

Parsons in recent years has devoted his time to private practice of law, both civil and criminal. He maintains offices at 205 S. Broadway.

He was born in Olive Street in the downtown area. His father, Harry Parsons, was a noted contractor and builder. His mother was Lillian Blackburn Parsons, a native of Petaluma, Sonoma County, whose family crossed the plains in a covered wagon. His parents settled here when the population of Los Angeles was only 17,000 persons.

His father was one of the builders of the Third Street Tunnel, the U.S. Grant Hotel in San

Diego and the Hotel Utah in Salt Lake City, and many other private and public buildings throughout the west.

Parsons attended the Sixteenth Street Grammar School, the Thirtieth Street and Jefferson Street Schools, Los Angeles High School, and the University of Southern California. He has been active in the Native Sons of the Golden West, Ramona Parlor; Elks Lodge 99, and Eagles Lodge, Hollywood Earle.

He is a brother of Charles Parsons, early day USC sprint star, and an uncle of Charles Parsons Jr., a sprint star of the early 1930s.

Parsons said yesterday he could not comment on the Sirhan case until he obtains a copy of a court order recently issued by Superior Judge Arthur Alarcon restricting discussion of the case.

Sirhan, 24, a native of Jordan, accused of ambushing Sen. Kennedy in the Ambassador Hotel



—Herald-Examiner Photo
RUSSELL E. PARSONS
Will Defend Sirhan Sirhan

June 12, 1968
 I hereby retain
 Russell Parsons, as
 my counsel, to represent
 me in my case
 Ples v. Sirhan, LA.
 Superior Court,
 No. A. 22342,
 and request that
 he be substituted
 as counsel in
 the case for
 the Public Defender.

Sirhan Sirhan

WITH THIS NOTE, SIRHAN APPROVED HIS DEFENSE ATTORNEY
 Dated June 12, note designates Russell Parsons "To represent me in my case"

shortly after midnight June 5 as the senator concluded a California primary election victory rally, is held in County Jail under the tightest security in Los Angeles history.

"I'll have another lawyer in the case with me, but I cannot give you his name at this time," Parsons told The Herald-Examiner at his office.

"Names of several lawyers were given to Sirhan, and he selected me, as well as one other attorney.

"I agreed to represent Sirhan because I feel there is a challenge as to whether this man can get a fair trial. However, I do think he will get a fair one.

"There will probably be three defense attorneys—there's room

in the case for that many. And I'll have help from my office which has five other lawyers." Asked if he expected "public abuse and threats," Parsons said: "I do not expect these things. Any case with this much emotion and public attention leaves a person in my case exposed to almost anything."

He said Michael A. McCowan, of R. Allen & Associates, will be his chief investigator in preparing Sirhan's defense. McCowan is a former Los Angeles police officer.

Parsons said yesterday it would be up to the court whether Arab lawyers would be permitted to help. But he said he would "welcome help from any-

body." RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Although four lawyers selected by the Jordanian Lawyers Association cancelled an announced trip after a one-hour meeting with Jordanian Premier Bahjat Talhouni, other Arab lawyers reportedly will be selected by the Arab Lawyers Federation.

Sirhan's father, Bishara Sirhan, has officially applied for permission to come here to assist his son.

Bishara Sirhan said his son suffered facial injuries in 1948 when an Israeli mortar exploded near him. The father also said his son had seen Arabs killed by Israeli terrorists and a woman stabbed by an Israeli dagger before the family moved to the United States.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Brother Of Sirhan Fights Deportation

The 19-year-old brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, is fighting a deportation order issued against him after he was convicted of felony narcotics charges, an immigration official has disclosed.

Munir Bishara Sirhan, known as Joe, was arrested June 10, 1966, for possession and sale of marijuana. He was tried as an adult and convicted in Superior Court of both charges on Oct. 13, 1966. On Dec. 1 of that year he was placed on five years probation with the first year to be served in county jail, court records disclosed.

But on May 25, 1967, the judge set aside the conviction because Sirhan was a juvenile at the time of the alleged crime and ordered him turned over to the juvenile authorities, the record showed.

The deportation order was issued in 1966, but he appeared

to the board of immigration appeals in Washington, which only just now has begun the process of reviewing the appeal, immigration authorities indicated.

He based his appeal on the argument that he was a juvenile at the time and the conviction had been set aside for this reason. The Immigration Department apparently contended that the judge had no jurisdiction to issue the later orders after the disposition of the case and that the decision to treat him as a juvenile should have been made before, not after, the trial.

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Miss Gandy _____

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

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/20/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A-

NOT RECORDED

128 JUL 12 1968

67 JUL 15 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Discussed RFK, Says Youth in Mexico

JUAREZ, Mexico (UPI) — Attorney's office at El Paso said Mexican authorities are holding the FBI was investigating the boy's claims "thoroughly" but that Mexican authorities did not take them seriously.

Boyd said the youth was arrested in Juarez when some papers he had been carrying were lost in a restaurant. Another man picked them up and turned them over to police.

The 17-year-old boy, Crespín Gonzales, a native of Ephrata, Wash., told Mexican police he talked to the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in a Santa Monica library. An American official said he did not believe Mexican police put much credit in the boy's story.

One, dated June 4, appeared to be handwritten statement in which the boy told of a connection with the June 5 assassination, but Mexican police said his role was not specified. Another part of the statement said Sen. Kennedy's younger, and only surviving brother, Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., was next in line for assassination.

Juarez Police Chief Jesus Chacon quoted the boy as saying, "We came to the conclusion the Kennedys were gaining dictatorial powers by their shrewd political maneuvers, and the United States was in danger of becoming a dictator's country."

The boy was arrested by Juarez police Monday as he boarded a bus on the outskirts to head back into the city.

Jamie Boyd of the U.S.

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Miss Gandy	_____

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Los Angeles, Calif.

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NOT RECORDED
128 JUL 12 1968

67 JUL 15 1968



—Associated Press Wirephoto
CRISPIN GONZALES IN JUAREZ, MEXICO
Youth claims talk with Sirhan over Kennedys

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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Await Report In Juarez RFK Case

By RAMON VILLALOBOS

Norberto Salinas, Juarez federal district attorney, Wednesday was awaiting psychiatrists reports on Crispin, Curiel Gonzalez, who has told Juarez police authorities of being involved in the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy in Los Angeles.

Three leading Juarez psychiatrists, Dr. Daniel Cortez Montoya, Dr. Gilberto Martinez and Dr. Roberto Lozano, conducted an all morning examination of the self-styled plotter in a private cell in the Juarez Jail.

Since Curiel Gonzalez' arrest Monday night, special security measures have been taken. His cell isolates him from other prisoners.

The examination took the three doctors over four hours.

They were reluctant to reveal the outcome of their talks with the 17-year-old admitted LSD and marijuana addict. In statements to police he admitted he was an addict and added that he knew he would die soon from the effects of the drugs.

