

- A. "The Senator's two loyal friends hustled him by boat off the island so he could establish an alibi at the Shiretown Inn, away from the scene of the accident. It now appears that Markham remained at the inn with the senator and Gargan returned to the Chappaquiddick cottage.
 "The next morning, Kennedy and Markham, accompanied by another man still unidentified, returned to Chappaquiddick
- Jack Anderson, N.O. States-Item, 25 Sep 69
- B. "The car was discovered the next morning by .. Bob Samuel and Joseph Cappavella .. who went fishing from the dunes on the far side of the bridge early Saturday morning. The tide was high then.
 "When they returned shortly after 8 o'clock, the tide had started to go out and they were able to see a portion of the car. They immediately went to the nearest house, where Mrs. Pierre Malm .. telephoned the police.
 "Chief Arena left Edgartown to go to the scene of the accident about 8:20.
 "Shortly afterward, Senator Kennedy, accompanied by [Gargan and Markham] .. crossed over on the ferry to Chappaquiddick Island from Edgartown.
 "Then, according to Dick Hewett, the ferry's operator that morning, someone asked whether they had heard about the accident. One of the Senator's companions said that he had just learned of it, Mr. Hewett said, and all three men then left immediately on the ferry to go to the police station .. in Edgartown."
- Joseph Lelyveld, NYTimes, 21 Jul 69
- C. "The next morning, Gargan and Markham returned to Edgartown to pick Kennedy up. They assumed that they were still the only three persons who knew about the accident
- "As they were crossing the channel, however, someone mentioned that a car had been found bottom up in Poucha Pond. Kennedy was shaken and walked off alone to get a hold on his emotions.
- "As soon as the ferry docked, he telephoned his attorney, Burke Marshall. Then he returned to Edgartown and headed for the police station. Markham made the crossing with him. Gargan hurried to the cottage to get the other members of the Kennedy party off the island before the press descended upon them."
- Jack Anderson, SFChronicle, 13 Aug 69
- D. "Witnesses say that Kennedy, on the ferry trip across the narrow channel, didn't appear particularly distraught. When he learned that the accident had been discovered, he headed for the public phone at the ferry landing.
 "Then the old man, about 70, trim, with thin strands of white hair, appeared. He ambled up to Kennedy and asked: 'Senator, did you know they found a body in your car?'
 "Kennedy was severely jolted by the question. He struggled visibly to get a hold on his emotions."
- Jack Anderson, N.O. States-Item, 25 Sep 69
- E. "The next morning when Miss Newberg awoke, Miss Tannenbaum, Miss Keough, Mr. Gargan and Mr. Tretter had already left the cottage, for breakfast on the Vineyard. About 9 A.M., Miss Newberg and the Lyons sisters started walking toward the ferry from the cottage.
 "As they did, Mr. Gargan, returning in a car with the three other partygoers, met the three women, picked them up and drove them back to the cottage. He told them then, for the first time, that there had been an accident; Miss Newberg thinks he used the word 'tragedy.'
 "Mr. Gargan did not tell them that Miss Kopechne was dead, but simply, as Miss Newberg recalls, that 'we can't find Mary Jo.'
 "Mr. Gargan then drove the five women back to the hotel in Edgartown, where they began packing. About 10 A.M., Mr. Gargan telephone the news that Miss Kopechne's body had been found and that she had drowned, although Senator Kennedy had tried to save her."
- Warren Weaver, NYTimes, 25 Jul 69
 (apparently from story by George Lardner Jr.,
 Times-Post Service, SFChronicle, 24 Jul 69)

- F. "Nor did Gargan tell two of the five girls anything when he drove them back to their motel on the Vineyard soon after 7 a.m. They heard about the death only after Gargan went back to Chappaquiddick to fetch the three remaining girls at about 9 a.m. and broke the news to them."
Newsweek, 11 Aug 69, p. 19
- G. "Miss Newburg said her watch wasn't working and she wasn't certain what time it was when Gargan told them of the accident. Asked whether it could have been 8 or 8:30 a.m., she said: 'It could have been. I really don't know.'"
SFE Examiner (AP), 23 Jul 69
from copyrighted story in Worcester Gazette
- H. "Miss Newborg had earlier been reported by the Worcester Gazette as saying she and four other girls at the party learned of Miss Kopechne's death about 8 or 8:30 from Joseph F. Gargan. Gargan told them, she said, as they were driving to the ferry"
SFE Examiner (CDN), 24 Jul 69
- I. "A friend of the senator, [Ross] Richards and his companions were among the Kennedy party that had gotten rooms for the weekend here in the Shiretown Inn. According to a report in the London Sunday Times after the accident, the senator was said to have chatted with Richards on the morning of July 19 - after the accident - without giving any indication of what had happened. Richards subsequently said that the report was incorrect, but he refused to say whether he talked to the senator that morning. He did say that he did not learn of the accident until that afternoon while racing his yacht in another heat."
SF Chronicle (Times-Post Svc), 7 Jan 70

The above - assembled from rough search through file through 16 Jan 70 - suggests the possibility that EMK did not know Miss Kopechne's body was in the car, and perhaps even that he did not know the car was in the pond ([C] and [D]).

Possibilities (Gargan):

1. Gargan is on the ferry with Kennedy and Markham, someone else taking Miss Tannenbaum and Miss Keough to Martha's Vineyard [E]. Tretter? Two other men, reported to have been at the party, are not accounted for: La Rosa and Crimmins.
2. Gargan, after having left the two girls at their motel, is on the ferry with Kennedy and Markham. Leaves the ferry to pick up the other three girls [C] after hearing of discovery of car - but before old man tells Kennedy a body has been found in it - and therefore does not tell them of this until 10 a.m. [E].

Or: Gargan and the two girls are on the ferry with Kennedy and Markham (although there is no mention of the girls in the news stories) and they leave for the cottage before the old man approaches Kennedy, and thus do not learn then that the body has been found.*

3. Gargan is not on the ferry with Kennedy and Markham [A]. (Note that this column of Anderson's, 25 Sep 69, differs from that of 13 Aug 69 [C], in which he implies Gargan was with them.) Gargan stays on the island the night of 18 Jul, takes two of the girls and Tretter to Martha's Vineyard soon after 7 a.m. [F], is notified there before 9 a.m. [E] (by Kennedy by phone from ferry landing?) that the car has been found, leaves the motel with the two girls to return to Chappaquiddick, does not learn until later that the body has been found, and then telephones this news to the girls after he has returned all five of them to their motel [E].

Or: If the unidentified man [A] with Markham and Kennedy is not Gargan, this man returns with them to Martha's Vineyard [B] and there notifies Gargan of discovery of car and body. Gargan then waits until after he has returned Miss Tannenbaum and Miss Keough to the cottage and all five girls are together before telling them [F].

*If Gargan is on the ferry and does not return to Martha's Vineyard with Kennedy and Markham [C], the two girls and Tretter also appear to have been on the ferry and returned with him to the cottage [E].