

62- HQ-587-A

SECTION 5

SERIALS JUN 5, 1968-AUG 31, 1968



62-HQ-587-A-5

X

SECTION 5

JUNE 15, 1968-AUG: 31, 1968

3/24/68 WALKER 18-48880

U. S. Department of Justice

ADDED TO THIS FILE

CLAU

FBI - CENTRAL RECORDS CENTER

HQ - HEADQUARTERS

Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
0062 587	A	5	JUNE 15, 1968 AUGUST 31, 1968

5/11/631740



RRP0034PKL

INVESTIGATION

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Cal 421

Viper
 Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Salt
Kensalt

UPI-71

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES --SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S TRIAL FOR THE SLAYING
 OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY WILL NOT BE POSTPONED JUST BECAUSE IT IS

SET TO BEGIN FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER, WHO PRESIDES OVER THE CRIMINAL
 DEPARTMENT OF SUPERIOR COURT, REACTED THURSDAY TO A SUGGESTION
 THAT THE TRIAL BE CONTINUED UNTIL AFTER NOV. 5 BECAUSE FEELINGS RUN
 HIGH DURING A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

SCHAUER SAID THE NOV. 1 TRIAL DATE WAS SPECIFICALLY SOUGHT BY
 SIRHAN'S ATTOKEY, RUSSELL E. PARSONS, AND WAS AGREED TO BY THE
 PROSECUTION.

8/30--V1243PED

FILE
6-11-68

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED

46 SEP 9 1968

54 SEPT 11 1968

Tolson _____
 DeLoach *DL* _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop *BMB* _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen *RS* _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

UPI-44

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES --THE MAN ACCUSED OF KILLING SEN. ROBERT F KENNEDY IS STILL "NERVOUS" BUT NO LONGER COMPLAINS OF INSOMNIA, HIS ATTORNEY SAID FRIDAY.

RUSSELL E. PARSONS SAID HE SPENT "THE BETTER PART OF TWO DAYS" THIS WEEK WITH SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, 24, THE JORDANIAN EMIGRANT CHARGED WITH MURDER IN THE SENATOR'S ASSASSINATION JUNE 5.

THE TRIAL IS SCHEDULED TO START NOV. 1.

8/24-

UPI-45

-V1220PED

FILE

6-42

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED

145 AUG 27 1

350

61 AUG 29 1968

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Sirhan Still 'Nervous,' Lawyer Says A-1

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—The man accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy is still "nervous" but no longer complains of insomnia, according to his attorney.

Russell E. Parsons yesterday said he spent "the better part of two days" this week with Sirhan B. Sirhan, 24, the Jordanian immigrant charged with murder in the senator's assassination June 5. The trial is scheduled to start Nov. 1.

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) **A-2**
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Daily World _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Examiner (Washington) _____

Date AUG 24 1968

TOP CLIPPING
 DATED 8-24-68
 FROM WASH. CAPITAL NEWS
 MARKED FILE AND INITIALED
 SERVICE

61 AUG 29 1968

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
145 AUG 27 1968

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Kensalt

006A

SIRHAN 8/3 NX
 DAY LD

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--THE MAN ACCUSED OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY BEFORE TWO DOZEN WITNESSES HAS FOLLOWED A TIME TESTED RULE OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE--NEVER PLEAD GUILTY.

COOL AND OCCASIONALLY SMILING DURING A 22-MINUTE COURT APPEARANCE FRIDAY, SIRHAN B. SIRHAN SAID "NOT GUILTY" IN A CLEAR FIRM VOICE TO ANSWER THE CHARGE OF FATALLY SHOOTING THE BROTHER OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD B. SCHAUER SET THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN'S TRIAL FOR NOV. 1. SIRHAN WAS ORDERED TO RETURN TO HIS HEAVILY FORTIFIED "PRIVATE COURTROOM" IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE OCT. 4, WHEN SCHAUER APPOINTS A JUDGE FOR THE TRIAL.

SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY, RUSSELL B. PARSONS, DID NOT HAVE HIS CLIENT ENTER A PLEA OF "NOT GUILTY BY REASON OF INSANITY" AS MANY OBSERVERS HAD EXPECTED. HOWEVER, THE ATTORNEY KEPT OPEN HIS OPTION TO OFFER SUCH A PLEA AT A LATER TIME.

IN A NEWS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE HEARING, PARSONS INDICATED HE WILL TRY TO SHOW THE FORMER RACE TRACK EXERCISE BOY WAS NOT GUILTY OF PREMEDITATION OF MALICE IN SHOOTING THE NEW YORK SENATOR THE NIGHT OF KENNEDY'S VICTORY IN THE CALIFORNIA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY.

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED

46 AUG 7 1968

57 AUG 8 - 1968

"THIS DEFENSE WILL PERMIT US TO SHOW THE WHAT AND WHY OF THE CASE," THE ATTORNEY SAID. "THOSE ARE THE REAL ISSUES. IF THIS IS THE MAN, DID HE DO IT? WHAT PROMPTED HIM? WHY DID HE DO IT? IS HE RESPONSIBLE?"

CALIFORNIA LAW DEFINES FIRST DEGREE MURDER--WHICH CARRIES THE DEATH PENALTY--AS MURDER COMMITTED "WITH MALICE AFORETHOUGHT." IF PARSONS CAN SHOW THE CRIME WAS NOT PREMEDITATED, A JURY MIGHT FIND SIRHAN GUILTY OF SECOND DEGREE MURDER, CARRYING A SENTENCE OF FIVE YEARS TO LIFE. IF THE ATTORNEY COULD PROVE LACK OF MALICE, IT WOULD OPEN THE DOOR TO A MANSLAUGHTER CONVICTION. THE SENTENCE FOR THAT IS 1 TO 5 YEARS.

PARSONS HINTED HE MAY BRING UP SIRHAN'S EARLY LIFE IN HIS WAR-TORN NATIVE JORDAN AT THE TRIAL. "IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO TAKE DEPOSITIONS IN THE OLD COUNTRY," THE ATTORNEY SAID.

SIRHAN'S MOTHER, MRS. MARY SIRHAN, AND HIS THREE BROTHERS, ADEL, SHARIF AND SAIDALLAH WERE PRESENT IN THE COURTROOM. SIRHAN GAVE NO SIGN HE WAS AWARE OF THEIR PRESENCE.

AT TIMES DURING THE SESSION HE REACHED OUT AND GRASPED PARSONS' HAND. THE ATTORNEY SAID SIRHAN DID THIS "BECAUSE HE RELIES ON ME, LOOKS ON ME AS AN ADVISER."

PARSONS HAD SIRHAN EXAMINED BY TWO COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE PSYCHIATRISTS. THE LAWYER SAID HIS FAILURE TO ENTER AN INSANITY PLEA FRIDAY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE REPORTS THEY HAD GIVEN HIM. ELECTRIC TESTS OF SIRHAN'S BRAIN WAVES REQUESTED BY PARSONS STILL HAVE NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT.

ASKED WHETHER SIRHAN WOULD HAVE OBJECTED TO AN INSANITY PLEA PARSONS REPLIED: "HE LISTENS TO ME AND ACCEPTS MY ADVICE."

PARSONS SAID HE IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF ARGUING THAT SIRHAN SUFFERED FROM DIMINISHED MENTAL FACILITIES, WITHOUT ACTUALLY BEING INSANE.

RH240AED

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

THREE MONTHS TO SEE WHY?

Parsons Leaves Sirhan Plea Open To Change

Russell Parsons, the man defending Sirhan B. Sirhan against charges he shot and killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has three months to determine "why—if this is the man—did he do it."

Although his client, smiling and poised, pleaded "not guilty" in an armored courtroom in County Jail yesterday, Parsons kept the door open to a possible change of plea to not guilty by reason of insanity or partial insanity.

The veteran attorney talked to the press after a 22-minute hearing at which Judge Richard Schauer set the trial date for Nov. 1 and then denied a prosecution request to revoke or modify a court order restricting publicity on the case.

Judge Schauer, however, did not name the trial judge or identify the courtroom in which the historic trial will take place. He reserved this information for an Oct. 4 public hearing in Superior Court.

Sirhan, who spoke only 10 words during yesterday's hearing, also pleaded innocent to charges he assaulted with intent to murder five other persons who were wounded by gunfire in the Ambassador Hotel corridor in which Kennedy was fatally shot.

The motion to ease up on publicity restrictions was submitted by District Attorney Evelle J. Younger, who said "we should let the people know as much as possible about the way the government is performing, including judges, the district attorney" and others.

He said it was "wrong" to assume that all publicity is bad and that attention given any matter in a criminal case necessarily means prejudice.

Parsons told newsmen he has been researching the Arab-Israeli war and the boyhood of Sirhan in what is now Israeli-occupied Jordan.

"Why—if this is the man—did he do it?" Parsons asked. "Was he able to formulate opinions? What are the factors? What is his condition. He's an Arab, you know. They're so different from us."

Parsons said Sirhan's boyhood "might have colored his whole life. What were the conditions under which he lived? Was a bomb ever dropped near him?"

Parsons continued to indicate Sirhan's mental condition would be a vital factor in his defense plans. He said brain wave tests have not been made yet and that he is continuing his study of reports by psychiatrists who examined Sirhan.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-4 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/3/68
Edition: 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or

Classification: LA56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED

46 AUG 14 1968

57 AUG 15 1968



Sirhan Sirhan, accused slayer of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, and his attorney, Russell Parsons, are surrounded by guards as they leave the courtroom where a "not guilty" plea was submitted. Parsons kept the door open to a possible change of plea to "insanity."

At yesterday's hearing, Sirhan said "Yes, sir" twice—once to a question about his name and again when he assured the judge he personally waived his right to trial within 60 days of his arraignment. Moments earlier, his answer to the judge's question about a speedy trial was answered with: "We waive that right." The only other words he spoke were "not guilty" to the charges of murder and assault with intent to commit murder.

The courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice was marked with the same tight security precautions county officials have imposed since Sirhan was subdued and arrested moments after the June 5 shooting.

The heavily guarded Sirhan smiled often and appeared pleased with the proceedings. But he did not appear to take

notice of his mother and three brothers who sat in the courtroom.

Parsons said he was concerned with Sirhan's mental capacity prior to the Kennedy shooting and his subsequent behavior.

"You know," he said, "people sometimes lose their minds very suddenly. If a man is insane at the time of the trial you can't try him."

He pictured Sirhan as a man with a "nervous mentality. He relies on me. He gets on his knees and looks up in my face and talks to me like a baby.

"I haven't seen any evidence yet of any malice or premeditation," Parsons said. "I don't believe he realizes what has happened."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Enters Not Guilty Plea; Trial to Be Nov. 1

**Attorney Indicates Lack
of Malice May Be Issue
He Will Base Defense On**

BY RON EINSTOSS

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan pleaded not guilty to murder Friday in the June 5 slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A trial date of Nov. 1 was set by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Although Sirhan entered a plea of innocence, it does not necessarily mean he is denying he committed the murder.

He is charged with murder, with malice aforethought.

A guilty plea would have been an admission of murder and could have resulted in the death penalty or life in prison if first degree.

