

KENNEDY BJT NL

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LOS ANGELES AP — Campaigning Sen. Robert F. Kennedy got a cheering welcome from thousands of Negroes Monday as he visited the Watts area of Los Angeles, scene of a massive riot in 1965.

A crowd estimated by police at 5,000 filled streets and ringed his car as he arrived after a cool reception at San Fernando Valley State College in a white suburb.

It was the third day of appearances in California before Kennedy headed into the Pacific Northwest in quest of support for his bid for the Democratic presidential nomination.

The Watts appearance was his first test of Negro sentiment since he announced his candidacy a week ago. His Negro audience was smiling and enthusiastic. Some waved signs calling for a "New Image-Kennedy in '68."

Kennedy told them that he wants to help the poor of the cities.

They cheered when he called for a change in the administration and booed when he asked if they wanted to continue the present course of government.

They booed even louder when he asked if they wanted Richard M. Nixon for president. By contrast, his reception was restrained and there was frequent booping at an earlier rally at the college, where a police-estimated 15,000 massed in a quadrangle.

The most uncomfortable moment of the campaign for Kennedy occurred when shouting students demanded to know whether he would, if elected, disclose all materials—now stored in U.S. archives—used by the Warren Commission in investigating the death of his brother, President John F. Kennedy.

In apparent discomfort, Kennedy coldly told the shouters:

Your manners overwhelm me. Go ahead, go ahead—ask your question.

He said the archives would be opened at the appropriate time and that he stands by the commission's findings that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, shot Kennedy.

He said, I would not reopen the Warren Commission report. I stand by the report.

see also Garrison file