The three doctors confirmed a statement Curiel Gonzalez made to them to the effect he was prepared to kill Sen. Edward Kennedy, brother of the murdered presidential candidate "if they pay me well."

The doctors said he would not reveal who the "they" were.

Dr. Cortez Montoya told newsmen that during the course of his examination, Curiel Gonzalez had told him the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy was not for "any political ideas, but purely for money."

Judicial Police Chief Jesus Chacon revealed Curiel Gonzalez arrived in El Paso June 3, aboard a U.S. Immigration plane and held three days in the U.S. Border Patrol detention headquarters and he was released after authorities confirmed his U.S. citizenship. He had been arrested in Los Angeles on a

vagrancy charge. Telling police there he was a native of Mexico, he was turned over to U.S. Immigration authorities for deportation.

A hitch developed in the case, when the federal district attorney said he could not deport Curiel Gonzalez to the United States because the subject had dual citizenship. A person born in the United States of parents born in Mexico has the benefits of the dual citizenship clause. Investigations revealed Curiel Gonzalez was born in the state of Washington. The town or city was not disclosed.

Judicial police also confirmed a collect call Curiel Gonzalez made to the governor of the state of Colima where his parents live. The governor in confirming the call said that a man posing as an FBI agent had informed him that Curiel Gonzalez had been killed in New York for his part in the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy.

Curiel Gonzalez, in his voluntary statement to police following his arrest, said he had called the governor of Colima, Pablo Garcia, from a public telephone booth on the U.S. side of the Santa Fe Street International Bridge following his release by immigration authorities.

The Juarez federal district attorney said he was in contact with the office of the attorney general to see what charges could be filed against the youth.

"This is a very difficult case to decide," Chief Chacon agreed.

Curiel Gonzalez was arrested aboard a city bus en route to Downtown Juarez, shortly after he accidentally dropped a note book and a letter in which he had written about having taken part in Sen. Kennedy's assassination.

He also has admitted closed friendship with Sirhan Sirhan, the alleged Kennedy murderer saying he had met the alleged assassin in a public library in Santa Monica, Calif.

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

1A EL PASO TIMES
ELPASO, TEXAS

Date: 6/20/68
 Edition: MORNING
 Author:
 Editor: W. J. HOOTEN
 Title:

Character:
 or
 Classification:
 Submitting Office: EL PASO
☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A-
 NOT RECORDED
 128 JUL 12 1968

67 JUL 15 1968

Munir Bishara Sirhan, the 19-year-old brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, ~~accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy~~, is currently fighting a deportation order against him after he was convicted of felony narcotics charges; an immigration official disclosed.

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The Washington Post

Times Herald _____

The Washington Daily News pg 5

The Evening Star (Washington) _____

The Sunday Star (Washington) _____

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New York Post _____

The New York Times _____

The Sun (Baltimore) _____

The Worker _____

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Date 6/20/68

62-587-A

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SIRHAN SIGNS — Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, yesterday signed Russell Parsons, a prominent criminal lawyer in Los Angeles, to represent him. Mr. Parsons, who won a landmark California Supreme Court decision ruling against use of illegally seized evidence, agreed to represent Sirhan without fee.

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The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald _____
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 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
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Date JUN 25 1968

62-587-A

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Sirhan Signs a Criminal Lawyer

LOS ANGELES, June 19 (UPI)—Sirhan B. Sirhan today acquired a prominent criminal attorney to defend him against a charge of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Russell Parsons, an attorney who won a landmark California Supreme Court ruling against use of illegally seized evidence, has agreed to represent Sirhan without fee.

A. L. Wirin, attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, said, "Sirhan Sirhan signed, in my presence, a written retainer agreement retain-

ing Attorney Russell Parsons, a member of the Los Angeles County Court Bar Association, as his counsel." Parsons replaces the Public Defender's Office as defense counsel.

Immediately afterward, Public Defender Richard S. Buckley and Parsons conferred with Sirhan in county jail, where the defendant is held without bail under tight security.

The Jordanian Lawyers' Association has selected four of its members to help defend Sirhan and two Lebanese at-

torneys also have volunteered their services. Similar plans were reported under way in Iraq and Cairo.

Legal sources here saw the move as a possible attempt to air Arab grievances against Israel in a trial certain to receive world wide attention.

There were indications that Sirhan was pro-Arab and anti-Israel and that Kennedy may have been shot fatally last June '5 at the Ambassador Hotel here because he advocated aiding Israel.

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 Times Herald A-15 _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
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 New York Post _____
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 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Date 6/20/68

79 JUN 25 1968

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NOT RECORDED
23 JUN 25 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Flood of Arab Lawyers Willing to Help Sirhan

Attorneys From Jordan, Iraq and Elsewhere Offer to Defend Suspect in Assassination

BY JOE ALEX MORRIS JR.

Times Staff Writer

BEIRUT — A ground swell appears to be developing in Arab legal circles over the case of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

After almost a fortnight in which the lawyers were conspicuous by their silence, the Palestinian-born Sirhan is now threatened with inundation by legal advice from his Middle Eastern compatriots. Lawyers from Jordan, Iraq and the Arab Federation of Lawyers were reported Tuesday planning to go to his defense. Sirhan has not indicated he wanted Arab or any other outside legal help so far as could be determined here. The first offer to take up his case have not yet elicited any response.

This has not prevented others from volunteering. Among the latest was Shafik Ershedat, secretary general of the Cairo-based Arab Federation of Lawyers and himself a Palestinian.

Reports from Amman

said the four Jordanian lawyers had appointed a fifth, Henri Kattan, to go to Los Angeles to sound out the situation before they decide whether to present themselves en masse to Sirhan. Another report said three Iraqi lawyers had similarly volunteered their services.

The slowness of the Arab legal community to respond to Sirhan's plight reflected the near total confusion inflicted upon Arab political ranks by the news that a Palestinian Arab had been accused of killing Kennedy.

Reactions Varied

Reactions have swung clear across the political kaleidoscope, from assertions that Sirhan's alleged deed was the act of a deranged individual and had nothing to do with the Arabs in general, to allegations that the whole thing was a Zionist plot to discredit the Arabs in American eyes.

This is now slowly jelling around the idea that Sirhan — and Kennedy —

are both victims of the Palestine tragedy, and that something of this sort was expectable if not inevitable so long as the rights of more than one million Palestinian Arabs to return to their homeland are denied them.

If the consensus of reaction holds firm on this line, greater Arab sympathy and support for Sirhan is to be expected, observers here believe.

So far, this has been carefully limited to efforts to make sure Sirhan gets a fair trial, and that his motivation for his alleged act of killing Sen. Kennedy is fully broadcast and understood.

There have been no suggestions that he will be deprived of a fair trial.

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

I-22 Los Angeles Time
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/19/68
Edition: Home
Author: Joe Alex Morris, Jr.
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title:

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Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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Sirhan Dad Seeks U.S. OK for Trip

JERUSALEM (AP)—A spokesman for the Israeli military governor's office has confirmed that Bishara Sirhan, father of the man accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, officially has applied for permission to go to the United States.

