

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date 6/7/68

MARTIN PATRUSKY was interviewed at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, California, where he is employed as a waiter.

"I, Martin Patrusky, furnish the following voluntary statement to [REDACTED] who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He has advised me that this statement may be used as evidence in a court of law.

"I was born in the Bronx, New York on March 26, 1939 and spent most of my life in the New York area and up-state New York with the exception of two years that I served in the U.S. Army. In September 1966 I left New York and came to Los Angeles where I secured employment as a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel.

"I have been a waiter at the Ambassador Hotel from that time to the present.

"I work various hours at the Hotel Ambassador as a waiter depending upon the type of function that is being presented.

"On June 4, 1968 I was assigned to the Embassy Room of the Ambassador Hotel as a waiter to serve drinks at a political reception for Senator Robert Kennedy. I reported for roll call at 5:00 p.m. and during the evening served drinks in the Embassy Room and several other rooms.

"The Embassy Room has a stage which is just west of the kitchen area and from the rear of the stage is a corridor which runs east into the kitchen area and a large serving room. At about midnite, the night of June 4, 1968, Senator Kennedy was brought down on a freight elevator and he

On 6/7/68 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 56-156

by SA [REDACTED] Date dictated 6/7/68

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"proceeded through the kitchen area and the serving room to the rear of the stage of the Embassy Room and entered the stage.

"I was in the kitchen serving area at the time and saw him as he went to the Embassy Room stage.

"I stayed in the kitchen serving area watching the speech of Senator Kennedy on a TV monitor.

"In about 15 or 20 minutes Senator Kennedy and a group of people came through the door from the Embassy Room to the kitchen serving area. Karl Ucker, Assistant Maitre D' Hotel had Senator Kennedys left sleeve in his hand and Ucker was attempting to lead Senator Kennedy through the crowd.

"I was standing in the serving area near a small silver table and as Senator Kennedy approached me I said to Senator Kennedy, 'Congratulations, Mr. Kennedy'. Senator Kennedy shook my hand and said 'Thank you'. Senator Kennedy then turned to his right and shook hands with Vincent Di Pierro, a fellow waiter. Senator Kennedy then turned to his left and shook hands with a chef and a bus-boy, Juan Romero.

"After Senator Kennedy shook hands with Juan Romero I noticed a man pushing his way toward Senator Kennedy and Karl Ucker. I thought this man was going to shake hands with Senator Kennedy. He pushed himself around to the right of Ucker. This man leaned around the left side of Uckers body and extended his hand toward Senator Kennedy. I do not know if this man extended his left or right hand. I immediately heard a sound like that of a firecracker. A second later I heard a series of sounds like fire crackers.

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"Karl Ucker swung about and grabbed this individual by the neck and I then heard more sounds like fire crackers.

"I saw Senator Kennedy falling backwards. I looked across the serving room and saw a man falling back against Vincent Di Pierro and blood appeared on the eye glasses of Di Pierro. I also saw a man standing next to Senator Kennedy grab his stomach and fall backward.

"I saw a group of men grabbing a man who was lying face down on the steam table in the serving room. The muzzle of a gun was extending beyond the group and the gun was being waved around before some one grabbed it from the man.

"I then saw Senator Kennedy lying on the floor and a pool of blood was forming under his head. I was then pushed back by the crowd into the cooks eating area. I assisted Mr. Angelo, the Maitre D' to close off the kitchen area part with wooden benches.

"While Senator Kennedy was speaking in the Embassy Room I was in the serving area and at that time there were about twenty persons in the serving area. About half of these persons were hotel employees and about half were outsiders. As I have mentioned the serving room is just east of the Embassy Room stage.

"While Senator Kennedy was speaking I noticed a man standing on a rack full of trays in the serving area. This tray rack has wheels and is raised about six inches off the floor.

"This man was standing on the tray holding on to it to maintain his position on the rack as it was full of trays. This man was looking from the service area through the door to the back of the

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"stage where Kennedy was speaking. I got a good look at this man. He was the same man who later approached Senator Kennedy with outstretched hand at the time I heard the sound of fire crackers.

"This is also the same man whom various persons struggled after Senator Kennedy was shot.

"I would describe this man as age twenty five to twenty nine years. He was five foot four inches to five foot six inches and weighed about one hundred twenty to one hundred thirty pounds. He had black curly hair and appeared to be Cuban or Latin American. He had an olive skin.

"He was wearing a blue jacket and possibly blue or black pants. He was also wearing sneakers. I would recognize this man if I saw him again.

"I have read this statement which consists of this page and six other pages. It is true and correct.

"S/ Martin Patrusky

"Witness:

b7c S/ [REDACTED] FBI Los Angeles 6/7/68
S/ [REDACTED] Special Agent, FBI, Los Angeles, 6/7/68.

Mr. PATRUSKY stated that the man he saw with the gun approaching KENNEDY and after the shooting is the same individual whose photograph he has seen in the newspaper and television identified as SIRHAN SIRHAN.