

tify about Sirhan's purchase of .22-caliber ammunition there last June 1, Saturday before the assassination.

Told to recall it, Arnot said that around 3:30 p.m. that day, "three individuals" walked into the store. One of them, he said, asked for two boxes of mini-mag bullets.

Prosecutor Fitts cut Arnot off and proceeded to berate his own witness, bracing the clerk about a "so-called polygraph" test police gave him months ago. The test, Fitts told Arnot sharply, "indicated you were confused," that he must have had the Sirhan sale mixed up with another transaction.

There is no question that Arnot sold the bullets to Sirhan. The receipt was found in Sirhan's car.

A few days after the assassination, Arnot told the Washington Post last June, it dawned on him that "by golly, I waited on that guy." He also recalled then, he said, that there were two men who

came in the store with him. Gun shop proprietors Ben and Dona Herrick told The Post the same story.

Arnot had not yet been questioned by police then, but they subsequently interrogated him. The prosecution was evidently surprised when he mentioned "three individuals" on the witness stand again today.

"Why did you say you sold it (the ammunition) to three persons?" defense counsel Cooper joined in demanding when Fitts was done. Both the prosecution and the defense are agreed that Sirhan acted alone.

"I just said three persons entered the store," Arnot said doggedly. "I didn't say I made the sale to three persons."

Cooper persisted. "You don't remember to whom you sold the ammunition, do you?" he asked. "You can't remember Sirhan or the sale, can you?"

"I can remember the sale," Arnot responded. "I can't remember the individual."



Associated Press

Claudia Williams and husband Ronald  
leave courtroom after Mrs. Williams tes-

tified that Sirhan showed her how to  
shoot her revolver at a firing range.



# Angry Sirhan Demands Death

By George Lardner Jr.  
Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 28

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan demanded his own execution in open court today, defiantly declaring that he murdered Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in cold blood.

"I killed Robert Kennedy willfully and premeditatedly with 20 years of malice aforethought," Sirhan insisted in a tense encounter with Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker.

Walker angrily refused to accept the guilty plea, but found it impossible to quiet the seething Arab immigrant without an abrupt recess in his murder trial here.

"You are not going to shove it down my throat," the 24-year-old Sirhan warned the judge in protest against the course his defense lawyers have taken. "I will ask to be executed."

Sirhan said he wanted to dismiss his three lawyers, and they promptly offered to get out of the case, but the judge ordered them to stay.

He said the trial would go on with Sirhan bound and gagged if necessary. The 29-year-old jurist said Sirhan was plainly "incapable of representing himself."

Walker tried to proceed after a breathing spell, but Sirhan's sad-faced mother, Mary, was the next witness.

Fighting back a rush of tears, she tried bravely to testify, but broke down after a few questions.

"It's hard, it's hard, it's hard," she kept murmuring apologetically. The trial was adjourned until Monday. Mrs. Sirhan left the stand, dabbing at her eyes with a piece of yellow tissue.

The startling confrontation between the judge and Sirhan, with the jurors out of the room, Sirhan had

been squirming in his seat over defense testimony about what he evidently considered a dismal and embarrassing record in high school aptitude and achievement tests.

They showed a decidedly subnormal mentality at worst, a slightly below-average IQ of 89 at best.

Outraged, Sirhan whispered excitedly to defense counsel Russell Parsons. The lawyer hurried to the bench and told the judge that Sirhan had something to say.

Walker grimaced and sent the jurors to a waiting room upstairs. Chief defense counsel Grant B. Cooper rose to explain that Sirhan was bucking at the defense strategy. The slender defendant got up.

The judge: "There is something you want to say?"

Sirhan: "May I address the court in chambers, sir?"

The judge: "No."

Sirhan: "At this time, sir, withdraw my original plea of not guilty and submit the plea of guilty as charged on all counts. I also request that my counsel disassociate themselves from this case completely."

Then he sat down. Walker ordered him back on his feet, asking him what kind of penalty he had in mind.

'No Defense'

Sirhan: "I will offer no defense whatsoever."

The judge: "The question is, what do you want to do about the penalty?"

Sirhan: "I will ask to be executed, Sir."

Almost out of patience by now, Walker said there was nothing in the law that would permit that. Sirhan insisted it was his business, his prerogative.

The judge: "No, it isn't. Now, when we come to accepting a plea, you have to give me a reason."

Sirhan: "I killed Robert Kennedy willfully and premeditatedly—with 20 years of malice aforethought, that is why."

Walker said evidence of that would first have to be produced in court. Haughtily, but in the soft, measured tones that he maintained

throughout the encounter, Sirhan replied that he was withdrawing the evidence.

The judge: "There is no such procedure."

Sirhan: "To hell with it."

That was enough for the bushy-browed jurist. He refused to accept the plea, ordered the trial to proceed and warned Sirhan that any further interruptions would result in his being restrained.

The most recent case here where that was done was at the first trial of James Merikouris, 53, who was convicted in 1956 of murdering his ex-wife and her second husband. He was first gagged with leather, but he fought that until his mouth bled, and eventually wound up in a shatterproof glass isolation booth. He also wound up with a death sentence, although this was later commuted to life.

Sirhan Barely Pauses

Walker warned the same might be in store for Sirhan, but the defendant barely paused.

"You are not going to shove it down my throat, sir, in any way you want," he declared. He said he intended to represent himself.

The judge: "What are the defenses, let me ask, what are the elements of the crime of murder?"

Sirhan: "Sir, I don't know. I don't understand all of this legality. You let me."

The judge: "I am conducting these proceedings, not you. What are the defenses to murder in the first degree?"

Sirhan: "I don't know."

Once more, Walker told the defiant defendant to sit down, but Sirhan was still adamant, reiterating that he was pleading guilty and asking to be sent to the gas chamber.

The judge: "I thought I made it clear. The court will not accept the plea."

Sirhan: "I am sorry. I will not accept it."

The judge: "The law tells me what I can do and cannot do. Now, you understand from here on out, you keep quiet, and if not, I will see

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to it that you are kept quiet.

Sirhan: "I am sorry, but my original position stands."

#### Recess Ordered

This time, Walker simply ignored him and ordered a 15-minute recess. Sirhan took the occasion, as Cooper later put it, to tell his lawyers that he wanted no part of them.

The dispute has been simmering for more than a week. Full of pride, Sirhan has been openly unhappy with his lawyers' attempts to prove him a born loser, a psychotic so sick and obsessed that he was incapable of premeditated, first-degree murder.

Then, when the attorneys showed him their list of proposed witnesses, the mercurial Arab balked at about a dozen, including the Pasadena school official, John T. Harris, who was on the stand this afternoon when Sirhan blew up.

Cooper said he thought they had their client finally sold on their strategy, but this afternoon, the lawyer said, Sirhan reneged again and absolutely "forbade us" to call the disputed dozen.

The veteran, 65-year-old criminal lawyer said he was not about "to let a client run a lawsuit." Speaking for himself, Parsons and defense attorney Emile Zola Berman, Cooper offered to quit—though he emphasized that "none of us wants to desert" Sirhan.

The judge said he wouldn't permit it anyway. "He's incapable of representing himself," he told Cooper in denying his motion to withdraw. "I think you've prepared a good defense, if not the only logical defense that could be presented."

#### Jurors Called Back

The jurors were called back to hear Harris finish his testimony. Sirhan sat in his chair, sullen but quiet. Finally, his mother was called.

Eyes brimming, Mrs. Sirhan took the stand in a gold-and-black brocade suit. Gently, Parsons asked her if she were Sirhan's mother. She could barely blurt out a yes, but steeled herself long enough to say that and add that the boy was born in Jerusalem.

How long had she lived there?

"Thousands of years," she replied. "From generation to generation." She looked at an aerial map of the city as it was in 1948 at the outset of the Arab-Israeli war. "Yes," she said she recognized it.

"It was the city of peace," she said brokenly. But she could go no further. The judge adjourned trial until Monday.

"I can't conceive of a worse set of circumstances for a mother to be called to the stand," Walker announced after the jurors had left. "I think she showed great courage, but it wasn't the time."

#### Prosecution Not Surprised

For its part, the prosecution said that it was not particularly surprised by Sirhan's outburst, nor did it consider the blow-up any indication that the first-degree murder charge against him was inappropriate.

Cooper said it also leaves the defense in a quandary over whether to call Sirhan to the stand—as had been planned.

"I don't know what he'll say," he told reporters.

The fireworks came just as the defense was launching its case.

At this morning's session, the first substantive witness, a childhood playmate of Sirhan's, was called to attest to the squalor and violence that his lawyers say hounded the young Arab to the Ambassador Hotel last June 5.

Slender, swarthy, but taller than Sirhan, Ziad Hashimeh, 25, told of Sirhan's beatings at the hands of his father, starving children across the street and the shocks of sporadic warfare in the old, walled city of Jerusalem.

"He's a very sensitive human being," Hashimeh recalled. "Anything that hurts him, you know, he gets mad."



## JUDGE REFUSES PLEA

# Sirhan B. Sirhan Begs for Execution

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan stood up in the court, a tiny figure, and told the judge he planned and carried out the murder of Robert F. Kennedy and wanted to die for it.

Superior Court Judge Hebert V. Walker replied that Sirhan was in no condition to determine what he wanted to do and refused the defendant's demand that his three lawyers be fired.

Mrs. Mary Sirhan, the mother, sobbed so uncontrollably on the witness stand that the trial was recessed until Monday.

The eight-week trial reached a dramatic peak yesterday when chief defense counsel Grant B. Cooper said his client wanted to make a statement outside the presence of the jury.

### Withdraws Plea

This dialogue ensued, according to the official transcript:

Sirhan — "I at this time, sir, withdraw my original plea of not guilty and submit the plea of guilty as charged on all counts."

"I also request that my counsel disassociate themselves from this case completely."

Walker — "Do I understand — stand up — do I understand that you want to plead guilty to murder in the first degree?"

Sirhan — "Yes, sir, I do."

Walker — "All right, and what do you want to do about the penalty?"

"I will offer no defense whatsoever."

"The question is, what do you want to do about the penalty?"

### Asks to Be Executed

"I will ask to be executed, sir."

"Now I know nothing in the law that permits a defendant under any circumstances to enter a plea of guilty to murder in the first degree and ask for execution."

"Well, I have, sir."

"Well, now, just a minute. Why do you want to do this?"

"I believe, sir, that is my business, isn't it?"

"... You have to give a reason."

"I killed Robert Kennedy wilfully, premeditatively, with 20 years' malice aforethought, that is why."

"Well, the evidence has to be produced here in court."

"I withdraw all evidence, sir."

"There is no such procedure."

"To hell with it."

### Plea Refused

"Well, the court will not accept the plea. Proceed with the trial. Let me give you to understand here and now that this court will not put up with any more of your interruptions. . . ."

"Sir?"

"I mean by that, that you will have a face mask put on you which will prohibit you from talking and, further, your arms will be strapped to your chair and the trial will proceed. You understand that?"

"I understand. However, sir, I intend to defend myself proper (by myself). I don't want to be represented by these counsel."

### Counsel Kept On

"You have retained counsel. Counsel is staying in the trial."

"What I have said, I don't want anyone to have a trial shoved down my throat, sir, and you are not going to shove it down my throat, sir, in any way you want."

Walker ordered the trial to proceed. The defendant's mother was the next witness. She broke down sobbing after a few minutes on the stand and the trial was recessed for the weekend.

### Below Normal Grades

Sirhan's outburst came when a Board of Education official was reading his grades and achievement tests in junior and senior high school showing he was below normal.

It is the defense strategy to show Sirhan has "diminished capacity."

Cooper disclosed the Jordanian ambassador to the United States was flying to Los Angeles over the weekend to talk with Sirhan.

The veteran defense lawyer said he hoped to call Sirhan to the witness stand Monday.



SIRHAN B. SIRHAN

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# SIRHAN PLEA TODAY IS DENIED BY COURT

## Judge Rejects Request After Jordanian Tries to Admit Guilt on All Charges

By DOUGLAS ROBINSON

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 28—In a voice seething with anger, Sirhan B. Sirhan interrupted his trial today to demand that he be allowed to change his plea to guilty of the assassination and of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and his own to request execution.

"I want to withdraw my plea of not guilty and plead guilty to all counts as charged," he told a startled court. "I want to disassociate myself from my counsel."

After a short argument with Superior Court Judge Herbert Walker, who told the defendant he would put him in chains if he continued with his interruptions, the trial was recessed to allow the defendant to calm himself.

"I killed Robert Kennedy willfully and premeditatively and with 20 years malice aforethought," Sirhan said at one point; his voice heavy with rage.

"That has to be proved in a court of law," Judge Walker answered.

### I.Q. Rating Put at 89

During the argument, Judge Walker told Sirhan in an angry voice that "I know of nothing in the law which permits a defendant to enter a plea of guilty and ask for his own execution."

"I do," Sirhan replied, in a loud, emphatic voice.

Judge Walker finally denied Sirhan's request and, during a lecture on his behavior, warned him that if he was not quiet he would "be put in chains" and be forced to wear a face mask.

The defendant's latest outburst came on the first day of the defense's case in the small, crowded courtroom on the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

When the afternoon session began shortly after 2 o'clock, the defense called John T. Harris, a personnel supervisor in the Pasadena, Calif., school system, who told the jury about Sirhan's grades in junior and senior high school.

After testifying for about thirty minutes, Mr. Harris told the court that Sirhan had an intelligence quotient of 89 when "normal was from 90 to 110."

At this point, Sirhan, dressed in an open-necked blue shirt and dark trousers, rose to his feet. He was immediately pushed back into his seat by two security officers. He appeared to be terribly agitated.

After a short conference at the bench by the attorneys, Grant B. Cooper, the chief defense lawyer, told the court that the defendant had "objected to our calling this witness to make known his grades," adding that last week the defendant was shown a long list of witnesses expected to be called.

"He rejected about a dozen whom we as lawyers thought were in his best interests," Mr. Cooper said.

The attorney then described arguments the defense had had with Sirhan during the last few days.

"Have I recited it correctly," he then asked the defendant.

"Yes, Sir, you have," Sirhan answered.

Then, Mr. Cooper informed the judge that his client had a statement to make. At this point Sirhan made the dramatic announcement that he wanted to change his plea.

