

Plain Talk

As I was putting away the last folders containing SUS records I happened across the FBI interview of William F. Gardner, Director of Security, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California. It will be noted Mr. Gardner was not with the Ace Guard Security Company; he was employed by the Ambassador Hotel as their Security Director.

I had always been puzzled by Mr. Gardner's last minute location change. Why was he removed from the rear hallway location behind the Embassy Room podium (which was the correct route to the Colonial Room) and transferred to an entirely different location just before the Senator left that podium?

This is what I found in the above mentioned FBI interview: "...a female member of the Kennedy campaign staff informed him that the Senator intended to leave by the rear steps of the hotel,..." I ask: Who was this "female member of the Kennedy campaign staff" who sent Gardner on that fool's errand? Here are the four pages of Gardner's FBI interview along with three pages of former FBI agent Bill Barry's SUS interviews, one of which (Barry interview) specifically addresses the Senator's planned route to the Colonial Room.

The fact is Gardner WAS removed to a different location at a most critical time and Barry, who did know for certain what the Senator's route would be, was not with the Senator. How did this terrible lapse in security occur? What was wrong?

Criminalist William Harper and Marshall Houts carefully examined the locations and bullet paths of Senator Kennedy's wounds and this is what Harper related to me: The two axilla shots were intended to be shots to the heart and the mastoid shot was intended for the brain. And that these were professional hits (mafia?) This is certainly a possibility.

Both Harper and Houts believed Robert F. Kennedy's killer shot the Senator with specifically targeted hits which were aimed at vital organs (heart and brain). And Sirhan was the necessary distraction.

I suspect the two axilla shots were numbers one and two. And the top of the suit jacket shot was number three with the mastoid shot being shot number four. It will be remembered that when Senator Kennedy saw Sirhan's gun in front of him he (the Senator) raised his right arm up in a protective reaction. In raising his right arm up the paths of the two axilla shots were altered. One axilla shot exited the Senator's right front chest and the other axilla shot was stopped at the sixth cervical vertebrae. I believe the third shot was intended to be a brain shot but his upraised arm deflected that shot through the top of his suit jacket. The fourth shot was the mastoid shot, as that was the shot that caused the Senator to collapse on the floor. Harper further added that

professional mafia-style shots were known as "message" and/or "signature" hits.

Dear Reader, I am now going to relate my personal experience involving what should have been an unremarkable court filing, but was in reality most irregular. I shall tell you what it was: In brief - Sirhan's attorney Lawrence Teeter filed a Writ of Habeas Corpus with the Court which included Special Exhibit 10 Evidence Report. An Informal Response was shortly thereafter filed by Dep. A.G. Lou Karlin And here is where the story grows legs.

Therefore, I ask the reader to please skip this section unless the reader has unusual powers of concentration and an extra amount of smarts.

When I gave Sirhan's Attorney Lawrence Teeter my research findings to include in the Writ of Habeas Corpus I was extremely careful to include a copious number of exhibits.

Most compelling was Special Exhibit 10 Report which focused on the Evidence Inventory written by Examiner Patrick Garland and was a legal attachment to Court Order No.2 in the Judge Robert Wenke Hearing dated 9-23-75.

I reported finding (in the Garland Evidence Inventory) irrefutable proof of substituted "evidence" bullets. The Robert F. Kennedy neck bullet (Peo. Ex. 47) should have had the engraving "TN31" on the bullet base which Dr. Thomas Noguchi engraved on the bullet base which he removed during the autopsy on Senator Kennedy (6-6-68). Instead of the engraving "TN31" the bullet given to the seven examiners was engraved "DW" "TN" - an imposter Kennedy neck bullet !!

The other substituted "evidence" bullet was the Goldstein bullet (Peo. Ex.52). The operating room surgeon, Dr. Max Finkel, removed the bullet from the left buttock of victim Goldstein, and engraved an "X" on the bullet base. However, Garland's Inventory of the engraving on the base of the Goldstein bullet is identified as having the number "6" on this bullet base. This of course is incorrect. The ID #6 is in actuality the newly designated Panel ID number 6 for the Goldstein bullet. The correct ID "X" should have been on Goldstein bullet base. But it wasn't.

