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Announcer: Former Congressman Allard Lowenstein and ballistics expert Robert Joling were in Berkeley last week on a speaking tour that is aimed at drumming up support for reopening investigations into the Kennedy and King assassinations of the 1960s. Lowenstein, the originator of the dump-Johnson movement, said that his investigations of the assassination of Robert Kennedy had uncovered a number of inconsistencies, and that when confronted with these inconsistencies police and government agencies were "stonewalling it." Peter Kerr [phon] has this report on the Lowenstein-Joling talk:

Kerr: Lowenstein said that the autopsy of Senator Kennedy revealed that the bullet that entered Kennedy's head must have been fired from one to two inches from behind the Senator. Lowenstein quoted witnesses ~~saying~~ as saying that Sirhan Sirhan had stood from two to five feet in front of the Senator as he fired. The LAPD, said Lowenstein, when asked to explain this discrepancy, simply told the public that witnesses testified to seeing Sirhan fire from the two-inch distance. Lowenstein said that he re-checked with witnesses, and they claimed to be misquoted by ~~the~~ police.

Besides the problem of distance of firing, Lowenstein said that the gun used by Sirhan probably could not have fired one of the bullets recovered at the scene. Lowenstein also raised the problem of the number of bullets fired. Sirhan's gun could only have discharged eight bullets, said Lowenstein. Seven were recovered, and three bullet holes were found in the ceiling panels. He outlined what the police's explanation of the murder would have entailed:

Lowenstein (voice): We are thus asked to believe, if we believe that only eight bullets were fired, that this bullet presumably went through Sen. Kennedy's shoulder pad (although I was told once it was the bullet that went through his chest) but in any event it went then into the ceiling, exiting -- first entering the ceiling panel which is about an inch thick -- ricocheting off the floor above, coming back through the second panel (also almost an inch thick) and then with great foresight taking off 20 feet down the pantry [laughter] to hit Mrs. Evans in the head.

Kerr: The president of the Academy of Forensic Sciences, Dr. Robert Joling, spoke last night [sic; talk was May 8] on the John Kennedy assassination. Saying that he had studied a film of the assassination for years, Joling claimed that the original Warren Commission's Report's findings were unrealistic. He said that the alleged assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, could not have been convicted in a court of law. He spoke for close to an hour on the film, autopsy reports and bullet trajectories, concluding that no scientifically reasonable answers to who and how many assassins shot the President have been shown by the government. Joling said that the Warren Commission explanation of the bullet trajectory means that a bullet would have had to have changed its course in mid-air. Joling said: "This would be a most fantastic feat, unequalled by any bullet before and since. There is some kind of mysterious game going on here," Joling added, "And I myself don't understand it yet." Lowenstein and Joling are now touring the country, calling for retesting of the gun used by Sirhan in the LA case, along with a Congressional investigation into both Kennedy assassinations, the Martin Luther King assassination and the shooting of George Wallace in 1972. Peter Kerr, Pacific Radio, Berkeley.

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