None of the exchange was heard by the jury, who had been excused after Sirhan's initial outburst.

During his argument with Judge Walker, the dark-haired, 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant, kept his voice down although it trembled with anger. He insisted that he wanted to change counsel.

"What are the defenses for first degree murder," the judge asked Sirhan.

"I don't know," came the answer. Sirhan then sat down, his head almost on the defense table, his arms spread across the table. "Keep quiet or I'll see that you are kept quiet," the judge admonished him.

Following a 20-minute recess, Mr. Cooper, speaking for all the defense attorneys, offered to resign from the case. His offer was denied by the judge. It was the third time this week that Sirhan disrupted the court.

When the defendant came back into the courtroom, he appeared relaxed. His mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, seated in the spectator section, was crying.

The Pasadena school official continued his testimony without further interruption. When he finished, Mrs. Sirhan, her face streaked with tears, was sworn in as a witness.

After one or two questions, Mrs. Sirhan was asked how long her family had lived in Jerusalem.

"For thousands of years, from generation to generation to generation," she said, tears pouring from her eyes.

Sirhan's brother, Munir, then approached the defense table and asked that his mother be excused. The defense made the motion and court was recessed until Monday.

When the jury had left the courtroom, Judge Walker told the attorneys and spectators that "I can't conceive of a worse set of circumstances for a mother to be called to the stand than these."

"I think she showed great courage," he said.

During the day, the defense sought to bring out the abysmal living conditions in the Old City of Jerusalem and some of the boyhood traumas experienced by the defendant.

One of the witnesses, 25-year-old Ziyad Hashimeh, told the court that as a boy he had known the Sirhan family after they had moved from the New City, outside the massive walls, into the crowded, squalid Old City where some 350,000 Arabs were living in quarters designed to accommodate about 100,000 persons.

Mr. Hashimeh, a Palestinian Arab with sharp features and a shock of black hair, testified that the Arab families could hear gunfire a good part of the time from fighting between Arabs and Zionists.

He told of how a grocery store only a short distance from the building where the Hashimeh and the Sirhan families lived was once blown up by a bomb and how the owner was killed.

"The year before Sirhan ran into the house crying 'mother, mother, come to the well.' He was crying and shaking."

"When we got to the well just outside the front door, he showed us a human hand and arm in the water bucket."

Mr. Hashimeh described young Sirhan as a "sensitive" boy who would not hesitate to take his friends to task for lying and stealing.

"Once when we were playing hopscotch, I lied to him and Sirhan began to shake," Mr. Hashimeh said. At this

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point, the witness raised a clenched fist and shook it rapidly in imitation of how the defendant had reacted.

"He told me, 'you can learn more from people in this world when you don't lie,'" the witness continued.

Throughout Mr. Hashimeh's testimony, Sirhan alternately grinned and looked serious as his former friend described their life in Jerusalem.

The defense is seeking to prove that Sirhan, partly because of past traumas in his life, could not have given rational or mature consideration to the murder of Senator Kennedy. Under California law, the jury must find a defendant guilty of a lesser crime if the defense can prove that the accused had "diminished capacity" in that he was acting under "diminished capacity."

Sirhan has pleaded not guilty to first degree murder although his attorneys have already conceded that he shot the Senator last spring at the Ambassador Hotel.

In his testimony, Mr. Hashimeh said that the Sirhan family—all eight members—lived

in one room and shared a communal kitchen with eight other families in a two-story building that, he said, was "about 800 years old."

# Sirhan: 'I Will Ask to Be Executed'

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Mrs. Mary Sirhan, the mother, sobbed so uncontrollably on the witness stand the trial had to be recessed until Monday.

The trial reached a dramatic peak when chief defense counsel Grant B. Cooper said his client wanted to make a statement outside the presence of the jury.

This dialogue ensued according to the official transcript:

Sirhan — "I at this time, sir, withdraw my original plea of not guilty and submit the plea of guilty as charged on all counts. I also request that my counsel disassociate themselves from this case completely."

Walker — "What do you want to do about the penalty?"

Sirhan — "I will offer no defense whatsoever."

Walker — "The question is, what do you want to do about the penalty?"

## ASKS DEATH

"I will ask to be executed, sir."

Sirhan's outburst came when a board of education official was reading his grades and achievement tests in junior and senior high school showing he was below normal. It is the defense strategy to show Sirhan has "diminished capacity."

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## The Notebooks of Sirhan<sup>N<sup>o</sup> 20</sup> Sirhan

The extracts from the private notebooks of Sirhan Sirhan, brought into the public domain Tuesday during his trial for the murder of Robert F. Kennedy, are fascinating and disturbing. They appear to establish premeditation and motive for his attack, as the prosecution claims, but they also demonstrate a mind that was disturbed and, perhaps, quite sick, when they were written. Since the principal hope of Sirhan's attorneys seems to be to convince the jury that he was mentally disturbed, if not legally insane, at the time of the crime and thus should not be sent to the gas chamber, the notebooks may help the defense as much as the prosecution.

Far more disturbing than the contents of the notebooks is the way in which they have been made public. The Supreme Court has made it very clear that the Constitution bars the government from seizing anyone's private papers and from using them against him over his objections. That rule is hardly a new one, since it was first announced by the Court in 1886, and hardly open to question since it is deeply rooted in both history and logic. One of the complaints the American colonists, as well as the citizens of England, had against the British monarchy in the 18th century was the seizures of private papers by the authorities as proof of sedition. The Fourth and Fifth Amendments were designed to block that practice, among other things. More than 80 years ago, when the Supreme Court faced this question after a judge had ordered a man to produce his private papers, it said, "Any forcible and compulsory extortion of a man's own testimony or of his private papers to be used as evidence to convict him of crime . . . is within the condemnation of (prior decisions). We have been unable to perceive that the seizure of a man's private books and papers to be used in evidence against him is substantially different from compelling him to be a witness against himself."

The question thus raised about the use of Sirhan's notebooks at this trial is substantial. It may be that his attorneys, really wanting that evidence spread on the record in support of an insanity defense, did not choose to contest seriously its use by the prosecution. But Sirhan himself made his objection well known. He did not want the notebooks used in his trial and it is after all, his constitutional right that appears to have been abridged by their use. Two problems arise from these events: Unless Sirhan is incompetent to make decisions about his own rights, do the lawyers have authority

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to override his wishes on so sensitive a question? If the jury should find him guilty as charged, does not the use of these notebooks over his personal objections provide a substantial ground for reversal on appeal?

Beyond this, however, the actions of the prosecution in releasing to the press two pages from those notebooks that the Judge barred from evidence—and the Judge's refusal to stop it from doing so—are indefensible. The Judge said the material on these pages was irrelevant to the trial and possibly "inflammatory." But the prosecution contended, successfully, that this material should be made public (although not given to the jury) "in the interests of the public and the Nation to know what the defendant thought about this country."

The first question that springs to mind about this event is whether this is a show trial or a real one? Who is passing judgment on Sirhan? A jury or a nation? Many of the Nation's judges and lawyers have protested loudly in recent years about what is called "trial by newspaper." Yet in this case, a judge has concurred in the decision of a prosecutor to engage in exactly that. If Sirhan's thoughts are too inflammatory to be allowed to go before the jury which will judge him, are they not also too inflammatory to go before the public that will judge the jury?

It is, of course, interesting to know what Sirhan thought of his adopted country. But is that anybody's business but his own unless he chooses to tell us himself? Is there any essential difference between the seizure and publication of his private writings and the seizure and publication of the private writings of any other citizen? The whole principle of individual freedom in the Western World rests on the theory expressed almost 200 years ago in those famous words delivered by William Pitt in the House of Lords: "The poorest man may in his cottage bid defiance to all the forces of the Crown. It may be frail, its roof may shake; the wind may blow through it; the storm may enter, the rain may enter—but the King of England cannot enter; all his force dares not cross the threshold of the ruined tenement."

For the government to cross that threshold, with or without a search warrant, and to take away a man's private communications is to reduce the freedom each of us has to put down on paper his most intimate thoughts. That is too high a price to pay for a better public understanding of why Sirhan Sirhan killed Robert Kennedy.

# Sirhan Faces Binding, Gag For Outbursts

By George Lardner Jr.  
Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 26

Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker threatened today to bind and gag Sirhan Bishara Sirhan if he stirs up "any more commotion" at his assassination trial.

"He just gets worse and worse and we have to stop him someplace," the judge told Sirhan's attorneys at a session in his private chambers this morning.

The judge said he was thinking of a mask that would keep Sirhan's mouth "fairly well closed" and a pair of straps to keep him in his courtroom chair.

For the rest of the day, Sirhan was good, even delighted at one point with some prosecution testimony about how smart he was, but his lawyers served notice on Walker that they could make no promises about his behavior during the rest of the trial.

Sirhan exploded several times Tuesday in bitter protests, he said, against introduction of his secret writings, replete with staccato threats to kill Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. The mercurial Arab's attorneys managed to calm him down, but, they said, only with difficulty.

The state virtually rested its case at the end of today's session after calling 57 witnesses in prosecution of the first-degree murder charge lodged against Sirhan for Kennedy's death here last June 5.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lynn D. Compton told the judge Tuesday that he suspected Sirhan might be "malingering or putting on some kind of act" in the courtroom. But Judge Walker, according to a transcript of this exchange made public today, said he was convinced Sirhan was not bluffing.

This morning, Walker called attorneys for both sides into his chambers again and told them that "if there is any more commotion by this defendant in that courtroom, I am going to put him in restraint."

Chief defense counsel Grant B. Cooper: "If there is any more commotion, we are going to ask to be relieved."

Judge Walker: "That's going to be another problem."

Defense counsel Emile Zola Berman: "What kind of restraint did you have in mind, judge?"

Judge Walker: "Well, we have a mask that we can put on the defendant that holds his mouth fairly well closed. We have two leather straps

with which we can strap his arms to the chair. That's the kind of restraint I had in mind."

Sirhan was waiting in an anteroom at the moment. Attorneys Cooper and Berman excused themselves, huddled with Sirhan and reported back to the judge.

Berman: "We regret to tell you we can't tell you what he will do."

Cooper: "We told him what you said."

Judge Walker: "That is what I told you to tell him because we just can't put up with his antics. He is just like a child."

Should Sirhan have to be restrained, it could go a long way toward supporting the defense contention that he is far too sick to be capable of the cold-blooded murder of which he stands accused.

The jurors, however, remained blithely unaware of the prospect as the prosecution called its three final witnesses to the stand today.

The first detective, Lt. William C. Jordan of the Los Angeles Police Department, testified that Sirhan made him serve as his food-taster in the hours after the slender immigrant's arrest for killing Kennedy.

His moodiness gone for the moment, Sirhan beamed broadly as the officer called him one of the sharpest suspects he ever tried to interrogate.

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

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TOP CLIPPING

DATED 2-27-69

FROM Wash Post Times Herald

MARKED FILE AND 201 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Today's session opened uncertainly as a result of Sirhan's outbursts Tuesday when he was determined to plead guilty rather than have the jurors get hold of his disjointed writings.

Sirhan's lawyers dissuaded him from changing his plea Tuesday and they apparently had to do so again today—besides warning about face masks and leather straps.

"He was still morose . . . disturbed," defense counsel Russell Parsons told reporters after conferring with Sirhan in the "holding tank" or ante-room where he was waiting for court to convene.

Eventually, he calmed down, Parsons said, especially after a chat with his brother, Munir, 21. "He thinks a lot of his baby brother," the attorney said.

Sirhan still had his lips pulled tightly together as the jurors spent half an hour intently reading the six pages from his notebooks and other scribbles that were admitted into evidence Tuesday.

But gradually he relaxed. Before Lt. Jordan left the stand, he was leaning back in his chair, happily drinking in the words.

The police officer, then a sergeant, was in charge of the Detective Bureau at the Ramparts station near the Ambassador Hotel last June 5 when Sirhan was brought in after his arrest.

Jordan said he got nowhere in his questioning then or later. Sirhan wouldn't even give his name.

At no point, the officer told prosecutor John Howard, did Sirhan appear to be irrational or intoxicated.

Lt. Jordan was followed to the stand by Dr. Faustin Bazilauskas, the physician on duty at the Central Receiving Hospital, where Kennedy was first brought, and Dr. Thomas Noguchi, the former Los Angeles County coroner who performed the autopsy.

Kennedy, the gray-haired Dr. Bazilauskas testified, was "to all intents and purposes, lifeless" when he was wheeled in.

"Each minute was an hour that night," he recalled. Bazilauskas said he considered giving Kennedy a shot of adrenalin straight in the heart with a four-inch needle to revive him, but then thought better of it.

"Mrs. Kennedy's eye were just two feet away," he said, "and I don't think she could have taken it."

The Senator was revived somewhat by other means, but he died 25 hours later. Dr. Noguchi said the three shots that struck the Senator were fired "at very close range" and in rapid sequence.

With that, the prosecution said it was resting its case except for final testimony from a handwriting expert and introduction of several hundred statements from various witnesses "for the record."

Prosecutor David N. Fitts said many of them would help lay to rest "red herrings" and false rumors about the as-

sassination, but they will not be shown to the jurors and will not be available until after the trial.

Defense counsel Cooper promptly asked for a recess until Monday to get its presentation lined up, but Judge Walker ordered him to start Friday instead.

### **Rogers Backing of Plan For Sirhan Plea Denied**

The State Department denied yesterday that Secretary of State William P. Rogers had approved a plan to let Sirhan. Bishara Sirhan plead guilty to the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in exchange for assurances he would not be executed.

Asked to comment on the report, which appeared in a syndicated column by Frank Mankiewicz and Tom Braden in yesterday's editions of The Washington Post, Department spokesman Carl Barich said:

"I can deny that. That is not correct. When an inquiry was put to the Secretary, he replied he did not think it was appropriate for him to discuss this matter. This matter was entirely outside his area of responsibility and it was entirely up to Younger [Los Angeles District Attorney Evelle Younger] to decide what to do."



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Fight Looms Over Sirhan Diaries Use

By John Douglas

Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

A major clash in the Sirhan Bishara Sirhan murder trial loomed today as prosecutors sought to put before the jury three diaries written by the admitted slayer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A preliminary skirmish in the battle of the notebooks was abruptly halted yesterday when the young Arab became visibly upset in the courtroom and his chief defense counsel, Grant B. Cooper, called for a recess.