Now the story becomes really tangled, for you see the seven examiners (in the Wenke Hearing) reported their finding that Special Exhibit 10 was a comparison photomicrograph of the Kennedy neck bullet (Peo.47) compared with the Goldstein bullet (Peo. 52) and not Wolfer's "test" bullet (from Sirhan Trial Evidence envelope Peo. Ex. 55 bearing the wrong gun serial number H18602). In short the seven examiners declared Officer Wolfer misidentified his "test" bullet, and that it actually was the Goldstein bullet.

However, what I discovered is that the seven examiners were also wrong in their

identification of both the Goldstein bullet and the Kennedy neck bullet. Why? Because the true Goldstein bullet base - it will be remembered - was engraved on its base with an "X" engraved by Dr. Max Finkel. And the true Kennedy neck bullet should have "TN31" engraved on its base - and not "DW""TN" which is on the imposter bullet base the seven examiners were given. What we clearly see here is that the Kennedy neck bullet ((Peo. Ex.47) and the Goldstein bullet (Peo Ex.52) were substituted/imposter bullets.

Attorney Teeter filed above research findings with the court and included the entire Patrick Garland Court Order #2 Evidence Inventory Exhibit (9-23-75). Shortly thereafter, Deputy Attorney General Lou Karlin filed an "Informal Response" with the Court in which he charged the attached Exhibit (the Garland Inventory) was a "pastiche" created by the Petitioner.

Of course I knew it was not a pastiche and so this is what I did to respond to Karlin's over-reaching pastiche charge:

I contacted a third party -Patrick Fermey- and asked him to request a copy of the AFTE Journal, Volume 8; Number 3; October 1976; Special Edition (which contained the Garland Evidence Inventory in its entirety) and have it mailed to him. And upon his receiving that AFTE Journal Special Edition (Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners) I asked Fermey to mail it to Attorney Teeter with a cover letter from his attorney requesting this AFTE Journal Special Edition copy be sent directly to the Court in response to Dep. AG Lou Karlin's false pastiche charge. I made sure the AFTE Journal copy Fermey received never touched my hands.

It now appears to me in all likelihood Karlin made an honest mistake as the minutely detailed Special Exhibit 10 Report along with the complex Court Order #2 Garland Evidence Inventory must have been next to impossible for Karlin to completely understand. Teeter told me Karlin was taken off the case following the Court's receipt of the Fermey copy of AFTE Journal. I cannot agree with the decision to remove Karlin.

So why am I talking about it now? Well, I ask: What did happen to my Special Exhibit 10 Report in the Writ? What did the Court do with it after they received positive proof that it was not a pastiche? I am unaware of the Court ever having responded to Attorney Teeter's mailing of the AFTE Journal copy after he sent it to them.

In short, I wonder what, if anything the Court did with Special Exhibit 10 Report after the pastiche charge was proven to be totally unfounded and completely false. Was it buried away somewhere? I cannot know for certain as my working relationship with Teeter came to an end, due primarily to his health problems. Then Teeter died almost six years ago: no one was left to keep track of what the Court did with the Special Ex. 10 Report - pastiche charge - refuting of pastiche charge. I am very reluctant to admit that I suspect a possibility exists that Special Exhibit 10 Report was quietly "deep sixed" (certainly not by a judge). Now why would I even suggest something so sinister? I'll tell you why. Because it happened before in this case. Specifically I refer to the eight spent

bullets and the eight shell casings fired from gun H53725 in 1975 (from Judge Wenke Court Order) which have DISAPPEARED from the all of the records !!! They are nowhere to be found. Both Teeter and I attempted to locate them without success. Which leads me to wonder if Special Exhibit 10 Report which Teeter filed with the Court met the same fate. Sadly, I do not rule out the possibility that evidence is sometimes "lost" or "missing" while in the court clerk's custody.

Where exactly is the Court's response to be found ? I refer of course to the AFTE JOURNAL SPECIAL EDITION copy ordered by FERMEY and which Teeter then mailed to the COURT.

