

S.F. SUNDAY EAGLE
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Pastor Tells Sirhan 'Link,' Hides Here

A clergyman from Southern California is hiding for his life in the San Francisco area today, claiming that he met the killer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy before the assassination, that he has evidence of possible conspirators he saw with him, and that his life and the lives of his family have been threatened.

The minister — whose name cannot be revealed at this time for his own security — used San Francisco attorney George T. Davis, as his spokesman.

Briefly, the minister's story is this:

He has a church in Southern California. He also is an avid horseman and buys and sells horses to supplement his salary.

HITCHHIKERS

On June 3, the minister says, he was driving his pickup truck through Los Angeles and stopped for a traffic light. Two men approached him, the minister says, and asked for a ride. He agreed and they climbed in the cab with him.

One of the men, he said, was about five feet, nine. The other was about five feet, four and dark. (Sirhan Sirhan, the man accused of murdering Robert Kennedy, is five feet, four and dark complexioned.)

The clergyman says that his radiator cap has a decoration — a silver-colored horse. The small dark

— Turn to Page 8, Col. 1

—From Page 1

hitch-hiker, he says, noticed the horse and said that he, too, was a horseman, adding that he worked as an exercise boy at a race track.

(Sirhan Sirhan worked as an exercise boy at a track in Los Angeles until falling off a mount and injuring himself shortly before the killing of Kennedy.)

LEAD PONY

The small, dark man, according to the minister, said he wanted to buy a lead pony, a horse used to lead thoroughbreds onto the track. The minister said he asked him how much he would pay, and the smaller man quibbled a bit.

Finally, the minister says, he told the small man he could sell him a Palomino lead pony for \$300. The small man offered to meet him at 11 p.m. to buy the horse. They were to meet on Sunset Boulevard that night.

Before leaving the minister went several blocks away, the minister said, to see the dark man if he was a real can.

"No," the minister says, the man replied. "I'm from Jordan. I've been in this country since I was 13."

(Sirhan Sirhan is a Jordanian Arab and came to the United States when he was about 13.)

RENDEZVOUS

The minister went to the rendezvous, he continued, and the small man was there with two other men and a woman. The small fellow showed him a \$100 bill and told him the \$300 would be ready for him at 8 a.m. the next morning. (This would have been the morning after the Kennedy shooting.)

The same car arrived on time at 8 a.m., but the small man was not in it, although the girl and two other men were. One of them told the minister.

"Joe can't make it this morning, but he will at 11 to-night."

The minister could not arrange that because of an ap-

pointment at Huntington Beach, and the deal was more or less left pending.

TV NEWSCAST

He stayed that night at the Coliseum Hotel near USC, then went to a restaurant where he knew the proprietor. While they were talking a TV newscast about the

'Threats' On Life, Family

Kennedy shooting and the minister said, the picture of Sirhan that was shown as that of the small man who wanted a horse.

That was the first knowledge of the shooting.

The minister says he went immediately to police at nearby University of Southern California, and that they sent him to the Los Angeles police at that city's Hall of Justice.

He says police questioned him at length and then let him go after he said there were some men who had been with him.

He says he received a phone call in his home the anonymous caller, he says, snarled:

"Keep your job security in mind, that if you know what's good for you and your family."

The minister left the next morning for Oakland, where he had business. When he arrived at his motel, he says, he received another call.

This time the caller said he was a Los Angeles policeman who was at Rickey's Hyatt House in Palo Alto, in a tower apartment, and wanted to meet him. The caller said he

would be there all weekend.
The minister said the call
or gave his name as L. L.
Sandellin of the Los Angeles
Police Department.
(The Examiner contacted
Los Angeles police, who said
they do not have an officer
named L. L. Sandellin, but do
have one named L. L. Sand-
lin. They described him as a
sergeant in the police depart-
ment's intelligence unit.)
The minister said he then
called another old friend, a
private investigator in Oak-
land named Sam Gardiner.
The private, he said, would
be a good source of in-
formation on what is known
about the man's past, and
called in 1941.

said they would check on the
identification of Sandellin or
Sandlin.
That was two days ago,
and the minister says he has
heard no word from the FBI
since, even though he left

word he could be reached
through Davis.
The minister says he will
make a formal request,
through Davis, to State At-
torney General Thomas C.
Lynch, asking for a 24-hour

guard for himself and his
family.
Davis says he believes the
man's life is in danger. One
of San Francisco's most not-
ed attorneys, Davis says the
Los Angeles police are acting

negligently.
"Los Angeles authorities,"
the lawyer said, "have taken
the position that there is no
conspiracy in this case, so
this man's story is no impor-
tant."