Judge Herbert V. Walker, presiding over the trial, then adjourned for the day. Cooper and his associate, Russell E. Parsons, calmed Sirhan before he was returned to his cell.

The two attorneys declined to say what their client had told them, but Parsons indicated that Sirhan had misunderstood preliminary legal maneuvers and believed Judge Walker had admitted the diaries in evidence. Actually the judge will not make that ruling until today.

Sirhan's position is that "the notebooks are his and he does not want them read by anyone," Parsons said.

The lawyer charged police who searched the Sirhan home at 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena, following the shooting had "stolen" the diaries. Police admit they acted without a search warrant.

During examination of Police Sgt. William E. Brandt Sirhan rose in his chair and talked excitedly with his lawyers and Chief Defense Investigator Michael J. Brown several times during their discussion.

Brandt, under questioning by Dep. Dist. Atty. John Howard, told the jury of eight men and four women that the defendant's brother, Adel Sirhan, 30, gave him permission to search the family home. He said he went to the Howard Street address from Pasadena Police Headquarters where he met both Adel and Munir Sirhan, another Cuneo that Sen. Kennedy might have fared better had he received different treatment at Central Receiving Hospital where he was taken immediately following the shooting in a pantry off the Ambassador Hotel's Embassy Ballroom.

Dr. Cuneo disputed this. He said he thought the physicians at Central Receiving had done all they could for Kennedy before transferring him to Good Samaritan.

A major portion of yesterday's trial session was taken up with the testimony of DeWayne Wolfer, Los Angeles Police Dept. ballistics expert.

Wolfer identified, and the jury was shown, bullet fragments removed from Kennedy's brain during surgery and at the subsequent autopsy. Also shown was a bullet taken from the slain senator's neck.

Wolfer identified this slug, as well as slugs taken from the wounds of three other persons injured in the shooting melee which claimed Kennedy's life, as having been fired by Sirhan's gun.

Shown the jury over Cooper's vigorous protests were autopsy photographs showing Kennedy's headwounds, which Cooper denounced as "inflammatory" to the jury.

His efforts to block the photos were unsuccessful as were those short Dr. Cuneo's testimony, which the defense lawyer objected to as a "gory detail."

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
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Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

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A-2 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 2/25/69  
Edition: Night Final  
Author: John Douglas  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
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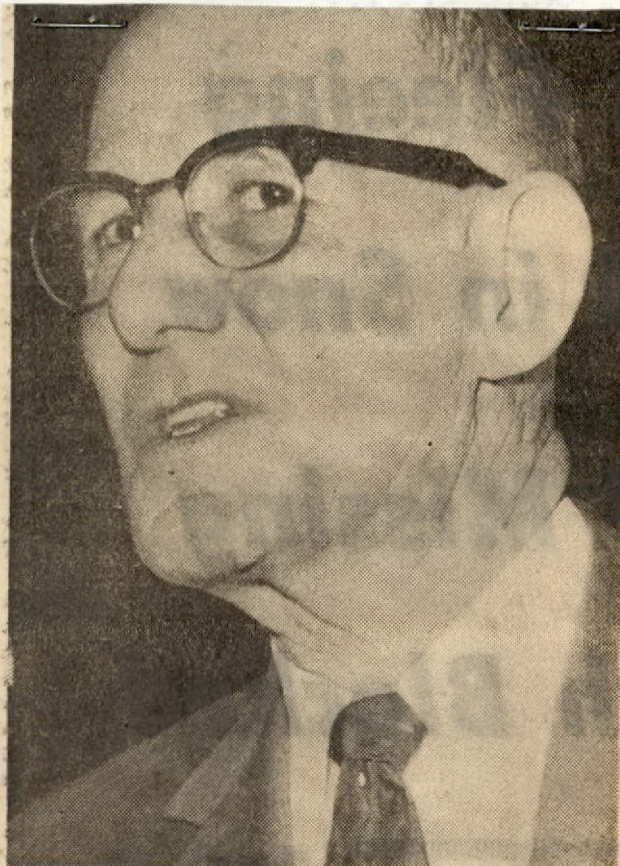
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—Herald-Examiner Photo

**DR. HENRY CUNEO ENTERS COURT**

—“We knew things were really bad”





—Herald-Examiner Photo

**SGT. W. E. BRANDT**

**He found diaries**



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# 'ETHEL...

# AM I

# GOING

# TO DIE?"

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

A-1 Herald-Examiner  
 Los Angeles, Calif.

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 Author: John Douglas  
 Editor: Donald Goodenow  
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 Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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# Doctor Recalls RFK Plea in Sirhan Trial

By JOHN DOUGLAS  
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

"Ethel . . . Ethel . . .

"Am I going to die?"

Robert F. Kennedy lay mortally wounded on the floor of a pantry off the Ambassador Hotel's Embassy Ballroom. The time was 12:20 a.m., June 4, 1968.

His wife had not been at his side when Sirhan Bishara Sirhan fired the shot that pierced the New York senator's spine and skull. But she was nearby, and almost immediately beside him.

They whispered together as Dr. Stanley Abo, on the scene, worked over Kennedy, giving him what help he could before a Central Receiving Hospital ambulance arrived.

Dr. Abo testified yesterday at Sirhan's murder trial. He was not permitted to recount the conversation between the slain senator and his pregnant wife while in the witness box. But he recalled it vividly for The Herald-Examiner outside the courtroom.

Dr. Abo was the first physician to reach Kennedy's side after the shooting. He had been at the hotel as a partisan of the senator—celebrating victory in the California Presidential Primary.

His recollection:

"Mrs. Kennedy reached her husband's side and knelt beside him.

"His eyes had opened by then and he looked sorrowfully at her and asked: 'Am I going to die?'"

"She was holding his hand and looked up at me, as if for an answer.

"I had no answer."

Kennedy kept repeating, "Ethel . . . Ethel . . . Ethel," as pandemonium broke about the couple at the shooting scene.

A few feet away Roosevelt Grier, George Plimpton, Rafer Johnson and a host of others fought to subdue Sirhan. The Kennedys did not see them.

Kennedy fell silent.

"He just moaned a few times," Dr. Abo recalled.

The ambulance attendants arrived and Kennedy objected vigorously, telling them: "Don't move me. . . Please don't move me."

Then he was on his way to Central Receiving Hospital, then Good Samaritan Hospital, and finally, 25 hours later, dead.

On the stand, Dr. Abo testified:

"I was standing near the door of the pantry," he told Dep.

Dist. Atty. John Howard. "I heard several popping noises . . . Somebody screamed . . . a small commotion started.

"I saw a television cameraman, he may have been a light man, standing on a stool mouth 'Kennedy,' and put his finger to his head. . .

"From that, I knew the senator had been shot.

"Someone rushed out to ask for a doctor and I shoved ahead until I reached the victims."

Dr. Abo said he first reached Paul Schrade, United Auto Workers Union official injured by another of Sirhan's bullets. He determined that Schrade was not seriously injured and moved to Kennedy's side.

"Sen. Kennedy's head was on a folded coat, which I presumed to be his."

Q—What did you find?

A—He was lying very still, very quiet. I did not know initially whether he was breathing, or if he had a pulse. I thought if he was not breathing, I would do artificial respiration.

"His left eye was open and staring aimlessly. His right eye was closed. I could feel a very strong, but slow pulse, could observe that he was breathing very shallow, but at a good rate. . . He looked up at me. . . He was holding a crucifix in both hands, moving both

legs, contorting his body every so often and moaning.	The first came from Pasadena garbage collector Alvin Clark.	want to vote for that son-of-a-B for, because I'm planning on shooting him."
Q—Did you notice anything about his head?	Clark swore that in April, 1968—some two months before he slew Kennedy—Sirhan told him: "I'm planning on shooting him."	Defense attorney Emile Zola Beriman sought vigorously to impeach Clark's testimony in cross-examination. He demanded:
A—Yes. There was considerable blood on the jacket under his head. There was a small but penetrating injury just back of his right ear. . .	Clark said the threat came as the two talked politics in front of Sirhan's home, 696 E. Howard St., Pasadena, shortly after the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	"Didn't you say (to an FBI agent in September, 1968) you wouldn't want to take the oath because you hated Sirhan so much you would do anything to see him convicted?"
Dr. Abo testified that, having no instruments, he probed the wound with his fingers.	Sirhan was upset about the King shooting, Clark said, and kept asking him what the Negroes intended to do about it. Clark is a Negro.	"Yes," Clark admitted.
Q—Was there a medical reason for this probing?	The talk turned to the California presidential primary, Clark said, and Sirhan asked him for whom he intended to vote.	But Dep. Dist. Atty. David N. Fitts countered quickly:
A—At first just to locate it, then because I wanted to keep the wound open and oozing slightly to keep from having a build-up of blood in the skull.	"I told him I was going to vote for Kennedy," Clark testified.	"Have you told the truth here, sir?"
Q—What else did you do?	"Sirhan said, 'What do you	"Yes, I have," Clark said.
A—I tried to keep other doctors who began to arrive from too vigorously jumping on the senator to give him artificial respiration or heart massage. I was convinced his heart was beating, and he was breathing all right.		Clark was one of three witnesses put on the stand yesterday as the prosecution sought to show premeditation in Sirhan's admitted slaying of Kennedy.
Dr. Abo's testimony provided the second series of dramatic events at yesterday's session.		Another, Mrs. Miriam Davis, a Kennedy campaign volunteer, told of seeing Sirhan in a kitchen in the Ambassador Hotel June 2, 1968—some 47 hours before he shot Kennedy. The prosecution contends he was "casing" the place.



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
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# Kennedy 'Looked Like a Saint' at First Sight, Sirhan Testifies

BY DAVE SMITH

Times Staff Writer

Only two nights before he shot and fatally wounded Robert F. Kennedy, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan saw the senator in person for the first time and was "really thrilled . . . He looked like a saint, to me. I liked him," the accused assassin testified Wednesday.

The statement was startling to spectators at the murder trial. On Tuesday, they had heard Sirhan admit to murderous rage at Sen. Kennedy's pro-Israel views.

The Jordanian testified on Wednesday that his first encounter with the New York senator occurred June 2 when Kennedy was surrounded by movie stars and singing a song with singer Andy Williams at the Ambassador.

"I was really thrilled, sir," Sirhan told his defense lawyer, Grant B. Cooper. "My whole attitude toward him changed when I saw him that night. Before, I'd associated Kennedy with his statements about the Phantom jets to aid Israel and I pictured him as a villain, but that night he looked like a saint to me. I liked him."

Speaking publicly for the first time about his activities last June 4, the eve of the shooting, Sirhan said he arrived at the Ambassador after getting lost while looking for a Jewish parade on Wilshire Blvd.

He had not known that Kennedy would be at the hotel that night, Sirhan said. All thoughts about Kennedy and memories of the written determination to assassinate the senator were completely out of Sirhan's mind, the defendant testified.

Cooper's questioning revealed Sirhan's murderous impulses toward Kennedy — chronicled in the Jordanian's school notebook. These impulses emerged as fitful flashes of

hate, violent at the time they were written and forgotten when the notebook was closed.

Over and over, Sirhan insisted that he couldn't remember the actual writing, even though he confirmed that it was his, and said that after he finished writing of his plans to kill Kennedy the entries "were completely forgotten from my mind."

As questioning wore on through the second full day of testimony from the 24-year-old Arab, Cooper had elicited these emotional patterns: murderous hate for anyone expressing sympathy for Zionist aims; a perplexing warmth toward Kennedy for his views on other subjects; and an abrupt forgetting of political considerations when confronted by Kennedy in person.

The prosecution, which will begin its cross-examination today, will attempt to prove that it was not completely by accident that Sirhan, having written in May of his intent to kill Kennedy, wound up at the Ambassador with a gun the night of June 4.

But as Sirhan told it Wednesday, the entire day of June 4 had been a haphazard day of often-changed plans.

Cooper referred to Sirhan's notebook entries and asked, "Did you intend to kill him then?"

*Kensalt*

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

I-1 Los Angeles Times  
Los Angeles, Calif.

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Editor: Nick B. Williams  
Title: Kensalt

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### 'Notebook Forgotten'

"No, sir, I did not. The notebook was completely forgotten in my mind."

He did not have a gun with him that night, Sirhan added.

He also denied that that night he had been in the kitchen area where Kennedy was shot two nights later. Two prosecution witnesses testified earlier that they got lost in the hotel corridors and ran across Sirhan in the pantry area the night of June 2. Sirhan said Wednesday the witnesses were, "in my opinion, complete liars." They swore to tell the truth and they didn't.

On Tuesday, June 4, Sirhan said, he planned to spend the day betting on the horses at Hollywood Park, but after checking the paper he decided he didn't like the entries, so he went target shooting instead.

He was at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club from about noon until 5 p.m., when the range closed. He denied earlier testimony that he practiced rapid-firing; an elderly man nearby was doing that for about an hour, Sirhan said, but not he.

When the range closed, he said, he had eight bullets left in the gun and intended to expend those last shots, but the range-master's order came before he could do it. So Sirhan put the loaded gun on the back seat of his car—"so if I got a traffic ticket I don't have to explain"—and started for home. He didn't unload the gun, he said, because it was difficult to eject the bullets. They had to be pried out with a screwdriver, he said.

Later, he saw an ad in The Times which said "Join the Miracle March for Israel" and then described a Jewish parade down Wilshire Blvd., concluding with the phrase "Six Days in June."

"That brought me back to the six days in June of the previous year," Sirhan said, referring to the 1967 Israeli-Arab war. "I should have been dead for those six days. . . This fire started burning inside of me. . . These Zionists, Jews, whatever the hell they are, were trying to rub in the fact that they beat the hell out of the Arabs."

Sirhan said he was so infuriated that "I was off to go down to see what those God-damned sons of bitches were up to. . . I was driving like a maniac."

In his anger, Sirhan said, he thought the parade was that night. Actually, it was held the following night, June 5.

### Becomes Lost

He became lost, Sirhan said, and since he hadn't been home, the loaded pistol was still on the back seat of the car. But, he said, "the gun was completely out of my mind."

