

Uecker, Karl - see p 7 of this interview -

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Siskin's blue attire, resembling beerboy's color uniform @ Ambassador Hotel

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TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDED INTERVIEW OF
KARL A. UECKER
RECORDED AT RAMPART DETECTIVE DIVISION
JUNE 5, 1968

QUESTIONED BY: SGT. R. L. CALKINS #7287, HOMICIDE DIVISION
SGT. M. J. MCGANN #10329, HOMICIDE DIVISION
REPORTED BY: JUDY C. HERNANDEZ, INTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

(*) INDICATES UNINTELLIGIBLE CONVERSATION.

Q Your first name, sir?

A Karl, K-a-r-l.

Q Middle name or your last--

A A. A. Initial A.

Q Uh huh (yes).

A Last name is U-e-c-k-e-r.

Q U-e--

A --e-c-k-e-r.

Q And your address?

A 3025 Glenhurst Center.

Q What city is that in?

A L. A. 39.

Q And your home phone?

A 667-3106.

Q Are you home during the daytime hours?

A I guess I'm at work.

Q You would normally work nights?

A No, all daytime, Ambassador.

Q All right. What's your business phone number?

A Extension 315.

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1 Q At the Ambassador, huh?

2 A Yes, Banquets Department.

3 Q 315?

4 A 315.

5 Q Okay, Karl, I'm Sgt. McGann from Homicide,
6 downtown. My partner, Sgt. Calkins. Could you tell us
7 what you saw and what you did tonight?

8 A Yeah. I took Senator Kennedy off the stage and
9 he was supposed to go through the kitchen, through the
10 pantry behind it, (*) wall.

11 Q What you are talking about, this area--Embassy
12 Room, over here and this being the hallway, hallway leading
13 down to the Colonial Room, which would be the working
14 press room, I think, as it was described--

15 A There's a stage here, and through here (*) on
16 my hands 'cause the crowd was very--I think it was very
17 busy there. Everybody was (*). I had it on my hands,
18 still going to shake hands with somebody and he grabbed his
19 hand again and we went straight ahead until he got about
20 beginning of the heaters. This is pantry here.

21 Q Uh huh (yes).

22 A And heaters we keep the plates hot, food hot,
23 and right in the beginning, somewhere here, that guy, he
24 must have jumped--he must have bent down and jumped up and
25 start shooting. First shot--first shot or second shot must
26 have been shortly one after another, you know, and I saw

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1 Mr. Kennedy falling down out of my hand (*) and he is
2 still shooting. And then I hit his hand down and I don't
3 know how many times he shot. I don't know. I couldn't
4 even tell you--four times, five times, six times, it was--
5 but he was shooting another direction, I think, but I was
6 trying to push the gun away from the crowd into the kitchen.
7 And then some other guys came somewhere, either same side
8 or front, took the gun away from him.

9 Q But--

10 A I kept him for about seven--between seven or ten
11 minutes, my arm, like. That's all I can tell you, until
12 the police came in. They asked me to listen and came over
13 to the police.

14 Q Was there a crowd, employees, in the building,
15 standing in this little area that apparently leads from
16 another hallway down to where the pantry area is?

17 A I don't know. Would be, I imagine, though
18 that the people were standing, from the kitchen, standing
19 around this area 'cause I saw him shaking hands with one of'
20 the dishwashers.

21 Q Uh huh (eys).

22 A I know that, and then he came back and I grabbed
23 his hand again and pulled him through, through the crowd.

24 Q This is the Senator's hand you grabbed?

25 A Yes, I grabbed his hand again and then at the
26 time that it happened.

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1 Q Where was this guy that had the gun the first
2 time you saw him?

3 A The first time I saw him, he was--I was coming
4 this way. He was standing on my left hand, coming this way
5 and about--about here, around here; this area here.

6 Q He was very close to you, then, the first time
7 you saw him?

8 A Right in front of me, right in front of me,
9 you know. He must have come up from the bottom, because
10 I don't--I didn't see him in front of me. I saw all the
11 people in front of me. He must have come up. I think he
12 must have covered the gun with something, paper or something,
13 'cause the first I didn't see no gun; then I saw something
14 white, either paper or something, and I heard a shot. Later
15 said I thought it was a fire cracker, you know. I didn't
16 even realize at the first shot that it was a gun but by
17 the second shot, I turned around and saw Kennedy falling
18 down out of my hand and then at the time that I realized it
19 must have been a gun, then I grabbed him, you know.

20 Q Did he sort of reach around you to shoot the
21 Senator?

22 A Yeah.

23 Q He sort of reached around you to shoot the
24 Senator or did he get past you or--

25 A Yes, I think he was right in front of me because
26 the way he--he was right in front of me, right in front. He

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1 turned around and shot with his right hand.

2 Q He had the gun in his right hand?

3 A In his right hand, yeah, because I kept him in
4 my right hand and he was--yes, in his right hand. He was
5 trying to pull the right hand over again. I was trying to
6 move that hand over.

7 Q He was trying to get the gun back to where he
8 could shoot people?

9 A Right.

10 Q And you were trying to prevent this?

11 A Right.

12 Q Did you see the gun?

13 A I saw the gun, yeah. Yeah.

14 Q All right. Let me show a gun, and you tell me
15 if this appears to be a gun similar to the one you saw?

16 A I tell you the truth, I don't think it was that
17 big, but could be. I really don't--

18 Q You're not sure?

19 A No, I'm not sure because I didn't pay too much
20 attention to the gun. See, I was trying to hit his hand
21 away and was trying to hold him.

22 Q Uh huh (yes). Uh huh (yes).

23 A Uh huh (yes), and he was trying to get away
24 from me and I was afraid if I let him loose, that he's
25 going to shoot me in the (*)--in my stomach, you know.

26 Q Uh huh (yes). Did he say anything to you? Do

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1 you recall did he--

2 A No.

3 Q Did you hear him say anything at all?

4 A No, just when (*) very tight and he was making
5 noise and somebody else was talking, but it was about two
6 or three minutes afterward, was talking over my back and I
7 think it was time to hit him and I told them, "Don't hit
8 him," and he was talking to him and he says something. I
9 don't know what he said.

10 Q Could you--

11 A I was so excited.

12 Q I could understand that. Could you describe this
13 man?

14 A The man standing behind me?

15 Q The man who did the shooting?

16 A Oh, yes. Oh, yes. He was smaller than me.

17 Q He was a male--

18 A Dark head--dark hair.

19 Q Dark hair?

20 A Dark hair.

21 Q How old would you think he was?

22 A I think--I wouldn't think he was more than 24
23 years old.

24 Q Uh huh (yes).

25 A Maybe less than that.

26 Q What nationality do you think he was?

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