

WOUNDED AT HOTEL

Hoped Sirhan Would Get Life, Youth Says

BY ERIC MALNIC
Times Staff Writer

"Death is too good for him," Ira Goldstein said. "It would be better for him to stay in jail for good and know why he's there." Goldstein, 20, was one of five bystanders wounded when Sirhan B. Sirhan opened fire in a pantry corridor at the Ambassador last June 4, fatally wounding Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

"I expected it," he said when asked his reaction to the jury's decision Wednesday that Sirhan must die.

"But to tell the truth, I

am against it," he added, explaining that in addition to favoring a lifetime of contemplation, he is philosophically opposed to the death sentence.

William Weisel, 31, another of those wounded, is not.

"I think the death penalty serves as a deterrent," Weisel, an American Broadcasting Co. news director in Washington, D.C., told The Times in a telephone interview. "Some others who might have had ideas about shooting peo-

ple will look at this as a lesson . . .

"I have nothing personal against Sirhan, but he took someone's life. . .

"I think the trial brought out that the shooting was premeditated, and in a case like that, I think the death penalty is the proper penalty."

Weisel received a deep flesh wound in the abdomen when Sirhan opened fire. Goldstein, an electronics company employe who lives at 4077 Hayvenhurst Ave., Encino, was struck in the hip.

Mrs. Arthur W. Evans, 43, of Saugus, who declined comment Wednesday because she has a legal suit pending against Sirhan, received a scalp wound.

Paul Schrade, 44, West Coast regional director of the United Auto Workers, had a deep scalp wound and a depressed skull frac-

ture. Irwin Stroll, 17, 6089 Horner St., had a flesh wound in the lower left leg. Neither was available for comment Wednesday.

In addition to being convicted of first-degree murder in the death of Sen. Kennedy, Sirhan was found guilty of assaulting the five with intent to commit murder. All five returned to active life after hospitalization for their wounds.

Tass Makes Brief Mention of Verdict

MOSCOW (AP)—The official Soviet news agency Tass reported briefly Wednesday the sentencing of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan to death for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. The agency made no comment.