SIRHAN DRUNK TEST STUDIED

Doctor Testifies Defendant Acted Like 'Wild Beast'

Los Angeles, March 21 (AP)—In an experiment in drunkenness, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan went berserk and became like "a wild beast," a defense psychiatrist testified today at Mr. Sirhan's murder trial.

"I think he thought he was back at the Ambassador Hotel," Dr. Eric Marcus told a jury trying the 25-year-old Jordanian for his life.

It was in the Ambassador that Senator Robert F. Kennedy was fatally shot last year. The defendant has said he was drunk at the time of the shooting and unable to recall anything.

6 Ounces Of Alcohol

Dr. Marcus said that in the test Mr. Sirhan was given 6 ounces of alcohol in a mixed drink called a Tom Collins.

"Psychologically he went berserk . . .," the psychiatrist said. "He was extremely agitated and restless and cursing and had to be physically restrained.

"He kept grabbing at his throat. He said 'What the hell is going on here?' He thought he was choking. He said, 'I'll get even with those Jews.'

20 Years Enough

"I think he thought he was back at the Ambassador Hotel. Then he started talking about how 20 years were enough for the Jews, and Kennedy didn't have to help them . . .

"He never said he killed Kennedy. He kept talking as those Kennedy were alive . . . With all my prodding he never said he killed Kennedy.

"The alcohol triggered off some sort of an irritation. He became sort of like a wild beast."

One Factor

The defense has claimed that one of the factors behind the assassination was Mr. Sirhan's belief that Senator Kennedy was pro-Israeli in the Middle East conflict.

It was pointed out to Dr. Marcus on state crossexamination that, aside from Mr. Sirhan's own statement that he was drunk, there was no testimony during the trial that he actually was intoxicated.

"I don't assume he was intoxicated at the time he committed the offense," Dr. Marcus replied. "I assume he had some drinks. I also assume the shock of his apprehension had a sobering-up effect.

Little Or A Lot

"It is my assumption that with a lot of alcohol he does the same sort of thing, only more so, that he does with a little alcohol."

Previously Dr. Marcus testified that Senator Kennedy was killed after Mr. Sirhan had thought about assassination "for an awfully long period of time."

Under cross-examination earlier, Dr. Marcus conceded it was "quite possible" Mr. Sirhan was lying when he claimed he could not remember the June 5, 1968, shooting of Kennedy, who was campaigning for the Democratic presidential nomination.