The only way for a defendant to have a determination made of the degree of murder — unless one is specifically charged—is to be tried, either by a jury or a judge sitting without a jury.

Sirhan Chose a Trial

This apparently is what Sirhan did in the face of seemingly weighty eyewitness and circumstantial evidence against him.

At a press conference which followed the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant's appearance in court, Russell E. Parsons, Sirhan's attorney, seemed to confirm this when he said:

"I haven't seen any evidence yet that he had any malice . . ."

Parsons also said a not guilty plea "permits us to show the what and why—what are the real issues—if he is the man, why did he do it."

Sirhan, as had been anticipated, chose not to enter a so-called double plea of not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity. This could have required three trials.

The first, to determine whether he was guilty and the degree of guilt. A second, if convicted, to determine his sanity, and a final hearing, if convicted of first-degree murder, to fix the penalty.

Parsons still could, before the trial, legally add a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

The veteran criminal defense attorney explained out of court that by pleading not guilty, it does not mean that two court-appointed psychiatrists found that his client was legally sane.

However, he added that he has never entered only a single plea of not guilty when psychiatrists unanimously said a client of his was legally insane, that he did not know the difference between right and wrong or could not appreciate the nature and quality of his act.

Several Possibilities Open

With Sirhan pleading not guilty, if the prosecution is successful in showing that Sirhan fired the fatal shot, Parsons can seek to lower the degree of murder from first degree by:

1—Putting on evidence that the crime was not deliberate or premeditated which would make it second degree (punishable by five years to life in prison) or that there was no malice, which would make it manslaughter (a maximum of 15 years in prison).

2—Invoking the defense of diminished capacity, also known as partial insanity.

In using the latter defense Parsons would be attempting to show through psychiatric evidence that because of some mental disease or defect Sirhan could not form the specific intent, malice and premeditation required for the conviction of first-degree murder.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/3/68

Edition: Home

Author: Ron Einstoss

Editor: Nick B. Williams

Title:

Kensalt

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587 A
NOT RECORDED

48 JUL 14 1968

This defense does not result in an exoneration, only in a reduction of the degree (to second or manslaughter), depending on the extent to which mental disease can be shown. Anticipating such a defense, Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger and his team of prosecutors has engaged Dr. Seymour Pollock as a psychiatric adviser.

Doctor Present

Dr. Pollock was present in court again Friday, observing Sirhan. He probably would be called as a witness to counter defense psychiatric testimony.

Sirhan, appearing in court for the fifth time, also pleaded not guilty to feloniously assaulting, with a deadly weapon and with intent to commit murder, five other persons wounded during the election night shooting spree at the Ambassador.

Judge Schauer withheld until Oct. 4 the naming of a judge to preside over the case.

That presumably will be Sirhan's next appearance in court unless Parsons makes legal motions, such, he said, as to suppress evidence he feels was improperly seized or makes attacks on the grand jury on the basis of some illegality.

He also could ask for a change of venue, but he indicated out of court that such would not be the case.

Parsons indicated that any such motions will be made at least 35 days prior to the trial.

Because a trial date of Nov. 1 is more than 60 days from the time Sirhan was indicted on June 7, Judge Schauer asked that he waive both his right to be tried within that period and his right to a speedy trial.

"We waive that right," Sirhan said in one of his longest responses since he has been appearing in court.

In pleading, Sirhan was emphatic.

Asked how he wished to plead, in a loud and clear voice, Sirhan said:

"Not guilty."

Parsons indicated in court that he wanted a late trial setting—"on or about Nov. 1"—because the attorney who will be assisting him is now engaged in another trial (he has never disclosed the name of that lawyer) and because "it may be necessary to take depositions in the old country," referring to Sirhan's birth place in the Middle East.

Younger, assisted in court by Dep. Dist. Attys. John Howard and David Fitts, said he would prefer, under ordinary circumstances, an earlier trial date.

But Younger indicated that he may also need more time because the prosecution will be bringing in witnesses from all over the country.

In any event, Younger said his office preferred "a surer trial date" rather than "a maybe date."

Parsons said later he did not see any reason why the case could not go to trial as scheduled, although that seldom happens in this county.

Request on Publicity

At the start of the 22½-minute court session Friday, Younger again asked that Judge Schauer vacate or modify a court order restricting publicity in the case.

Opposing the motion were Parsons and A. L. Wirin, chief counsel of the Southern California chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Wirin was allowed to appear as a "friend" of the court.

Judge Schauer denied Younger's request, stating that "nothing is more clear at this time than that this case demands an order restricting publicity."

As was the case two weeks ago, court again was convened in a special facility on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice, just 50 feet from the isolated cell in which Sirhan is being held pending his trial.

Parsons opposed using the small 46 by 50-foot room for the trial.

Judge Schauer said he would select a courtroom on Oct. 4. It probably will be one of two courts in which criminal trials are regularly held on the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

At times, while court was in session, Sirhan held Parsons' hand.

At the press conference, Parsons explained that his client did so because "he relies on me . . . looks on me as an adviser."

"He took my hand and help," the attorney added. "Sometimes he even gets on his knees and talks to me."

Seated in the courtroom were four members of Sirhan's family, his mother, Mary, and three of his four brothers, Adel, Sharif and Saidallah.

Parsons, asked how Sirhan would have reacted to an insanity plea, said:

"He listens to me and accepts my advice," indicating that the decision on how to plead was made by Parsons.

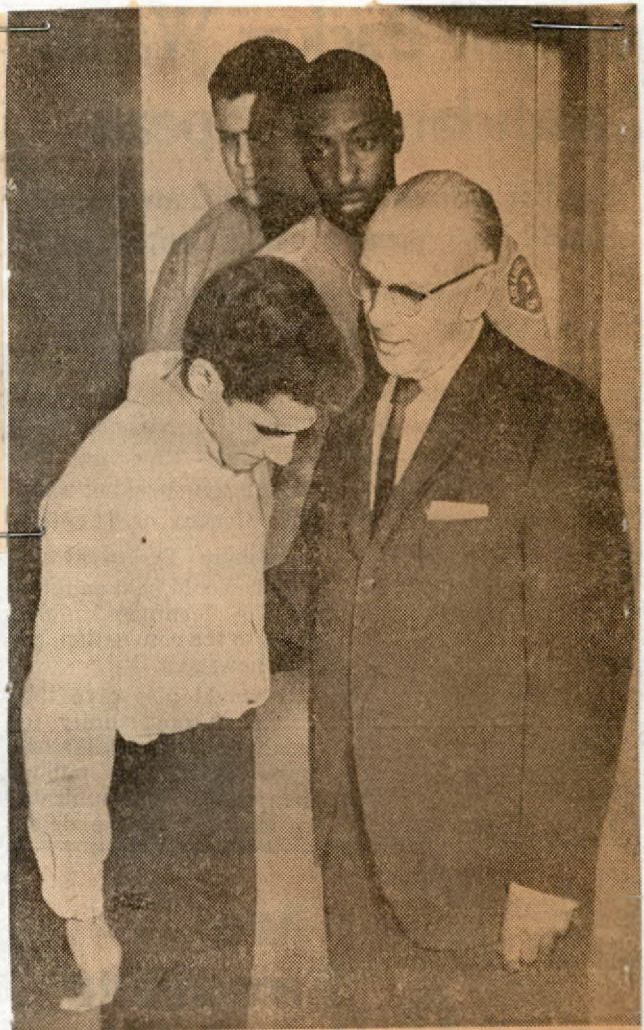
But, he said, he (Parsons) might change his mind — "sudden things might develop — people

sometimes lose their mind very suddenly."

The attorney said he has not yet determined whether Sirhan will testify at the trial, explaining, "Sometimes you have to wait until the last minute to decide that."

Parsons would not comment on whether Sirhan has shown any sorrow or remorse for the death of Sen. Kennedy.

He also refused to discuss his trial strategy "because we would have to go into the evidence and I never do that, even when there is no court order."



AFTER PLEA—Sirhan B. Sirhan and his attorney, Russell E. Parsons, confer as deputies lead the accused assassin of Robert F. Kennedy to his cell.

Times photo

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Sirhan Trial Set; Attorney Retains Defense Option

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3 (UPI) — The man accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy before two dozen witnesses has followed a time tested rule of criminal defense — never plead guilty.

Cool and occasionally smiling during a 22-minute court appearance yesterday, Sirhan B. Sirhan, 24, said "not guilty" in a clear firm voice to answer the charge of fatally shooting the brother of the late President.

Superior Court Judge Richard B. Schauer set the Jordanian's trial for Nov. 1.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell B. Parsons, did not have his client enter a plea of "not guilty by reason of insanity" as many had expected. However, the attorney kept open his option to offer such a plea at a later time.

STRATEGY

After the hearing, Mr. Parsons indicated he will try to show the former race track exercise boy was not guilty of premeditation or malice in shooting the New York senator the night of his victory in the California presidential primary.

"This defense will permit us to show the what and why of the case," the attorney said. "Those are the real issues. If this is the man, did he do it? What prompted him? Why did he do it? Is he responsible?"

California law defines first degree murder — which carries the death penalty — as murder committed "with malice aforethought." If Mr. Parsons can show the crime was not premeditated, a jury might find Sirhan guilty of second degree murder, carrying a sentence of five years to life. If the attorney could prove lack of malice, it would open the door to a manslaughter conviction. The sentence for that is 1 to 5 years.

O
 KENSALT

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News 5 _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Daily World _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Examiner (Washington) _____

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED
 145 AUG 6 1968

Date AUG 3 1968

TOP CLIPPING
 DATED AUG 3, 1968
 FROM WASH. POST
 MARKED FILE AND INITIALED

51 AUG - 9 1968

Sirhan Pleads Not Guilty; Trial Nov. 1

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan has pleaded not guilty to a charge of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan entered the plea in a 22-minute court appearance yesterday, and Superior Court Judge Richard B. Schauer set the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant's trial for Nov. 1. Sirhan was ordered to return to his heavily fortified room in the Hall of Justice Oct. 4, when Schauer is to appoint a judge for the trial.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell B. Parsons, did not have his client enter a plea of "not guilty by reason of insanity" as many observers had expected. However, the attorney kept open his option to offer such a plea at a later time.

In a news conference after the hearing, Parsons indicated he will try to show Sirhan was not guilty of premeditation of malice in shooting the senator on the night Kennedy's victory in the California presidential primary.

"This defense will permit us to show the what and why of the case," the attorney said. "Those are the real issues. If this is the man, did he do it? What prompted him? Why did he do it? Is he responsible?"

California law defines first degree murder — which carries the death penalty — as murder committed "with malice aforethought."

If Parsons can show the crime was not premeditated, a jury might find Sirhan guilty of second-degree murder, carrying a sentence of five years to life. If the attorney could prove lack of malice, it would open the door to a manslaughter conviction. The sentence for that is 1 to 5 years.

