issue)