Plans for the elder Sirhan's trip to America were announced after he returned to Jerusalem yesterday from Amman where he made some provisional arrangements for his son's legal defense.

In Amman, the Arab Lawyers Federation said a team of five Arab lawyers would go to the United States shortly to prepare for the trial.

The statement said the Arab legal team would be headed by a prominent Beirut attorney, Henry Cattani, but Cattani said he had not been notified of the statement and that the most any Arab lawyers could do would be to assist American attorneys out of court.

"We cannot appear before an American court," Cattani said.

(In Los Angeles, however, it was the belief of members of the Public Defender's office that Arab attorneys would find it "almost impossible" to qualify to represent young Sirhan in court.)

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

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/19/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title:

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UPI-133

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN TODAY ACQUIRED A PROMINENT CRIMINAL ATTORNEY TO DEFEND HIM AGAINST A CHARGE OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

RUSSELL PARSONS, THE ATTORNEY WHO WON A LANDMARK CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT RULING AGAINST USE OF ILLEGALLY SEIZED EVIDENCE, HAS AGREED TO REPRESENT SIRHAN WITHOUT FEE AND AS A PUBLIC SERVICE, ACCORDING TO A.L. WIRIN, ATTORNEY FOR THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION.

WIRIN SAID, "SIRHAN SIRHAN SIGNED, IN MY PRESENCE, A WRITTEN RETAINER AGREEMENT RETAINING ATTORNEY RUSSELL PARSONS, A MEMBER OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT BAR ASSOCIATION AS HIS COUNSEL."

PARSONS REPLACES THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE AS DEFENSE COUNSEL. WIRIN, A FREQUENT VISITOR TO SIRHAN'S HEAVILY GUARDED CELL IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL, SAID THAT NOW THAT SIRHAN HAD SECURED A COUNSEL OF HIS OWN CHOICE, THE ACLU'S INTEREST IN HIS CASE WAS ENDED.

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Accused Assassin Reported at Meeting

Did Fidel Play a Role in Killing?

By VIRGINIA PREWETT



RECE, a Miami-based Cuban exile organization with a chapter in Los Angeles, has come forward to reveal a significant incident involving the alleged assassin of the late Sen. Robert Kennedy. If these revelations are not taken into the trial record, a question will always hang over the exact and specific background of the crime.

Juan Duarte, a former major in Castro's Rebel Army, who came to the U.S. in 1966 after more than a year in a Cuban prison, has revealed in Miami that on May 21 he went to a meeting sponsored by the Los Angeles Committee of the Students for a Democratic Society. It was held at 3800 Amesbury, Hollywood, said to be the home of Colombians named Robert and Raquel Leanle.

Leaflets distributed in Los Angeles had announced a speech by Paul Shinoss, identified as a San Francisco State College student recently re-

turned from Havana. All interested persons were invited to attend.

DISPUTE

Maj. Duarte said he went with RECE official Tony Fernandez and other Cubans. They disputed Shinoss' pro-Castroism and were in turn attacked as "CIA agents" by a young man whom they later identified as Sirhan Sirhan. The argument ended in the street after the meeting broke up.

Maj. Duarte also said that a few days before the assassination of Sen. Kennedy, an "underground" paper called The Los Angeles Times Express — similar to hundreds read by young Americans — published a picture of a coffin along with one of RFK, with the question: "Why waste your vote?" Maj. Duarte called this an "anticipation" of the Senator's murder.

RECE is now calling for investigation of a report in Los Angeles that Sirhan Sirhan himself attended one of the meetings in Havana of the Afro-Asian and Latin American Solidarity Organization, called ALAPSO. A key fact here is that Castro has taken over this shadow organization from all control by Cakro.

FIRED UP?

If ALAPSO helped rouse Sirhan Sirhan, then Castro must be held responsible for pouring gas on the nationalistic fires of the young Arab immigrant.

In deciding ultimate responsibility for the crime, the U.S. faces a stern dilemma. Our leadership in the main wants to ease tensions with Russia. Moscow and Castro are squabbling, but around 15,000 Soviet troops still guarantee Castro's sway. And Cuba, whether we like it or not, is very much the immediate dynamo of the destructive and anti-democratic incitements being pumped heavily into U.S. leftist and student groups.

Castro's aim, of course, is to divide, disorient, dismay and if possible to destroy the American free system, not just Latin American stability. If Castro incitements can help spur assassinations, this gives him a new dimension that we should take seriously.

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The Washington Post

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The Evening Star (Washington) _____

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The Worker _____

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The Wall Street Journal _____

The National Observer _____

People's World _____

Date 6-19-68

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29 JUN 25 1968

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Jordan Lawyers May Defend Sirhan

Trial of Arab-Jew Hostility?

LOS ANGELES, June 19 (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan may be defended against the charge of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy by lawyers from his native Jordan seeking to put Arab-Israeli relations on trial.

A Jordanian lawyers association has chosen four of its members to come here to defend Sirhan. Two Lebanese attorneys have volunteered their services and similar plans were reported under way in Iraq and the Arab Federation of Lawyers based in Cairo.

The Jordanian organization said the four members — Fuad Atallah, Ahmed El-Khail, Mohammed Berdai and Hassan Hawa — will fly to the United States "very soon" and will be joined later by other Arab lawyers.

Arab attorneys would be permitted to take over Sirhan's case if they were deemed qualified by the court and if they arranged to be associated with an attorney admitted to practice by the California Bar Association.

PROPAGANDA?

Legal sources saw the move as a possible propaganda attempt to air Arab grievances against Israel in a trial certain to gain worldwide attention.

The two Lebanese lawyers, Monssa Prince, 42, and his assistant, Abdel Hamid El-Adab, 24, last week sent a letter to the American Embassy in Beirut offering to fly here to "clarify the



—UPI Photo

Los Angeles Atty. Wilbur Littlefield has been named by the Public Defender to defend Sirhan B. Sirhan.

circumstances which surrounded Kennedy's assassination."

They asked to be kept informed of developments in the case because "the Arab people have the right to know the real motives that made Sirhan do what he did."

If the defendant is represented by Arab lawyers, the search for the "real motives" in the case could result in Sirhan being placed on the stand to describe his youth in the Jordanian sector of Jerusalem, according to some legal observers.

INSANITY PLEA LIKELY

A likely plea would be innocent by reason of insanity — specifically, Sirhan's reported hatred of Israel, and of Sen. Kennedy for his pro-Israeli statements made during the California primary.

Sirhan and six other members of his family arrived in New York, Jan. 12, 1957, a few months after the Suez crisis, a major outbreak in the series of conflicts between Israel and Arab nations.

His father, Bishara Sirhan, returned to the Middle East in 1965, and the rest of the family settled in the Los Angeles suburb of Pasadena.