Sirhan's mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, and his three brothers, Adel, Sharif and Saidallah were present in the courtroom yesterday.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

O
KENSALT

The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) A-5
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Examiner (Washington) _____

Date _____
AUG 3 1968
62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
145 AUG 6 1968

TOP CLIPPING
DATED AUG 3, 1968
FROM WASH. POST
MARKED FILE AND INITIALED

51 AUG - 9 1968

Innocence Plea Filed By Sirhan

By Ron Einstoss
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 2—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan pleaded not guilty today to murder in the June 5 slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A trial date of Nov. 1 was set by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Although Sirhan entered a plea of innocence, it does not necessarily mean he is denying his guilt.

He is charged with murder, with malice aforethought.

A guilty plea would have been an admission of first-degree murder—a wilful, deliberate and premeditated killing, with malice aforethought—which carries the death penalty or life in prison.

The only way for a defendant to have a determination made of the degree of murder—unless he specifically is charged with second-degree or manslaughter—is to be tried, either by a jury or a judge sitting without a jury.

This apparently is what Sirhan, in the face of seemingly weighty eyewitness and circumstantial evidence against him, did.

At a news conference that followed the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant's appearance in court, Russell E. Parsons, Sirhan's attorney, seemed to confirm this when he said:

"I haven't seen any evidence yet that he (Sirhan) had any malice."

Parsons also said a not guilty plea "permits us to show the what and why what are the real issues."

of the man, why did he do it?

Sirhan, as had been anticipated, chose not to enter a double plea of guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity. This case has required three trials. First, to determine whether he was guilty and the degree of guilt. A second, if convicted of first-degree murder, to determine the penalty and a final hearing (if convicted) to determine his sanity.

Parsons still could later (before the trial) legally add a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

The veteran defense attorney explained out of court that by pleading not guilty, it does not mean that two court-appointed psychiatrists found that his client was legally sane.

However, he added that he has never entered only a single plea of not guilty when psychiatrists unanimously said a client of his was legally insane.

If the prosecution is successful in showing that Sirhan fired the fatal shot, Parsons can seek to lower the degree of murder from first degree by:

1—Putting on evidence that the crime was not deliberate, or premeditated, which would make it second degree (punishable by five years to life in prison) or that there was no malice that would make it manslaughter (a maximum of 15 years in prison).

2—Invoking the defense of diminished capacity, also known as partial insanity.

In using the latter defense Parsons would be attempting to show through psychiatric evidence that because of some mental disease or defect Sirhan could not form the specific intent, malice, and premeditation required for the conviction of first-degree murder.

This defense does not result in an exoneration, only in a reduction of the degree (to second or manslaughter), depending on the extent to which mental disease can be shown.

Sirhan, appearing in court for the fifth time, also pleaded not guilty to feloniously assaulting five other persons wounded during the election night shooting spree at the Ambassador Hotel.

Judge Schauer withheld until Oct. 4 the naming of a judge to preside over the case.

At times, Sirhan held Parsons' hand. At the news conference, Parsons explained that his client did so because "he relies on me... looks on me as an adviser. He took my hand and held it. Sometimes he even gets on his knees and talks to me."

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

KENSALT

FILE
6-405

The Washington Post Times Herald A-1
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Daily World _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Examiner (Washington) _____

Date AUG 3 1968

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED
145 AUG 6 1968



Associated Press

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan listens to his attorney, Russell E. Parsons, as they leave Superior Court in Los Angeles, where

Sirhan pleaded not guilty to the charge of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. A trial date was set for Nov. 1.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. DeLoach _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Bishop _____
 Mr. Casper _____
 Mr. Callahan _____
 Mr. Conrad _____
 Mr. Felt _____
 Mr. Gale _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Sullivan _____
 Mr. Tavel _____
 Mr. Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Miss Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

Younger Asks More Freedom Of Speech in Sirhan Case

District Attorney Evelle Younger's office today will request that more freedom of speech be given those involved in the Sirhan B. Sirhan investigation.

Sirhan, 24, is accused as the slayer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and the wounding of five others. He appeared in a heavily guarded courtroom this morning to plead his innocence or guilt.

The motion, to be filed by Younger's office at the hearing, seeks to void or modify a court order issued June 7, at Sirhan's first Superior Court appearance. That order, issued by Superior Court Judge Arthur L. Alarcon, specified that no one remotely connected with the case or having knowledge of the investigation

could make public statements concerning the matter.

The newest motion, signed by Younger, states "The prosecution initiates this argument to advocate, as important and paramount, the right of fair disclosure."

A particularly pointed paragraph in the proposed change authorizes law enforcement agencies the right to discredit people who might attempt to contend they are integral parts of the case; when in fact they are merely seeking publicity or notoriety.

"The right of free speech is a means...and free press is a necessity...both vital, viable, and inseparable to the public interest," Younger said.

The district attorney said the order "is in violation of the

(U.S.) Constitutional guarantee of free speech and indirectly violates the constitutional right of freedom of the press."

The eleven-page brief claims Alarcon's "order assumes any comment must be prejudicial."

"A court must have real and substantial reasons to justify any abridgement of Constitutional guarantees," the brief adds.

Another challenge brought forth by Younger is that this order is violative of sound public policy because it keeps from the public theories the public has a right to know.

The motion quotes the State Constitution: "Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for those rights."

In a four-page brief already filed with Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer, who will hear the motion, defense attorney Russell B. Parsons unequivocally opposes any modification or revocation of the June 7 order.

Parsons states: "The defendant is about to enter a plea."

"This is the third killing of a prominent person in recent

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 Herald-Examiner
—Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/2/68
 Edition: 8 Star
 Author:
 Editor: Donald Goodenow
 Title:

Kensalt

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED

46 AUG 14 1968

FILE
6-11-68

57 AUG 15 1968

times in the United States,
Namely:

"A President of the United States.

"His brother (Robert F. Kennedy), a U. S. Senator while seeking to be elected president of the U. S." Parsons underscored the words "his brother."

The third person mentioned is "Mr. Martin Luther King, a controversial man and receiver of the peace medal or prize."

Parsons points to unusual precautions to protect the defendant and quotes a member of Younger's staff as saying "that in this (Sirhan) case we will seek the death penalty," and he contends "this alone could prejudice the case."

In lieu of accepting Parsons' objections and in place of full revocation of the order, Younger has offered an alternative. In a three-page proposal Younger seeks to have the court order read:

"There is presently existing a broad, inclusive order of this court directed toward all parties remotely connected with this case and directing said parties to refrain from making any statements relevant to this case with minor enumerated exceptions.

"There is in this order no statement of foundational fact necessitating the order, other than the conclusion that any publicity may result in prejudice to the right of a fair trial."

"After the issuance of the order on June 7, a review of the publicity attending this case failed to demonstrate a necessity for such an order."

"In the alternative, the district attorney respectfully requests that the court consider a modification of the existing order by removing impartial, improperly designated persons and further limiting the categories of prohibited statements."

Younger's proposed order will be taken under consideration by Superior Court Judge Schauer.

Tolson
 DeLoach
 Mohr
 Bishop
 Casper
 Callahan
 Conrad
 Felt
 Gale
 Rosen
 Sullivan
 Tavel
 Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Holmes
 Gandy

Sirhan Pleads Not Guilty, Trial Is Set for Nov. 4

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan pleaded not guilty today to a charge he murdered Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. His trial was set for Nov. 1.

The 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant said only 10 words during a 22-minute hearing in denying his guilt and approving a trial date later than guaranteed by his constitutional right for a "speedy trial" within 60 days after arraignment.

Sirhan also pleaded not guilty to five counts of assault with intent to commit murder. Five bystanders were shot June 5 when Kennedy was fatally wounded after winning the California Democratic presidential primary. They have recovered.

Two previous hearings for plea were continued pending psychiatric examination by two defense experts.

Sirhan wore an open-necked, button-down light blue shirt and dark slacks for his appearance today in a heavily guarded courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice. His mother and three brothers, Adel, Sharif and Saidallah, were in the small spectator section.

His attorney, Russell E. Parsons, asked for a trial date no sooner than Nov. 1, saying an attorney who will assist him is involved in another case.

Superior Court Judge Richard A. Schauer said he will name a trial judge Oct. 4.

Sirhan then was returned to his cell, only steps from the courtroom.

Earlier, the judge refused a request from Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger to modify an order sharply restricting public statements about the case by public officials, attorney and witness.

Younger argued that "where it is possible, we believe that people should know as much as possible about what their government is doing."

The Washington Post
 Times Herald
 The Washington Daily News
 The Evening Star (Washington)
 The Sunday Star (Washington)
 Daily News (New York)
 Sunday News (New York)
 New York Post
 The New York Times
 The Sun (Baltimore)
 The Daily World
 The New Leader
 The Wall Street Journal
 The National Observer
 People's World
 Examiner (Washington)

Date AUG 2 1968

62-587-A
 NOT RECORDED
 145 AUG 6 1968

54 AUG - 9 1968

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

FILE

6-10-68

Stacy

Kennedy

UPI-88

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN ENTERED A STRAIGHT PLEA OF INNOCENT TODAY TO THE MURDER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, WHOSE FATAL SHOOTING TOOK PLACE IN THE PRESENCE OF DOZENS OF EYE WITNESSES.

CALM AND AT TIMES SMILING, THE 24-YEAR-OLD SIRHAN REPLIED IN A CLEAR AND FIRM VOICE, "NOT GUILTY," WHEN HE WAS ASKED HOW HE PLEADED TO THE SLAYING OF THE BROTHER OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER SET THE TRIAL DATE FOR FRIDAY, NOV. 1.

AFTER SIRHAN ENTERED HIS PLEA OF INNOCENT, JUDGE SCHAUER ASKED IF THAT WERE THE ONLY PLEA AND DEFENSE ATTORNEY RUSSELL PARSONS SAID, "YES, YOUR HONOR."

TWO COURT-APPOINTED PSYCHIATRISTS HAD EXAMINED SIRHAN AND MADE THEIR FINDINGS AVAILABLE TO THE DEFENSE BUT PARSONS AND THE YOUNG JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT DECIDED AGAINST THE POSSIBLE PLEA OF INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

PARSONS ASKED THAT THE TRIAL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NOVEMBER SO THAT HE COULD TALK TO PROSPECTIVE WITNESSES "FROM THE OLD COUNTRY" AND ALSO TO AWAIT THE ENTRANCE OF ANOTHER ATTORNEY INTO THE CASE AS A CO-DEFENSE COUNSEL. HE DID NOT IDENTIFY THE SECOND ATTORNEY.

JUDGE SCHAUER ASKED SIRHAN IF HE WERE WILLING TO WAIVE HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO A SPEEDY TRIAL WITHIN 60 DAYS OF INDICTMENT.

SIRHAN ALSO PLEADED INNOCENT TO ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON CHARGES IN CONNECTION WITH THE WOUNDING OF FIVE OTHER PERSONS WHEN THE SENATOR WAS SHOT JUNE 5.

SIRHAN WHISPERED BRIEFLY WITH PARSONS AND THEN SAID, "WE WAIVE THAT RIGHT."

61-587-A

NOT RECORDED

145 AUG 6 1968

51 AUG - 8 1968

"DO YOU PERSONALLY GIVE UP THAT RIGHT?" SCHAUER ASKED.

"YES SIR," SIRHAN SAID.

THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN WAS DRESSED IN A LIGHT BLUE BUTTON-DOWN SHIRT OPEN AT THE COLLAR WITH BLACK TROUSERS AND HE MOVED QUICKLY AND SPRITELY TO HIS CHAIR SHOWING NO SIGNS OF THE ANKLE INJURY THAT HAD MARKED HIS PREVIOUS APPEARANCES.

HIS MOTHER, MRS. MARY SIRHAN AND THREE OF HIS BROTHERS, ADEL, SHARIF, AND SAIDALLAH, WERE ESCORTED INTO THE COURTROOM BY DETECTIVES ABOUT 40 MINUTES BEFORE THE HEARING BEGAN. THEY SAT AGAINST A WHITE-PAINTED BRICK WALL AT THE SIDE OF THE FORTRESS-LIKE COURTROOM WHOSE WINDOWS WERE SHIELDED WITH ARMOR PLATE.

JUDGE SCHAUER DENIED A MOTION ON THE PART OF DIST. ATTY. EVELLE YOUNGER TO MODIFY OR RULE OUT A PREVIOUS COURT ORDER RESTRICTING STATEMENTS ON THE CASE BY OFFICIALS INVOLVED.

WITH A SIMPLE PLEA OF INNOCENT, CALIFORNIA LAW PERMITS AN ARGUMENT OF "DIMINISHED CAPACITY" OF MENTAL FACULTIES WHICH, WHILE NOT SUFFICIENT FOR ACQUITTAL, COULD AFFECT THE DEGREE OF THE OFFENSE AND SAVE THE TINY FORMER HORSE RACE EXERCISE BOY FROM THE GAS CHAMBER.

8/2--EG120PED

013 0540 04 1021105

11311

NO 2 15 333.11

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen ☒ _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

①
 "Kensalt"

0
 KENSALT

FILE

6-11-68

Schuyler

021A

SIRHAN 8/2 NX
 BY JACK V. FOX

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--DOZENS OF PERSONS WITNESSED THE JUNE 5 ASSASSINATION OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND SAW A GUN WRENCHED FROM THE HAND OF SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN MOMENTS LATER.

TODAY, THE SLENDER DEFENDANT WAS APPEARING IN COURT TO ANSWER THE CHARGE HE MURDERED KENNEDY, AND IT WAS ANTICIPATED HIS ATTORNEY WOULD PLEAD INNOCENT OR INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN-BORN SIRHAN WAS SUMMONED TO A MINI-FORTRESS COURTROOM ONLY 30 FEET FROM HIS CELL ON THE 13TH FLOOR OF THE HALL OF JUSTICE WHERE AMOR PLATE SHIELDS THE COURTROOM WINDOWS AND THE 80 NEWSMEN AND SPECTATORS ARE SEARCHED FOR WEAPONS.

SIRHAN WAS EXPECTED TO APPEAR AT 9 A.M. PDT (NOON EDT).

RUSSELL PARSONS, THE DEFENSE ATTORNEY, REVEALED THURSDAY THAT A PLEA HAD BEEN DECIDED UPON AND WOULD BE ENTERED TODAY.

ASKED IF SIRHAN CONCURRED IN THE PLEA, PARSONS SAID:

"OH, YES. I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT HIS APPROVAL."

KENNEDY WAS FATALLY WOUNDED SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT IN A PANTRY OF THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL MOMENTS AFTER A JUBILANT CELEBRATION OF HIS VICTORY IN THE CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY, WITH HIS WIFE AT HIS SIDE. ONE OF THE THREE BULLETS PENETRATED HIS BRAIN AND HE DIED 25 1/2 HOURS LATER.

SIRHAN HAD THE OPTION OF PLEADING GUILTY, INNOCENT, INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY--OR A DOUBLE PLEA OF INNOCENT AND INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

"SOME OF MY ASSOCIATES--THEY'RE IN FAVOR OF TWO PLEAS," PARSONS COMMENTED. "BUT I DON'T LIKE TO ENTER A PLEA JUST FOR PROTECTION."

PARSONS STATEMENT WAS GENERALLY TAKEN TO MEAN SIRHAN'S DEFENSE WOULD BE INNOCENT OR INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

IF HE SHOULD PLEAD SIMPLY INNOCENT, CALIFORNIA LAW PERMITS AN ARGUMENT OF "DIMINISHED CAPACITY" OF MENTAL FACULTIES WHICH, WHILE NOT SUFFICIENT FOR ACQUITTAL, COULD AFFECT THE DEGREE OF THE OFFENSE AND SAVE THE TINY FORMER HORSE RACE EXERCISE BOY FROM THE GAS CHAMBER.

LATE THURSDAY, PARSONS FILED A LEGAL BRIEF OPPOSING MODIFICATION OF A SWEEPING COURT ORDER PROHIBITING EXTRA-JUDICIAL STATEMENTS BY PERSONS CONNECTED WITH THE CASE.

AT SIRHAN'S LAST COURT APPEARANCE, DIST. ATTY. EVELLE YOUNGER SAID HE WILL SEEK EITHER REVOCATION OR MODIFICATION OF THE "ORDER OF PUBLICITY" ISSUED BY SUPERIOR JUDGE ARTHUR L. ALACRON THE DAY SIRHAN WAS INDICTED. THE ORDER HAD THE EFFECT OF CLAMPING A VIRTUAL NEWS BLACKOUT ON THE CASE.

PARSONS' BRIEF SAID THE KENNEDY CASE IS THE "THIRD KILLING OF PROMINENT PERSONS IN RECENT TIMES IN THE U.S." HE LISTED THE OTHERS AS THE SLAYINGS OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

CITING THE "WIDESPREAD INTEREST" IN THE CURRENT CASE BY THE NEWS MEDIA, PARSONS SAID, "RECENTLY, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THIS COUNTY WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT 'IN THIS CASE WE WILL SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY.'"

"THIS ALONE COULD WELL PREJUDICE THIS CASE," PARSONS SAID, FOR IT IMPARTS MANY THINGS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE WIDESPREAD DISCUSSION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN CALIFORNIA AND THE FACT THAT ITS VALIDITY IS HENDING BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA AND OTHER COURTS."

AFTER THE PLEA, SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER WAS EXPECTED TO SET A TRIAL DATE. PARSONS HAS SAID HE WILL SEEK TO HAVE THE TRIAL HELD BACK UNTIL NOVEMBER WHEN THE ELECTION IS OVER. THE ATTORNEY SAID HE WOULD NOT ASK A CHANGE OF VENUE.

"HE CAN GET AS FAIR A TRIAL HERE AS IN CARIBOU, MAINE," HE SAID.

FM356AED

Tolson
 DeLoach
 Mohr
 Bishop
 Casper
 Callahan
 Conrad
 Felt
 Gale
 Rosen
 Sullivan
 Tavel
 Trotter
 Tele. Room
 Holmes
 Gandy

Kensart

five

0
KENSART

6-14 *5/14/68*

UPI-155

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--"I THINK WE'LL BE READY TO PLEAD FRIDAY," SAYS RUSSELL E. PARSONS, ATTORNEY FOR SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, THE 24-YEAR-OLD NATIVE OF JORDAN ACCUSED OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

PARSONS SAID TUESDAY THAT THE PLEA TO BE SUBMITTED FOR SIRHAN STILL HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED BECAUSE HE IS AWAITING RECEIPT OF A SECOND PSYCHIATRIC REPORT ON THE SUSPECT.

THE ATTORNEY ADDED THAT ONCE THE DECISION ON THE PLEA HAS BEEN REACHED, HE DOES NOT EXPECT TO MAKE IT PUBLIC.

"I DON'T THINK I SHOULD," PARSONS SAID. "WE'LL ANNOUNCE IT IN COURT WHEN OUR CASE IS CALLED."

PARSONS SAID ONE OF THE PSYCHIATRISTS WHO EXAMINED SIRHAN HAS BEEN OUT OF TOWN AND HIS FINDING WON'T BE AVAILABLE UNTIL LATER IN THE WEEK.

"WE DON'T NEED IT AT THIS POINT TO PLEAD," PARSONS SAID. HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT THE SECOND PSYCHIATRIST'S FINDING WOULD BE "HELPFUL."

7/31--TS407PED

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED
 145 AUG 1 1968

F49
 56 AUG 2 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. DeLoach.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Bishop.....
Mr. Casper.....
Mr. Callahan.....
Mr. Conrad.....
Mr. Felt.....
Mr. Gale.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sullivan.....
Mr. Tavel.....
Mr. Trotter.....
Tele. Room.....
Miss Holmes.....
Miss Gandy.....

Cost of Holding Sirhan

According to the newspaper the cost of holding Sirhan has amounted to over \$219,000 and inasmuch that the taxpayers have to foot the bill maybe The Times could obtain and publish an itemized statement as to how this money was spent.

I am sure that the rooms at the local jail are quite reasonable, meals included.

Sirhan could stay at one of the finest hotels for a year for a lot less than the amount spent to-date.

IVOR STEWART
Los Angeles

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has said he obtained an accounting from the county auditor that disclosed that \$210,629 had been spent through July 7. The total cost, however, is deceptive. Some of the costs would occur for any prisoner under normal conditions. Others, including \$46,946 listed as "extraordinary expenditure" by the mechanical department, are misleading. Of the latter amount, \$20,000 for protective devices may never be spent in the event of a change of venue and \$11,000 for a kitchen and air-conditioning unit had been budgeted previously and would probably be spent even if there was no Sirhan case.—Ed.

FILE
6-10

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-4 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/25/68
Edition: Home
Author:
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
170 AUG 6 1968

59 AUG 8 - 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Curb on Photos of Kennedy's Body Asked

SACRAMENTO (UPI) —The State Senate was asked Saturday to forbid widespread exploitation of more than 300 pictures taken of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's body after his assassination.

The fact that the pictures were taken during the post-mortem and autopsy of the late New York Senator was disclosed during debate over a rider on a bill already approved by the State Assembly.

The bill was co-sponsored by Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh (D-Inglewood), chairman of the state's 174-member delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

The bill by Unruh and Assemblyman Frederick J. Bear (D-San Diego), originally contained provision only to forbid evidence obtained by electronic eavesdropping from being used in court trials in California.

But it was amended Friday afternoon — without a public announcement — to require a judge's order before anyone could obtain copies of the Kennedy pictures.

Sen. Donald L. Grunsky (R-Watsonville), GOP leader of the upper house, pressed for passage of the amended bill with the provision in it — and ran into opposition that prevented action Saturday.

On a roll call, the vote was 25 to 4 — two votes short of the necessary two-thirds majority, as a result, Grunsky asked the Senate to reconsider the bill again, possibly Monday.

He disclosed that more than 300 photographs were taken of the senator's body by Los Angeles County officials and said Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger may use some of them in the trial of Kennedy's accused assassin, Sirhan B. Sirhan.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

C-8 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/21/68
Edition: Final
Author:
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title:

KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

NOT RECORDED

46 JUL 31 1968

55 AUG 1 1968

Mr. Tolson.....
 Mr. DeLoach.....
 Mr. Mohr.....
 Mr. Bishop.....
 Mr. Casper.....
 Mr. Callahan.....
 Mr. Conrad.....
 Mr. Felt.....
 Mr. Gale.....
 Mr. Rosen.....
 Mr. Sullivan.....
 Mr. Tavel.....
 Mr. Trotter.....
 Tele. Room.....
 Miss Holmes.....
 Miss Gandy.....

