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With Kennedy-Bystanders Shot. NL 230

LOS ANGELES AP - The blaze of shots that critically wounded Sen. Robert F. Kennedy early today at an election victory celebration, also felled five others in the crowded banquet hall.

The wounded included two newsmen, a union official and a teen-ager.

Police identified the five as William Weisel, 30; Ira Goldstein, 19; Elizabeth Evans, 43; Irwin Strolp, 17, and Paul Schrade, 43. All but Weisel, a Washington, D.C., resident, are from the Los Angeles area.

None of the bystanders was reported in critical condition. Weisel, a unit manager for the American Broadcasting Co., was wounded in the left side near the abdomen and underwent surgery at Kaiser Hospital where he was reported in good condition.

Also taken to Kaiser was Paul Schrade, a regional officer of the United Auto Workers Union. Hospital spokesmen said Schrade sustained a skull fracture and a laceration on the top of the scalp, apparently caused by a bullet. He also underwent surgery and his condition was reported as good.

Goldstein was treated at Encino Hospital, Encino, for a bullet wound in the left hip. He is an employe of Continental News Service at nearby Sherman Oaks.

Mrs. Evans, a resident of Saugus, was to undergo surgery at Huntington Memorial Hospital for the removal of a bullet which was imbedded in her skull at the hairline, but did not penetrate the skull, said her husband, Arthur. A hospital spokesman described her condition as good.

Police said Stroll was wounded in the left shin. He was placed under sedation at Midway Hospital after being interviewed by officers. They declined to discuss the results of their talk with Stroll.

Also injured, but not by a bullet, was Patrick Thornton, of Los Angeles, who sustained a three-inch scalp laceration when hit by a camera. Thornton said he had been standing outside the banquet room when he heard the shots.

"It was pandemonium, just pandemonium," Thornton said of the scene inside the room. Then, he said, he was struck by the camera.

Police said two other persons in the crowd had to be treated for shock.

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&LICE Chief Thomas Reddin said today.

During "a number of lengthy conversations," he talked freely and with interest-until asked who he was and anything about Kennedy, Reddin told a news conference.

Any time the questioning got around to the gunning down of Kennedy at the Ambassador hotel, the man would say "I prefer to remain incommunicado."

Reddin said the man spoke with a slight accent. The police chief speculated it might be Jamaican or Cuban.

The death gun is in police hands and has been traced back three years.

Reddin said a man in Alhambra, Calif., gave the gun to his son-in-law in Marin County, which is north across the Golden Gate from San Francisco.

The Marin County man said the gun disappeared mysteriously in 1965.

In the gunman's pocket was a car key. Reddin said the key fitted a 1959 model automobile parked near the Ambassador Hotel where Kennedy was shot. The police chief said the car belonged to a hotel employe who worked in the kitchen. He was not the gunman.

Kennedy was shot as he moved down a narrow hallway near the kitchen after thanking supporters for his Democratic presidential preference victory over Sen. Eugene McCarthy in Tuesday's primary.

Reddin said the gunman had no narcotics in his possession when seized and did not appear under the influence either of drugs or alcohol.

Several times investigators felt they were close to identifying the man. But so far checks of city, county, state and FBI officials have proved inconclusive.

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