The father, in an interview in Amman, Jordan, this week said he is "completely convinced" his son had not been pushed by any group to shoot Sen. Kennedy.

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The National Observer _____
People's World _____

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Sirhan Tirade Against RFK Told

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Sirhan Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has been quoted by a national magazine as shouting, "Kennedy should never be President. He's just using the poor."

The magazine said a report of Sirhan's rage toward Kennedy and California School Superintendent Max Rafferty, Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate, came from a Mexican and a Puerto Rican. The story said the pair encountered Sirhan on the night of June 4 in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel, about three hours before Kennedy was shot.

The report to Life Magazine came from Enrique Rabago, 35-year-old unemployed mechanic, and a second witness identified only as a Puerto Rican.

The article followed by less than a day a statement by gunshop owner Ben Herrick, 42, that Sirhan and two other swarthy men bought four boxes of .22-caliber shells at his San Gabriel store June 1.

The magazine said Rabago and his companion volunteered to tell about their encounter with Sirhan at 9:15 p.m., June 4.

The two witnesses told Life that Sirhan, wearing white pants and a white shirt without a tie, had just been ejected from a Rafferty victory party. Sirhan told the pair he had been refused a drink by a waitress and was tossed out when he made a fuss and contemptuously tipped \$20 "for nothing."

Rabago and the second man told Life Sirhan went into a tirade against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor." Rafferty had just defeated incumbent U.S. Sen. Thomas Kuchel in the Republican primary.

Rabago said he (Rabago) nodded toward the Embassy Room, site of the main Kennedy victory celebration, and told Sirhan, "Robert Kennedy might help the poor."

The statement, according to Rabago's account to the magazine, sent Sirhan into a rage.

"Kennedy, Kennedy, he should never be President. You think he really wants to help the poor?" Sirhan was quoted as shouting in a quavering voice.

"Kennedy helps himself. He's just using the poor. Can't you see that?"

Meanwhile Herrick, owner of the Lock Stock and Barrel gunshop, said Sirhan and two others asked for armor-piercing .357 magnum ammunition at the same time they purchased the four boxes of .22 caliber shells.

"I told them we didn't have it," Herrick said of the heavier ammunition, used by the California highway patrolmen for their .38 calibre revolvers.

Herrick explained: "I don't like to sell that kind of stuff to guys like that," although he does stock the .357 shells. He said he sells them only to police.

Herrick said police told him the ammunition was traced through an invoice for the sale found in Sirhan's car near the hotel after the assassination.

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Miss Gandy _____

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A-1 Herald Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/17/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character: 56-156
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
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Sirhan Railed Against RFK Only Hours Before Slaying

By DONALD FLYNN

Only hours before Sirhan Bishara Sirhan allegedly slew Sen. Robert F. Kennedy the Jordanian ranted that Kennedy was "using the poor" to get elected and "should never be President."

The 24-year-old suspect flew into a rage while discussing Kennedy with two men in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles about three hours before the murder, according to an article in Life magazine.



Sirhan B. Sirhan

Enrique Rabago, 35, an unemployed mechanic, and another, unidentified man, said they encountered Sirhan at about 9:15 p.m. June 4, in the lobby. Sirhan complained that he had just been tossed out of a victory party for Republican senatorial candidate Max Rafferty.

\$20 "for Nothing"

Rabago said Sirhan told of being refused a drink by a waitress at the Rafferty party, and said he contemptuously tipped her \$20 "for nothing." In the ensuing fuss, he was told to leave.

Sirhan, dressed in a white shirt, and white trousers, shouted against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor."

Then Rabago said he nodded

toward the Embassy Room across the lobby where the Kennedy victory celebration was beginning and said: "Robert Kennedy might help the poor."

Voice Quavers

Sirhan, his voice quavering, seemingly in a daze, yelled furiously:

"Kennedy! Kennedy! He should never be President! You think he really wants to help the poor? Kennedy helps himself! He's just using the poor! Can't you see that?"

Rabago and the other man tried to argue with Sirhan, but the Jordanian wandered away toward the Kennedy party, still in an apparent daze.

Easily Offended, Say Ex-Employers

Los Angeles, June 16 (AP) — Two former employers of Sirhan Sirhan agree that he was courteous but proud and easily offended.

Jack Davies, Pasadena service station operator, employed Sirhan for ten months beginning in September 1964. Said Davies:

"He was a real good worker. In fact, I'd hire him again. He was very polite, courteous, attentive."

But Sirhan left because he refused to take the needling he got from a supervisor, Davies said.

From September 1967 until last March Sirhan worked for John H. Weidner at Organic-Pasadena, a health food store.

Weidner said Sirhan "wanted to be equal to you. He was a proud man with a good opinion of himself. He was what I would classify as an anarchist—his mind, his reaction to our society, our life."

"Feeling of Hate"

Weidner told Sirhan that America was a country where democratic processes were used to obtain improvements. But, said Weidner, Sirhan disagreed, saying that in America freedom does not exist. He told Weidner he was sympathetic to the Negroes.

"He would say, 'I agree with the violence,'" said Weidner. "He had this feeling of hate against society."

"But the biggest question was the Jews. Here was a real hatred for people. He said the Jewish people . . . had taken his country so he was very angry against them."

When Sirhan was arrested after the June 5 shooting of Sen. Kennedy, police said he was carrying a newspaper clipping in which Kennedy was quoted as speaking favorably of ~~black~~.

