

ALIVE, HAPPY, smiling one moment — the next lying dead in a hotel pantry. Mystery still surrounds the murder of RFK. Only one thing is certain: America lost a great man just as it had when his brother was cruelly gunned down.

Sirhan's Mom Convinced Of Innocence

By MALCOLM ABRAMS
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mother's love never dies. But it may be more than motherly love convincing Mary Sirhan that her son kill Senator Robert Kennedy.

For seven years she has stuck fast by his side. And now, others are joining to protest Sirhan's innocence.

In an exclusive interview with MIDNIGHT at her home in Anaheim, Cal., Mary Sirhan talked candidly about her life without him.

The courts had just turned down an appeal for a new trial for Sirhan. Sirhan was obviously distressed.

"It's terrible to wait so long for an appeal and then be turned down. It wasn't easy for my son to accept the court's decision, but I know it would be hard because everything is following a pattern."

"I feel the police wouldn't want it known that they really didn't do their job in the first place.

Still, Sirhan is optimistic, because he didn't do it. And he knows that someday he'll be getting out.

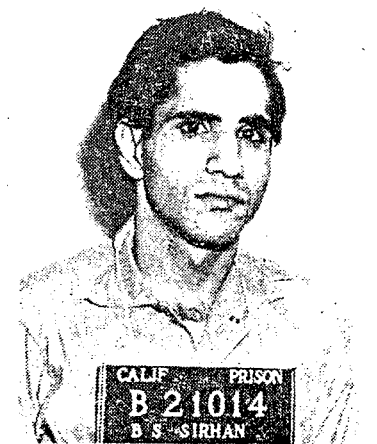
"He knows that nowadays everybody, everywhere is talking about the case. Facts are being revealed every day proving that he was lying the truth. That's what the authorities don't want to hear. But every word he told them is true.

"He didn't lie to them as they said. They made it appear he lied. He told them, 'I don't remember.' And later he told the police I was told that I killed him." On every occasion he said this.

"I remember when I first saw my son after he was arrested. I said, 'Sirhan, what have you done? This man had a family!' My son told me, 'Mom, you've always believed me. Why don't you believe me this time? I know you're not going to believe me. I'm telling the truth.'

"Some people say that Sirhan was hypnotized but I don't believe it. He insists to this day that he just doesn't remember what he did."

"My son's attorney Godfrey Isaac says he's not going to make any further legal moves in the case until he is absolutely sure next time it will be accepted by the courts. Because there are too many chances left for Sirhan and Mr. Isaac has to be careful."



MARY SIRHAN at the trial of son, Sirhan B. Sirhan (above right)

"But I believe more than before in the new evidence that has been brought out. For example, the psychiatrist who hypnotized my son tried everything to get a confession.

"He kept saying, 'Here Sirhan, get your gun.' You can read it in the transcript. But whenever the doctor would mention the name of the Senator, my son would say, 'No, no. No, I can't.'

"I have faith, of course, that someday Sirhan will be found innocent."

"I want everybody to know about the forensic scientists. They're leading, respected men in their field and they're saying that my son did not kill the Senator. They say the bullets that killed Mr. Kennedy did not come from his gun.

"But how long must Sirhan remain in jail? How long while the one who really did it is walking around free?"

"It is my feeling that Senator Kennedy, bless his soul, will not rest in peace until my son comes out."

"When I write my son, I say, 'When we know God, we are on His side and He knows that we are His because we trust Him. And regardless of the power of the authorities, we will prevail, because they don't know who it is they are really fighting.'

"I have great faith in God. He will help my son."