

Parris Island Case

Berman attained a national reputation in 1956 when he defended Marine Staff Sgt. Matthew C. McKeon against charges of manslaughter, oppression and drinking on duty in a court-martial at the Parris Island, S.C., Marine Base.

Sgt. McKeon, accused of marching 74 young marines into a tidal marsh, was convicted of negligent homicide (six of the servicemen drowned) and of drinking on duty. He was reduced to private and imprisoned for three months.

Press accounts of the trial described Berman, a former Air Force colonel, as being a "colorful" and aggressive advocate.

Monday's court session was scheduled at the request of Parsons for three purposes:

1—To postpone the trial date from Nov. 1.

2—For arguments on a defense motion to obtain evidence the prosecution intends to use during the trial.

3—To suppress any evidence taken without a search warrant from Sirhan's room in his mother's home several hours after the shootings.

Will Sequester Jury

After Judge Walker informed Parsons, who sought it, and the prosecutors, who opposed it, that he intended to sequester the jury because "I think it must be done," the jurist set the Dec. 9 trial date.

Sirhan waived an earlier trial.

Judge Walker said the selection of a jury and "four to six alternates" could begin at that time.

If the jury is selected before Dec. 23, he said he would not swear in the panel until after New Year's Day. This would allow the jurors to spend the holidays at home.

If the jury is not selected by Dec. 23, Judge Walker said he would recess the trial until about Jan. 2 when the picking of a jury could resume.

There would seem to be little likelihood a jury could be selected between the time the trial starts and Christmas. Parsons, in fact, said "it would be a miracle" if one was.

The prosecution, represented in court by Compton and Dep. Dist. Attys. John E. Howard and David N. Fitts, did not oppose any of Parsons' requests for statements of witnesses or reports of police officers.

Judge Walker ordered them to turn over only that evidence now in their

possession and said he did not expect them to act "as messengers" for the defense in obtaining any information which they did not have.

Such information, the jurist suggested, should be obtained in other ways—such as by subpoenaing it—by the defense.

Of the 111 statements given to Parsons in court, 67 of them came from persons who were present in the Ambassador the night Kennedy was shot.

Other Statements

Another 15 statements were those taken by police and FBI investigators from persons who had seen Sirhan at any target or pistol range within six months of the alleged crimes.

Compton made his statement that there was no conspiracy after Parsons told the court that he was satisfied that the prosecution has turned over all the evidence he is seeking.

Compton said his office has separated all its evidence into three categories:

1—"The witnesses we intend to use during the trial."

2—"The witnesses who have some peripheral information, but who we do not intend to use."

3—"That miscellaneous information dealing with the investigation of other possible suspects."

He refused to comment on the latter remark except to say that all that information "is negative" and "would be of little value to anyone."

However, it is known that a large police task force as well as FBI agents ran down every report

which even remotely suggested that a conspiracy existed.

Possibilities indicating a conspiracy which were rejected after full investigation included:

1—That a woman wearing a polka dot dress and another man accompanied Sirhan to the Ambassador the night of the shooting and when leaving after the shots were fired, were reported to have cried, "We shot him."

(The woman who told police she had seen and heard this later admitted that her statement was a fabrication.)

2—A witness to the shooting claimed to have seen a girl in a polka dot dress standing beside Sirhan just prior to the shooting.

(This witness admitted that his statement was false and had been made up by him after a conversation with the witness who first told police of the woman in the polka dot dress.)

3—A range master at a San Gabriel Valley gun club who saw Sirhan on June 4 said he overheard a woman tell Sirhan, "get the hell away from me. Someone might recognize us."

(This witness later admitted fabricating the conversation he claimed to have overheard.)

4—A man told investigators that he was with Sirhan prior to the shooting and indicated that he

and Sirhan were part of a conspiracy to kill Kennedy.

(The man later admitted making up the story.)

5—A self-styled minister said he gave Sirhan and a male companion a ride on June 3 and that after dropping Sirhan off at the Ambassador for a few minutes made an arrangement to sell the defendant a horse for \$300. He said that after the shooting he received two telephone calls telling him to forget

about his "deal" with Sirhan.

(A polygraph examination given to the man indicating that he was not telling the truth and additional investigation disclosed that during the time Sirhan allegedly was with him he was home with his family.)

At the press conference, Parsons, without indicating what it would be, also said Sirhan does have a "valid" defense against the charges facing him.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Battle Due On Sirhan Notebook Evidence

The same court session heard Compton announce that the district attorney's office was satisfied that Sirhan had no accomplices, and that there was no conspiracy in the Kennedy shooting.