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Fails in Bid for Sleeping Pills, Wins Delay on Plea

BY DIAL TORGERSON

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan sought unsuccessfully to make a deal with Superior Court Friday to get sleeping pills.

At a court convened deep within the Hall of Justice jail, the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was asked if he would agree to a waiver granting psychiatrists his ail medical records.

For the first time in four court appearances Sirhan gave more than brief yes and no replies.

"I have constantly been asking for sleeping pills," he said. "If they give me sleeping pills, I'll waive it."

His attorney, Russell E. Parsons, held a quick, whispered conference with Sirhan. Then he spoke for his client:

"Mr. Sirhan has agreed to waive," said.

Jail Physician's Duty

After Sirhan agreed to the waiver nothing further was said in court about sleeping pills. But, though the judge didn't agree to Sirhan's condition, Parsons said later he felt it was the jail physician's duty to see that the pill request was satisfied.

Sirhan was brought to court Friday for plea. A two-week continuance was granted at his lawyer's request.

The waiver of the traditional doctor-patient relationship — between Sirhan and County Jail physician Marcus Crahan — was needed to facilitate psychiatric and neurological examinations requested by Parsons.

His request that the plea hearing be continued until Aug. 2, to allow time for completion of doctors' reports, was granted by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Parsons would not say what plea he expected Sirhan to enter. But he hinted at a possible defense when he told newsmen after the hearing that he had once saved a convicted murderer from the gas chamber by contending that a head blow had rendered him legally insane.

In September, 1966, Sirhan, employed as an exercise boy at a race track, suffered a head injury in a fall from a horse. He later demanded and received state disability for the injury.

Parsons received the court's permission to have Sirhan examined by Dr. Roderick Richardson, a psychologist, and Dr. Edward Davis, a neurosurgeon authorized to make an encephalogram of Sirhan's brainwaves. Reports of two court-appointed psychiatrists are also pending.

At the same hearing, Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger filed notice his office was asking the court to vacate or modify Superior Judge Arthur L. Alarcon's June 7 order prohibiting persons with knowledge of the case from talking to news media.

Will Be Argued

That motion will be argued Aug. 2, in the same court where the Friday session was convened—a sheriff's briefing room on the 13th floor of the three-story jail facility atop the Hall of Justice.

A dozen sheriff's deputies stood around the room, intently watching an audience of 81, as the 18-minute hearing was conducted. They were under orders to eject immediately anyone who moved or stood up.

Windows of the room were blocked by sheets of quarter-inch armorplate. Extra guards stood at every entrance and exit of the 15-story structure. A sheriff's helicopter circled watchfully overhead.

Everyone admitted to the court was searched by sheriff's deputies before the session began. Deputies began searching spectators—who included Sirhan's brother, Adel, 29—two hours before the court session began at 9 a.m.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/20/68

Edition: Home

Author: Dial Torgerson

Editor: Nick B. Williams

Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

NOT RECORDED

46 JUL 31 1968

55 AUG 1 1968

Asked on Arrangements

Judge Schauer called "the matter of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan" before the prisoner was admitted, asking if either Parsons, for the defense, or Younger and Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton, for the prosecution, wished to comment on the makeshift circumstances of the court.

Neither side did.

"The bailiff will now please bring in the defendant," said Judge Schauer.

Sirhan, 24, stepped quickly in from a side door, having been brought 50 feet from his cell nearby. He was wearing a blue dress shirt, open at the collar over a white T-shirt; tight, dark trousers, and loafer-type shoes. He slightly needed a haircut. A shadow of heavy beard was visible despite what looked like a fairly recent shave.

He shook hands warmly with Parsons, a thin, elderly man in a black suit. Sirhan waved at his brother, neatly dressed in a conservative blue suit and sitting in a roped-off section of seats among high-ranking sheriff's officers at the front of the room.

'Are You Sirhan?'

"Are you Sirhan?" asked the judge.

"Yes sir," he said, briskly.

"Are you ready to plea?"

"Not yet," interjected Parsons, explaining that he had received only preliminary reports from one court-appointed psychiatrist and none from the second, and wanted the psychologist and the neurosurgeon to examine the prisoner.

The judge asked if all parties were agreeable to waiving the traditional privilege given matters between a doctor and a patient—in this case the jail doctor and Sirhan—so Dr. Crahan could tell examining doctors about Sirhan's behavior in jail.

Surprise to Parsons

It was then that Sirhan made his request for sleeping pills. It was, apparently, a surprise to Parsons. He explained to newsmen later:

"He said he wanted some sleeping pills," Parsons said. "He asked if the judge would kindly order doctors to give him some sleeping pills. He has not

been resting too well. I

don't rest too well myself. You wake up at 2 or 3 a.m. and think about things.

"The judge in effect made an order that reports of the jail doctor should be made available as asked."

Would Sirhan get the pills?

"It's the doctor's duty to see that this man is properly cared for," Parsons said.

Jurist Explains

"The court did not entertain the defendant's request for medication," Judge Schauer said later. "The court did not order any medication for the defendant nor could it do so, since that would be a function of the medical profession."

Has Sirhan been refused sleeping pills—and would he get any now? Officials of the jail medical facility declined comment, referring questions to the Sheriff's Information Bureau, which said it couldn't reply because of the court order made by Judge Alarcon.

Younger said he hopes that the order would be vacated.

"It's too restrictive," said Younger to a newsman later. "We're not anxious to have a precedent established where we could be muzzled like that, far beyond what we consider logical and proper."

"Ninety-nine per cent of the area covered we don't make any comment about, anyway. We don't normally comment about the guilt or innocence of a party, or about evidence. But, beyond that, we think the public interest demands more—the answers to certain questions."

Cites Examples

Questions such as, "Is there any evidence of a conspiracy? Is there a foreign government involved? Is there a plot on behalf of an extremist group?"

"Suppose it was widely rumored that the killing of Sen. Kennedy was done as an assassination hired by Nasser (president of the Republic of Egypt)? I think it would be best to answer this question. Under the court order I am unable to reply."

Security measures more intense than any seen before in the Hall of Justice were ordered for the protection of the Jordanian-born defendant, subject since the June 5 shooting of Sen. Kennedy of countless anonymous threats against his life.

"The family is quite satisfied with the security arrangements," said Adel Sirhan, looking around the heavily guarded room after the hearing. He was brought from the Sirhans' Pasadena home by Pasadena detective Ben Hetherington and Michael McGowan, Parsons' investigator.

"The sheriff's department has been very cooperative in letting us come to see him," Adel said. Had Sirhan discussed with Adel his problems about sleeping? "It could be," said Adel.

Constant Guard

Sirhan is under round-the-clock guard, an officer with him at all times in the 6-by-8-foot cell. Guards are changed every 30 or 40 minutes, Sheriff Peter Pitchess said earlier this week.

Parsons said that Sirhan's mother, Mary, often visits him—and that they pray together.

The attorney said that

in his cell, "Sirnan reads constantly. He's a constant student, a deep reader." He prefers books by and about great men, including Mohandas K. Gandhi, the Indian apostle of nonviolence, who was himself assassinated in 1948.

In reviewing the importance of a full study of Sirnan's mental compe-

tence, Parsons cited the case of Darryl Thomas Kemp, convicted and sentenced to die in 1959 for the 1957 rape-murder of a nurse, Marjorie Hipper-son, in a Los Feliz-area apartment.

Parsons, an attorney with a long string of appeals victories to his credit, took the case after the conviction and won

Kemp a stay of execution, a sanity hearing, and, finally, his life.

"Kemp was to be executed," Parsons said, "but what his mother said was found to be true—he had been injured playing football. As a result we had a jury trial in Marin County and they found him presently insane. He's now in a state insane asylum."



AFTER THE HEARING—Sirhan B. Sirhan stands with his attorney, Russell B. Parsons, before deputies

return him to his cell after a hearing in a heavily guarded courtroom in the Hall of Justice.
Times photo by John Mairlin

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

SIRHAN GIVEN TWO WEEKS TO COMPLETE MENTAL TESTS

Pre-trial proceedings for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan have been delayed for two weeks to allow time for completion of additional psychiatric and

brain damage tests of the 24-year-old, Jordanian immigrant, accused as the assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan made an 18-minute appearance in an armor-plated, heavily guarded special courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice.

He listened with bird-like alertness and at one point asked Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer if he could have sleeping pills "because I haven't been resting too well."

Judge Schauer granted a

two-week continuance in the case until Aug. 2, at the request of defense counsel Russell Parsons.

Extensive mental tests being given Sirhan support reports he may eventually enter a dual plea of not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity.

The court also granted permission for a psychologist, Roderick Richardson, and a neurologist, Dr. Edward Davis, to examine Sirhan in his isolated cell on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice.

Parsons told the judge he has received only two preliminary reports from court-appointed psychiatrist Dr. Eric Marcus. H said no report has been submitted by Dr. George Abe of Norwalk State Hospital who was appointed three weeks ago.

Yesterday marked the second time Sirhan has appeared in court under heavy guard and failed to enter a plea in connection with the assassination which occurred on the night of the California presidential primary.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. DeLoach.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Bishop.....
Mr. Casper.....
Mr. Callahan.....
Mr. Conrad.....
Mr. Felt.....
Mr. Gale.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sullivan.....
Mr. Tavel.....
Mr. Trotter.....
Tele. Room.....
Miss Holmes.....
Miss Gandy.....

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

B-8 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/20/68
Edition: 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

NOT RECORDED

46 JUL 31 1968

55 AUG 1 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

COST OF ASSASSINATION TRIAL DISCUSSED**Police to Quiz 4,000 on Sirhan,
Yorty Says****BY ERWIN BAKER**
Times Staff Writer

Police expect to conduct about 4,000 interviews in an effort to "run down every possible lead" in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, Mayor Sam Yorty disclosed Wednesday.

Yorty made the disclosure at his weekly news conference in commenting on the cost involved in the upcoming trial of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

The 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant is scheduled to enter his plea to a murder indictment Friday.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn announced last week that County Auditor Mark Bloodgood had budgeted \$210,629 through July 7 in connection with the case.

Some officials, however, consider the figure deceptively high because of costs which would normally be attributed to any prisoner. Yorty noted that the county figure did not include police investigation.

The city outlay has not yet been tabulated, but "it will be a very large figure," the mayor said, adding that the money will come from the taxpayers.

In answer to a question, Yorty said he was "satisfied" that Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess would maintain "adequate" security during Sirhan's court appearances.

On other subjects, the mayor chided Councilman Ernani-Bernardi for his opposition to an annual city birthday fiesta.

And he said he hasn't made up his mind on the renewal of a controversial contract for golf professional Richard Boggs, the driving range concessionaire at Sepulveda Basin Golf Course in the San Fernando Valley.

Bernardi blasted the birthday celebrations Monday as "a lot of malarkey and a waste of money."

