



Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
SUPERVISOR FIFTH DISTRICT

STATEMENT BY J.C. IAMURRI TO THE LOS ANGELES POLICE
COMMISSION ON BEHALF OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH February 12, 1986

Last August 13th, after the Police Commission announced intentions to release part of the record of the investigation of the assassination of Senator Kennedy, the County Board of Supervisors took exception to the limited scope of the decision.

Supervisor Antonovich introduced a motion that respectfully requested the Police Commission to authorize full release of the Kennedy assassination files. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Edmund D. Edelman and was adopted unanimously.

Supervisor Antonovich and his colleagues expressed the belief that under a democratic government, there is a presumption in favor of the public's right to know. This is a non-partisan issue. All Americans have the right to know the facts.

This presumption does not, of course, negate the common sense assumption that in some cases this right to know can be overridden by considerations of public safety.

But nearly 18 years have passed since the death of Senator Kennedy. Confidentiality, by itself, is a weak excuse for withholding this information from the public. All members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors agree that neither public safety nor national security could be endangered by release of the report.

Mr. Antonovich urges the Board to listen to these pleas fairly and objectively, and to respect that precious "right to know."

MAILGRAM SERVICE CENTER
MIDDLETOWN, VA. 22645
05AM



4-031779S036002 02/05/86 ICS IPMMTZZ CSP NVFB
1 7033756247 MGM TDMT ALEXANDRIA VA 02-05 0440P EST

THIS IS A CONFIRMATION COPY OF THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

7033756247 MGMB TDMT ALEXANDRIA VA 86 02-05 0440P EST
ZIP
HONORABLE ROBERT TALCOTT
CARE LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION
150 NORTH LOS ANGELES ST
LOS ANGELES CA 90012
DEAR COMMISSIONER TALCOTT:

WE REQUEST APPEARANCE AT COMMISSION MEETING TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, TO EXPRESS GRAVE CONCERNS ABOUT THE PROCESS AND PACE OF MANDATED DISCLOSURE OF ROBERT KENNEDY ASSASSINATION FILES. AMONG OTHER MATTERS THE CURRENT RATE OF DISCLOSURE WOULD REQUIRE ON GOING PROCESSING FOR 20 YEARS OR MORE. WE BELIEVE TIMETABLE AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DISCLOSURE REQUIRE FUNDAMENTAL URGENT REVIEW. SINCERELY,

GREGORY STONE
PHILIP MELANSON
PAUL SCHRADER
DAVID MENDELSON
JACK GORDON

February 10 Telegram Text:

ROBERT TALCOTT
PARKER CENTER
150 N. LOS ANGELES STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

I RESPECTFULLY WANT KNOWN MY CONCERN THAT THE PROCESS OF FULL
RELEASE OF LAPD'S 50,000 PAGE RFK FILE IS BEHIND SCHEDULE.

I AGREE WITH ARTHUR SCHLESINGER: THIS INFORMATION SHOULD NO
LONGER BE WITHHELD.

COUNCILMEMBER RUTH MESSINGER
NYC

J DAVIS
20 EAST 10 ST
NEW YORK NY 10003 10PM



4-0423209041 02/10/86 ICS IPMNTZZ CSP LSAB
2124750503 MGMB TDMT NEW YORK NY 44 02-10 0700P EST

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS A COPY OF A MAILGRAM SENT TO R TALCOTT
PRESIDENT LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION LOS ANGELES CA

URGE YOU TO ORDER RELEASE OF ENTIRE LAPD RFK ASSASSINATION FILE.
HISTORICAL AND JUDICIAL TRUTH MUST BE SERVED.

JOHN DAVIS AUTHOR OF THE KENNEDYS DYNASTY AND DISASTER

19:01 EST

MGMCOMP

DAVID E SCHEIM PHD
9621 BRUNETTE AVE
SILVER SPRING MD 20901 10AM



4-016989S041 02/10/86 ICS IPHMTZZ CSP LSAB
3014962194 MGMB TDMT BETHESDA MD 100 02-10 0106P EST

I URGE YOU TO EXPEDITIOUSLY RELEASE THE ENTIRE LOS ANGELES POLICE
FILE ON THE RFK ASSASSINATION, AS ORDERED BY THE POLICE COMMISSION
LAST JULY. AS AN AUTHOR, I CAN TESTIFY TO THE VITAL IMPORTANCE OF
ACCESS TO PRIMARY DOCUMENTS. THE SUPPORT FOR SUCH DISCLOSURE
EXPRESSED BY ARTHUR SCHLESSINGER JR, VICTIM PAUL SCHRADE AND OTHER
NOTED FIGURES REPRESENTS THE WILL OF AMERICANS TO HAVE THE COMPLETE
RECORD SET FORTH ON THE KILLING OF OUR MARTYRED HERO.