As to the Sirhan diaries, or notebooks—Parsons insists that they were taken illegally because the police who searched the Sirhan home were not armed with a search warrant.

There is also disagreement over the manner in which the seizure was accomplished.

Compton will produce three police witnesses next week. Parsons also will call witnesses. One of the reasons for yesterday's delay was that a defense witness is out of the state and will not be available until next week.

At a June 6 news conference, Mayor Sam Yorty announced the seizure of the Sirhan diaries. The Mayor said one of them contained the sentence:

"Kennedy has to be assassinated before June 5, 1968"—the first anniversary of the six-day Israeli blitz in the Mideast.

At yesterday's session Deputy Dist. Atty. David N. Pitts, an associate of Compton, turned over to Parsons the names and statements of 120 witnesses questioned by police and the FBI in the Kennedy assassination investigation.

These included 67 persons who allegedly saw Sirhan at the Ambassador Hotel the night of June 4, and witnessed his arrest following the shooting early June 5. The list included Speaker Jesse Unruh, Rafer Johnson, George Plimpton, Hugh McDonald, assistant press secretary to the slain senator, and several employees of the hotel.

Also turned over to Parsons were transcripts of recordings of six police interrogations of Sirhan made between his arrest and his arraignment about 8 a.m. June 5 in the court of Municipal Judge Joan Dempsey.

At a news conference following yesterday's hearing, Parsons

took pains to point out that no attorney was present with Sirhan during these investigations.

He also said that there was "serious doubt" that his client had been informed of his constitutional rights before these interrogations took place.

The discovery proceeding also raised the question of whether there had been violence during Sirhan's questioning. Parsons sought and got the statement of Officers Fred Willoughby and Eugene H. Austen, in response to a question about police who may have seen Sirhan kick a coffee cup out of Willoughby's hand.

Also sought and given the defense were the names and statements of 15 witnesses who allege to have seen Sirhan target shooting at the San Gabriel Valley Country club the day prior to Kennedy's shooting.

Given the defense, too, were the names and statements of four men of Arabic surname who allegedly spent time with Sirhan prior to the Kennedy shooting.

In deciding on postponement of the trial, Judge Walker made it clear that he intends to sequester the jury—that is, order them locked up during the trial.

He said jury selection would begin Dec. 9 and continue through Dec. 23, at which time he will recess the trial for the holidays.

The jurors will not be sworn until following the recess, Judge Walker said, but after they are sworn they will be locked up.

Purpose of the sequestering is to make certain jurors see no publicity on the case which might prejudice their verdict.

Judge Walker said the press had been very cooperative in the case so far, but, he concluded:

"There is a responsible press and an irresponsible press, and I can't control either one of them and I wouldn't want to try."

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

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

Date: 10/15/68
Edition: Night Final
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Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
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☐ Being Investigated

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S. Putz

SIRHAN 10/5 NX
 LOS ANGELES (UPI)--A REQUEST TO POSTPONE THE START OF SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S TRIAL ON CHARGES OF KILLING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY PRODUCED THE FIRST SHARP CONFLICT BETWEEN THE DEFENSE AND PROSECUTION. DEFENSE ATTORNEY RUSSELL E. PARSONS CONTENDED FRIDAY THE JURORS SHOULD BE LOCKED UP NIGHTLY DURING THE TRIAL, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NOV. 1 AND EXPECTED TO LAST TWO MONTHS. PARSONS ASKED THAT THE TRIAL BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR BECAUSE IT WOULD BURDEN THE JURORS TO BE LOCKED UP OVER THE THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS. THE DEFENSE REQUEST FOR A CONTINUANCE HIGHLIGHTED SIRHAN'S SIXTH APPEARANCE IN COURT SINCE HE WAS ARRESTED ON CHARGES OF ASSASSINATING KENNEDY AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL LAST JUNE 5. THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN SMILED AND WAVED TO HIS MOTHER AND BROTHER BUT SAID NOTHING DURING HIS SIX-MINUTE APPEARANCE IN COURT. PARSONS SAID LATER HIS CLIENT WAS GETTING INCREASINGLY "NERVOUS" AS THE TRIAL APPROACHED BUT HE USUALLY WAS IN GOOD SPIRITS. CHIEF DEPUTY DIST. ATTY. LYNN COMPTON DID NOT COMMENT IN COURT ON PARSONS' REQUEST FOR A DELAY. 3 591S 32.3, -15342-4S. HOWEVER, THE PROSECUTION WOULD OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPT TO SEQUESTER THE JURY. "IT PUTS A TERRIBLE BURDEN ON A JURY TO BE IN WHAT AMOUNTS TO SOLITARY CONFINEMENT FOR TWO OR THREE MONTHS," COMPTON SAID. "WE WOULD PREFER TO RELY ON THEIR GOOD JUDGMENT AND INTEGRITY." PARSONS ARGUED IN COURT THE CASE WAS OF "SUCH MAGNITUDE" THAT THE JURY SHOULD CONSTANTLY BE UNDER THE GUARD OF BAILIFFS WHEN OUTSIDE THE COURTROOM. HE SAID THE U.S. SUPREME COURT HAS SUGGESTED SUCH A PROCEDURE AS A MEANS OF PREVENTING JURORS FROM FINDING OUT ABOUT PUBLICITY AND EXTRA-JUDICIAL MATTERS. COMPTON SAID THAT IF THE JURY IS ORDERED LOCKED UP DURING THE TRIAL, IT PROBABLY WOULD BE BEST TO POSTPONE THE START UNTIL AFTER THE HOLIDAYS. JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER, WHO PRESIDED AT THE FRIDAY SESSION, DID NOT ACT ON THE DEFENSE REQUEST FOR A CONTINUANCE, PREFERRED INSTEAD TO LET THE TRIAL JUDGE, HERBERT V. WALKER, DECIDE THE MATTER. HE SET OCT. 14 AS THE DATE FOR A HEARING ON THE POSTPONEMENT MOTION AND ON PREVIOUS DEFENSE MOTIONS TO SUPPRESS CERTAIN EVIDENCE OBTAINED BY POLICE FROM SIRHAN'S PASADENA HOME AND BE GIVEN ACCESS TO EVIDENCE HELD BY THE PROSECUTION.