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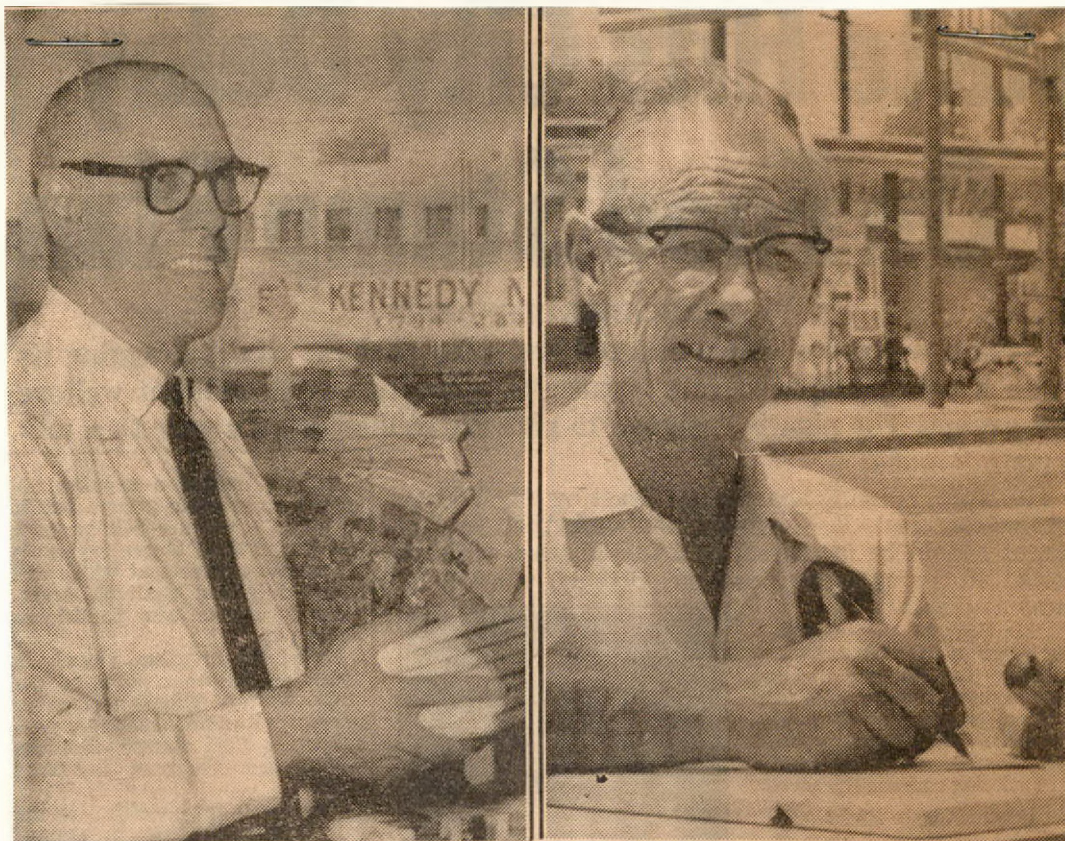
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Associated Press Wirephotos
John Weidner (left), owner of organic health food store in Pasadena, and Jack Davies, who runs a gas station, were former employers of Sirhan Sirhan.

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UPI-27

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN SIRHAN HAS THE AID OF A SCORE OF INVESTIGATORS IN PREPARING HIS DEFENSE AGAINST THE CHARGE OF KILLING SEN. KENNEDY.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT IS REPRESENTED BY WILBUR LITTLEFIELD, 46, CHIEF TRIAL DEPUTY IN THE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE AND CONSIDERED AN OUTSTANDING TRIAL LAWYER.

LITTLEFIELD SAYS HE HAS ACCESS TO ALL 21 INVESTIGATORS ON THE STAFF OF THE DEFENDER'S OFFICE AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE RIGHT TO STUDY ALL POLICE RECORDS OF THE ASSASSINATION.

SIRHAN IS EXPECTED TO ENTER A PLEA OF INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY JUNE 28.

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BEIRUT--THE FATHER OF THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF SEN. KENNEDY SUNDAY PLEADED WITH THE KENNEDY FAMILY AND THE COURTS TO BE "LENIENT AND FORGIVING."

BISHARA SIRHAN MADE HIS REMARKS AT AMMAN, JORDAN, WHERE HE HAD GONE TO WITHDRAW MONEY FROM A BANK TO PREPARE FOR A TRIP TO THE U.S. HE SAID HE BELIEVED HIS SON HAD KILLED KENNEDY AND THAT HIS MOVE WAS PROMPTED BY NATIONALIST SENTIMENT.

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Sirhan Rage Over RFK Is Reported

NEW YORK, June 16 (UPI) — Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the accused killer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, flew into a rage and shouted that Kennedy "should never be President" only hours before the assassination, it was reported today.

The report, published in Life magazine, came from a Mexican and a Puerto Rican who said they had encountered Sirhan on the night of June 4 in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

The magazine said the two, Enrique Rabago, 35, an unemployed mechanic, and a second unidentified witness, came forward voluntarily to tell about the encounter at 9:15 p.m. PDT, four and a half hours before Kennedy was shot.

Sirhan, wearing white pants and a white shirt without a tie, had just been thrown out of a victory party for Republican senatorial candidate Max Rafferty because, refused a drink by a waitress, he had made a fuss and contemptuously tipped her \$20 "for nothing," the magazine report said.

Describing the incident to Rabago and his companion, Sirhan went into a tirade against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor," the magazine said.

But when Rabago nodded toward the embassy room on the other side of the lobby where Kennedy's victory celebration was beginning and said, "Robert Kennedy might help the poor," Sirhan flew into a rage, the article said.

"Kennedy, Kennedy, he should never be President. You think he really wants to help the poor." Sirhan reportedly shouted, his voice quavering. "Kennedy helps himself. ~~He's just~~ using the poor. Can't you see that?"

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Date **JUN 17 1968**

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Sirhan's Arab Community Fears Retaliation

By George Lardner

Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, June 16—Adnan Deen is keeping his gun loaded.

Manager of an Export-Import store on Hollywood Boulevard, he doesn't want to follow the Jordanian merchant shot in Chicago last week in apparent reprisal for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The Arabic community here has been unnerved from the moment it was disclosed that the slight, swarthy suspect arrested for the killing was Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, a 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant.

There have been only a few minor incidents. At Deen's shop, one crank started a fire in the awning and another set a lizard loose in the store.

But the apprehension remains.

Anonymity is being sought by Los Angeles area's 25,000 Arab-Americans these days. "The community's gone into hiding," says Henry Awad, president of the Lebanese-Syrian-American Society and editor of a monthly English-language newspaper here for Arab-Americans.

Sirhan's family—his mother and four brothers—have been taken into hiding, under police protection. Moved from their small frame house, shortly after the shooting, they are living in a tightly guarded private home.

The family has also felt the sting of Sirhan's arrest in other ways.

Sirhan's 29-year-old brother, Adel, had been playing an Arab musical instrument on weekends at a belly dance club, Shaker's Oasis, before the shooting. The management doesn't want to see him again. "He might get shot," reasons Club Manager Harry Shaker.

Another brother, Saidallah, 36, was to have been sworn in as a U. S. citizen the day after Kennedy's death. The U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service canceled the appointment.

ment. District Director George Rosenberg claimed that reports of "motor vehicle violations" conflicted with the requirement of "good moral character" for naturalized citizens.

The Arab-American community here is closely knit. Yet few will admit to knowing Sirhan. Those who do usually claim to have met him only once or twice, just in passing.

Yet at the same time there is widespread rationalization, even sympathy, for the murder for which Sirhan stands indicted. His "anti-Zionism" is widely shared. Time and again, it is argued that the real villain is "international Zionism" and, secondarily, Kennedy's support of jet fighters for Israel.

Sirhan does not appear to have been a member of any of the Arabic organizations in the city. In any event, not a few of the Arab-American organizations show the same sort of persecution complex so widely attributed to Sirhan. It also makes them candidates for the overtures of the far American right and white racists.

The groups include the United American Arab Congress, the American Arab Citizens Council, the Americans (of Lebanese Syrian Ancestry) for American, and the Arabic Society of Americanists.

Formed after the lightning Israeli victory last year in the June war, the United American Arab Congress has its \$50-a-month headquarters in what the community calls "the White House" on Hollywood Boulevard.

