

INTRA-DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENCE

January 6, 1969

TO: Captain Hugh I. Brown
Commander, Homicide Division

FROM: Lieutenant E. Hernandez
S.U.S. Homicide

SUBJECT: POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION OF EVERETT BUCKNER

POLYGRAPH EXAMINATION

Mr. Buckner is employed by the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club. He stated that on June 4, 1968, he had observed Sirhan at the firing range of the gun club. Buckner stated that he observed Sirhan leave his position at the firing range and walk up to a female who was also firing a gun. Buckner related that as Sirhan approached the woman, she told Sirhan, "Get away, you son-of-a-bitch, someone will recognize us." Buckner was emphatic when he stated that he had heard the woman tell Sirhan the above statement. He also stated that he was positive that the person to whom the woman had talked to was Sirhan and that he could positively identify him.

During the course of the investigation, Buckner was shown a photograph of a woman who had been identified as being at the firing range on June 4, 1968. This photograph was shown to Buckner by Sgt. McGann of S.U.S. At that time Buckner was asked whether or not he recognized the photograph. He answered, "No, that is not the same person I saw talking to Sirhan at the range."

On July 2, 1968, it was determined that a polygraph examination would be administered to Buckner. This examination was conducted in the polygraph facilities of Scientific Investigation Division. The examiner was Lt. E. Hernandez #7101, who utilized a three-channel Stoelting instrumentation. Buckner was advised that the purpose of the examination was to determine whether he was being truthful when he related the above story to investigating officers of S.U.S.

Prior to instrumental testing, Buckner was administered a control test to determine whether he was a suitable subject fit for examination on the polygraph. During this phase of the examination, Buckner was cooperative, and he did emit physiological tracings capable of evaluation.

Buckner was asked a total of 37 questions. Of these 12 were relevant questions concerning the key issues under investigation. It was noted that at the points where these relevant questions were asked, Buckner's responses were indicative of deception. Upon conclusion of the examination, examining officer reviewed Buckner's statements with him. He was shown a total of 14 photographs, one of which was a photograph of suspect Sirhan. Buckner was unable to identify Sirhan's picture at this time.

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Buckner was informed that he had failed the examination, and that he was not being truthful when he stated he had seen a woman talking to Sirhan at the range. He was also advised that when asked the question, "Do you remember seeing the woman that you saw on the photograph at the range on that day?" he answered, "No." His responses indicated that he was being untruthful to that question.

After a brief interrogation, Buckner admitted that he had not been truthful. He stated he had not actually seen a woman talking to Sirhan; also, that he never heard any woman saying anything to Sirhan at the range on June 4, 1968. He also corrected his earlier statement concerning the woman shown to him by Sgt. McGann. He explained that the reason he had told Sgt. McGann that he did not recognize the woman on the photograph was because he was only 98 percent sure that the photograph was the photograph of the same woman that he had seen at the range. Buckner was advised that his earlier statements would have to be corrected with the truth, and he acknowledged that he realized they would have to be corrected.

E. HERNANDEZ, Lieutenant
S.U.S. Homicide

RECORDS CHECKED (2)

FILE COPY

INTERVIEWS

FILE # I-97

PERSON INTERVIEWED: BUCKNER, Everett DATE/TIME 7-2-68

SEX _____ RACE _____ HAIR _____ EYES _____ HT _____ WT _____ DOB _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

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

TAPED INTERVIEW #29269, 29268, 29270 - TRANS. #29

On July 1, 1968, Buckner was shown a woman who had been identified as being at the firing range on June 4, 1968. This woman was shown to Buckner by Sergeant McGann and Buckner was asked whether or not he recognized this particular woman, and he said, "No, that is not the same person." During the polygraph test when he was asked whether he recognized the aforementioned woman as being the same person at the range, he again answered, "No," however, his responses indicated that he did in fact recognize that woman as being the same person that was on the firing range on the day that Sirhan was there (June 4, 1968).

Results: After a brief interrogation, Buckner admitted that he had not been truthful. He stated that he had not actually seen a woman talking to Sirhan. He also admitted that he never heard any woman saying anything to Sirhan at the range on June 4, 1968. He also corrected his earlier statement concerning the woman shown to him by Sergeant McGann. He said that he was almost positive at the time that the woman was shown to him by Sergeant McGann was the same woman he had seen at the firing range on June 4, 1968. He said that the reason he had told Sergeant McGann that he did not recognize her was because he was only 98% sure that she was the same woman.

Buckner was shown a total of 14 photographs, one of which was a photo of Sirhan, and he was unable to identify Sirhan's picture at this time. (Statements contained in Tape #29270, Transcript #29.)

Allegation: Mr. Buckner stated that he was employed by the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club and that on June 4, 1968, he observed Sirhan walk up to a female who was also firing a gun at the range and as Sirhan approached the woman, she said to Sirhan, "Get away, you son-of-a-bitch. Someone will recognize us." Buckner was emphatic when he said that he heard the woman tell Sirhan the above statement. Buckner also stated that he was positive that the person to whom the woman talked with was Sirhan and that he could positively identify him.

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Continued

INVESTIGATORS MAKING INTERVIEW: McGann/Hernandez

APPROVED BY: *[Signature]*

Everett Buckner (Continued)

Conclusion: Examination results indicate that Everett Buckner was being untruthful in his statements and he was informed of this. Physiological responses to crucial questions indicate that Buckner did not actually see any woman talking to Sirhan on June 4, 1968. These responses also indicate that Buckner did not hear any woman say anything to Sirhan on that date.