

Backing for New Sirhan Probe

Los Angeles

The county Board of Supervisors formally instructed its agencies yesterday to support reopening the investigation into the assassination of Robert F. Kennedy to determine whether Sirhan B. Sirhan acted alone or whether there was a "conspiracy."

The board voted unanimously to order the county counsel's office to appear in court tomorrow in back a suit calling for a new examination of ballistic evidence in the trial at which Sirhan was found guilty of the fatal shooting of the senator in 1968.

It also requested the district attorney's office to interview in the case and acting District Attorney John Howard agreed to do so.

"It is in the public interest to get this entire matter out in the open once and for all," said Senator Kenneth Hahn.

Was there a conspiracy?

Was the CIA involved? Was there a person other than Sirhan involved? Those are the questions that need answering.

Howard, who was one of the prosecutors at the Sirhan trial, told the board the district attorney's office would examine the Palomares document and other evidence that was in the Sirhan's possession and presented at the trial.

The suit, scheduled for preliminary hearing in Los Angeles Superior Court, was brought by Paul Garrido, Union of Auto Workers executive who was in Kennedy's car and who was wounded in the shooting.

Garrido was adamant that the bullet wound from Sirhan's hand be examined, that the bullet be compared with those taken from Kennedy's body and that other controversial ballistic evidence be reviewed.

United Press