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE
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AMONG THE EVIDENCE PARSONS WANTS TO EXAMINE IS AN INCH-THICK "BOOK" OF FBI EVIDENCE ON THE ASSASSINATION. THE LAWYER SAID THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE LET HIM TAKE A LOOK AT IT, BUT HE WANTS TO KNOW ITS CONTENTS IN DETAIL. UNDER CALIFORNIA LAW, THE DEFENSE HAS THE RIGHT OF DISCOVERY--A CHANCE TO SEE THE PROSECUTION'S EVIDENCE.

AT A NEWS CONFERENCE AFTER THE SESSION, PARSONS SAID SIRHAN IS STILL GETTING LETTERS EITHER PRAISING OR CONDEMNING HIM.

"ROBERT KENNEDY WAS A MAN WHO WAS EITHER LOVED OR HATED," PARSONS SAID. "SOME OF THESE LETTERS COMMEND SIRHAN AND ONE MAN WROTE THAT HE WISHED HE COULD HAVE DONE IT."

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Legal Skirmishes May Mark Sirhan Return to Court Today

BY RON EINSTOSS

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan B. Sirhan returns to court today and for the first time his appearance is expected to be marked by legal skirmishes between opposing attorneys.

The previous six times he appeared before the bench could be classified as being of a routine nature, such as arraignment, plea and postponements.

But this time Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker will be asked to rule on three defense motions, all of which could require some argument.

Russell E. Parsons, who is defending the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant charged with the election-night slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and the wounding of five others, is seeking:

1—A postponement of the trial now set for Nov. 1.

2—A court order directing prosecutors to turn over to him copies of all statements taken from witnesses, photographs and reports of investigating agencies, including the police and FBI.

Suppression of Evidence

3 — The suppression of certain evidence Parsons claims was taken without a search warrant from Sirhan's room in his mother's Pasadena home several hours after the shooting.

Parsons, because legal precedent is on his side, is conceded a good chance of getting most of what he wants.

It is certain that the case will not go to trial on Nov. 1, partly because the monumental preparations for security and the handling of news media have not yet been completed and also because the lawyer who is expected to assist Parsons in defending Sirhan still is engaged in another matter.

Because Judge Walker has made known his plans to sequester the jury, Parsons, who favors such a move, wants a trial date after Jan. 1.

That would insure that the jury is not locked up over the holidays.

It does not appear he will be successful.

The court's present intention reportedly is to begin the jury selection in early December, with a recess between Christmas and New Year's Day.

The sequestering of the jurors, it is understood, would not come until after the complete jury, including alternates, has been impaneled.

The combination of a possible death penalty, the great amount of

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

II-1 Los Angeles Times
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Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

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publicity in the case and the prominence of the victim would seem to militate against the selection of the jury in less than two weeks.

Prosecutors have indicated that their position on any request for a continuance is that they will be ready to go to trial on Nov. 1 or at any other time, and that if there is any delay in the proceedings, it will be defense-motivated.