Not finding the parade, he instead stopped at the lighted headquarters of former Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel, where an election party was in progress. Kuchel had been defeated. "It was pretty dull," he said—smiling broadly to the spectators he added, "Forgive me, any Kuchel supporters"—and then he heard two boys say they were going to "a bigger party at the Ambassador."

He finally found the Ambassador and when he parked and locked his car, he left the gun on the back seat.

In earlier testimony Wednesday, Cooper told of Sirhan's interest in the Rosicrucians Digest, which printed an article titled "Put It In Writing."

"Plan to dare something different, something exciting," it said, and then write down the plan. "See how it gains momentum in the simple process of writing it down . . . Somehow, writing it down feeds the data into your subconscious mind a little quicker . . . Set a target date, then start working to make it come true."

On May 18, Sirhan wrote "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before June '68." And on June 5, Sirhan shot and killed him.

This mental chain of events was laid bare as Cooper read methodically through the reading and writing that made up Sirhan's thinking.

#### Mystical Cult Magazine

The Rosicrucian Digest is a monthly magazine published by the Ancient Mystical Order of the Rosae Crucis, a mystical cult headquartered in San Jose. Sirhan became a member in June, 1966.

Sirhan has testified that he believed he could develop his mental powers to the point where he could produce psychic phenomena, such as visual delusions and thought transference.

Cooper also introduced into evidence the explosive two pages which he argued successfully two weeks ago were "too inflammatory" to be placed before the jury.

These pages, kept from evidence then but released to the press, contained Sirhan's wholesale endorsement of all forms of communism—even conflicting forms—and an angry attack on the United States.

Cooper read the pages aloud and later explained to newsmen that defense psychiatrists felt the writings had a strong bearing on Sirhan's state of mind—which is the key issue in whether Sirhan is sentenced to death or simply imprisoned.

Cooper droned hypnotically through page after page of meaningless, undecipherable sentences, half-sentences and even parts of words.

"We believe that Robert F. Kennedy must be sacrificed for the cause of the poor, exploited people," read one entry.

Sirhan said, however, that he was not involved with anyone in the plan and couldn't remember why he wrote "We believe."

"The hand that is doing this writing will do the slaying of the above-mentioned victim," read another.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Sirhan: Hounded by Frustrations

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Kensalt

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
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Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Following is the dramatic and revealing testimony given yesterday by Sirhan Bishara Sirhan at his trial for the murder of U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy:

Q—In your Arab schools what were your teachers?

A—They were Arabs, sir, but they had some foreign orientation.

Q—You mean they spoke English.

A—Yes sir.

Q—In 1956 you were 11 years old.

A—About that, yes.

Q—Do you remember anything about the Suez crisis?

A—Yes sir.

Q—How did you learn about it?

A—From news reports, and radio. We lived through it.

Q—What did you learn.

A—That Israel had launched another aggression against the Arab people . . . making more misery for the Arabs.

Q—What did the teacher tell you?

A—He gave us a lecture on this is the wrong way of what should be done. We should have negotiations . . . to discuss our differences and problems.

Q—A decision was made that you would come to the United States?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—I assume somebody in the family told you about it?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—What were your feelings?

A—I was hesitant. I didn't want to leave. I wanted to stay in my country with my people.

Q—What about the conditions in your country?

A—I thought, sir, they would subside eventually.

Q—You ran away?

A—Yes, sir, I did.

Q—Where did you go?

A—From Jerusalem to Ramallah, a distance of ten to 15 miles.

Q—You had relatives there?

A—Yes, sir, they all lived near us in 1948.

Q—When you ran away, did you stay all night?

A—After eight or nine hours, I became lonely, and I missed my family. I came back.

Q—Did you get a little hungry, too?

A—Yes.

Q—Then where did you go?

A—To New York.

Q—How many of the family were on the trip?

A—I, Munir, Adel, Ayda and my parents.

Q—Where were your other brothers?

A—They were in Jordan.

Q—And eventually you arrived in California?

A—Yes.

Q—Did you live with someone when you arrived?

A—Yes, we were met by our sponsor at the train. His name was Haldor Lillens.

Q—How long did you live with them?

A—I don't remember exactly. It was about two or three weeks.

Q—And did you go to school then?

A—Yes. Longfellow Elementary School.

Q—And then where did you live when you moved?

A—We secured a home of our own. We rented it. It was at 1321 N. Mentor St. That has been torn down now.

Q—And you went to school?

A—Yes, Munir and I did.

Q—Did your mother get a position of work.

A—Yes.

Q—Where was that?

A—in the nursery school at the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Q—How long did your father remain with you?

A—About six or eight months.

Q—And when did you start school here?

A—in early February of 1957.

Q—And after six or seven months . . . ?

A—He returned to Jordan.

Q—And how long was he away from you?

A—Ever since.

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

A-10 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 3/5/69  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: Kensalt

Character:  
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57 MAR 14 1969

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491 MAR 13 1969



Q — In September of 1957, you went to another school?  
A — Yes, I was enrolled at John Marshall Junior High School.  
Q — Did you graduate?  
A — No. We had moved out of the school district of John Marshall so I had to transfer to Elliott Junior High School.  
Q — Was this when your mother and sister bought the home?  
A — No, that was two or three years before we bought the home.  
Q — Where did you move?  
A — To 1647 N. Lake.  
Q — It was necessary for you to go to another school?  
A — Yes, sir, it was.  
Q — What school was that?  
A — Elliott Junior High School.  
Q — How long were you there?  
A — Until I graduated from Junior High School there.  
Q — You did graduate?  
A — Yes, sir, I did.  
Q — Then what school did you attend?  
A — John Marshall High School (later corrected to John Muir).  
Q — Did you live in the same place?  
A — No, we had moved to the place where my mother and sister bought the house.  
Q — How many years were you at John Muir?  
A — Three years, from '60 to '63.  
Q — Your grades were reasonably good?  
A — Yes, sir, they were.  
Q — Did you get along well with other students and teachers?  
A — Yes, sir, I did.

Q — They accepted you?  
A — Yes, sir.  
Q — You were graduated?  
A — I was.  
Q — When did you graduate?  
A — June, 1963.  
Q — How long were you enrolled at Pasadena City College?  
A — Three semesters, sir, and I was dismissed the fourth.  
Q — During this time, did Ayda become ill?  
A — Yes, sir.  
Q — You were dismissed from school because of absences. In those absences reported, why did you miss school?  
A — I had to nurse my sister.  
Q — Were all those absences because of taking care of your sister?  
A — I can't truthfully say that all of them were. But 95 per cent of them were.  
Q — On what other occasions were you absent?  
A — At that time I liked to go to the races.  
Q — After you were dismissed from Pasadena City College, what did you do?  
A — Having developed, sir, a love for the horses, I decided to try to ride them, to become a jockey.  
Q — Did you get a job?  
A — In August of 1965, I went down to Santa Anita and asked for a job.  
Q — What kind of job was it?  
A — I told my prospective employer I didn't know anything about horses, but I wanted to learn. I offered to work free for him to see how well I would do. I did work free for two or three weeks.

Q — What were your duties?  
A — Just cleaning out stalls and walking horses.  
Q — What did you weigh then?  
A — About 110 pounds.  
Q — How tall are you?  
A — Five feet, four and a half inches.  
Q — Were you permitted to ride horses?  
A — No, not at the beginning. I was only allowed to walk them, groom them and clean them.  
Q — Did you ever ride while you worked there?  
A — In the latter part of the five months, I was allowed to ride one of the easier ones.  
Q — You wanted to be a jockey?  
A — Yes.  
Q — You terminated your employment at Santa Anita?  
A — Yes, I felt confident enough to ride more of the easier horses.  
Q — What did you do after that?  
A — I secured a job at the Altfillisch Ranch in Corona.  
Q — Was there an accident at the Altfillisch Ranch?  
A — Yes.  
Q — When did this happen?  
A — It was 7:30 or 8 o'clock on the morning of September 24, 1966.  
Q — Were you instructed to ride the horse fast?  
A — I was supposed to work

him for three hundred yards.

Q — What happened then?

A — 50 yards after I started, sir, I don't remember anything.

Q — You were unconscious?

A — I fell from that horse and was knocked unconscious.

Q — Can you describe your wounds? You had no broken bones?

A — No broken bones. There were many contusions on my body. Some sutures under my chin and on my left eye.

Q — Did you file a claim for workmen's compensation?

A — Yes.

Q — Did you receive an award?

A — Yes, in the amount of \$2000.

Q — When you had no job, did you read more?

A — Yes, I always read what interested me, and I thought I might continue my schooling.

Q — Did you read about the Arab-Israeli situation?

A — Yes, sir.

Q — In what periodicals did you read about it?

A — There were magazines, news, articles, books, pamphlets, whatever I saw. And I read the B'nai B'rith Messenger.

Q — That is a Jewish newspaper. Why did you read it?

A — The best way to know what the Zionists are up to is to read what they say.

Q — At this time, did you become interested in the occult or metaphysical?

A — Yes, sir, I did. I've always asked 'What is this life about? What is this world?' I wanted to know.

Q — You applied for membership in the Rosicrucians?

A — Yes, sir.

Sirhan testified he purchased a book titled "Cyclomancy" after reading an advertisement in an astrological magazine.

He said he learned to hold boiling water in his hand and not feel the pain.

Q — Were there other experiments?

A — Visual delusions.

Q — What about visual delusions?

A — Let me try to find the thing, (Sirhan takes the book, Cyclomancy). Here it is, Page 108. I copied this on a larger sheet, sir.

(Page 108 showed the series of six parallel dots contained within circles which Sirhan claimed, through practice of the occult, he could see as but one line of dots. The book was offered in evidence by the defense and studied by the jury.)

Q — What were you supposed to do with this?

A — You were supposed to look at the black dots and see only one black dot . . . I can't prove to you I saw only one, but I did . . . May I add this

. . . I had it so I could put one half of a dot here and one half there and combine them. Not just whole dots, half dots.

Q — In your room, was there some form of desk or table?

A — Yes, there was a table with one drawer.

Q — Was there a mirror above this table?

A — Yes, there was.

Q — Did you use this mirror in your experiments?

A — Yes, I did. It was involved in the Rosicrucian exercises.

Q — Were there candles?

A — Yes, sir.

Q — And you used these candles in your exercises and studies?

A — Yes, sir.

Q — And you used these candles in studying the power of concentration?

A — Yes. One of these . . . was to take a candle in a darkened room and put it between your face and the mirror and concentrate on the flame . . . and you could see in it whatever color you wanted. This was very hard for me to do.

Q — And you could really see these colors?

A — I cannot prove it, sir, but damn it (mumble).

A — I saw a blue flame.

Q — And you could see any color you wanted?

A — Any color I wanted . . . but I had to concentrate for five minutes. Sometimes I saw flashes.

Q — How many colors did you see?

A—Numerous colors. I kept a list.

A—I played with that.

Q—Do you recall trying some of this at the race track too?

A—Yes.

Q—And there was an incident at the track which you attributed to this.

A—Yes.

Q—Where was this?

A—At the Santa Anita track last March 19th, my birthday. I wanted to bet the daily double. I didn't even look at the form, I bet the one and the nine for the 19th. After I bet the daily double, I started to read the form. There was one horse. It was the first horse in the race. It was owned by Altfillisch . . . It was a long shot, a long chance. It didn't have a chance, but I didn't want it to win.

Q—You didn't want it to win, even though you had bet on it?

A—That's right. I kept saying in my mind You . . . you won't win . . . he's not going to win, he's not going to win, he's not going to win.

They came out to the gate . . . that horse wheeled, it was in the number one position, and it went through the rail and was disqualified.

Q—It broke through the rail?

A—It jumped or something thing.

Q—And you think your power of concentration did this?

A— . . . I can't prove it, but it works.

Q—And did other thoughts occur to you, Sirhan?

A—Yes, sir. The 1967 war in June of that year, I realized the Israelis had brainwashed the American public . . . they had talked about the Arabs and the Jews turned around and did the same thing to the Arabs. It was a deception, really.

Q—You saw a magazine description (in 1967, during the Arab-Israeli war).

A—I saw a picture of Israeli soldiers on the east bank of the Suez Canal . . . they were the victors . . . they were the winners . . . If I had seen these guys personally, I would have blasted them . . . I would have killed them.

I read in a book that the Zionists and Jews in America gave \$370 million to revitalize Israel's economy. This burned the hell out of me. When President Johnson is trying to keep the money in this country . . . when tourists only get seven dollars a day, these — — — damn Zionists . . .

Q—Watch your language, please.

Q—You thought you didn't have any rights?

A—I still don't have any rights.

Q—It was important to you to have your own country?

A—I had no country . . . I'm sick and tired of being a foreigner . . . I was a place of my own. I want to eat my own food in my own land. I want my own country, my own land, my own city, my own business . . . my own everything.

(Sirhan was shown some notebooks dating from his school

days at Pasadena City College)

Q — Now, on page 15, we have what I read to you yesterday. On May 18, at 9:45 a.m., 1968, "my determination to eliminate Robert F. Kennedy is becoming more the more of an unshakeable obsession." Do you remember writing that?

A — No, sir, I don't remember writing that.

Q — Do you remember what your feeling was about Robert F. Kennedy on or about May 18—that was three weeks before June 5.

A — That could have been the time, sir, when during his campaign he said he would send 50 bombers to Israel.

Q — Where was Mr. Kennedy on the 18th?

A — I don't know, sir, if he was in Oregon or not.

Q — On or about that time did you listen to the radio?

A — No that is not the time, Mr. Cooper. That was when I watched television.

Q — What did you see?

A — That evening, I brewed myself some tea and went into the living room to watch television. I don't have a favorite program so I just turn the channels to see what program interests me. What I saw was a documentary on Robert Kennedy. It was a biography, it told of his career as a politician. I started to watch it. It told of Robert Kennedy's achievements, of his being attorney general.

It told of his close association with his brother, how he became a Senator from New

York . . . his whole history until he was running for President. It spoke of Robert Kennedy always being for the underdog . . . the poor . . . the scum of society . . . how he wanted to help the weakest. They showed that Robert Kennedy in 1948 was in Israel helping to celebrate with the Israelis their independence and the birth of the State of Israel.

The enthusiasm of the narrator bugged me to pieces. It burned me up. Until that time, I loved Robert Kennedy. I wanted him to be elected President. Then I found out he had been supporting Israel, not only recently, but since its very inception. He was doing a lot of things behind my back that I didn't know about until that night on television. It burned me up, sir.

