

April 4, 1969

**TO:** Thomas Reddin  
Chief of Police

**FROM:** Deputy Chief Robert A. Houghton  
Commander, Detective Bureau

**SUBJECT:** REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION OF THE KENNEDY  
ASSASSINATION

This is the report of the investigation into the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. The investigation was accomplished by an investigative task force created within the Detective Bureau, and designated Special Unit Senator. This report was prepared by the special unit.

This report is considered to be confidential. The report distribution is: One to your office; one in my office and one to remain with the master files to serve as a file summary and an access reference.

At the time of this report the trial of the accused, Sirhan B. Sirhan, is still in progress. A supplemental report will be compiled at the conclusion of trial and will additionally cover miscellaneous investigations completed too late for inclusion in this report.

ROBERT A. HOUGHTON, Deputy Chief  
Commander, Detective Bureau

leads indicating the possible existence of a conspiracy. Simply stated, the objectives of the investigation were to locate and interview all the witnesses, ascertain all the facts, to document and record the activities, background and relevant observations of all the individuals who were even remotely involved. The probability of future reference to the investigative records regarding the assassination necessitated a high degree of detail and accuracy. Public speculation regarding real or fancied connections between this assassination and the assassinations of President John F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King would eventually put the results of this investigation and the reputation of the Department to a severe test.

Although the initial responsibility for the investigation was routinely with Rampart Detectives, it was obvious that the magnitude and complexity of the total investigation would create a workload far in excess of the capabilities of the divisional detectives. The potential of a conspiracy and the number of side issues magnified the scope of this investigation. While the Federal Bureau of Investigation had entered the case to investigate violation of Section 245 of Chapter 13, Civil Rights, Title 18, United States Code, the responsibility for the murder investigation remained with the Los Angeles Police Department. On June 9, 1968, Deputy Chief Robert A. Houghton, Detective Bureau Commander, conducted a meeting with representatives of the District Attorney, United States Attorney General, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Secret Service and Los Angeles County Sheriff, which reaffirmed the Department's acceptance of its

responsibility. Recognizing the need for an investigative unit outside the normal structure of organization of the Department, the Detective Bureau Commander created a special task force to conduct the investigation. On June 10, Chief Houghton assigned Captain Hugh Brown, Commander, Homicide Division, as the Commander of the Task Force. On June 11, three detective lieutenants, eighteen detective sergeants and two clerical employees were selected for the task force, designated as Special Unit Senator.

Personnel were selected from throughout the Department to fulfill specific responsibilities. The majority of those selected were men then assigned to homicide detail: in detective divisions or those with previous homicide investigation experience. The highest caliber of investigator was obtained to insure quality in the investigation. Other personnel were selected for their language skills, for scientific skills such as the utilization of the polygraph, or for backgrounds in intelligence operations. Personnel were also assigned to the unit from Metropolitan Division as the need for additional investigators became known. In addition, clerical personnel were specifically assigned to the unit to implement a S.U.S. record retention and filing system to account for the vast amount of paper flow which would ultimately be produced. Within one week the original complement was expanded to thirty-seven sworn personnel and seven civilian employees.

The investigation itself was developed along three specific

Note - on 6-6-68 results from Lock, Stock and Barrel receipt was completed <sup>(fingerprints)</sup> when Grand Jury met the following day (7th) why did prosecutors put a photo-graph in evidence

4. 6-5-68 4:55 p.m. (Page 110 Book 109) 1956 DeSoto JWS 093 California at New Hampshire and Wilshire. and 5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. by Isenhart, Sergeant Marz, Knott. not the original receipt?  
Results - unable to process at that time at request of detectives.

5. 6-6-68 11:30 p.m. 6-5-68 (Page 110 Book 109 and page 142-3) 1956 DeSoto JWS 093 California 100 feet south of Wilshire on east side of New Hampshire. 11:50 p.m. - 1:10 a.m. by Claborn.

Below listed items brought to Room 213 Parker Center from vehicle from processing.

Results - 7 lifts from vehicle - 6 identifiable to Sirhan, one unidentifiable.

A. One sales receipt from Lock, Stock and Barrel #2372, address 8972 East Huntington Drive, San Gabriel, dated 6-1-68.

Listing - 2 boxes CCI 22 caliber  
2 boxes SX 22 caliber

Results - two fingerprints identifiable to defendant Sirhan (photographs) second run - one print front side identifiable to Sirhan.

B. One empty ammunition box.  
22 caliber CCI, L.R., H.P.

Results - One print identifiable to "Sirhan" insufficient points of identification for positive identification (photographed).