He suggested that they be held periodically or every decade.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-3 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/18/68
Edition: Home
Author: Erwin Baker
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

NOT RECORDED

46 JUL 31 1968

55 AUG 1 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

A Look at Sirhan

Courtroom

Sirhan B. Sirhan, 25, accused as the assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, will make another court appearance Friday in the smallest courtroom in Los Angeles County—but the most unusual.

The miniaturized courtroom was previewed yesterday to the press and others on the 13th floor of the County Jail in the Hall of Justice.

It was built especially for the Sirhan proceedings, with his safety the prime concern. The area is part of the old women's quarters in County Jail, now adapted to court purposes.

On entering, it has the general appearance of a courtroom, but is only 46 by 50 feet. The

ceiling is low, lit by fluorescent lighting. The floor is brown asphalt tile, and the walls and ceiling are freshly painted in off white.

The judge's bench is raised two steps off the floor. There is no witness box. Two mahogany tables for lawyers and the defendant are before the bench. Five padded chairs line the tables.

There are 80 collapsible chairs for spectators, and behind a rope divider, 23 more for court officials and guards. The room is air conditioned, and microphones are hooked to an amplifying system on the judge's bench and counsel table. Behind the judge are floor to

ceiling drapes, in beige burlap. They stand out strangely from the wall. Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess, responsible for the safety and welfare of Sirhan, pulls the drapes and reveals three quarter-inch steel plates, each six feet wide and 7½ feet in height.

"This is an outside room with windows, looking down on the street," he explains. "The plates are for protection, so nothing can be thrown in, like explosives, or a bomb."

Sirhan technically is to appear Friday to enter a plea to a charge of murdering Senator Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel last June 5. Whether he asks a further delay for further psychiatric studies, or other legal reasons, will not be known until then.

The slight, former racehorse exercise boy is held under intensive guard in a cell only about 50 feet from the courtroom. One deputy sits with him in his cell, others watch them from outside.

Sheriff Pitchess says Sirhan has been a quiet prisoner, reading considerably, and sometimes trying to engage his guards in conversation. They respond briefly, but do not converse.

He buys newspapers and paperback books from the jail cart, but has made no unusual demands, and talks at length only with his attorney, Russell E. Parsons.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. DeLoach.....
Mr. Mohr.....
Mr. Bishop.....
Mr. Casper.....
Mr. Callahan.....
Mr. Conrad.....
Mr. Felt.....
Mr. Gale.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sullivan.....
Mr. Tavel.....
Mr. Trotter.....
Tele. Room.....
Miss Holmes.....
Miss Gandy.....

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/17/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

55 AUG 1 1968

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
46 JUL 31 1968



erce on'

ected to rise, Allied
n said. They said A
South Vietnamese
s were eight killed
unded.

The civilian prisoner
ed in a Communist
miles southwest of
t also included a
pensary, the spokesm
they apparently were f
the defenders yeste
eir scramble to esca
arging government
acked by air strik
illery.

The government sol
orted killing 63 Red t
e battle at the compl
ffering three wounde
elves.

In another action a
st force was pinne
long a river in a l

SHERIFF PETER PITCHESS EXPLAINS SIRHAN TRIAL RULES IN FORTIFIED COURT
Between a window and the judge's bench is steel plate which would foil any shooting or bomb-throw

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Impregnable Court Ready for Sirhan, Pitchess Asserts

BY DIAL TORGERSON

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will appear Friday in a court so well defended "someone would have to destroy the entire building to get him," Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess said Tuesday.

A sheriff's briefing room high in the 15-floor Hall of Justice in the Civic Center will be the scene of the Friday hearing, at which Sirhan is to enter a plea.

Panels of armor plate have been placed across windows of the 50-by-46-foot room on the 13th floor to assure the safety of the man accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Pitchess showed the facility to newsmen Tuesday in a preview of the Friday hearing and told of precautions taken for the session:

—Everyone present for the hearing, including more than 40 newsmen and about 30 spectators, will be searched before being allowed in the

No Loss of Security

—Sirhan, held in a 6-by-8-foot cell 50 feet away, will be taken down a corridor and into the court without having to leave the maximum security facilities of the 13th floor.

—The armor in front of the windows will protect the room in case "anyone tries to throw anything in the window," Pitchess said.

Pitchess said that the room was set up as a court—with a judge's bench and counsel tables—only for the plea hearing. He said it would be up to the judge appointed to hear the case where the trial itself will be held.

The sheriff said that security precautions and the redecorating of the room had been planned prior to the Sirhan case.

The room was once a visiting room for the women's quarters of the old County Jail. After women inmates were moved out in 1965 it was used as a storeroom and then refurbished as a squad room for briefing of sheriff's personnel assigned to the Hall of Justice.

Sirhan is in a five-cell block of units in which he is at present the only prisoner. A guard is with him in his cell at all times and another watches him from outside the bars. His food is provided from a separate kitchenette-type facility to protect him from being poisoned.

"He gets the same (menu) as the main line (the regular inmate population)," said Pitchess. "We don't want anyone attempting to poison the entire population to get him."

Most of the threats against Sirhan have been dismissed as the work of cranks, the sheriff said.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

FILE
6-11-68

Date: 7/17/68
Edition: Home
Author: Dial Torgerson
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or
Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A-
NOT RECORDED
176 JUL 31 1968



HEARING ROOM FOR SIRHAN—Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess, showing newsmen the room in the Hall of Justice where Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will appear on

Friday, points to chairs at end of table that will be occupied by Sirhan and his lawyer. Behind Pitchess and judge's chair is armor plate covering window.
Times photo by John Malmin

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen ☒ _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Safe

Kensalt

File
6-11

A-3
**Prosecutor
 To Ask Death
 For Sirhan**

LOS ANGELES, July 16 (UPI)—The District Attorney's office plans to seek the death penalty for Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A spokesman also disclosed the possibility of a conspiracy was still being considered in the fatal shooting of Kennedy, moments after he claimed victory in the California Democratic presidential primary.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lynn D. Compton, head of the three-man prosecution team, said he is preparing the case against Sirhan "with the idea of seeking the death penalty under the theory of first-degree murder which includes premeditation."

Compton refused to say what evidence, if any, had been uncovered that would indicate a conspiracy was responsible for the shooting last June 5 at the Ambassador Hotel.

Sirhan is scheduled to enter a plea Friday when his preliminary hearing is to be resumed. Defense attorney Russell E. Parsons has refused to disclose the plea to be entered by the 24-year-old Jordanian.

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald *A-3* _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____

Date *7-17-68*

62-587-A
 NOT RECORDED
 170 JUL 22 1968

57 JUL 23 1968

Tolson ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Bishop ☒
 Casper ☐
 Callahan ☐
 Conrad ☐
 Felt ☒
 Gale ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☐
 Tavel ☐
 Trotter ☐
 Tele. Room ☐
 Holmes ☐
 Gandy ☐

DEATH TO BE SOUGHT IN TRIAL OF SIRHAN

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, July 15—

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office confirmed today that it would seek the death penalty against Sirhan B. Sirhan, who is accused of assassinating Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

The 24-year-old Jordanian is scheduled to appear in court Friday, in the third installment of his arraignment proceeding. He had entered his plea, although there is a possibility that a further continuance may be sought by his lawyer, Russell E. Parsons, on the ground that another lawyer, as yet unidentified, has joined the defense.

Sirhan's plea, could be not guilty, not guilty by reason of insanity, or a dual plea of both—as well as a possible guilty plea.

Sirhan is charged with first-degree murder, and five counts of assault with intent to murder. The murder charge carries a possible death penalty, or life imprisonment, with a possibility of release in as little as seven years.

A jury that finds a murder defendant guilty then goes through a second proceeding to set the penalty. A death penalty can be reduced by the presiding judge.

Sirhan could waive a jury trial, and rest his case with the judge, but only at the option of the judge and the prosecution, which is considered unlikely.

Kensalt

Schultz

FILE
6-11-68

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times 26 _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____

Date JUL 16 1968

62-587-A
 NOT RECORDED
 170 JUL 22 1968

57 JUL 23 1968

✓ *Report*
 Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop *BH* _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen *RS* _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

6-11-68
FILE

305A

SIRHAN 7/16 NX
BY JOAN SWEENEY

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--THE SHERIFF TUESDAY UNVEILED THE 13TH-FLOOR "MINI-FORTRESS" COURTROOM WHERE SIRHAN B. SIRHAN IS SCHEDULED TO ENTER A PLEA FRIDAY TO THE CHARGE OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

IT WILL BE SIRHAN'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE MAKESHIFT COURTROOM IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE TO WHICH THE JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT WAS TRANSFERRED NINE DAYS AGO FROM THE MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL.

HIS CELL IS ONLY 40 FEET FROM THE ROOM, WHICH WAS ONCE PART OF THE WOMEN'S SECTION OF THE JAIL AND LATER SERVED AS A STOREROOM. TWO PREVIOUS COURT APPEARANCES OF SIRHAN THAT WERE WITNESSED BY THE PRESS WERE HELD IN THE CHAPEL OF THE CENTRAL JAIL.

SIRHAN WAS FORMALLY INDICTED FRIDAY JUNE 7 BY THE COUNTY GRAND JURY AND BROUGHT INTO THE CHAPEL-COURTROOM FOR ARRAIGNMENT IN A WHEELCHAIR BECAUSE OF AN ANKLE SPRAINED IN A STRUGGLE WITH HIS CAPTORS MOMENTS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SHOT.

THE DEFENDANT ASKED A DELAY UNTIL JUNE 28 TO ENTER A PLEA, THEN OBTAINED A THREE-WEEK CONTINUANCE UNTIL JULY 19 ON THAT DATE BECAUSE OF A SWITCH IN COUNSEL FROM THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE TO A PRIVATE ATTORNEY.

IN PREVIEWING THE COURTROOM TO THE PRESS, SHERIFF PETER PITCHESS SAID, "THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THIS CONFERENCE WAS TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE SO-CALLED MINI-FORTRESS SOME OF YOU HAVE DESCRIBED. WE WANT TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE ROOM SO THERE IS NO MYSTERY AS TO ITS LOCATION OR WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE."

THE NEW COURTROOM IS MUCH SMALLER, 46 BY 50 FEET, THAN THE CHAPEL. THREE LARGE ARMOR PLATES BLOCK THE WINDOWS THAT LOOK OUT ON A BUSY DOWNTOWN STREET. THE PLATES, ONE-FOURTH INCH THICK STEEL WHICH MEASURES 6 BY 7 FEET, 7 INCHES, ARE BEHIND THE JUDGE'S PLYWOOD ENCLOSED AREA AND ARE HIDDEN FROM VIEW BY BEIGE DRAPES WHICH ARE DRAWN ACROSS THE ENTIRE WALL. THE WALLS OF THE ROOM ARE WHITE BRICK, AND IT HAS FOLDING CHAIRS FOR ABOUT 80 SPECTATORS.

THE HEAVY SECURITY PRECAUTIONS WERE IN KEEPING WITH THOSE WHICH HAVE SURROUNDED SIRHAN SINCE HE WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY EARLY JUNE 5, MOMENTS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SHOT DOWN IN A PANTRY AREA OF THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL.