Its general counsel, George E. Shibley, said it was formed to help raise funds for Arab refugees and to combat "support of Zionism by the American press."

Israel, in turn, is likened by the UAAC to "Nazi Germany" and "Fascist Japan." "All three claimed to be superman or God's chosen people," one UAAC broadside has proclaimed. "All three terrorized civilian populations and

claimed the lands they overran by right of conquest."

According to one report, Sirhan and several of his brothers attended meetings of the so-called "American Arabs" which was allegedly a youth auxiliary of the UAAC.

Officials of the Congress, however, say they had no youth organization and never heard of any group called the "American Arabs." Neither have other community leaders.

UAAC headquarters, in any event, are deserted these days. An official of the Lebanese-Syrian-American Society, which manages the building, said it was six months behind in its rent.

The American Arab Citizens Council was also apparently formed last year to promote "better understanding of Middle Eastern problems." It had a newsletter called "The Prophet" that devoted one is-

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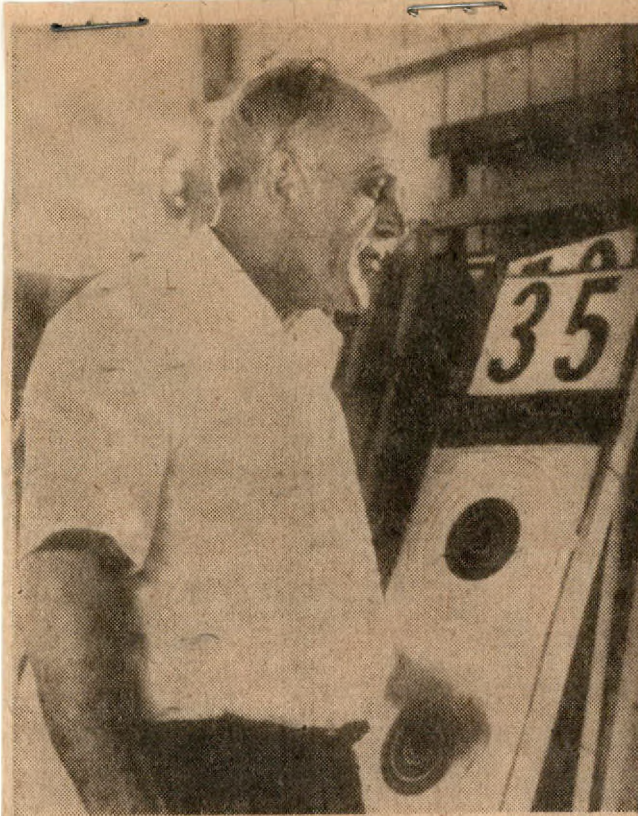
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Date JUN 17 1968

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Associated Press

Lloyd Hager, manager, shows targets at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, where suspect Sirhan is said in sworn testimony to have been seen practicing with gun hours before the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

sue to pictures of ~~burned~~ Arab children over a caption, "Auschwitz—1967 style." Council Chairman Phil Zogaib, however, says the organization is now defunct.

Zogaib has also served as chairman of the Americans (of Lebanese-Syrian Ancestry) for America, an organization headed by Dr. T. J. Toma, dentist who is also president of the Arabic Society of Americanists.

How successful the various groups have been in resisting racist and right-wing overtures is open to question. One UAAC newsletter last summer warned against "white racist groups . . . coming out in support of the Arabs" and cautioned its members against aligning themselves with "hate mongers."

Dr. Toma, has also been a prominent spokesman for John Birch Society causes. He once got into a hassle with postal officials over stamping his mail with the slogan "Save America—impeach J.F.K.—General Walker, truth and freedom, yes—one world, Godless UN Govt. & Tyranny No."

How much, if any, of this climate filtered down to Sirhan is unknown. According to some reports, he may have been active in the organization of Arab students while attending Pasadena City College, but college officials maintain there is no OAS chapter there.

Officials of the other organizations say they never noticed Sirhan at any of their meetings. He was not, it seems plain, a joiner. "I never heard of him until this incident," said Dr. Toma, "I guess he's a loner, really."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Public Testimony This Time

Hearst Headline Service

NEW YORK—Lee Harvey Oswald was in the custody of the Dallas police from shortly after noon, Nov. 22, until he was killed by Jack Ruby about 48 hours later.

During that period he was questioned by the police, the FBI, the Secret Service and presumably by psychiatrists. What he replied to that barrage of questions has never been fully exposed. As one result of this omission, a series of books appeared casting doubt on the integrity of the subsequent Warren report.

A couple of those odd-ball authors are still lecturing here and abroad on the "untold" factors of the case. Now and then the district attorney of New Orleans bursts forth with some outrageous new charge in his continuing effort to prove that President Kennedy's death was the result of a "conspiracy."

President Kennedy was killed, I'm convinced, by Lee Harvey Oswald and Lee Harvey Oswald alone. The only question in my mind, after a great deal of study of the tragedy and talks with a lot of people involved, is whether that nut was really aiming at the president when he let go with three shots from his Carcano. He could well have been trying to take a bead on Gov. John Connally, who was riding in the seat just ahead of the President. Gov. Connally had not long before that fatal day refused to intercede in Oswald's effort to obtain an

honorable discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, to replace the dishonorable one. Oswald had nothing against Kennedy, as far as we know. Indeed, as a pro-Castroite, he must have approved of JFK's refusal to support the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Marine Corps records indicate that Oswald was a lousy marksman.

But what he replied to the tons of questions remains obscure. Whatever he said was not deemed pertinent to the trial of his own murderer.

Sirhan Sirhan is alive today and ready for trial because of lessons learned the hard way in Dallas. With the possible exception of Nazi war criminals, no man has been more closely guarded than this nut who killed Sen. Robert Kennedy. The Dallas police showed us Oswald on the night of the assassination, as if displaying a sheep-killing wolf they had successfully run down.

Ruby, of course, was there with a bag full of sandwich

es, free tickets to his strip-tease joint, and the customary offer of his pimping services to the cops when he killed Oswald the following Sunday. There is every reason to believe Ruby honestly thought he would become an American folk hero. Why he didn't do so on the night the cops proudly showed off Oswald will never be known.

Fast work by Rosie Grier, Rafer Johnson, Jesse Unruh and L.A. police saved the skin of Sirhan Sirhan in the

immediate wake of the shooting of Robert Kennedy. There were half a dozen able-bodied bystanders outside the Ambassador Hotel who tried to get at Sirhan with obvious intent to beat the life out of him. The police had a harder time with them than they did with Sirhan.

So he was spared and the State of California will now attempt to put him to death legally.

If Ruby had missed, or never strolled by, the Oswald trial would have seen testimony delivered from the witness chair by the President's widow, by Gov. and Mrs. Connally and scores of other principals who had no reason to be subpoenaed for the Ruby trial. In the Sirhan trial, because he has been preserved for it, we probably shall have the poignant spectacle of the brave, pregnant widow suffering the additional burden of reliving the ultimate agony of her life.

