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Psychiatric Tests To Be Given Sirhan

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Pretrial proceedings for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan were delayed today to allow time for additional psychiatric and brain damage tests of the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant accused of first degree murder in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The defendant made an 18-minute appearance in an armor-plated, heavily guarded special courtroom. At one point he asked the judge if he could have sleeping pills "because I haven't been resting too well."

Superior Court judge Richard Schauer granted a two-week continuance, at the request of defense counsel Russell Parsons for Sirhan to make his plea.

The court also granted permission for a psychologist, Roderick Richardson, and a

neurologist, Dr. Edward Davis, to examine Sirhan.

Davis, Parsons said, would use an encephalograph to take a reading of the brain waves of the defendant. Sirhan, who is five-foot-four inches tall and weighs only 125 pounds, once had an ambition to become a race horse jockey. He fell off a horse last year and said he sustained a head injury.

The dark-haired defendant held several whispered conversations with Parsons during the proceedings.

The judge asked Sirhan if he would have any objection to the release of information he has given the prison physician, Dr. Marcus Crahan. Sirhan appeared to be confused by the question.

After a whispered conversation with his client, the attorney told the court he would waive the right to secrecy of the physician-patient relationship in this instance.