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SIRHAN'S TRIAL TO START DEC. 9

Prosecution to Cooperate with Defense

By GENE HANDSAKER

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Sirhan Bishara Sirhan received Monday a trial delay until Dec. 9 and prosecution assurance that it would withhold no evidence valuable to his defense in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

In a one-hour, 11-minute hearing — seventh and longest yet for the 24-year-old Jordanian — his murder trial scheduled for Nov. 1 was postponed because a still unidentified co-defense lawyer is involved in another case.

The judge said the jury will be locked up nights and weekends so it will not be exposed to outside influences.

The prosecution turned over to the defense big batches of its evidence: statements, it said, from 67 people who saw Sirhan at the Ambassador Hotel the night of the shooting and who saw him on a target range beforehand.

Lynn D. Compton, the chief prosecutor, told the court: "I

le want to make it clear that there is nothing in our possession we seek to withhold from the defense."

Compton also said there is no evidence of a conspiracy in the Kennedy killing. The senator from New York was shot early June 5 just after he had proclaimed victory in California's Democratic presidential primary.

Compton predicted the case will take two to three months to try.

Argument on a defense motion to suppress evidence it says was illegally seized at Sirhan's Pasadena home was delayed to Oct. 22. "I have a witness I would like to bring here," said defense attorney Russell E. Parsons.

The slight, swarthy Sirhan, again in a light blue shirt but gray slacks lighter than ones he has worn before, waved to his mother Mary and brother Munir, 21. They were seated across the makeshift 13th-floor courtroom near his jail cell.

Sirhan's only statement came when the judge asked if he would waive the statutory time for his case to be brought to trial.

"Yes, sir, I will," he replied in a low voice.

Arguing his motion for a continuance, Parsons said it would be inadvisable to try the case during the year-end holidays.