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B-7 Herald Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/16/68
Edition: Final
Author: Bob Considine
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title:

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Character:
or 56-156
Classification:
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2 Reported With Sirhan When He Bought Bullets

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, June 15—

The Saturday before the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, his alleged killer, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, walked into the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Shop in suburban San Gabriel.

The proprietors of the gun shop, Ben and Dona Herrick, say there were two men with him.

"There were three guys, all dark and small," Herrick, 42, declared yesterday.

Clerk Larry Arnot said he waited on them.

The receipt from the sale that afternoon—\$3.99 including tax, for four boxes of .22 caliber bullets—was found in Sirhan's car near the Ambassador Hotel after the shooting.

The recollections at the gun shop built up after that.

"When I saw the (Sirhan's) picture in the paper, I had the feeling that I had seen him somewhere, but it didn't dawn on me at the time that he was the one I had sold the bullets to," Arnot said.

"A day later—or maybe it was a couple of days later, I can't remember—the owners got the information that we had sold the ammunition.

"I said then, to my employer's wife, Dona, and Ben, 'By golly, I waited on that guy.' The bell rang just like that. Before that, I had half-way discharged it from my mind that I had seen this guy somewhere before."

What police make of all this is not clear. They have, inevitably, received hundreds of tips, rumors and reports that a conspiracy may have been involved. Yet days have passed and no one appears to have unearthed any close friends or associates of the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant indicted for the slaying.

If any are found, it remains to be seen what, if anything, Sirhan told them of his interest in guns or Sen. Kennedy.

It may take months, perhaps years to sort out the facts.

At the gun shop, nestled in a shopping center with a Wild West motif, the Herricks, who said they have talked to police twice, and Arnot, who said he has not been questioned at all, were quite firm about Sirhan being accompanied by two other men.

Mrs. Herrick declared that she also remembered an earlier visit to the store, about a month and a half ago, by Sirhan—again, she said, with the same two men.

There was no sale on the first trip, she said. Mrs. Herrick said the men asked whether the shop carried armor-piercing .357 magnum ammunition such as California Highway patrolmen use for their .38-caliber revolvers.

Her husband said they asked the same question that Saturday, June 1, before buying the .22s.

"We carry it," Herrick said, "but I told them we didn't have it because I don't want to sell that kind of stuff to guys like that." Herrick said he stocks the ammunition for police officers and makes it a practice not to sell it to anyone else. "I figure they had no business having that stuff," he said.

According to the receipt that was found in Sirhan's car, two of the boxes of .22s were "mini-mags." Some gun buffs call them hollow points. They usually split off on impact.

Three days later, Sirhan was seen practicing rapid-fire shooting at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club in Fish Canyon about 10 miles from the gun shop.

One witness, Henry A. Carreon, told the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that he and a companion, David Montellano, both noticed Sirhan "shooting very rapidly on the range with a revolver"—a .22-caliber Iver Johnson.

Sirhan, the grand jury was told, also had with him a box of "mini-mag" bullets set aside from the rest of his ammunition. A similar box was found in his car after the assassination.

In still other testimony, the Grand Jury heard Vincent Di-pierro, a 19-year-old college freshman, tell of seeing a shapely girl in a polka-dot dress standing next to Sirhan and apparently chatting, and smiling at each other, just before Kennedy was gunned down.

And at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club yesterday, one of the habitués insisted that he, too, had seen Sirhan there—with a girl, and "another guy." He did not say when.

[A national police bulletin is still out for "the girl in the polka dot dress" in the assassination, Los Angeles authorities asserted today, according to United Press International.]

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He remembered seeing Sirhan at the practice range, he loudly professed a determination to keep his mouth shut.

But as customers and spectators moved away, he said: "If you ask me who was here talking to me, the police or the FBI, I guess I'd have to tell you: Both of them."

He said he'd been warned that if he said anything about the case, he could get six months in jail (presumably for violating a court order restricting comment). But then he turned more loquacious.

"I know a lot more than I'm telling you—a dozen times more than you think I do," he said, adding softly:

"I saw them all together."

"You mean Sirhan?"

"Yes, him, a woman and another guy. Remember, I said t-h-e-m."

He refused to elaborate. A customer drew near and the gun club member said noisily, "I told you I can't say anything."

Lloyd Hager, manager of the National Rifle Association-sponsored gun club, said he knew of no girl or any other companions with Sirhan. As far as he could tell, he said Sirhan had been at the range only once, alone, in the early afternoon before the assassination.

"I can't even recall him being here that day," Hager said. "But he must have been because his name is on the log." Generally those who use the practice range are supposed to sign in.

Asked if there were any indications Sirhan had been at the gun club before his appearance on the eve of the assassination Hager replied: "None whatsoever."

Los Angeles police and FBI agents, however, are said to be

checking out every lead they get.

"You can imagine how may irrelevant contacts will be made," said District Attorney Evelle J. Younger, "but we're not going to ignore any of them. We know there will be people in the next 50 years who'll be saying: 'Why didn't the police do this? Why didn't the police do that?'"

Among these other reports, investigators have reportedly been told that Sirhan and several male companions were seen, within a few days before the assassination, at some of the topless nightclubs with which Los Angeles is well endowed.

At a press conference June 6 after the autopsy, Los Angeles County Coroner Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi was widely understood as saying only two bullets had struck Sen. Kennedy. The next day, he told the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that the Senator had been struck three times, once behind the right ear and twice in the right arm-pit.

Asked about the discrepancy, Dr. Noguchi said he never actually said only "two" bullets hit Kennedy. But added that the information supplied him "by the hospital" apparently failed to take account of a final armpit wound where the bullet passed through the body completely.

Dr. Noguchi said the autopsy turned up the three wounds. But when someone at the press conference asked him about "a back wound," he said, he replied in the singular.

"At the time of the press conference," the doctor explained, "I definitely knew there were three bullets. But I did not refer to three because I was not asked that question."



Ben Herrick, 42, and wife, Dona, in front of San Gabriel gunshop which sold ammunition to man they have identified as Kennedy assassination suspect Sirhan. They recall two men accompanied Sirhan to the shop.

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**Sirhan's Father K
 May Fly to U.S.**

TAIBEH, Israeli-occupied Jordan, June 14 (AP) —Birhara Sirhan, father of the youth accused of assassinating Sen Robert F. Kennedy, is considering flying to the United States for the trial.

Sirhan, 53, said today he has applied for and received permission to go to Amman, Jordan's capital, where he planned to draw funds from a private account in an Amman bank.

He told newsmen he has not finally decided to go to the United States, but will make the decision after he speaks with his family about the case of his son. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24.

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 The National Observer _____
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Date JUN 15 1968

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Rosierucians

List Sirhan As Member

By John Dart
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES, June 14—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan is a recent member of the Rosierucian Order, an occult fraternal organization which expounds a philosophy based on study of metaphysics and development of "psychic powers," it was learned today.