Maybe the answer is to be found lying there all along - in plain sight - Sirhan Trial Transcript, page 3967. In plain English it was a polite gentleman's agreement to stipulate to the ballistics evidence in spite of the fact that D.D.A. David Fitts declared that he did not have adequate foundation for the bullets !!! And the Defense Team agreed to STIPULATE to bullets without a foundation !!! This stunning secret cabal took place in the trial judge's chambers with all three prosecutors and all three defense attorneys present - the only principal in this matter who was not present was Sirhan - who was not informed of this back-room deal. Nothing was proven up - there was simply no foundation for the ballistics evidence. And, at the time the ballistics items were delivered to the court at trial - Chief Defense Attorney Grant Cooper's stipulation to all of the ballistics "evidence" indeed took place - including stipulating the gun in evidence.

And now we are left to spar with a court system that holds all of the cards and has all of the King's Men to do their bidding. It is an unequal challenge.

Our court system can and should do better. No one has to tell you that you don't make a private deal to stipulate to ballistics evidence that has no foundation. It is simply wrong. And now look at the grief that bad faith pact has caused.

What are the whereabouts of those missing eight test bullets and the eight shell casings from the 1975 Judge Wenke test firing? Another evidence problem concerns the destruction of Officer Druley's test bullets and shell casings from the Jake Williams gun (H18602) which Druley test fired in March 1967. The SUS records assure these bullets and shell casings have not been destroyed. When I asked Druley bullets be produced to my ballistics expert I was informed they were destroyed. Then there is the matter of the destruction of the triplicate copy of the Dealer Record of Sale for the Sirhan gun (H53725). Then there is the destruction of Jake Williams gun (H18602), destruction of the pantry ceiling panels and door frames. WHY?

Is it no wonder I question how the Court responded after it received attorney Teeter's answer to Karlin's pastiche charge? Specifically, what did the Court do with Special Exhibit 10 Report?

Rose Lynn Mangan, 3-30-2011

** Gardner given false information re H's route*

Personnel interviewed: Gardner, William F. Date June 1, 1968
Time 10:00 AM

Business Address & Phone 3400 Wilshire Blvd #42 2877012

Residence Address & Phone 4932 Echo St. LA 2566592

Information (To be complete the report should include: Who, What, When, Where, Why, Witness Gardner was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel on above & How) date and time. Gardner is employed by the hotel as Director of Security.

The Kennedy staff was in the Ambassador Hotel for six (6) weeks prior to the election. Kennedy had reserved and used the royal suite of rooms on the 5th floor during this time. Mr. Uno Timonson, Ambassador management, did all the coordination between the hotel and the Kennedy staff. Mr. Timonson did not request any security arrangements from Gardner for the Kennedy party.

On Monday, June 3, 1968 a meeting was held between the LA Fire Dept. and the hotel staff. As a result of this meeting, six firemen were assigned to the hotel from the public Assemblage Unit of the Fire Prevention Bureau. Gardner and his staff were to assist the fire Dept with crowd control with the emphasis on overcrowding conditions and public safety.

There was no communications between the Kennedy party and Gardner. Mr. Gardner stressed the point that he at no time received any request for any security from the Kennedy party. Any security arrangements were made on his own and in cooperation with the Fire Dept.

The hotel security force on the evening of June 4, 1968 and AM of June 5, 1968 consisted of Gardner, 10 hotel security employees and 6 Ace guards.

Hotel Security:

Gardner, William F. - I-242	4932 Echo St.	2566592
Murphy, Fred A. - I-242	111 S. Oxford Ave	DU33653
Curtis, Lloyd - I-246	2522 Lucerne	7344987
Grugan, Clarence M. - I-247	3003 Leeward #17	3871073
Crites, David R. - I-247	4233 Gateway ave	6647004
Perez, Thomas - I-249	538 S. Lorena St.	AN94387
Pederson, Harold - I-250	3654 W. 59th St.	AX17533
Kawalec, Stanley S. - I-251	502 S. Westlake	HU36171
Franklin, William A. - I-252	806 Edgewood St Apt 13	6740364
Rothberg, James - I-253	5640 Santa Monica Blvd	HO95801 Ext 218
Maddox, Arthur H. - I-254	744 S. Catalina St	3898147
ACE Guards: 8720 Woodley Ave, Sepulveda	8945717	
Bell, Willie S. - I-246	4515 Lexington Ave Hwd	6634822 6294789
Boombower, Elmer M. - I-256	10156 Collett Ave Granada Hills	8927123
Cesar, Thane	1852 Morley St Simi	805 5260574
Merritt, Jack J. - I-259	10109 S. Winston St Sepulveda	8927892 3409638
Stowers, Albert Louis - I-259	13577 Mercer Pacoima	8996579 7874100
Mallard, Augustus	609 W. 94th St. #12	7798535

All the security personnel were in uniform, with the exception of Mr. Gardner and Fred A. Murphy. The key run guards were Curtis, Crites and Rothberg. They were required to make their customary runs which take approximately 20 minutes, each hour. The remaining 40 minutes they were

Investigators making interview

Wm. J. O'Steen

Approved by:

Wm. J. O'Steen

(5)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/12/58

WILLIAM F. GARDNER, Director of Security, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, was questioned concerning the possibility of a change in Senator KENNEDY's plans immediately after completing his victory speech. He was asked if the possibility existed that Senator KENNEDY had originally planned to proceed immediately after his victory speech to the Ambassador Ballroom, however, altered this plan and proceeded in the direction of the Colonial Room.

Mr. GARDNER stated that he had received no official notice of what Senator KENNEDY's plans or itinerary were on that evening; however, it was his understanding that following his victory speech in the Embassy Room, the Senator would proceed to the Colonial Room where he would greet members of the press. He stated that he recalled that near the conclusion of Senator KENNEDY's speech and while he was stationed in the rear hallway behind the Embassy Room podium, a female member of the KENNEDY campaign staff informed him that the Senator intended to leave by the rear steps of the hotel, and she asked him to insure that a pathway could be made for the Senator's exit. He stated he immediately contacted the front doorman and determined that KENNEDY's limousine and police escort had been moved to the rear of the Embassy Room. He stated that in view of these instructions, he merely assumed that Senator KENNEDY would no longer greet the press in the Colonial Room.

On 6/12/58 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA L. STANLEY HARBESON and SA TIMOTHY L. DONOVAN TLD/srs Date dictated 6/12/58

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LA 56-156

Mr. GARDNER advised that he had moved the guards from place to place during the evening at the request of the Fire Department and some of the KENNEDY aides.

He advised that Senator KENNEDY had been a guest at the hotel on previous occasions during the present campaign and that during his previous visits to the hotel, it was made clear to him, GARDNER, that the Senator did not want any uniformed security guards in his presence nor did he want any armed individuals as guards.

Mr. GARDNER said that this is one of the reasons why he did not have any guards assigned to escort the Senator through the hotel during this visit.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 6/8/68

Mr. WILLIAM F. GARDNER, Chief Security Officer, Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, telephone number 367-3394, was contacted at the hotel, and he furnished the following information:

He resides at 4932 Echo Street, Los Angeles, and his telephone number is 256-6592.

He began work at approximately 8:00 a.m. on June 4, 1968 and remained at the hotel through approximately 6:00 p.m., on June 5, 1968.

Shortly after midnight, on June 5, 1968, he was located in the foyer on the Ambassador Room level just at the bottom of the inside staircase which leads down from the level where the Embassy Room is located.

He had two security guards with him at that location, one of whom was WILLIE S. BELL, a guard from Ace Guard Service, and the other one was LLOYD CURTIS, a guard employed by the hotel.

They were at this location at the request of one of Senator KENNEDY's aides, who had instructed them that the Senator and his party were due to come down the enclosed stairway and go to the Ambassador Room to talk to the people located there. It was his understanding that the Senator was to leave the Ambassador Room after a short speech and go out the fire escape to his car and leave the hotel. At approximately 12:20 a.m., a female aide of Senator KENNEDY came to where he was located and advised him that there had been a terrible accident. She did not tell him anything about a shooting at that time.