62-587-A

NOT RECORDED

170 JUL 22 1968

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

57 JUL 23 1968

6-11-68

PITCHESS SAID THE NUMBER OF DEATH THREATS RECEIVED AGAINST SIRHAN HAD DROPPED:

"WE'RE STILL GETTING THEM BUT NOT IN AS LARGE A VOLUME AS WE GOT THEM ORIGINALLY."

HE SAID THAT WITH THE SECURITY REINFORCEMENTS PROVIDED FOR SIRHAN IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO VIRTUALLY DESTROY THE 15-FLOOR HALL OF JUSTICE TO GET "AT THIS COURTROOM."

IT IS NOT KNOWN YET WHETHER THIS ROOM MIGHT BE USED FOR THE TRIAL OF SIRHAN, PITCHESS SAID. HE SAID THE DECISION WAS UP TO THE PRESIDING AND TRIAL JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED IT PLANS TO SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY FOR SIRHAN IN THE FATAL SHOOTING OF KENNEDY, A DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDER.

(MR)1126PED

Sirhan Must Enter His Plea Friday

By Gene Handsaker

LOS ANGELES, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ding-ding-ding-ding from electric gongs on corridor walls awakens Prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 a.m.

A small figure, under-wear-clad, rises from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, starts another day of—

- Confinement with a guard in a 6-by-8 foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimed, 15-story Hall of Justice.

- Wearing standard Los Angeles County jail garb, blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L.A. Co. Jail," his name and booking number on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

- Reading newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

- Pacing a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

- Eating candy bars . . . smoking cigars . . . hoping for visitors . . . and, mostly, just waiting to be taken to an improvised 13th floor courtroom next Friday to plead guilty or not guilty.

His cell furnishings are standard: toilet-coverless because a seat could be ripped off and used as a weapon; wash basin and round metal mirror attached to the wall.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, calls him "a reader and a loner . . . a man who could spend a lot of his life alone."

Paradoxically, despite the capacity 1834 prisoners around him on the top five floors — accused robbers, burglars, forgers, rapists, etc.—Sirhan already is largely alone. His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates.

The guard in his cell is one of 19 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy, bushy-haired young man who stands 5 feet 3 and weighs 110 pounds.

From jail store carts the deputies buy the candy, cigars and paperbacks Sirhan requests, paying for them from the \$6 weekly personal funds allowed each prisoner. His reading ranges from the occult to light fiction.

Under Constant Watch

Picked for proven dependability and stability, the guards watch Sirhan six at a time in eight-hour shifts: one in the cell, one in the exercise area, four in the corridor.

They're forbidden to talk with him unnecessarily, just as with any prisoner.

Says a sheriff's aide, speaking rhetorically:

"If Sirhan asks what time it is, the guard will tell him. But if he asks, 'What do you think of my attorney?' the guard may say, 'I don't know him' or if he asks, 'What do you think of this country sending planes to Israel?' the guard will say, 'I don't know much about it.'"

Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the ground floor. Additional officers patrol the grounds.

Why such measures? Says the sheriff's aide: "We don't want another Dallas"—a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, before Oswald could be brought to trial.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of other inmates but is prepared separately, a precaution, an aide says, against poisoning.

The sheriff's department has two main preoccupations with Sirhan: (1) to see that he is brought to trial and (2) within security limits, treat him no differently from any other prisoners.

More than \$200,000

The cost of Sirhan's security? Says an aide: "\$10.48 per day, the cost of housing any county jail prisoner."

But Sirhan's guards are diverted from regular duties.

[An accounting from County Auditor Mark Bloodgood on what the Sirhan case has cost the county thus far put the figure at \$210,629 through July 7, the Los Angeles Times reported.]

Sheriff aides said Sirhan "has given us no bad time particularly. He has attempted to communicate with our deputies. They respond primarily with 'yes' or 'no.'"

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive."

Sirhan receives "a fair

Kensalt

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

The Washington Post **A-3**
Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

Date **JUL 15 1968**

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
170 JUL 16 1968

TOP CLIPPING
DATED 7-15-68
FROM 11M41200-1058
MARKED FILE AND INITIALED

volume of mail, at least 100 letters so far. "These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney."

Says and aide to Attorney Parsons: "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Parsons, 69, nearly 50-year veteran of law practice, said Sirhan is "cooperating with me and seems to be making the best of it. He's under a strain."

Sirhan asks about his family, his mother Mary and four brothers, in nearby Pasadena. Has he asked Parsons for anything? "Just to come and see him."



United Press International

SIRHAN B. SIRHAN

"I tell him his mother sends her love, and he says, 'Give them my love.' He thinks a lot of his mother and brothers."

Rules of Waiting Game Are Ironclad for Sirhan

Los Angeles, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ding-ding-ding-ding from electric gongs on corridor walls awoke prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 A.M. today.

A small figure, underwear-clad, rose from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24, the Jordanian charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, started another day of:

- Confinement with a guard in a 6-by-8-foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimmed, 15-story Hall of Justice.
- Wearing standard Los Angeles County jail garb — blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L. A. Co. Jail," his name and booking number on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

• Reading newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

• Pacing a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

• Eating candy bars . . . smoking cigars . . . hoping for visitors . . . and, mostly, just waiting to be taken to an improvised 13th-floor courtroom on Friday to plead guilty or not guilty.

His cell furnishings are standard: Toilet — coverless because a seat could be ripped off and used as a weapon — wash basin and round metal mirror attached to the wall. His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates.

The guard in his cell is one of 18 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy, bushy-haired young man who is 5-foot-3 and weighs 110 pounds. Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the ground floor. Additional officers patrol the grounds.

Why such measures? A sheriff's aide said: "We don't want another Dallas"—a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, before Oswald could be brought to trail.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of other inmates' but is prepared separately—a precaution, the aide said, against poisoning.

Said Peter John Pitchess, 56, attorney, former FBI agent and for the last 10 years Los Angeles County sheriff:

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life—and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive. There have been threats by phone and mail against me, my home and my family. I haven't lost any sleep over them."

Sirhan receives "a fair volume of mail." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

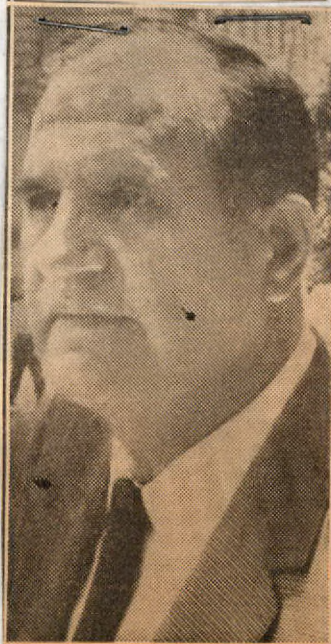
Said an aide to attorney Russell E. Parsons, 69: "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Does Sirhan sleep well?

"I think he does, but he's a nervous, restless man," Parsons said.



Associated Press Wirephoto
Sirhan B. Sirhan
In Los Angeles jail



Peter John Pitchess
Sheriff in L.A.

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
Bishop _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

File
6-14

Kensalt

The Washington Post

Times Herald _____

The Washington Daily News _____

The Evening Star (Washington) _____

The Sunday Star (Washington) _____

Daily News (New York) _____

Sunday News (New York) _____

New York Post _____

The New York Times _____

The Sun (Baltimore) _____

The Worker _____

The New Leader _____

The Wall Street Journal _____

The National Observer _____

People's World _____

Date JUL 15 1968

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
170 JUL 16 1968

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen ☒ _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Faces Hearing Friday

Sirhan Reads, Paces... Waits

By Gene Handsaker

LOS ANGELES, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ding-ding-ding from electric gongs on corridor walls awakens Prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 a.m.

A small figure, under-wear-clad, rises from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, starts another day of—

• Confinement with a guard in a 6-by-8 foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimed, 15-story Hall of Justice.

• Wearing standard Los

Angeles County jail garb, blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stencilled "L.A. Co. Jail," his name and booking number on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

• Reading newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

• Pacing a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

• Eating candy bars . . . smoking cigars . . . hoping for visitors . . . and, mostly, just waiting to be taken to an improvised 13th floor courtroom next Friday to plead guilty or not guilty.

His cell furnishings are standard: toilet-coverless because a seat could be ripped

off and used as a weapon; wash basin and round metal mirror attached to the wall.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, calls him "a reader and a loner . . . a man who could spend a lot of his life alone."

Paradoxically, despite the capacity 1834 prisoners around him on the top five floors — accused robbers, burglars, forgers, rapists, etc.—Sirhan already is largely alone. His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates.

The guard in his cell is one of 18 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy,

See SIRHAN, A16, Col. 1

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald A-1 _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____

Date 7-15-68

KENSALT

51 JUL 16 1968

62-587-A
 NOT RECORDED
 170 JUL 16 1968

Sirhan Watched Around Clock

SIRHAN, From A1

bushy-haired young man who stands 5 feet 3 and weighs 110 pounds.

From jail store carts the deputies buy the candy, cigars and paperbacks Sirhan requests, paying for them from the \$6 weekly personal funds allowed each prisoner. His reading ranges from the occult to light fiction.

Under Constant Watch

Picked for proven dependability and stability, the guards watch Sirhan six at a time in eight-hour shifts: one in the cell, one in the exercise area, four in the corridor.

They're forbidden to talk with him unnecessarily, just as with any prisoner.

Says a sheriff's aide, speaking rhetorically:

"If Sirhan asks what time it is, the guard will tell him. But if he asks, 'What do you think of my attorney?' the guard may say, 'I don't know him' or if he asks, 'What do you think of this country sending planes to Israel?' the guard will say, 'I don't know much about it.'"

Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the ground floor. Additional officers patrol the grounds.

Why such measures? Says the sheriff's aide: "We don't want another Dallas"—a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, before Oswald could be brought to trial.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of other inmates but is prepared separately, a precaution, an aide says, against poisoning.

The sheriff's department has two main preoccupations with Sirhan: (1) to see that he is brought to trial and (2) within security limits, treat him no differently from any other prisoners.

The cost of Sirhan's security? Says an aide: "\$10.48 per day, the cost of housing any county jail prisoner." But Sirhan's guards are diverted from regular duties.

More than \$200,000

[An accounting from County Auditor Mark Blood good on what the Sirhan case has cost the county thus far put the figure at \$210,629 through July 7, the Los Angeles Times reported.]

Pitchess said Sirhan "has given us no bad time particularly. He has attempted to communicate with our deputies. They respond primarily with 'yes' or 'no.'"

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive."

Sirhan receives "a fair volume of mail, at least 100 letters so far." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

Says and aide to Attorney Parsons: "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Parsons, 69, nearly 50-year veteran of law practice, said Sirhan is "cooperating with me and seems to be making

the best of it. He's under a strain."

Sirhan asks about his family, his mother Mary and four brothers, in nearby Pasadena. Has he asked Parsons for anything? "Just to come and see him."

"I tell him his mother sends her love, and he says, 'Give them my love.' He thinks a lot of his mother and brothers."

Like Parsons, Sirhan's

brother Adel, 29, has visited the prisoner several times. His mother has visited twice, once since the move to new quarters.