The native Jordanian, indicted for the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, several months ago applied for membership by letter to the San Jose headquarters of the Ancient Mystical Order of Rosae Crucis (AMORC), the organization's official name.

Arthur Piepenbrink, Supreme Secretary, said that since Sirhan's original letter he "became inactive because he didn't pay his dues."

While in jail, Sirhan directed that \$20 of his confiscated money be sent to the Rosierucians, presumably to cover the \$4-a-month dues for the last five months.

Piepenbrink said Sirhan did not join the Los Angeles AMORC lodge and "we had no correspondence with him other than the original application."

The Rosierucian order, largest of several Rosierucian societies, claims it dates back to 1350 B.C. during the reign of Egyptian Pharaoh Akhnaton. However, it was founded in 1909. The organization maintains, at San Jose, a university and a museum with a large collection of Egyptian, Assyrian and Babylonian artifacts.

Beth Holder, Rosierucian public relations director, said the worldwide organization expounds "a system of metaphysical and physical philosophy that is intended to awake the dormant faculties of an individual whereby he may utilize his talents and become more aware of the world around him and lead a more useful life."

From his jail cell, Sirhan also requested two books on theosophy—which expert Boris de Zirkoff of Los Angeles said is often defined as "wisdom-religion."

Although some people are interested in both theosophy and Rosierucianism, theosophists generally feel they are "poles apart" from Rosierucianism because of the latter's claims to offer "mind powers" and psychic capabilities.

Tolson _____
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Mohr _____
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Tavel _____
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The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____ **A8**
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 _____

JUN 15 1968

Date _____

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Concoct Pix of Polka Dot Girl

By WILLIAM FEDERICI

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 FBI agents and Los Angeles police attempted yesterday to put together a composite drawing of the girl in "the polka dot dress" wanted for questioning in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Working with two "excellent witnesses," law enforcement artists hoped for an "end result which might bring information and an identity from the public," authorities in Los Angeles disclosed by telephone yesterday.

Work With 2 Witnesses

The artists are working with Vincent Thomas DiPierro, an Ambassador Hotel eyewitness to the killing, and Sandra Serrano, 19, a Kennedy-campaign worker, who told police a girl "with a polka dot dress came running out shouting, 'we killed Kennedy.'"

DiPierro, a part-time waiter at the hotel, and Miss Serrano, who lives in Altadena, Calif., told investigators of "the girl with the polka dot dress" who DiPierro said was standing smiling next to alleged assassin Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24, when Kennedy was shot three times.

2 Shown Photos

Authorities said that the two, now under protection, have been shown several photographs of "suspected women" to no avail. They also have been shown TV film clips to try to spot the girl. Both DiPierro and Miss Serrano said they would "be able to identify the girl if they saw her again."

A spokesman for the police investigating teams said yesterday: "We have multiple leads on this case and are not ignoring any of them. The possibility that the accused was not working alone is being thoroughly investigated. We are not overlooking a possible conspiracy."

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The Washington Post

Times Herald _____

The Washington Daily News _____

The Evening Star (Washington) _____

The Sunday Star (Washington) _____

Daily News (New York) _____ 8

Sunday News (New York) _____

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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)

State's Case Against Sirhan Good---Yorty

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty said Friday the state has a "very, very strong case" against accused slayer Sirhan Bishara Sirhan and said criminal trials have become a game based on technicalities.

Yorty spoke to a brief news conference after a tour of HemisFair, the San Antonio world's fair.

He drew criticism last week for statements he made about a diary that supposedly belonged to Sirhan, accused of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

"Criminal trials have become a sort of a game based on technicalities instead of a search for truth," Yorty said. He said no one has challenged the truthfulness of his statements about Sirhan. He said he was certain Sirhan can get a fair trial.

He said the slaying was "witnessed, or almost witnessed," by millions of people on television.

Yorty stopped at HemisFair while on a trip to the national mayor's conference in Chicago.

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

III-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif

Date: 6/15/68
 Edition: Home
 Author:
 Editor: Nick B. Williams
 Title: KENSALT

Character:

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Classification: LA 56-156
 Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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JUN 20 1968

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan's Mystical Bent Shown by Dues Payment, Book Order

BY JOHN DART

Times Herald

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan is a recent member of the Rosicrucian Order, a fraternal organization which expounds a philosophy based on study of metaphysics and development of psychic powers, it was learned Friday.

The native Jordanian, indicted for the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, several months ago applied for membership by letter to the San Jose headquarters of the Ancient Mystical Order of Rosae Crucis (AMORC), the organization's official name.

Arthur Piepenbrink, supreme secretary, told The Times that after Sirhan was accepted and he paid one month's dues he "became inactive because he didn't pay his dues."

While in jail, Sirhan directed that \$20 of his confiscated money be sent to the Rosicrucians, presumably to cover the \$4-a-month dues for the last five months.

Piepenbrink said Sirhan did not join the Los Angeles AMORC lodge and "we had no correspondence with him other than the original application."

One of the questions on the application was: "Do you try to practice good citizenship and obey the laws of the country in which you live?"

Piepenbrink said Sirhan answered "yes." He said if the answer is anything other than yes, such as a qualified answer, the application is rejected.

The Rosicrucian Order, largest of several Rosicrucian societies, claims it dates back to 1350 BC during the reign of Egyptian Pharaoh Akhnaton. The organization maintains at San Jose a university and a museum with a large collection of Egyptian, Assyrian and Babylonian artifacts.

Beth Holder, Rosicrucian public relations director, said the worldwide organization expounds "a system of metaphysical and physical philosophy that is intended to awake the dormant faculties of an individual whereby he may utilize his talents and become more aware of the world around him and lead a more useful life."

Blavatsky Reports Disputed

From his jail cell, Sirhan also requested two books on theosophy — which expert Boris de Zirkoff of Los Angeles said is often defined as "wisdom-religion." The books were "Talks on 'At the Feet of the Master'" by C. W. Leadbeater and "The Secret Doctrine" by Mme. H. P. Blavatsky, founder of the theosophical movement in America.

De Zirkoff emphatically disputed two reports on network television programs that Mme. Blavatsky was the author of a manual for revolutionaries. De Zirkoff is editor of "The Collected Writings of H. P. Blavatsky," now in its 10th volume.

"She was a proponent of universal brotherhood, but she always wrote along nonpolitical lines," said De Zirkoff.

It was reported from Israeli-occupied Jordan, meanwhile, that Sirhan's father, Bishara Sirhan, has applied for and been given permission to go from his home village, Tiayeba, to Amman, Jordan's capital, possibly as the first step of a flight to Los Angeles.

He told newsmen that he planned to withdraw funds from an Amman bank. He said he wanted the travel permit "in case I should want to go anywhere." He has been considering a trip to Los Angeles, but hasn't yet made a final decision, he 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	_____
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