Opposition Possible

Parsons' other two motions probably will be opposed to some extent by Dep. Dist. Attys. Lynn D. Compton, John E. Howard and David N. Fitts.

Under court decisions, Parsons is at least entitled to see any evidence the prosecution intends to present in court.

How much more than this Parsons is able to get—those statements and other evidence prosecutors do not expect to use—will have to be decided by Judge Walker.

In any event, some opposition by the prosecution can be expected on this point.

Question Arises

Because there appears to be a question over the admissibility of the evidence Parsons wants to have suppressed—it is believed that no search war-

rant was used when it was seized—the extent to which that motion may be opposed by Compton, Howard and Fitts is not known.

They could state for the record that they do not intend to use such evidence—including notebooks, books and personal papers belonging to Sirhan—and the question as to whether it should be suppressed then would become moot.

There is always the possibility that because of the importance of the case the prosecution may feel it should take a so-called hardline and oppose every motion made by Parsons.

The danger in this is that if there is some merit to Parsons' request—and there appears to be—a ruling adverse to the prosecution could be interpreted as a victory for the defense when, realistically, there was none.

Sirhan will probably be making his longest appearance in court yet. His previous stays have ranged from five minutes to 28 minutes.

The length of today's hearing, which could last most of the day or longer, will be determined by how strenuously the prosecution opposes Parsons' motions.

The proceedings again will be held in a makeshift courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice, near Sirhan's heavily guarded cell.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS A-2

Trial in RFK Death May Be Postponed

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The trial of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, charged with slaying Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, may be delayed from Nov. 1 until early next year.

This possibility was raised yesterday by discussions under way between judges and attorneys.

Sirhan, a 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant, will make his sixth court appearance tomorrow. The date was set for the naming of a judge and a courtroom, but Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker has already been assigned the trial in the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

A reason for delaying the trial was given as the length — an estimated two months. If it began Nov. 1, jurors probably would be locked up during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays.

In addition, an attorney expected to assist defense counsel Russell E. Parsons is still unavailable to help in the case because of other commitments.

Parsons moved last week to suppress certain evidence and asked that he be given all statements and reports now held by prosecutors and police. A hearing date on these matters is expected to be set tomorrow.

The New York senator was shot to death in a Los Angeles hotel minutes after proclaiming victory in California's June 5 Democratic presidential primary.

* * * *

Negroes Urged Not to Vote for President

CLEVELAND (UPI)—Roy Innis, director of the Congress of Racial Equality, has urged Negroes not to vote for president this year.

He said election of any of the three candidates "would perpetuate the present power groups in America."

"We are asking people to vote only on local issues and for local candidates who identify with black people," he said.

Innis was here in connection with CORE's voter registration drive.

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FILE
6-1-68

The Washington Post
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Date OCT 9 1968

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Trial of Sirhan Expected to Be Put Off Till 1969

**Defense May Ask New
Date in Jordanian's 6th
Court Appearance Friday**

BY RON EINSTOSS

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan B. Sirhan's trial on murder charges in the slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, now scheduled to begin Nov. 1, is expected to be continued until a later date, probably after the first of the year.

A new trial date may be sought by the defense Friday when the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant makes his sixth appearance in court.

The reasons such a postponement seems likely are twofold:

1—The attorney who is expected to assist Russell E. Parsons in defending Sirhan still is unavailable because of other commitments.

2—There is a possibility that the jury will be sequestered throughout the entire trial which would cause jurors to be locked up during the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's holidays if the case begins as now scheduled.

May Last Two Months

Present estimates are that the trial will last about two months.

When Sirhan appears in court Friday, it again will be before Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

The date originally had been set for the naming of a judge to try the case and a courtroom.

Those selections already have been announced, reportedly so work could begin on trial arrangements and problems of security.

Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker was assigned to the case and the trial was set in Department 107 on the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

That courtroom reportedly will not be used in the case until the actual trial begins.

Hearings on pretrial motions will continue to be heard on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice in a special room near Sirhan's heavily guarded cell.

Last week Parsons made motions to suppress certain evidence and be given all statements and reports now in the hands of the police and prosecutors.

Expected to Set Date

Judge Schauer on Friday is expected to set a hearing date on these matters before Judge Walker.

The evidence Parsons is seeking to suppress basically consists of items belonging to Sirhan which were taken by police from his mother's home in Pasadena.

These reportedly include several diary-type notebooks containing personal writings of Sirhan.