But family members get no farther than a window of heavy glass. On built-in metal stools Sirhan sits on one side, his mother or brother on the other in the corridor. They talk over hand telephones.



Sirhan Is Just Another Prisoner Except for Tight Security Rules

**He Reads, Paces Caged Area
and Smokes, but Mostly He
Awaits Date to Enter Plea**

LOS ANGELES, July 14 (AP) —A 45-second ring of the electric gongs on the corridor walls awakens Prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 A.M.

A small figure, clad in underwear, rises from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall.

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian charged with assassinating Senator Robert F. Kennedy, starts another day.

He is confined with a guard in a 6-by-8-foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimed, 15-story Hall of Justice.

He wears standard Los Angeles County jail garb—blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L.A. Co. Jail." His name and booking number are on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

He reads newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

He paces a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

He eats candy bars, smokes cigars, hopes for visitors and, mostly, just waits to be taken to an improvised 13th floor courtroom July 19 to plead guilty or not guilty.

'Reader' and 'Loner'

His cell furnishings are standard—a toilet, coverless because a set could be ripped off and used as a weapon; a wash basin and a round metal mirror attached to the wall.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, calls him "a reader and a loner, a man who could spend a lot of his life alone."

Despite the capacity 1,834 prisoners around him on the top five floors—accused robbers, burglars, forgers, rapists, and so forth—Sirhan is largely alone.

His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates. On his own floor, but beyond thick walls, are separate sections of homosexuals and rules-breakers denied such privileges as mail and cigarettes.

The guard in his cell is one of 18 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy, bushy-haired young man who stands 5 feet 3 inches and weighs 110 pounds.



Associated Press

Sirhan B. Sirhan

From jail store-carts the deputies buy the candy, cigars and paperbacks Sirhan requests, paying for them from the \$6 weekly personal funds allowed each prisoner. His reading ranges from the occult to light fiction.

Picked for proved dependability and stability, the guards watch Sirhan six at a time in eight-hour shifts—one in the cell, one in the exercise area, four in the corridor.

They are forbidden to talk with him unnecessarily, as with any prisoner.

A sheriff's aide said:

"If Sirhan asks what time it is, the guard will tell him. But if he asks, 'What do you think of my attorney?' the guard may say, 'I don't know him' or if he asks, 'What do you think of this country sending planes to Israel?' the guard will say, 'I don't know much about it.'"

Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the

Tolson ☒
DeLoach ☒
Mohr ☒
Bishop ☒
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt ☒
Gale ☒
Rosen ☒
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

O Rensalt

FILE
C-148

The Washington Post

Times Herald

The Washington Daily News

The Evening Star (Washington)

The Sunday Star (Washington)

Daily News (New York)

Sunday News (New York)

New York Post

The New York Times

The Sun (Baltimore)

The Worker

The New Leader

The Wall Street Journal

The National Observer

People's World

Date JUL 15 1968

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
170 JUL 16 1968

~~ground floor.~~ Additional officers patrol the grounds.

The reason for these measures was explained by the sheriff's aide, who said, "We don't want another Dallas," a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, the assassin of President Kennedy.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of the other inmates but is prepared separately — a precaution, an aide says, against poisoning.

The sheriff's department has two main preoccupations with Sirhan — to see that he is brought to trial and, within security limits, to treat him no differently from any other prisoner.

Peter John Pitchess, 56, Los Angeles County sheriff, "We learned a lot of things from the Oswald case."

The security measures probably set a record for any prisoner in Los Angeles County history, he acknowledged.

The cost was put by an aide at "\$10.48 per day, the cost of housing any county jail prisoner." But Sirhan's guards are diverted from regular duties.

Of Sirhan, Mr. Pitchess said. "He has given us no bad time particularly. He has attempted to communicate with our deputies. They respond primarily with 'yes' or 'no.'"

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive. There have been threats by phone and mail against me, my home and my family."

Sirhan receives "a fair volume of mail, at least 100 letters so far." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

An aide to the attorney, Mr. Parsons said, "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Mr. Parsons, who is 69, said that Sirhan's attitude was "similar to that of most men in jail."

"He looks about as comfortable as most men in jail," he said. "He's cooperating with me and seems to be making the best of it. He's under a strain."

Sirhan's brother Adel, 29, has visited the prisoner several times. His mother has visited twice. But family members get no farther than a window of heavy glass. On built-in metal stools Sirhan sits on one side, his mother or brother on the other in the corridor. They talk over hand telephones.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Will Enter Plea in Mini-Fortress 'Court'

Friday Appearance Slated in Room With Armor-Plated Walls

BY JERRY COHEN
Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will make his fourth courtroom appearance next Friday in a setting probably without equal in this nation's judicial history.

He will enter his plea to an indictment charging him with the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in a converted "bullpen" which once housed women prisoners on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice.

By armor-plating the sides, workmen have turned the holding tank—which is about the size of a large room—into a mini-fortress.

The conventional cell in which Sirhan is imprisoned, guarded around the clock by two deputies, stands inside the tank.

Sirhan will have only to step outside the cell Friday to appear in "court."

Portable Seats for Newsmen

A portable judge's bench, constructed by the County Mechanical Department, has been set up in the armored bullpen.

Portable seats will be placed in the courtroom area to accommodate the limited number of newsmen who will be allowed to be present for the pleading.

The bullpen occupies part of an isolated corridor on the 13th floor.

The surroundings and atmosphere, thus, will be even more unusual Friday than those which characterized Sirhan's three previous courtroom appearances.

After his indictment, he was arraigned in an austere chapel of the County Central Jail, where he was held prior to his secret transfer last Sunday to the Hall of Justice.

Won Delay in Pleading

He also won a delay in his pleading in the same chapel three weeks ago.

The first legal proceeding, held only a few hours after his arrest early June 5, came in the Municipal Court of Judge Joan Dempsey Klein.

It was his arraignment on the original booking charge—and was held in total secrecy and an hour and a half before the normal opening of the court day.

Because of limited seating in the armored bullpen, Superior Judge Richard Schauer and Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess announced, "cooperative pool coverage arranged by the

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

III-1 Los Angeles
Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/13/68
Edition: Home
Author: Jerry Cohen
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
145 JUL 30 1968

53 AUG 1 1968

media itself will be mandatory" next Friday.

The proceeding will begin at 9 a.m. It is not known whether future pre-trial developments in the case will be staged in the same maximum security arena.

However, it still is presumed that the trial itself will be held in a conventional courtroom on the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

The Board of Supervisors has authorized expenditures to install protective devices in whatever courtroom might be selected.

Meanwhile, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn disclosed he had obtained an accounting from County Auditor Mark Bloodgood on what has been spent thus far in connection with the Sirhan case.

Public Entitled to Know

He said he had asked for the accounting in the belief that the public "is entitled to know the full costs."

Bloodgood's figures disclosed that through July 7 the total cost was \$210,629. The figures were broken down by department—medical examiner, district attorney, mechanical, public defender, sheriff and courts.

However, the total cost is deceptive.

One reason is that it is broken down in "extraordinary costs," "regular costs" and "general county overhead," and a sizable portion of the two latter categories would occur for any prisoner under normal conditions. These would range from salaries for deputies, to contribution to the county employees' retirement system and workmen's compensation.

How It Works Out

Even some of the "extraordinary costs" are misleading, if the auditor's figures are interpreted to mean expense for the Sirhan case alone.

For instance, the figures show an "extraordinary" expenditure of \$47,964 by the mechanical department.

Of that sum, \$20,000 may never be spent at all and about \$11,000 probably would have been spent on providing a 13th floor kitchen in the Hall of Justice and an air-conditioning unit on that floor.

Both the kitchen and the air-conditioning unit, which will cool the area where Sirhan is held, had been budgeted previously by the sheriff's office.

As for the \$20,000, that sum represents the estimated cost of protective devices for the courtroom in which the trial will be held.

But the possibility of a change of venue would rule such an expenditure out. In addition, Presiding Superior Judge Donald R. Wright has said it will be up to the trial judge to determine what protective measures will be necessary.

Tolson ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Bishop ☒
 Casper ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 Felt ☒
 Gale ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

Cost of Sirhan Case Tallied

LOS ANGELES, July 12 (UPI) — Preparations for the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan on charges that he killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy already have cost nearly a quarter-million dollars, it was revealed today.

"And the trial has not even begun nor has the jury been selected," said County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who made the cost disclosure.

He said County Auditor Mark Bloodgood informed him that \$210,629 has been spent on the case thus far.

Some of the money was spent for installation of a five-ton air-conditioning unit on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice, the building in which Sirhan is jailed and where his trial will be held this fall.

Hahn said Bloodgood's figures disclosed these other costs connected with the case: Chief medical examiner-coroner, \$4701; district attorney, \$32,062; mechanical department, \$52,676; public defender, \$2864; sheriff's office, \$116,039, and court, \$2287.

FILE
6-14
nw

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
 Sunday News (New York) _____
 New York Post _____
 The New York Times _____
 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Worker _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Date JUL 13 1968

62-587-A
 NOT RECORDED
 145 JUL 17 1968

67 JUL 17 1968

Tolson _____
 DeLoach _____
 Mohr _____
 Bishop _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 Felt _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

Kensalt

FILE

060A

SIRHAN 7/12 NY

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--THE TWO PSYCHIATRISTS APPOINTED TO EXAMINE SIRHAN B. SIRHAN HAVE YET TO COMPLETE THEIR REPORTS ON THE MENTAL MAKEUP OF THE ACCUSED SLAYER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

THE PSYCHIATRIC REPORTS, AVAILABLE ONLY TO THE DEFENSE, WILL BE USED BY ATTORNEY RUSSELL E. PARSONS IN THE PREPARATION OF A PLEA, POSSIBLY INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

AN AIDE TO PARSONS SAID THURSDAY A COURT ORDER BANNING PRETRIAL STATEMENTS PREVENTED THE DEFENSE FROM SAYING WHETHER A PLEA WOULD BE ENTERED WHEN SIRHAN'S PRELIMINARY HEARING RESUMES JULY 19 OR WHETHER ANOTHER CONTINUANCE WOULD BE SOUGHT.

THE DEFENSE SPOKESMAN ALSO REVEALED THAT SIRHAN THURSDAY WAS VISITED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS NEW JAIL CELL BY HIS MOTHER AND A BROTHER.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN WAS SECRETLY TRANSFERRED LAST SUNDAY FROM THE HOSPITAL WARD OF THE COUNTY JAIL TO THE "CELL WITHIN A CELL" IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES.

PARSONS ACCOMPANIED MRS. MARY SIRHAN AND HER SON, ADEL, TO THE CLOSELY GUARDED CELL JUST AFEW FLOORS ABOVE THE COURTROOM WHERE SIRHAN IS EXPECTED TO BE TRIED.

PARSONS' OFFICE SAID SIRHAN LOOKED "CONCERNED," BUT THAT HIS MOTHER AND BROTHER WERE PLEASED AT THE NEW SURROUNDINGS, WHICH ARE ROOMIER THAN SIRHAN'S OLD CELL.

MF814AED

FOR MR. TOLSON

JUL 16 1968

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE
2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
170 JUL 16 1968