

SIRHAN BEGINS 7TH MONTH ON DEATH ROW

SAN QUENTIN (UPI) —Sirhan B. Sirhan completed his first six months of lonely isolation on San Quentin Prison's death row Sunday, awaiting appeals on his conviction for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

"He is very quiet," said Associate Warden James Park. "His routine doesn't change. Lots of reading, very little TV."

The 25-year-old Jordanian immigrant is isolated in Cell 33, a stark concrete and steel enclosure on the prison's sixth floor. The cells on either side are

empty and two mesh steel screens create a no-man's land 15 feet away in the cellblock corridor.

A different guard brings Sirhan his two meals each day and sometime pauses for a few words with the young assassin. The other 25 condemned men in the unit may approach the mesh screens and converse with Sirhan, but Park said he doesn't seem anxious for the society of other inmates.

Sirhan has a 10 by 15 foot private recreation yard outside his cell, but mostly exercises with a medicine ball or by doing pushups inside the cell.

He leaves the secluded area only for medical appointments and to meet visitors. His mother, brothers and attorneys have averaged about one visit a month since Sirhan arrived at San Quentin on May 23.

When he leaves, other inmates are ordered to clear a 30-foot path for Sirhan and his two guards.

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Officials fear other prisoners might try to attack the slayer of Kennedy. "Our basic obligation is to keep him functioning until the courts decide his case," the associate warden said.