Q — What is the significance of 5 June, 1967?

A — Any involvement with Zionism . . . invokes something in me I can't describe. Zionism is worse to me than Communism is to you. I have that same feeling about Zionism as you do about Communism. The 5 June I wrote here was in my mind as 5 June 1967, the date of the Arab-Israeli war.

Q — Does that help you recall that you wrote that?

A — If you ask me independently of this, what June 5 means, it means to me the Israeli aggression against the Arab people in 1967.

Q — This is your handwriting?

A — It is.

Q — What did you feel for



Robert F. Kennedy, when you wrote that?

A — At the time, I felt that if he were in front of me, he would have died right then and there.

Q — Do you remember your feelings at that time?

A — I must have been burned up, sir.

Q — How do you know how you felt at the time, when you don't remember writing it?

A — I was provoked. I was off.

Q — You have used some ungentlemanly language. Did you learn those words in the United States.

A — Yes, sir, I did.

Q — You heard something on the radio.

A — Yes, sir. Yes, sir, but not directly. I was in my own room, which is adjacent to my mother's. My mother had the radio on in her room and I heard it.

Q — Do you remember that station it was?

A — KFVB, the all-news. My mother loved to listen to that.

Q — What did you hear?

A — It was hot news. The announcer said Robert Kennedy was at some Jewish Club at Beverly Hills where he had committed himself so formally to sending 50 jets to Israel.

Q — What did that make you think?

A — I thought Robert Kennedy was not all the good guy he claimed to be.

Q — Did you become an-  
gry?

A — It boiled me up again. At the time, I was concentrating on my Rosicrucian studies.

Q — What did you do?

A — He bugged me to the point where instead of my own face in the mirror, I saw Robert Kennedy's face. It may have been an illusion, but I saw his face, not my own. I was that burned up about it.

Q — I again address myself to the Pasadena City College notebook . . . page 21 is written in pencil, is that correct?

A — Yes, sir.

Q — At the top of this is the word "war" . . . "A declaration of war against American humanity . . ."

A — That's right.

Q — "When in the course of human events it becomes necessary to equalize and sick, no I believe that's seek, revenge for inhumane treatment at the hands of the American people, it is proper . . ."

Q — (repeating) "Seek revenge for all the inhumane treatment committed against me by the American people . . . as soon as I am able to command a sum of money in the amount of \$2000 and acquire some firearms, the specifications of which are not arrived at yet . . . (the) victims will be the President, Vice, and so forth down the ladder . . . the method is unimportant but the weapon should be influenced somehow . . ."

"The author believes that many, in fact most people will be in sympathy with his feelings.

" . . . This declaration is not considered likely by the author . . . but he hopes to be the initiator of military steps to World War III . . .

"The author bluntly states he wants to be recorded by history as the man who triggered the last war . . .

"Life is ambivalence . . . struggle, wicked. If it was ever otherwise, I have never seen it. It always seems I am losing . . . always exploited . . ."

Q — This is written in your handwriting?

A — Yes, sir.

Q — What did you have in mind?

A — I don't remember.

Q — You say the victims of the party in power. . . did you have in mind on the second of June, 1967, somehow killing the President and Vice President of the United States of America?

A — That's what I wrote at that time. I must have been provoked. I would have blasted anybody.

Q — Do you recollect now obtaining a weapon for the purpose of killing the President of the United States?

A — No, sir, it's not me, sir. It's not the Sirhan who's sitting here.

Q—Without reading all this, could you tell my why you wrote "I always seem to be on the losing end?"

A—I could have been provoked by the George Putnam editorial. I must have . . . something must have moved me. There must have been some provocation. I must have been provoked. I would not have hesitated to do it (kill the President) at that time.

Q—Did you plan to do it at some time in the future?

A—I don't remember what my exact frame of mind was.

Q—On page 24 you wrote the following—"blinkers"—do you know what that means?

A—No, sir.

Q—Then you wrote "long live Nasser". . .

A—I'm a great admirer of President Nasser.

Q—Then you wrote "tell tell, tell, tell them to put . . ." Do you know what that is?

A—I don't know what I meant by blinkers.

Q—You wrote here "tell tell, tell, tell them to put blinkers on this son of a b . . . son of a . . ." Do you recall who it was you were telling this?

A—No, sir.

Q—Then there is written here "Long live long . . . 5-9-5 . . . mid-terms 10 November. Nasser . . . Nasser, long live Nasser. Alley fighter long live Communism, long live Communism . . ."

A—There is a very long jump between Nasser and Communism.

Q—On Page 29 it appears to be written: Whatever may be said in praise of poverty the fact remains it is not possible to live a complete or successful life unless one is rich. No man can rise to his greatest possibility. I have often wondered what it is like to be rich . . . rich . . . rich. Black magic. Did you write that?

A—It looks like my writing, Sir.

Q—Is it?

A—It is my handwriting.

Q—What does it mean?

A—I don't know.

Q—What is "black magic"?

A—If there is white magic, there is black magic.

Q—Here it says 'Peggy . . . P . . . P . . . Peggy . . . Y . . . O G . . . G . . . The incredible power of this Kizuma.' That's an ancient Egyptian technique of directing thoughts of others, of radiating thought. Was this when you were studying Eastern philosophy?

A—I don't know what source it is, but it is related to that, yes.

Q—Were you studying thinking and directing thoughts of others?

A—I don't know, Sir, what I was doing here.

Q—You were studying that at the time?

A—Yes.

Q—It says 'Peggy . . . love . . . Sol and Peggy . . . the greenery here is beautiful . . . Sol and Peggy . . . I . . . I . . . I . . . she Peggy . . . Peggy

Ostercamp.' Was she a girl you know?

A—Yes, Sir.

Q—Did you date Peggy?

A—No, Sir, I didn't.

Q—On Page 31 it says 'Peggy Ostercamp . . . I love you . . . I love . . .'

A—Let me explain. "P" is alien to the Arab tongue. "G" is a loose pronunciation . . . it is queer to my tongue as I say it. That was what stood out in my mind.

Q—This 'Peggy, I love you'—that's in your printing?

A—Yes, Sir.

Q—Did you have a crush on her?

A—No Sir . . . it's just that name.

Q—What about the 'I love you'?

A—I don't know. I can't account for that.

Q—Now on Page 34, you have: 'Constitution' . . . will Sirhan ever need to work or uphold . . . Sirhan must begin to work on solving the problems and difficulties of assassinating the 36th president of the glorious United States. (Lyndon B. Johnson). Kelvinator . . . Janice . . . no . . . n . . . n 696 E. Howard St. . . California . . . Sirhan, Sirhan, Sirhan, Sirhan.' This part, 'Sirhan must begin to work on . . . assassination of the 36th president of the United

States. Why did you write that?

A—I can't say. I must have been provoked, but I can't remember the provocation.

Q—It is your writing?

A—Yes it is my handwriting.

Q—Do you remember that about the 36th President?

A—Who is that?

Q—I don't know enough history to tell you. Johnson. Did you ever have the idea of killing Johnson?

A—No, but I hated his guts at one point. It was during the Arab-Israeli war when he came out and said: "The United States supports the territorial integrity of all nations of the area." All nations.

Q—You have written "Sol and Peggy." They knew you as Sol?

A—Yes, Sir.

Q—Were you sometimes called Sol?

A—Yes, Sir.

Q—Where did you get that nickname?

A—Someone once mistook me for being Jewish and wanted to call me Solomon. I said, why not Sol.

Q—Then it says: 'Perhaps you could use the enclosed \$ . . . Sol. Sol . . . \$ . . . \$ . . . Hello, Tom . . . Perhaps you could use the \$.' Remember writing that?

A—No, Sir, I don't remember writing it, although I did send Tom some money.

Q—How much?

A—\$25.

Q—Why?

A—I thought he needed it. It was when I had money from the industrial accident.

Q—On Page 39, you have 'Chance is a word void of sense.' Do you know what that means?

A—No, Sir, I don't.

Q—Then 'Sapphire stone, stone . . . sapphire stone . . . lodestone . . . Tom . . . Ambassador Goldberg must die, die on use die . . . meet . . . die, die, die, me at the airport . . . Ambassador Goldberg must die. Stone. Think you . . . stone . . . Goldberg must be eliminated . . . stone . . . Sirhan is an Arab

A—That he is, Sir.

Q—Then 'Arab, Arab . . . You perhaps you could use the enclosed \$ . . . Sirhan, Sirhan, Sirhan, Sirhan . . . green . . . Sirhan . . . stone . . . stone . . . Sirhan . . . green . . . port . . . stone.' Then the words, 'Ambassador Goldberg must be eliminated . . . must die.' Were you angry at Ambassador Goldberg?

A—Yes, Sir, I was angry at Goldberg.

Q—Do you watch on television the meetings of the United Nations?

A—Yes, Sir, I watched all of them.

Q—Did you see the debates when he was United States ambassador?

A—Yes, I did.

Q—After the Arab-Israeli conflict in 1967?

A—Yes, Sir.

Q—What bugged you?

A—When President Johnson said "The United States supports the territorial integrity of all nations in the area," he referred to Ambassador Goldberg as his able ambassador to the United Nations. He was only "able" in the respect that he was on the side of Israel.

Q—What did Ambassador Goldberg ever do (to upset you)?

A—I just didn't like what he said. He repeated what Johnson said and he said it himself. He made a hell of a long pause when he said it. He did not stick to his word.

Q—Would you have killed Goldberg?

A—If I had a gun or if I had had anything I would have broken the television set. I hated him.

Q—Did you write this?

A—I don't remember it.

Q—How do you remember your emotions at the time if you don't remember writing it?

A—Because of how I felt about Goldberg.

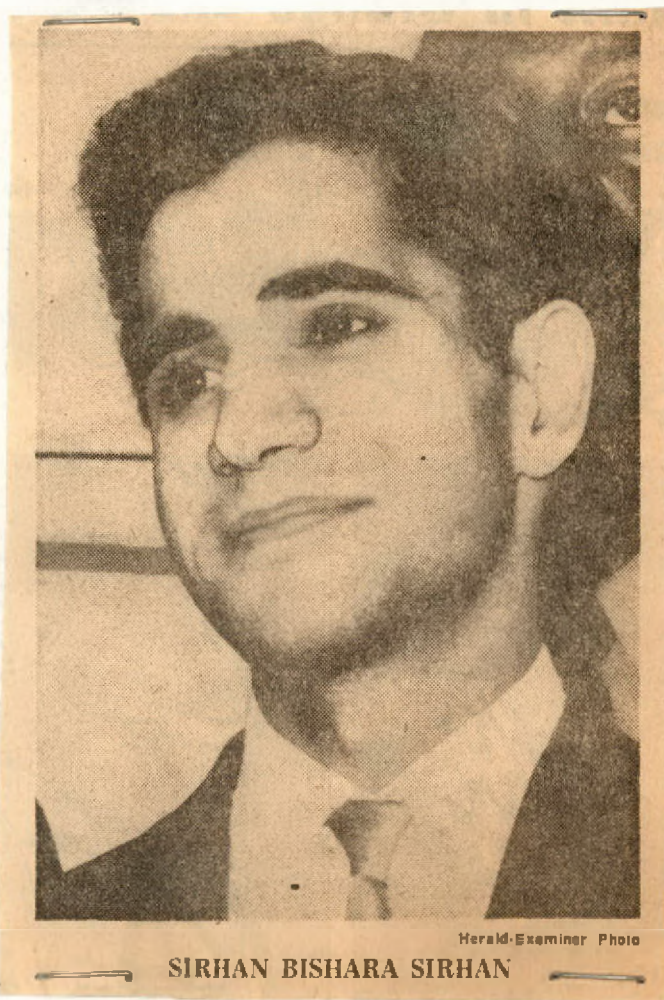
Q—This 'Darling June' written here. Who's June?

A—A race horse, Sir.

Q—And here, 'Long live . . . dream . . .'

A—I say it again, Sir: Long live the Arab dream.

COURT RECESSED





KENSALT

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

Kensalt

3-8-69

Schulz

UPI-79

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN SAYS HE DOES NOT REMEMBER SHOOTING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, BUT A PSYCHIATRIST WILL TESTIFY THIS WEEK THAT UNDER HYPNOSIS THE ARAB IMMIGRANT CAN DESCRIBE HIS ACTIONS RIGHT UP TO PULLING THE TRIGGER.

THE TESTIMONY WILL COME AS A PARADE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS AND PSYCHIATRISTS MONDAY BEGIN BOLSTERING THE DEFENSE CONTENTION THAT SIRHAN'S "DIMINISHED CAPACITY" PREVENTED HIM BEING COMPLETELY RESPONSIBLE FOR KENNEDY'S DEATH.

THE TRIAL WAS IN RECESS DURING THE WEEKEND.

CHIEF DEFENSE COUNSEL GRANT B. COOPER AND THE OTHER DEFENSE LAYERS, EMILE ZOLA BERMAN AND RUSSELL PARSONS, HOPE TO SAVE SIRHAN FROM THE GAS CHAMBER.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD DEFENDENT UNDERWENT A SERIES OF PSYCHIATRIC TESTS AND EXAMINATIONS BEFORE THE TRIAL OPENED. AS PART OF THEM HE WAS HYPNOTIZED AND DESCRIBED IN MINUTE DETAIL THE EVENTS OF THE NIGHT AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL.

SIRHAN, WHO HAS EXPLODED WITH EMOTIONAL OUTBURSTS WHEN EARLIER TESTIMONY INDICATED HE WAS NOT NORMAL, COULD BE SET OFF AGAIN BY THE PSYCHIATRIC TESTIMONY.

COOPER CONTENDS THAT SIRHAN'S VOLATILE NATURE, HIS FALL FROM A RACE HORSE AND HIS DRINKING ON THE NIGHT OF KENNEDY'S PRIMARY VICTORY LED TO SHOOTING KENNEDY WITHOUT REALIZING WHAT HE WAS DOING.

THE DEFENSE DOES NOT CONTEND THAT SIRHAN WAS LEGALLY INSANE, BUT THAT HE DID NOT HAVE FULL CONTROL OVER HIMSELF.

