

'Suspect' in King Case Released

Hermosillo, Mexico

A bearded American tourist from Baltimore, arrested and questioned by Mexican police in their hunt for a suspect in the slaying of Dr. Martin Luther King, was released yesterday with apologies by state authorities.

Daniel D. Kennedy, 42, had been arrested Wednesday in a small cafe in Caborca, 80 miles southwest of Nogales, Ariz., and questioned for 12 hours before being brought in handcuffs to this Sonora State capital.

State police freed him less than two hours after his arrival in Hermosillo. Kennedy left state police headquarters saying he wanted to continue his trip to Guaymas, about 80 miles south of Hermosillo.

American vice consul Arnold Denys in Hermosillo said Kennedy has been "completely eliminated" as a suspect through a thorough check by Hermosillo "judicial police" of his background, circumstances, facial features and fingerprints.

Denys said Kennedy was "traveling on his own, very nicely trying to learn about the Mexican people, when he was picked up because a hotel manager thought he matched the description of the suspect."

Hotel manager Carlos Valencia Beltran in Caborca said he had told police his guest "resembled" pictures of James Earl Ray, wanted by the FBI in connection with Dr. King's assassination.

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