He advised that he had not heard any gun shots at the time. It was sometime later that he heard that Senator KENNEDY had been shot. He estimated the time was probably 15 minutes after the actual shooting.

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On 6/8/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156
by SA ROBERT F. PICKARD/oje Date dictated 6/8/68

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INTERVIEWS

FILE # I-246

PERSON INTERVIEWED: BARRY, Bill
Kennedy's Security

DATE/TIME 6-5-68

SEX RACE HAIR EYES HT WT DOB

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 16 Overlook Rd. N.Y. City, N. Y. PHONE (914) NE 44541

BUSINESS ADDRESS 16 Wall St. N.Y., N.Y. PHONE (212) 577-2152

INFORMATION: (WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY & HOW)

I was abreast of the Senator about 4 ft. away from him when I heard the shots, we were in the corridor. I saw this man holding a small caliber revolver in his hands, he had just shot the Sen. I took the gun away from him and put the gun on the counter. The susp. grabbed the gun and then Rayford Johnson and Roosevelt Grier helped me subdue the susp. again. I left the susp. with Johnson and Grier and I went to where the Senator was lying. Just after the shots were fired, I saw the susp. holding the gun in his right hand, his arm was extended and the gun was about 12 inches from the Senator's head.

kw/8-6-68

INVESTIGATORS MAKING INTERVIEW:

APPROVED BY:
S/Lt. Pena

(20)

(9)

Wm Barry

FROM THE STAGE TO THE KITCHEN

Senator Kennedy walked hurriedly across the twelve feet to the back door of the stage, turned right, walked down the incline and through the anteroom between the Embassy Room and the serving pantry. He was en route to the Colonial Room at the far end of the pantry. The Colonial Room was being used by the "writing press."

According to Fred Dutton, this decision to meet with the writing press in the Colonial Room and the route to be taken had been planned by him and William Barry. The decision was made five minutes before the conclusion of the Senator's speech. Ordinarily these two men were at the Senator's side, but after returning to the stage, they were unable to get close to him. Dutton recalled that they were positioned to the left and six to eight feet in front of the Senator on the stage. The Senator was to have exited the stage to his left and Dutton and Barry were to have proceeded him. When Kennedy left the rear of the stage, Dutton and Barry exited the stage on the left, entered the anteroom and hurriedly forced their way through the crowd in an attempt to catch up with Kennedy.

A portion of the Kennedy party left the stage via the swinging doors and a crowd followed. As the Senator entered the pantry, there were newsmen, hotel employees, Kennedy Staff members and well wishers ahead of him. The area within the first sixteen feet had been used by ABC Television as an interview area. Drapes were hung over the cupboards and wooden lattice-work

Wm Barry

partitions covered with green plastic flowers lined the walls. Television cables were lying on the floor and a television monitor stood at the northwest corner. Several individuals were sitting on tables and chairs, while others stood in the pantry. Some waved to the Senator, others reached out hoping to shake his hand. The crowd from the ballroom followed behind the Senator. As the Senator stopped to shake hands with the kitchen help, there were twenty-three known persons crowded into an area ten feet by ten feet.

Kennedy's bodyguard, William Barry, was on the incline eight feet behind him and Mrs. Kennedy told him, "Stay with the Senator." He then began pushing his way through the dense crowd toward Kennedy. Fred Dutton exited the rear of the stage and found himself trapped by the crowd and unable to reach the Senator. Thomas Perez, security guard assigned to the pantry entrance, was pushed aside by the crowd and trapped behind a swinging door.

Several people noted that something unusual was occurring, since it was not Senator Kennedy's habit to walk ahead of his entourage. Attorney Frank Burns, a campaign advisor, followed Senator Kennedy from the stage. Turning toward the kitchen, he noted that Senator Kennedy was walking "quite fast." Burns called out to the Senator to slow down since he was getting ahead of everyone. He rushed after the Senator, overtaking him as he stopped to shake hands with kitchen help.

Richard Lubic stood in the kitchen as Senator Kennedy entered. Lubic had been acquainted with the Kennedys and was familiar