JG419PES3/E

FILE

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62-587-A  
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46 MAR 14 1969

55 MAR 12 1969

# Tape Played to Counter Sirhan's 'Blackout' Claim

By George Lardner Jr.  
Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, March 12—Sgt. E. H. Austin of the Los Angeles Police Department chattered at the swarthy, wavy-haired suspect and tried to make small talk. He got no response.

Austin shrugged. "Makes no difference to me," he said. "I'm only a peon here."

"I like your humor, sir," Sirhan Bishara Sirhan told him. The scene was Interrogation Room B at the Ramparts police station; the time: 12:45 a.m. last June 5.

The prosecution played it all back on tape today to counter the Sirhan contention that he was still reeling under the blackout he claims came over him before shooting Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in the Ambassador Hotel just half an hour earlier. The state contends that Sirhan knew what he was doing.

The 40-minute interview commanded hushed attention as the taped voices echoed through the courtroom. It sounded like a low-key version of "Dragnet," complete with shuffling feet, long pauses, slamming doors, coughs and yawns.

It also showed that Sirhan, whatever his mental state, was intensely interested in his constitutional right to silence. One officer dubbed him "Silent Sam."

Detective Sgt. W. C. Jordan, night watch commander at the Ramparts substation, asked most of the questions. He began the interrogation with Sirhan alone, his hands manacled behind his back, his name a mystery to the policemen who had just arrested him.

Promptly Jordan advised Sirhan of his right to say nothing and his right to an attorney, then and there if he wished.

Sirhan: "Is this of the — what the officers told me in the car?"

Jordan: "I have no idea, sir, at this point what you were told."

Sirhan: "Would you please repeat it?"

## Interrupted by Officer

The detective ran through the suspect's rights again, interrupted on one final sentence by an officer who poked his head in the door for a quick question. Jordan answered it, then turned back to Sirhan.

"Start again," the defendant told him.

Jordan ran through them all again. "Do you have any questions regarding these rights?" he finished. Sirhan shook his head, then asked: "Your name again, sir?"

Jordan: "Pardon?"

Sirhan: "Your name?"

The broad-shouldered detective spelled it out, and asked Sirhan his.

Sirhan: "I want to abide by the first admonishment, sir, to the right of keeping silence."

So it went, with Sirhan refusing even to comment on Jordan's counting of his money and other items found in his pockets, including a sheet of paper with Kennedy's campaign song, "This Man Is Your Man, This Man Is My Man . . ."

## Frisked by Detective

Suddenly, Sirhan winced, apparently because of a sprained ankle, as Jordan began frisking him. He sounded out of breath, almost like a frightened animal. Jordan asked him what was wrong.

"I had—I had mentioned it to Officer 3909," Sirhan told him, recalling the badge number of one of the arresting officers down to the last digit. "I don't know his name, sir."

Jordan apologized, finished the frisking, and left the room for a while. He assigned Austin and officer F. R. Willoughby to watch the young Arab. Jordan came back with a cup of the hot chocolate, asked Willoughby if it was hot.

Willoughby: "What happened to your leg?"

Sirhan: "I'm thirsty."

Willoughby: "Well, we're not going to give you any of this."

Sirhan, evidently needing at the hot chocolate, asked Willoughby if it was hot.

"Yeah, it's hot," Willoughby told him. "I guess they'll give you some in a minute."

A loud noise came across on the tape as Sirhan kicked the cup out of Willoughby's and. Then an awkward silence.

"That's enough, pal," Austin said finally.

"Yeah," said Willoughby.

"Yeah," said Austin.

## Officers Clean Up

The officers mopped up the mess. At one point, with Willoughby out of the room, Sirhan asked Austin to convey his apologies "later," assuring Austin that "I trust you."

At length, Austin tried to drum up some small talk to break the monotony.

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

FILE  
6-16-68

Kensalt

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

Date \_\_\_\_\_ MAR 13 1969

62-587-A  
NOT RECORDED  
46 MAR 14 1969

55 MAR 18 1969

"I hate to sit here and say nothing," he told Sirhan, almost pleadingly. "You start a conversation . . . say something, anything . . . we're all people, you know. You got a girl friend? Boy friend? Friends?"

Sirhan said nothing.

"Silent Sam," Willoughby grunted after a long pause.

Austin tried again. "What happened to your leg?" he asked. "What happened to your leg? You won't even tell me that. Why?"

"You might as well be sociable," Willoughby urged. "Hell, we're just trying to get along."

Sirhan kept quiet, saying not a word more until Jordan came back in the room to take him to central police headquarters downtown. Sirhan asked for help in getting his pants fastened again. They had apparently slipped down a bit.

"Take a breath," Jordan told him.

"Jack 'em up," Sirhan replied. "Jack 'em up."

Prosecutor David Fitts said more playbacks of Sirhan's banter downtown will be put on in the morning to lay additional groundwork for questioning of defense psychologists and psychiatrists who assert that Sirhan was still suffering from partial amnesia after his arrest.

#### 'Spotty Kind of Thing'

The first of these to be called to the witness stand, Martin M. Schorr of San Diego, declared earlier in the day that a psychotic brand of amnesia set in "prior to the shooting" and "didn't end for hours." He said there was nothing inconsistent with Sirhan's remembering some details and not others.

"It is a spotty kind of thing," he said of the alleged blackout.

Schorr also claimed that Sirhan was symbolically killing his own father in shooting Kennedy down. Sirhan "hated his father and feared him," but refrained from violence as long as he felt protected by his mother, the psychologist maintained.

"Somewhere along the line," Schorr declared, Mrs. Sirhan, too, let her son down, and Sirhan found in Kennedy "a symbolic replica of his father . . ." He did not elaborate.

This analysis, made by Schorr in a report last Dec. 18 after interviewing Sirhan in his jail cell, was brought out by the prosecution. Deputy District Attorney John E. Howard told newsmen he raised it because "it struck me as pretty far out."

It evidently struck Mary Sirhan that way, too. The defendant's mother stood frowning outside the courtroom during a recess as Robert Kaiser, a member of the defense team, read out Schorr's analysis for newsmen who had missed some of the lines.

"I don't like this. I don't like this," she murmured disapprovingly.



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

# RFK-Autopsy Coroner Accused of Using Drugs

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The coroner who supervised Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's autopsy has been accused by a county officer of taking drugs, praying for disasters and talking about autopsies on living people.

Dr. Thomas Noguchi denies erratic behavior and says his accusers are prejudiced because he is Japanese. His attorney called the allegations "distortions and misinterpretations."

Noguchi was suspended from his job March 4. In a report to county supervisors and a letter to Noguchi, Los Angeles County administrative officer L. S. Hollinger said Friday that Noguchi should be fired.

"Several physicians on your staff have expressed the opinion that the symptoms which you exhibit would indicate that you had been taking drugs in both the amphetamine and barbiturate groups," Hollinger said in the letter.

"They all further stated that such symptoms, regardless of their cause, would indicate the need for referral of the patient for psychiatric evaluation and care."

"Many members of your staff, both lay and professional, have expressed grave doubts as to your mental health."

After a helicopter crash last May, Hollinger said Noguchi "stated that it was too bad these people had to die, but you were glad it happened in your jurisdiction..."

"Shortly after, a second helicopter crash, you said to your administrative assistant that you wanted a Boeing 707 to crash so that the coroner's office could increase its budget."

"On one occasion you stated that you prayed that Mayor Yorty's helicopter would crash, because the press would be there and you would be there and this would bring glory and prestige to the office."

Hollinger said Noguchi once pulled a surgical knife from a sheath in his belt, demonstrated its sharpness to a secretary by slicing bits of paper, then said he intended to use it for autopsies on living people.

At a meeting with a physician in January, the letter said, Noguchi was quoted as wanting to perform autopsies on Hollinger and two other county officials.

"But you further stated you might have to assassinate Hollinger first," the letter said.

FILE  
6-11-69

Kensalt

The Washington Post Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Sunday Star (Washington) A-20  
 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) \_\_\_\_\_

MAR 16 1969

Date

62-587-A  
NOT RECORDED

48 MAR 20 1969

55 MAR 24 1969

55 JAN 24 1969

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# When Sirhan Saw RFK! He Was Beautiful

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-10 Herald-Examiner  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 3/7/69  
Edition: Night Final  
Author:  
Editor: Donald Goodenow  
Title: Kensalt

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

62-587-A  
NOT RECORDED  
46 MAR 24 1969

A — Yes. I felt I was quite high and I was alone, and if I got any more drunk, there was nobody with me to take care of me if I became more drunk, so I decided to go home, sir.

Q — What did you do?

A — I started to walk down the same way I had come.

Q — Earlier you had put the gun on the back seat of the car. Did you take the gun with you when you went to Kuchel's headquarters?

A — No, sir, I did not.

Q — At the Ambassador, did you have your gun?

A — No, sir. I went to the Ambassador directly from Kuchel's.

Q — When you decided to go home, what did you do?

A — I walked up this incline — that's how I remembered which direction my car was parked. I got in, but I couldn't picture myself driving my car in the condition I was in.

Q — What did you do?

A — I tried to force myself to drive.

Q — Did you turn the motor on?

A — I don't remember. I was afraid to drive, afraid I would get in an accident or get a ticket.

Q — Do you have insurance?

A — No.

Q — What did you do then?

A — I decided to go back to the party and sober up, to get some coffee.

Q — Did you pick up your gun?

A — I don't remember picking up the gun. I must have, but I don't remember.

Q — Are you sure?

A — I swore to tell the truth.

Q — But you had the gun when you went back to the Ambassador?

A — Yes, I must have.

Q — Where did you go?

A — In search of coffee.

I don't know where I found it, but eventually I found it.

Q — You went through a place with a teletype machine?

A — Yes.

Q — When was that?

A — I don't remember.

Q — What struck you about it?

A — The keys were going all by themselves. It struck me funny. I was baffled.

Q — Were there people there?

A — Yes, there were some people.

Q — Why were you there?

A — I don't know. I guess I was out there looking for coffee.

Q — Was there something you saw?

A — Yes, sir... a big pot.

Q — What color was it?

A — It was shiny. I don't remember.

Q — Were there coffee cups around it?

A — Piles and piles of cups and saucers.

Q — Was it like a kitchen?

A — I don't know.

Q — Were there bright lights there?

A — No, and no mirrors either.

Q — Were there other people?

A — I don't remember. I was so glad to find the coffee. It was the only thing on my mind.

RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



Q — Did someone pour the coffee for you?

A — No. As I was pouring my coffee, a girl came up and wanted some. She liked hers the same way I did. I thought I was the only one who liked too much cream in my coffee.

Q — What did she look like?

A — She had some dark hair.

Q — What was her age?

A — About my age.

Q — Was she good looking?

A — Beautiful.

Q — Did you have a conversation?

A — I told her I wanted some coffee.

Q — How many cups did you have?

A — I don't remember.

Q — What is the next thing you remember?

A — The next thing I remember, sir, I was being choked.

Q — Do you remember anything in between?

A — No, sir.

Q — You were in the party?

A — That is what I later learned in this court, sir.

Q — You saw Senator Kennedy, you put the gun to his head, about an inch away. . . eventually he died.

A — I was told this, sir.

Q — Do you believe it is true?

A — Obviously, sir.

Q — And after that you were choked?

A — I was choked, yes.

Q — Did you know anyone there?

A — I don't know anybody who was choking me.

Q — Were you hurt?

A — I don't know who it was, who was choking me, but he was doing a good job.

Q — What is the next thing you remember?

A — I remember getting into that car, a police car. One of the policemen took hold of my hair, yanked my head back and put a light in my eyes.

Q — Jesse Unruh testified that during the drive from the Ambassador Hotel to Rampart station, you said "I did it for my country." Do you remember that?

A — Jesse Unruh must have been correct in saying that, but I myself don't remember saying that to him or anybody.

Q — Do you remember the police station?

A — I didn't know what it was at the time, sir.

Q — You saw the uniforms — you must have recognized them as policemen.

A — Yes.

Q — Do you remember being taken inside?

A — Not exactly, sir.

Q — Do you remember the flashlight being shown in your face?

A — I don't remember that.

Q — Later, did other officers come in and ask you questions?

A — Mr. Jordan.

Q — You remembered Mr. Jordan?

A — Yes, he was a very nice man.

Q — Other than the pulling your head back, was there any mistreatment by the police?

A — I don't remember, but they were so friendly I don't think there could have been any.

Q — Did you know you had shot Sen. Kennedy?

A — No, sir, I did not.

Q — When was the first time you remember you were accused to killing Mr. Kennedy?

A — When this Mr. Jordan — this is the only man I remember because of his name.

Jordan—When they took me to the court room. I was in front of a lady judge. I couldn't believe it, sir. It was the first time in my life I've ever seen a lady judge. They started reading these names to me.

Q—When you were arrested, you refused to give your name?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—With the policemen, you didn't discuss anything about the shooting?

A—They never brought it up, sir.

Q—What did you think you were there for.

A—We were so engaged in this discussion . . . I don't remember. It was so interesting to me.

Q—Did a doctor talk to you?

A—Yes. Doctor Italla.

Q—What did Dr. Italla do?

A—Examined me.

Q—When you heard the name Kennedy when you were before the lady judge . . .

Q—That is the first you knew you had shot Kennedy?

A—That is right.

Q—Did you send for a lawyer?

A—When I was before Judge Klein . . . the Public Defender wanted to know my name. I didn't know what had happened . . . I wanted to settle in my mind. I wanted to find out what was going on, and I asked him to send for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Q—Why the ACLU?

A—I had heard about them on the radio.

Q—And a person from the ACLU came?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—That was A. L. Wirin?

A—Yes, sir. A fine man.

Q—And that's about the whole story?

Q—You told this jury you don't remember having any intention to kill Kennedy?

A—I don't remember.

Q—You have heard these notebooks read?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—And you wrote these notebooks?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—And you don't deny it?

A—I don't deny it.

Q—You bought the gun?

A—Yes, sir. I did, I did.

Q—Prior to 1962 . . . that is 1967, you wrote of your plan to kill the President of the United States.

A—Yes, sir.

Q—And you went to the Ambassador Hotel on the 2nd of June, 1968?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—You saw Sen. Kennedy . . . you were angry at him?

A—I was.

Q—You had . . . target practice?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—You took the gun over to the Ambassador Hotel?

A—Yes, sir . . . obviously.

Q—You didn't take any identification with you?