One of the notations is said to be that "Kennedy must be assassinated before June 5, 1968." The three bullets which felled the Democratic presidential aspirant were fired 16 minutes after midnight on June 5. Sen. Kennedy died 25 hours later.

Sirhan also is accused of feloniously assaulting, with intent to commit murder, five other persons who were attending the election night victory celebration at the Ambassador.

The book and movie rights to Sirhan's memoirs have been sold to Robert Blair Kaiser, a California author and former news magazine correspondent in Europe.

A sizable part of the royalties reportedly will be paid to Sirhan's lawyers.

Kaiser, it is understood, has been granted exclusive rights to interview Sirhan in his jail cell.

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

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Judge Is Appointed For Trial of Sirhan

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker, 69, who handled the famous Confidential magazine trial a decade ago, has been appointed to try Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy June 5.



Judge Walker

Selection of Walker to preside at the trial of the Jordanian native, scheduled to start Nov. 1, was announced yesterday. The site of the trial—the courtroom now designated as Department 107, Room 832, on the 8th floor of the Hall of Justice—also was announced. Sirhan, 24, is being held in a specially protected cell in the Hall of Justice.

The dean of Los Angeles criminal judges, Walker has heard more criminal cases than any other jurist in Los Angeles County. He once ruled the death penalty constitutional. He handed down the death penalty to Caryl Chessman, who died in the gas chamber in 1960 after a 12-year legal battle.

Walker was appointed to the bench in 1953 by Gov. Earl Warren, now U.S. Chief Justice, and presided at the first trial of Confidential magazine—which included sensational testimony involving top Hollywood stars.

Schub

File 6
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Los Angeles Judge Gets Sirhan Trial Assignment

Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 19—more criminal cases than Superior Judge Herbert V. Judge Walker. In 1964 the Walker, known as the dean of Criminal Courts Bar Association composed primarily of Los Angeles County's criminal defense lawyers, presented an court bench, has been assigned to conduct the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, it was announced today. award to him which read in part: "His standards of fairness and justice have been in the highest traditions of judicial responsibility . . ."

The appointment of the long-time public servant, lay church leader and veteran jurist was made by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Judge Walker, one of the most respected judges of the Superior Court, has the reputation of being firm but fair. Now 69, he was appointed to the Superior Court in 1953 by then-Gov. Earl Warren after a lengthy career in public service.

No judge here has tried

Judge Walker has conducted many celebrated trials, including the Confidential magazine libel action. He once sentenced Caryl Chessman to death. In 1967, after a 12-day hearing during which many experts in the field of crime and its punishment testified both pro and con, Judge Walker held that the death penalty is not unconstitutional.

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 The Washington Daily News _____
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 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
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MURKIN

(3)

An attorney for James Earl Ray, accused killer of Martin Luther King, filed motions calling for an end to electronic surveillance of Ray. He said his client was the most spied-on prisoner in the "free world."

MURKIN

The Washington Post _____
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PRISONERS 9/15 NX

--WORLD HORIZONS FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, SEPT. 22 OR THEREAFTER--
 (1,400) (PICTURE)

AMERICA'S TWO MOST GUARDED PRISONERS--SIRHAN SIRHAN AND JAMES EARL RAY

(EDITOR'S NOTE: JAMES EARL RAY, ILLINOIS-BORN BANK ROBBER AND IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW MOST OF HIS LIFE, AND SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, A SHY, SERIOUS YOUNG IMMIGRANT FROM JORDAN, WOULD HAVE LITTLE IN COMMON IF IT WERE NOT FOR ONE FACT: THEY ARE BOTH CHARGED WITH ASSASSINATIONS OF PROMINENT AMERICAN LEADERS--RAY OF MURDERING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SIRHAN OF SLAYING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY. EACH IS DUE TO GO ON TRIAL IN NOVEMBER. THESE TWO DISPATCHES DESCRIBE HOW THE MEN ARE PASSING THEIR DAYS TILL THEN.)

BY JACK V. FOX

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--EVERY MEAL THAT SIRHAN B. SIRHAN EATS IS PREPARED INDIVIDUALLY FOR HIM ON A LITTLE ELECTRIC STOVE A FEW FEET FROM HIS CELL.

SAYS LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF PETER J. PITCHESS:

"WE DON'T WANT SOMEONE POISONING EVERYONE IN THE JAIL TRYING TO GET AT HIM."

SIRHAN'S MOTHER, MARY, HAS CALLED ON HIM HALF A DOZEN TIMES. BUT SHE HAS YET TO EMBRACE HER SON OR EVEN TOUCH HIM. SHE IS NOT ALLOWED IN HIS CELL AND ALTHOUGH SHE CAN SEE HIM THROUGH A GLASS SHIELD, SHE TALKS WITH HIM ON AN INTERCOM.