CC: ROBERT M TALCOTT
BARBARA L SCHLEI
LOS ANGELES POLICE COMMISSION
DAVID E SCHEIM PHD

13:07 EST

MGMCOMP

Among those who have previously urged that the LAPD files of the Robert Kennedy assassination be made available are the following:

- Professor Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. (historian and RFK biographer and friend)
- the late Allard K. Lowenstein (former U.S. Congressman, U.S. Ambassador, RFK friend, investigator of assassination)
- Dr. David Wrone (Professor of History, University of Wisconsin; leading John Kennedy assassination scholar and bibliographer)
- Dr. Henry Gwiazda (historian and RFK archivist at John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library in Boston)
- Hon. Joseph B. McIntyre (Massachusetts State Representative)
- Robert J. Joling (attorney, former President of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences)
- Dr. Lauriston R. King (Professor of Political Science, Texas A and M)
- James M. Ragsdale (Editor, The Standard Times, New Bedford, MA)
- Dr. Gerald McKnight (Professor of History, Hood College)
- Dr. Cyril Wecht (coroner, authority of John and Robert Kennedy assassinations, former president of American Academy of Forensic Sciences)
- Bernard Fensterwald (attorney, President of Assassination Archives and Research Center)
- Aubre Adams (chief researcher, "Robert Kennedy and His Times" TV mini-series)
- Martin Sheen (actor)
- Frank Mankiewicz (RFK friend, RFK Press Secretary from 1966 to 1968)
- Hon. Don Siegelman (Alabama Secretary of State)
- Lester Hyman (attorney, former Chairman of Massachusetts Democratic Party, RFK friend)
- Morris Polan (University Librarian, Cal State Los Angeles)
- Dr. Richard Weiss (Professor of History, UCLA)

Daily News

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6 — NEWS Thursday, February 13, 1986/DAILY NEWS

Police accused of stalling release of RFK death files

By JEFF SNYDER

Daily News Staff Writer

A former political campaign adviser to Robert F. Kennedy accused the Los Angeles Police Commission Wednesday of stalling the release of investigative files into the 1968 assassination of the senator.

"You have been using every legal means to obstruct us in getting them," said Paul Schrade. "I have grave concerns about the intent of the commission."

Schrade and several other people who have requested some 50,000 pages of documents involving the June 5, 1968, killing of Kennedy appeared before the commission to protest delays in releasing the files.

"This is on its way to becoming a national disgrace in terms of public disclosure," said Philip Melanson, a director of the Robert Kennedy Assassination Archive at Southeastern Massachusetts University.

The commission agreed last year to release an edited version of the 1,500-page investigative summary and to study the disclosure of the remaining files in the case.

However, no information has been released since then.

The possibility that more than 1 assassin shot RFK is raised

Commission president Robert M. Talcott said he hopes that "a certain portion of the materials" will be released on March 4 along with a plan for the phased disclosure of the massive investigation.

Commission vice president Barbara L. Schlei apologized for the delay in releasing the 10-volume summary.

"We have been too slow but I would like to assure you that to the best of my knowledge there has been no coverup; there has been no coverup," she said.

Schrade, Melanson and Gregory Stone, a former aide to Congressman Allard K. Lowenstein, submitted a proposal for the phased release of the Kennedy files that would be implemented by the commission with the participation of a panel of experts.

Most of the files could be re-

viewed and released within two years, according to the proposal.

Schrade was wounded in the head when convicted assassin Sirhan B. Sirhan opened fire on Kennedy after the presidential candidate gave his victory speech at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles the night of the Democratic primary.

"I was a victim of that shooting," Schrade said. "I want (the documents) and other people want them because there are unanswered questions about the case."

Among those questions, he said, is the possibility that more than one assassin shot Kennedy as he walked through the kitchen area of the hotel.

Schrade told commissioners that the police version of his shooting doesn't match ballistics simulation of the event.

"The simulation shows that bullet could not have ended up in my head if it passed through Robert Kennedy's coat as stated," he said.

Outside the commission meeting, Schrade termed the police summary "practically meaningless" but he said release of those documents would be the beginning of the process of disclosing the raw investigative files.