A—I always left my wallet in the car.

Q—And you did kill him?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—How do you account for this?

A—I don't know.

Q—You may cross-examine.

Deputy District Attorney Lynn D. Compton began the cross-examination for the Prosecution.

Q—For a long time you have been very interested in solving the Arab problem?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—Because of this, you wanted to become a diplomat?

A—Yes, sir, I did.

Q—You were quite impressed by what your teacher in the Old City told you—that the way to solve these problems was through peaceful means?

A—Yes, sir.

Q—As of the moment, now you have an intense hatred for Zionists?

A—Yes, sir, I do.

Q—That hatred would apply to anyone who appeared to be aiding the Zionists?

A—Yes, sir. I feel so strongly about it that any friend of my enemy is my enemy.

Q—When did you first develop your hatred for the United States?

A — I never have had any hatred as such for the United States. I am most grateful to the United States for having lived here the second half of my life. But from 1967 on, I was very resentful to the United States for their foreign policy, for their one-sided support in the Middle East.

Q — But never until now did you hate the United States?

A — No. Government, sir, was my favorite subject in school. I love the American democracy . . . elections . . . checks and balances.

Q — But you wrote that you wanted to overthrow the United States?

A — At that time, sir, when I wrote it.

Q — But only at the time you wrote the material?

A — Yes. That is how I felt, and only at that time. I don't remember entertaining the thought after or before.

Q — However briefly, you had that feeling of hatred?

A — My feelings, sir, to anything, changed according to the conditions of the day.

Q — Think back, now . . . can you reconstruct one single thing that was done by the United States that first caused you to resent it?

A — Not to resent them or hate them. But during politics, sir, in the United States, the Presidential elections in 1948, when Harry Truman, sir, came out and said, "Do Arabs have any votes in America?" . . . the president-elect implied only the Jews in America . . . can vote for him, can contribute money to his campaign, and he is only responsible for the Jews.

He felt he had only to comply to the wishes of the Zionists in the United States, if those Jews would vote for him.

Q — You were only four years old, so that was something you read later?

A — Yes.

Q — Did President Johnson do something that upset you?

A — Yes, sir, he did. I explained that.

Q — That would explain your statement about assassinating the 36th President?

A — Yes. I must have been provoked at the time I wrote that, sir.

Q — You told us at one point in your life you had a great fondness for Robert Kennedy.

A — Yes, sir, I did.

Q — At what time did that begin?

A — I had always associated him, sir, with President Kennedy. To me he was the next President. I was hoping he would become President and would continue what his brother had started.

Q — Do you remember a time when Senator Kennedy was not an announced candidate?

A — I honestly don't, sir.

Q — Do you remember when he said he would be a candidate?

A — Yes.

Q — Do you remember when that was?

A — No.

Q — Did you feel you were for him?

A — I was for him very much, sir.

Q — At the time your love turned to hate, was that when he was a candidate?

A — Yes, sir, it was, but it wasn't all that much hate really. I still liked him until the time he came out and said he would give those 50 Phantom jet bombers to Israel.

Q — Not all that much hate?

A — No. But any was enough cause for me, sir, to hate him.

Q — Enough to kill him?

A — I don't know about that.

Q — If you had been there, you said you would have blasted him.

A — Yes, I said I would have, and I still would.

Q — You meant that?

A — Sir, I am very impulsive. Whatever my reaction would be, it was good for that time only.

Q — When did you decide your teacher was wrong about peaceful means?

A — I never decided, my

teacher was wrong. Throughout my life I believed in non-violence. I liked all people who try to achieve their goals peacefully.

Q — You told us if you were where Israeli soldiers were standing on the Suez, you would kill them.

A — Yes. If you were trying to kill me, I would kill you first. Whenever it comes to self-preservation, sir, I come first, not you.

Q — Then your peaceful approach only goes so far?

A — Yes.

Q — Do you doubt that you wrote "Kennedy must die."?

A — No, I don't have any doubts.

Q — Can you relate that writing in your notebook to when you saw the television program?

A — Sir, again I don't remember what the exact provocation was. I have heard of many times when Robert Kennedy was going to send those jet bombers to Israel.

Q — Sen. Kennedy was in Oregon then?

A — I thought he was.

Q — You followed the campaign closely?

A — No, sir. This stuff came to me. I didn't go to it.

Q — On May 18th, in your notebook you wrote: "My determination to eliminate Robert F. Kennedy is becoming more the more of an unshakable obsession." Does this indicate to you that you had been thinking of eliminating him for some time?

A — Sir, I don't know what exactly was my meaning when I wrote those words. My emotion was there. I don't remember what I meant by every word.

Q — Did the same thing apply to your Zionist feeling?

A — I have a built-in bug in this brain of mine about the Jews, the Israelis. Anything about them turns me on.

Q — That does not go off and on

A — No. It stays with me.

Q — You don't require anything to turn on the feeling?

Q — Try to listen to my question. Your Zionist feeling doesn't require repeated provocation?

A — No, sir.

Q — If you had no trouble remembering your experiments . . . what about your notebooks? You don't remember when these were written?

A — No, Sir, I don't.

Q — You had a habit of doodling?

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — You had a habit of writing words or even sentences of things that were on your mind?

A — I don't know, Sir, what came in my mind. I didn't sit there and doodle intentionally.

Q — These were the things that interested you? Race horses . . . girls now and then . . . songs, poems . . . sometimes you liked to write in Arabic . . . jockeys' names?

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — It doesn't surprise you to find these things in your notebooks?

A — No, Sir, it doesn't.

Q — Look at this book . . . you might have been thinking about a betting combination for a race when you wrote that?

A — That is conjecture, Sir. I don't know.

Q — Do you even remember that you had these notebooks?

A — Yes, Sir, they are mine.

Q — Do you remember the last time you might have written something?

A — No, Sir, I don't.

Q — These were not the only notebooks from Pasadena City College that you kept notes in?

A — I don't know, Sir.

Q — You had several books?

A — Were you with me at the time, Mr. Compton? How the hell do you know? Don't tell me, Sir. Ask me, but don't put words in my mouth.

Q — Did you have several books?  
A — Yes, at the East Pasadena Firearms Company.

Q — You were taught in the Cadet Corps about gun safety when you wrote this letter to ty?  
A — Yes, Sir.

Q — Did you remember about withholding tax?  
Q — Didn't you think it was dangerous to carry a loaded weapon around in your automobile?  
A — I think it is.

Q — You were away from the house. You took these two notebooks with you to Corona?  
Q — When you acquired the gun, it looked like a pretty good gun to you?  
A — I thought it was, yes.

A — I guess, Sir . . . I don't know. I don't remember the occasion that prompted me to write that. I said most likely I was in Corona.  
Q — You had shopped other places for guns?  
A — I had looked, not shopped.

Q — Did you ever look at your notebook at the things you wrote?  
Q — The guns in the store were too expensive for you?  
A — Yes, Sir, they were.

A — I guess, Sir. I don't remember.  
Q — What was the going price?  
A — It depends on the make.

Q — You don't remember looking and thinking, "Gee whiz, here I wrote that Kennedy must be assassinated" and wonder why. You don't remember that?  
Q — Give us some range of prices.  
A — \$55 . . . \$65 . . . some cheaper.

A — No, Sir, I don't.  
Q — You can buy a .22 revolver for as low as \$13-\$14, can't you?  
A — Yes, Sir, I guess you could, Sir, but of a very inferior make. I have seen some of them at the gun range . . . they are not in the same class as mine, Sir.

Q — On this envelope, see that writing: "RFK must be disposed of like his brother." Did you write that?  
Q — Did you ever try to buy a gun at a gun store?  
A — Yes, Sir, I guess you could, Sir, but of a very inferior make. I have seen some of them at the gun range . . . they are not in the same class as mine, Sir.

A — It was my handwriting.  
Q — You have no memory at all of ever writing that?  
Q — Did you ever try to buy a gun at a gun store?  
A — I never had enough money.

A — No, Sir, I haven't.  
Q — You knew they wouldn't sell you one?  
A — No, I didn't.

Q — Let's talk about the gun a minute, Sirhan. Prior to your acquiring it, you expressed a desire for a gun to your brother, right?  
Q — You knew as an alien you couldn't have one?  
A — No, I did not know that.

A — Yes, Sir.  
Q — Where did you keep your gun?  
A — In my room.

Q — What did you want it for?  
Q — When did you get ammunition?  
A — When I decided to shoot it, Sir.

A — I don't know, Sir, at the time what I wanted it for.  
Q — How long did you have the gun before you fired it?  
A — About six weeks . . . two months.

Q — For target shooting or hunting?  
Q — Had you ever been hunting?  
A — No, Sir, I never had.

A — It could have been from watching a western on television where they have guns.  
Q — You didn't go hunting after you got the gun—I mean for animals?  
A — No, Sir, I did not.

Q — Before you bought this gun, had you looked at other guns?



Q — Where did you go? A — It was the first time I stayed that late.

A — To Fish Canyon, Sir.

Q — Did you buy the ammunition before you went? Q — Now, the notebook . . . could all of the writing on this page of the notebook . . . it might have been put on at different times?

A — I think I bought the ammunition at the range.

Q — How long did you stay? A — I don't know. I will not concede to that. It might have been at the same time or at different times.

A — Long enough to acquaint myself with the gun.

Q — All your shots were slow fire? Q — When you were doodling . . . what about the different colored ink?

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — Did you squeeze every shot off? A — I could have run out of ink, Sir, in one pen or another.

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — After you finished shooting, did you unload your gun? Q — The entries might have been made at different times.

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — Did you put the gun in your car? A — They could have.

A — Yes, on the back seat of the car.

Q — You said you knew it was against the law to carry a gun . . . ? Q — On June 4, when you were target shooting, do you have any idea of how many rounds you fired that day?

A — A concealed gun.

Q — But you didn't know it was against the law for an alien to have a gun? A — 6 . . . 7 . . . 8 . . . 850 rounds.

A — No, I didn't.

Q — When was the next time you fired your gun? Q — For the whole 850 rounds you testified you drew on the target and squeezed the trigger?

A — I don't remember. But there were about six times that I fired the gun.

Q — It was always deliberate slow fire? A — I said about 850 rounds.

A — I always aimed at the bull's eye.

Q — You know that rapid fire is best for a silhouette target? Q — Well 750, give me a figure.

A — I don't know.

Q — When you put live rounds into the cylinder of your revolver, do they fit tight? A — I fired a hell of a lot of shots.

A — Mine fit pretty tight, Sir, in my gun.

Q — Wasn't it easier to get out live bullets than the cartridges? Q — For all this hell of a lot of shots, you squeezed them off?

A — Not in my gun. If I wanted to remove it live, I had to use a screwdriver.

Q — June 4 was the only time you put the gun loaded in the car? A — I tried to hit the bull's eye.

A — I don't remember exactly . . . I tried to use all the ammunition I had in the gun.

Q — That was the first time you got caught with a loaded gun when the whistle went off at the range? Q — You were carefully squeezing these rounds off?

A — Yes.

Q — And anybody who says you were fast firing is an absolute liar?

A — I think I would say that, Sir.

Q — Witnesses said it was you . . . are they liars?

A — Yes, Sir, they are. It was the man next to me who was doing the rapid firing. He was not firing a .22.

Q — Did you have a conversation about hunting?

A — Yes, I did.

Q — Did you say "I intend to go hunting?"

A — I don't remember saying it.

Q — Did you think you would take this gun out and hunt with it?

A — I might have. I don't know.

Q — Was anything said about killing a dog?

A — I don't remember exactly, Sir. It could have happened.

Q — It might have been said by you?

A — It could be. There was talk about hunting.

Q — About hunting for dogs?

A — About hunting in general.

Q — You did not say anything about your gun killing a dog?

A — I don't remember saying anything about my gun killing a dog. Whatever was said about a dog was in reference to hunting, not my gun or anybody else's gun.

Q — On June 1, do you remember you went to the range in Corona?

A — Yes.

Q — Do you remember signing in?

A — No, I don't exactly remember. . . . When you ask if I remember signing my name, that is like asking if I remember the whole afternoon. That is stupid.

Q — I sometimes do ask stupid questions. Do you remember signing in?

A — Yes, Sir, I do.

Q — Was all your shooting slow fire?

A — Yes . . . a policeman was there teaching some people, and the way he taught them to fire guns, that was the way I was taught, too.

Q — When you left, did you go home?

A — Yes, I did.

Q — Straight?

A — I might have stopped in Corona at a restaurant.

Q — Did you take your gun out of the car?

A — No, Sir.

Q — Was it loaded?

A — Most likely it would have been unloaded. I expended my ammunition at the range.

Q — Was there any ammunition in the car?

A — I don't remember. On the way home from Corona, I bought some ammunition at the Lock, Stock and Barrel.

I asked for something they said they did not have. That is when they tried to sell me these mini-mags.

Q — The night of the first, when you got home, you took the gun inside?

A — Yes.

Q — Was that your usual practice?

A — Yes, it was.

Q — On June 4, you were mad at Kennedy?

A — Yes, but I wasn't provoked.

Q — When you saw him June 2, he looked like an all right guy?

A — He seemed like it, Sir. I had not liked it when he said he would send bombers to Israel.

Q — On June 2, he didn't say he wouldn't send bombers to Israel?

A — He didn't say he would either.

Q — He was back in your good graces?

A — As long as I could see him.

A — As long as he was in front of you?

A — When I saw him, I thought he was beautiful.

Q — And after you saw him?

A — I still thought his sending 50 jet bombers to Israel was unfair.

Q — You thought Kennedy would still send the bombers?

A — Those Zionists have a habit of holding every presidential candidate to his word. He knew where his business lied in the American election.

Q — After you arrived at the Hotel Ambassador, how long was it before you bought a drink?

A — Fifteen or 20 minutes, a hair nout at most, probably.

Q — You didn't drink, did you?

A — No, Sir, I don't drink. I drank that night.

Q — You were mad?

A — I was, Sir.

Q — Mad at the Zionists?

A — I was, very much.

Q — And the friends of the Zionists?

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — You began to feel high?

A — Yes, Sir.

Q — What were symptoms?

A — I wasn't myself, Sir. I wasn't the same Sirhan that had come in here.

Q — Were you dizzy?

A — I was like this (made weaving motions with hands).