SIRHAN IS NOT ALLOWED TO LISTEN TO A RADIO OR WATCH TELEVISION. THE ONLY SOUND HE USUALLY HEARS IS THE HUM OF AN ELECTRIC FAN.

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NOT RECORDED

199 SEP 24 1968

53 SEP 25 1968

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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ORIGINAL FILED IN

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(ADVANCE--WORLD HORIZONS FOR 9/22 RELEASE)

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NATIONAL HORIZONS

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PRISONERS 9/15 NX

--WORLD HORIZONS FOR RELEASE SUNDAY, SEPT. 22 OR THEREAFTER--
 (1,400) (PICTURE)

AMERICA'S TWO MOST GUARDED PRISONERS--SIRHAN SIRHAN AND JAMES EARL RAY

(EDITOR'S NOTE: JAMES EARL RAY, ILLINOIS-BORN BANK ROBBER AND IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW MOST OF HIS LIFE, AND SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, A SHY, SERIOUS YOUNG IMMIGRANT FROM JORDAN, WOULD HAVE LITTLE IN COMMON IF IT WERE NOT FOR ONE FACT: THEY ARE BOTH CHARGED WITH ASSASSINATIONS OF PROMINENT AMERICAN LEADERS--RAY OF MURDERING DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., SIRHAN OF SLAYING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY. EACH IS DUE TO GO ON TRIAL IN NOVEMBER. THESE TWO DISPATCHES DESCRIBE HOW THE MEN ARE PASSING THEIR DAYS TILL THEN.)

 BY JACK V. FOX

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--EVERY MEAL THAT SIRHAN B. SIRHAN EATS IS PREPARED INDIVIDUALLY FOR HIM ON A LITTLE ELECTRIC STOVE A FEW FEET FROM HIS CELL.

SAYS LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF PETER J. PITCHESS:

"WE DON'T WANT SOMEONE POISONING EVERYONE IN THE JAIL TRYING TO GET AT HIM."

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XEROX

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SEP 18 1968

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

NOT RECORDED

15 SEP 18 1968

51 SEP 20 1968

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(ADVANCE--WORLD HORIZONS FOR 9/22 RELEASE)

TT/CM516AED

Vote Backs RFK Autopsy Picture Ban

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The California Assembly has passed, 71-0, a bill designed to prevent publication of the photos of Robert F. Kennedy's autopsy.

The bill — approved yesterday — goes to the Senate where easy approval is forecast next week. The measure was introduced by Democrats at the request of Kennedy family associates, but had the full cooperation of Republican Gov. Ronald Reagan and GOP legislators.

Reproduction of any of the 300 photographs taken during the post-mortem on the body of the slain New York senator in Los Angeles in June would be "the ultimate in lack of taste," said Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh, who was Kennedy's presidential campaign chairman in California.

Los Angeles Dist. Atty. Evelle Younger said persons close to the Kennedy family expressed fears that when the photographs are introduced in court, "some second-rate publisher is going to put all 300 of them in a book or magazine and sell them to the kind of people who respond to that kind of pictures."

Without the law, copies of the photos would be available to anyone for a nominal fee as soon as they were introduced in the planned trial of Sirhan Birshara Sirhan, charged with Kennedy's assassination moments after the senator proclaimed victory in the California presidential primary.

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The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) *A-1*
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
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The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date *9-14-68*

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED

144 SEP 17 1968

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61 SEP 19 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Younger Appeals Order on Sirhan

District Attorney Evelle J. Younger has filed an appeal requesting the court order limiting publicity in the Sirhan B. Sirhan case be modified.

Sirhan is the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. A court order was issued by Superior Court Judge Arthur A. Alarcon June 7 restricting all persons involved in the case, including police and district attorney's investigators, from making statements concerning Sirhan or evidence against him.

On Aug. 2, Younger requested the Superior Court to modify the existing order and make it more lenient.

At that time Younger said he sought the modifications "to allow investigators to repudiate people claiming to be witnesses who are in fact merely seeking publicity." The court order forbids this being done.

Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer denied Younger's motion.

Younger's latest appeal, which will be heard by the California State Court of Appeal, again asks that the order be modified.

"Never before in the history of American judicial relations with the public has the voice of

responsible law enforcement been more muted than in this case," Younger said.

In the lengthy legal writ seeking the modifications, Younger says he has information, "he believes the public is entitled to know and which does not interfere with the constitutional right of a defendant to a fair trial."