Q — Did you stagger?

A — I haven't been drunk enough to know what it is like, but I knew I was not sober.

Q — Had you ever been drunk before?

A — Yes.

Q — What was it like?

A — I had to be nursed by my brother.

Q — Were you sick?

A — Yes! . . . not too sick.

Q — Did you fall down?

A — You would have to ask my brother.

Q — On this night, did you have trouble standing?

A — No, Sir, not exactly.

Q — Did you have trouble seeing?

A — I don't remember exactly.

Q — You remember the coffee urn. . . the girl . . . did you have trouble seeing them?

A — I was so glad to have gotten that coffee. . . it was the only thing on my mind.

Q — She was pretty, wasn't she?

A — You could have had the ugliest gal in the place, and the way I was drunk you could have said she was the most beautiful, and I would have no way of disputing it.

A — You thought you should go home?

A — Yes.

Q — You left, walked back to your car?

A — Yes.

Q — Put the key in the ignition?

A — I don't remember.

Q — You decided you had too much to drink?

A — That I wasn't myself, Sir.

Q — You thought you might get arrested?

A — Yes. I didn't have any insurance, either.

Q — You thought you should get some coffee to sober up?

A — Yes.

Q — You got out of the car?

A — Yes.

Q — You locked it up?

A — Yes, I always locked it.

Q — You took your gun with you?

A — I don't remember.

Q — When you talked with Dr. (Seymour) Pollack, you said you took the gun out because you were afraid Jews would steal it?

A — I did not tell him that speaking like I am to you. I must have told him that when I was under hypnosis. I didn't know I told him that, Sir.

Q — You walked back to the Ambassador?

A — Yes, down the incline.

Q — It never entered your mind to go back to (Sen.) Kuchel's (headquarters) for coffee?

A — No, Sir, it never did.

Q — Do you remember getting back to the Ambassador?

A — That route, Sir, had become familiar to me.

Q — Were you on the second floor?

A — I don't know where I found the coffee, but I found the coffee.

Q — Do you know what time that was?

A — No, Sir, I do not have any concept of the time.	A — I don't remember now.
Q — Do you remember talking to the girl by the coffee?	Q — Were you woozy?
A — Yes, I remember telling her how happy I was to get coffee.	A — I was tired, Sir.
Q — What was your conversation?	Q — Could you still feel the effects of liquor?
A — Coffee was the conversation.	A — I don't know what I was feeling.
Q — And the next thing you remember you were being choked?	Q — Were you groggy?
A — Yes, Sir.	A — I don't know what I was.
Q — You remember an officer grabbing you by the hair?	Q — You were not alert?
A — I didn't know it was an officer, but in this car, this guy yanked my head back and put a light in my eyes.	A — I don't remember how was.
Q — Do you remember the police station?	Q — You asked Jordan to taste your coffee first?
A — No, Sir, I don't.	A — He wanted that coffee tasted.
Q — Do you remember being in this room with Officer Jordan?	Q — You don't recall asking him to do it?
A — Yes, Sir, when he was giving me the coffee.	A — No, I don't recall.
Q — Do you remember kicking the cup out of the hand of the officer?	Q — Did you not do that?
A — I didn't know he was an officer.	A — I could have. I don't remember.
Q — Well, someone?	Q — Why would you have him taste it first?
A — Yes.	A — I don't know.
Q — How many officers shined the light in your eyes?	Q — You didn't think you had done anything at that time?
A — I don't remember. The one in the car I remember because he pulled my hair.	A — No, Sir, I didn't.
Q — Do you remember that Officer Jordan searched you?	Q — You thought Jordan was a nice guy?
A — I don't remember that.	A — He was.
Q — You don't remember him going through your property with you?	Q — Did he ask your name?
A — The only thing I remember about Mr. Jordan was when he was in that little room and Mr. Howard was there.	A — I don't remember if he did.
Q — You don't remember that he started to inventory your property and you said, "That has already been done by Badge 3909"?	Q — Did anybody ask it that night?
	A — Mr. Howard. . . He gave me my constitutional rights or whatever they were. . . said anything I said could be used against me, I kept my mouth shut.
	Q — You didn't give your name?
	A — No.
	Q — You knew your name?
	A — Yes.
	Q — You weren't so foggy or drunk you forgot it?
	A — I don't know.
	Q — Don't you have any recollection of being in the police station and being questioned?

Q—Because you were not yourself?

A-No.

A—I don't remember.

A—I could have been asked. I don't remember.

A — Yes.

A — They did not tell me what it was for.

A — I give you this sequence: They changed my clothes at that place. They wheeled me in a wheelchair, then I was X-rayed, then the blood was taken from me.

A — Yes, Sir.

A — I don't remember, Sir, if they did.

A — I don't remember.

A — The people . . . this Mr. Jordan was so friendly, Sir. Nothing was mentioned about the case. I don't know what happened, Sir.

A — No, Sir. I wasn't myself, Sir. I didn't know what was going on.

A — I don't know from what. I was not myself as I am now.

A—I must not have been. Otherwise I would remember what happened.

A — I don't remember.

A — I don't exactly remember.

A — I remember this fellow, Mr. Howard. He looked monstrous to me at the time.

Q — A — No, Sir, I don't.

A — I don't remember.

Q — Do you remember around 3 o'clock Sgt. Melendrez said, "Do you want to



talk about the Ambassador?" aware that I killed Mr. Kennedy. You said, "Look, Mr. Jordan, I must act right for a moment . . . I have the right to remain silent . . . this is a basic American jurisprudence . . ." Remember?

A — No, Sir, I don't remember that.

Q — They asked if you at least wanted to give them your name?

A — I thought they had the name.

Q — John Doe?

A — John Doe.

Q — You told them that was your name?

A — They gave me this name. They forced me. They told me to sign that name.

Q — Didn't they say to sign your name?

A — They said write down John Doe.

Q — You said you were willing to fight for the Arab cause?

A — Palestinian Arabs.

Q — Would killing Robert Kennedy aid the Arab cause?

A — Sir, I am not even

Q — You know he is dead.

Q — Would the killing of Kennedy help the Arab cause?

A — I am in no position to say that.

Q — Are you glad he is dead?

A — No, Sir, I am not.

Q — Are you sorry?

A — No, I am not sorry, but I am not proud.

Q — You're not sorry?

A — No, because I have no exact knowledge of having shot him . . . but I am not proud.

Q — Did you not say "I killed Robert Kennedy wilfully, premeditatedly and with 20 years of malice aforethought"?

A — Yes, Sir, I did.

Q — Are you willing to die for the Arab cause?

A — When did I say I was willing to fight for the Arab cause?

Q — This morning. Are you willing to fight for the Arab cause?

A — Yes.

Q — Are you willing to die for it?

A — Yes.



Herald-Examiner Photo

**TWO PROSECUTORS IN SIRHAN TRIAL ARRIVE AT COURTROOM**  
They are David N. Fitts, deputy district attorney, and Lynn D. Compton, chief prosecutor

# Sex Frightens Sirhan, Psychologist Testifies

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Sirhan B. Sirhan is a young man who is frightened of sex and reacts far differently than almost any other man when exposed to it, a psychologist testified today at the murder trial.

It was the 25th birthday of the Arab immigrant on trial for the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Dr. Roderick Richardson resumed showing the jury a series of pictures—one showing a woman nude from the waist up and a clothed man—which he had put before Sirhan and asked him to make up a story of what was happening.

Richardson said Sirhan's reaction was: "Did he murder her or rape her?"

"Then he said he once had seen a movie in which a detective snapped a picture of an illicit affair and he said that might be what was happening there."

## "Frightening Thing"

"He has a sexual problem—it is a frightening thing instead of an accepted thing," Richardson said. "Never in 7,000 cases did I ever have anyone theorize that this was a picture snapped by a detective."

Sirhan was beaming when he came into the courtroom and he shook hands warmly with his attorneys. They gave him a card with a cat on the cover and inside were a number of other felines with the words "from all us cats."

His mother and two brothers were not in court when the trial began and Sirhan seemed somewhat disappointed. They entered about 15 minutes later.

Richardson examined Sirhan last July 20—six weeks after the young Jordanian Arab killed Kennedy while the New York senator was celebrating victory in the California Democratic presidential primary.

## "Mental Disturbance"

The psychologist said he found "a very severe emotional and mental disturbance in a man of bright-normal to superior intellectual potential." Sirhan, the psychologist said, has a highly fragile personality structure "so that the best and most adequate

level of functioning is not stable or reliable."

Paranoia destroys or severely impairs "the ability to know and respond to the difference between right and wrong," Richardson said.

Sirhan's attorneys hope to show that Sirhan did not have the mental power to form a meaningful plot against the senator. The prosecution cites Sirhan's diaries as proof that he planned to kill Kennedy because the senator's support of aid for Israel—a nation Sirhan hates violently.

A plea of "diminished capacity" could result in the jury returning a lesser verdict than first degree murder, which carries a penalty of life in prison or death in the gas chamber.

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

Date MAR 19 1969

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# SIRHAN DEFENSE CLOSES ITS CASE

Expert Insists View Is Valid  
Even if It Seems 'Absurd'

By DOUGLAS ROBINSON  
Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, March 27—The defense in the trial of Sirhan b. Sirhan rested its case today and the prosecution prepared to call several psychologists and psychiatrists who are expected to have differing views of the defendant's mental condition.

The end of the defense's effort to save Sirhan from the gas chamber came after 29 witnesses had been heard. Many of them testified that the 25-year-old Jordanian immigrant was a schizophrenic paranoid psychotic incapable of premeditating the murder of Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

The presentation of the prosecution's rebuttal witnesses is expected to take at least three days. Presumably, the lawyers will then deliver their summations and the case will go to the jury.

The conclusion of the defense's case came on the 49th day of the trial. The defense witnesses have been heard for the last 19 court days.

This morning, Dr. Bernard L. Diamond completed three days of testimony on Sirhan's mental state before and at the time of the shooting by acknowledging that his version of how Sirhan killed Senator Kennedy while in a self-induced trance might seem like an "incredible story."

## 'Absurd, Preposterous'

"I have stated that this is an absurd, preposterous story, unlikely and incredible, which is extraordinary and possibly in a unique case such as Sirhan's does raise the gravest problems of clinical proof and credibility."

Dr. Diamond, a psychiatrist who teaches at the University of California at Berkeley and who hypnotized Sirhan several times in his jail cell, said that Sirhan was a "preposterous person" and that his actions were "too illogical even for the theater of the absurd."

"When I first had personal contact with Sirhan," he continued, "I was prepared for the usual case of a paranoid fanatic who dreams of grand delusions and that is what has been found to be so."

"I was not, however, prepared for what I discovered, these stirring instances of correspondence, courses, hypnosis, dissociate trances, mystical occultism of the Rosicrucian mind power and black magic and that this, in my psychological thinking, would have resulted in the death of Senator Kennedy that affected the destinies of the entire world."

Dr. Diamond told the court that he had investigated Sirhan's mind "by every psychiatric means within my power."

He said he had little expectation that he would be believed, but added that he thought it was "important that there exist this full record of how the assassination of Robert Kennedy came about."

The psychiatrist said that his story of how Sirhan went into a trance after seeing himself in the mirrors of an alcove in the Ambassador Hotel, and how the trance related to experiments in self-hypnosis before a mirror in his bedroom, was a "script that would never have been acceptable in a class B motion picture."

## Called 'the Realities'

"And yet," he concluded, "these are, I think, the realities of the psychiatric findings."

Outside the courtroom, during a television interview, Dr. Diamond said that the only reason to believe his story was that it was so "absurd," he declined to speculate as what verdict the witness stand by Dr. Georgeologist who had been retained by the prosecution to study the test findings of two other psychologists who had examined Sirhan.

In testifying for the Defense, Dr. Seward confirmed the earlier diagnosis that the defendant was a "schizophrenic-paranoid type."

Under cross-examination, the psychologist conceded that some of the defendant's answers that served to indicate paranoia might have been colored by the stress experienced by virtue of being in jail awaiting trial for a capital offense.

She resisted the prosecution's efforts, however, to suggest questions would be affected by Sirhan's anxiety.

The last defense witness was Dr. George De Vos, a psychologist and a professor of anthropology at the University of California at Berkeley.

Dr. De Vos, who has given psychological tests to different groups, said that the fact that Sirhan was an Arab did not have "any bearing" on the validity of the tests.

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Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
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Rosen *RS* \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan *S* \_\_\_\_\_  
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Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
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The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_  
Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
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The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

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UPI-3

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S MURDER TRIAL WILL COST \$1 MILLION BEFORE IT IS FINISHED, BUT IT WILL BE "WORTH EVERY PENNY," SAYS A COUNTY OFFICIAL.

THE ESTIMATE CAME YESTERDAY FROM COUNTY SUPERVISOR KENNETH HAHN, WHO AS CHAIRMAN OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY COURTS, HE IS KEEPING TABS ON EXPENSES AND WILL RECEIVE A COMPLETE ACCOUNTING OF THE TRIAL AT ITS CONCLUSION.

SIRHAN'S TRIAL FOR THE MURDER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY RESUMES TODAY FOLLOWING A THREE-DAY RECESS WITH REBUTTAL TESTIMONY FROM A PROSECUTION PSYCHIATRIST. THE CASE WILL PROBABLY GO TO THE JURY NEXT WEEK.

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FOR MR. TOLSON

WASHINGTON BUREAU NEWS SERVICE

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*Kensalt*

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TRIAL 5/28 HC 15

WITH KENNEDY

ADV FOR AMS SUN JUNE 1

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC MOMENTS IN THE  
 THREE AND ONE-HALF MONTH TRIAL OF SIRHAN B. SIRHAN CAME WHEN  
 ASST. DIST. ATTY. LYNN COMPTON ASKED HIM IF HE WAS SORRY THAT HE  
 HAD KILLED ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

"WELL, SIR," SAID SIRHAN, "THEY TELL ME I KO

"WELL, SIR," SAID SIRHAN, "THEY TELL ME I KILLED HIM  
 BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER THAT I DID SO ..."  
 HIS VOICE TRAILED OFF. COMPTON LOOKED AT HIM WITH DISGUST  
 AND DROPPED THE MATTER.

JY73OPPD..

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5/29/69  
 FROM Wash. Post Times Herald  
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