Younger, a former Superior Court Judge, will go before the Appeals Court himself to argue for the modifications.

Sirhan is scheduled to return to court Oct. 4 when Judge Schauer is expected to name the Superior Court Judge who will try the case. His trial is sched-

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-6 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 9/11/68
Edition: 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
or

Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

54 OCT 13 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Bill Restricting Use of Kennedy Autopsy Photographs Killed

BY TOM GOFF

Times Sacramento Bureau Chief

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Reagan said Tuesday he has vetoed a bill passed by the 1968 Legislature which would have made it difficult to exploit for commercial and other purposes photographs taken of the body of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The measure, coauthored by Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh (D-Inglewood), would have required persons wanting to make use of official autopsy pictures to obtain a court order.

Under present law, copies of such pictures may be obtained by anyone willing to pay the price of reproducing them.

The restriction had been requested by Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger of Los Angeles County, who feared there would be a wide demand for Kennedy photos by exploiters and the morbidly curious.

Many of 300 autopsy pictures of the late senator, taken by the Los Angeles county coroner's office, will be used as evidence in the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan, Kennedy's accused assassin, Younger said.

Additional Provision in Bill

The vetoed bill would also have prohibited the use in California of wire-tapped evidence legally obtained in some other state but which would have been illegal had it been obtained in this state.

Reagan said he vetoed the bill because it "is so broadly worded that it would have the unintended effect of impeding the legitimate use of autopsy photographs in medical education and research."

He said medical researchers and forensic pathologists had complained that the bill would have had a detrimental effect on scientific advancement.

"I have no quarrel with the principal objective," the governor said.

The veto was one of several announced by Reagan on Tuesday.

He said he also has refused to sign a bill which would have provided for a special high-benefit retirement system for 600 employees of the State Legislature.

"The program would not be funded on an actuarially sound basis," he said.

Costs, estimated at \$1.8 million a year initially, would "increase dramatically as the state's share of liability under the program grew from year to year," the governor said.

Other Vetoes Listed

The plan, rushed through in the closing days of the legislative session, would have cost legislative employees less than the general state retirement system and given them benefits up to three times as great.

Other vetoes included:

—Speaker Unruh's \$1.5 million summer jobs program for youths. Reagan said the state already has a highly successful summer jobs program, and the

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
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Mr. Sullivan	_____
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Mr. Trotter	_____
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I-3 Los Angeles Times
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Date: 9/4/68
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Author: Tom Goff
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Unruh measure "only adds to the frustrations of minority unemployment" by providing make work type jobs.

—A bill by Sen. Randolph Collier (D-Yreka) which would have permitted convicted drunk drivers to choose between jail sentences and suspension of drivers licenses.

Such discretion said Reagan, should rest with judges and not offenders.

—A proposal by Sen. George Moscone (D-San Francisco) which would have deleted boards of police commissioners, city and town marshals from the list of persons authorized to issue licenses that carry concealed firearms.

More Study Needed

He said the entire field needs further legislative study.

—A measure Reagan said would give preferential tax treatment by eliminating from sales and use tax the sale or lease of equipment and personal property to be used in offshore oil explorations. It was sponsored by Assemblyman John G. Vene-man (R-Modesto).

—A bill which would have authorized \$1.2 million for a two-year experimental program of year-round operation at a poor city high school in Oakland where youngsters find it difficult to get summer jobs. The sponsor was March K. Fong (D-Oakland).

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SIRHAN AND RAY SELL BOOK RIGHTS

Suspected Assassins to Use
Money for Trial Costs

By HENRY RAYMONT

The accused assassins of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. have agreed to be interviewed in their prison cells for biographies to pay for their court defense.

Two professional writers, in separate contracts, have purchased book and movie rights to the memoirs of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian accused of the fatal shooting of Senator Kennedy, and James Earl Ray, the escaped convict from Missouri charged with the murder of Dr. King.

The Sirhan rights were acquired by Robert Blair Kaiser, a California author and former Time magazine correspondent in Europe. A spokesman for Mr. Kaiser, who was not available for comment, said a sizable part of the royalties would be paid to Sirhan's lawyers.

A similar arrangement has been worked out between Ray and William Bradford Huie, author of "Three Lives for Mississippi," the story of the murder in Philadelphia, Miss., of three civil rights workers.

According to reliable publishing sources, literary agents representing the two authors have been visiting book and magazine publishers here for the last two weeks. The price asked could not be learned.

Maximillian Becker, Mr. Kaiser's agent, confirmed that he was negotiating exclusive

rights to the Sirhan memoirs, which he said the California writer had obtained through Sirhan's lawyer, Russell E. Parsons.

William B. Arthur, editor of Look magazine, said he had been discussing the possibility of commissioning one or two articles from Mr. Huie, though no final agreement was reached.

A vice president of The World Publishing Company, who asked not to be named, said yesterday the company was offered book rights to the two projects two weeks ago and had rejected them.

"This is a tragic and rather dreary subject and I don't think it's the sort of thing we would want to publish," the World executive said. World is a subsidiary of The Times Mirror Company of Los Angeles.

In recent days, two other major publishing houses have each signed up a book on the assassination of Dr. King. Gerold Frank, author of "The Boston Strangler" and other best-sellers, has been commissioned by Doubleday & Company, Inc.,

to write an exhaustive profile of the crime. George McMillan, a former Marine Corps combat correspondent and author of an analysis of racial violence in the South, will write a psychological study of Ray for Little, Brown & Company of Boston.

An Early Contact

Interviewed from his home in Hartselle, Ala., Mr. Huie said his contract with Ray would provide him with material not available to anyone else. The writer said he had negotiated the contract through Arthur J. Hanes, Ray's Alabama lawyer, while the suspect was still in a London jail.

Mr. Huie complained that an order by Criminal Court Judge W. Preston Battle barring most persons from the closely guarded Shelby County Jail in Memphis where Ray is being held had prevented him from having any personal meetings with the suspect. He said he hoped to have the first opportunity for such a meeting after a jury is sworn in. The trial is scheduled for Nov. 12.

Meanwhile, he said, he would

continue to submit questions to Ray through Mr. Hanes. He reported that Ray writes the answers on legal-sized pads of paper while being watched by guards through closed-circuit television cameras in a permanently lighted cell.

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)

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Sirhan Said to Value Arab Forum Over Life

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

Sirhan Sirhan intends to "go to the gas chamber—silent" unless he is permitted to turn his trial into an anti-Zionist showcase, Ramparts magazine asserted yesterday.

The accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy recently told one of his brothers that he wants to make the trial "a public and political forum for the Arab position," the magazine said in an article in its current issue.

"In fact," the story continued, "he has confided to his family that he will never make any statement unless

special provisions are made for the courtroom proceedings.

"What Sirhan wants is, quite simply, publicity. He wants the major networks to be allowed to broadcast the entire trial. If they do so, he will tell all."

The article, in the magazine's Sept. 7 issue, was written by Mahmoud Abdel-Hadi, an Egyptian correspondent for Akhbar Elyoum. As an Arab, he was said to have secured exclusive interviews with members of the 24-year-old suspect's family.

According to the article, Sirhan told his brother, Adel, that unless he gets his

way, "then I shall go to the gas chamber—silent."

A Mere Symbol

But if he gets his forum, Abdel-Hadi reports, Sirhan and his attorney, Russell Parsons, plan to argue that the shooting of Robert Kennedy was "a political gesture and that Kennedy to Sirhan was merely a symbol."

The startling claim, a virtual apologia for assassination, also happens to be What many Arab and Arab American spokesmen have been pressing as a thesis since Kennedy's death June 6. Baldly put, it blames "Zionism" rather than Sirhan for the killing. And it sees the trial as a golden "opportunity" to present the Arab case.

The Ramparts story, however, maintains that Sirhan's strategy is "his own. . . something he developed after thinking about it for long hours in his specially made jail cell."

Sirhan's family, Abdel-Hadi writes, is confused and bitter, surprised that they have not gotten any financial help from Arab consulates in Los Angeles. The suspect himself is described as disappointed that the Arab people have not greeted him as a hero.

Bitter over the Arab-Israeli war last year, Sirhan was also said to have been highly distraught over a Kennedy campaign visit to a Jewish temple in Portland, Ore., where he put on a yarmulke and professed support for selling 50 U.S. jet fighters to Israel.

Seen on Television

Kennedy's donning of the yarmulke does not seem to have been reported in the Los Angeles newspapers. According to Ramparts, Sirhan saw the episode on television.

It "made him very angry," the Ramparts story quoted another brother, Sharif Sirhan, as saying. "He left the room putting his hands on his ears and almost weeping."

"Everything in this country was pushing him to the danger point," Sirhan's mother, Mary, reportedly said. "Everything, the propaganda of the Zionists, everything was against his country, against his people."

Adel is quoted again: "If Sirhan was just an assassin, how could he have done it another way, just by having a gun with a telescope. He went to the Ambassador Hotel expecting to get caught; that is why he left his notes at home. I believe that Sirhan wanted to get caught so that he could say what he believes."

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The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

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The National Observer ☐
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