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Robert F. Kennedy must be

Associated Press

Part of a page dated May 18, 1968, in one of Sirhan's notebooks that was introduced at his murder trial.

Sirhan: 'RFK Must Be Killed...'

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's wild disjointed writings—full of venom for the United States and its political leaders—were made public today amid a rash of bitter outbursts from the young Arab.

Sirhan was so distraught over the introduction of his notebooks that he said he would rather plead guilty to the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and die in the gas chamber than have the public think he was getting a fair trial.

"He's blown his top," chief defense counsel Grant B. Cooper told reporters later. "He doesn't know what the hell he's doing."

The rambling notes introduced by the prosecution spilled over with hatred.

The young Palestinian repeatedly jotted down the injunction to himself, "RFK must die—RFK must be killed . . . Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated, assassinated, assassinated, assassinated . . . Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before 5 June 68." An entry dated May 18 showed.

In a "dissertation" that was kept from the jury as being too inflammatory, Sirhan, 24, proclaimed his support of "the Communist cause and its people—whether Russian, Chinese, Albanian, Bulgarian or whatever."

Sirhan, the notes also disclosed, had then United Nations Ambassador Arthur Goldberg marked for assassination, at least in his mind's eye. On one page of his notebooks that began almost unintelligibly with scrawlings about a "saffire stone," Sirhan wrote:

"Ambassador Goldberg must die die die die." Of Goldberg, the notation added, "mee(t) at the airport."

Goldberg, it was understood, was scheduled to make a speech in Los Angeles around the time that Sirhan shot Kennedy in the Ambassador Hotel last June 5. The U.N. Ambassador, however, did not keep the engagement.

Sirhan seethed over the disclosures all day, starting with a prolonged and agonizing conference this morning in Judge Herbert V. Walker's private chambers. It was there that he blurted out that he wanted to plead guilty. The Judge told him to listen to his lawyers.

See SIRHAN, A4, Col. 1

May 18 9.45 AM-68

my determination to eliminate R.F.K. is becoming more the more of an unshakable obsession

please pay to the order

plea



port wine

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R.F.K. must be assassinated R.F.K. must be assassinated R.F.K. must be assassinated

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HL

Page from Sirhan notebook in which he wrote over and over, "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated."

SIRHAN, From A1

The moody defendant was quieted down, but not for long. Moving into the courtroom, Sirhan could barely contain himself as the prosecution pressed for introduction of eight pages of his writings all seized from his bedroom in Pasadena while Kennedy lay dying last June 5.

Defense Counsel Cooper conceded that most of the notations were "relevant" to the case, but he protested stiffly against two pages that he called both "immaterial" and "prejudicial."

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lynn D. Compton countered by saying that the handwritten "dissertation," jotted down on two sides of a single sheet of paper, was full of insights into Sirhan's state of mind.

With the jury out of the courtroom for the argument, Compton steamed into a summary of the contested pages when Sirhan half-lunged out of his seat.

"Wait a minute," he shouted, "it hasn't been admitted into evidence yet."

Chief Defense Investigator Michael A. McCowan grabbed him by both shoulders and held him in his chair.

On these two pages, superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker agreed with the defense.

"The court," he announced, "feels the inflammatory nature of these documents far outweighs their probative value."

Judge Walker, however, rejected Cooper's plea for a special court order to keep the pages from the press. The judge said he felt the jury was safely sequestered and Compton insisted that it was "in the interests of the public and the nation to know what the defendant thought about this country."

In this document, Sirhan said he not only supported "the Communist cause" but also that:

"I advocate the overthrow of the current President of the (obscenity) United States of America. I have no absolute plans yet—but soon will compose some."

"I am poor," Sirhan went on in the undated writing that he styled "equality before and after the law." Yet, he said "this country's propaganda says that she is the best country in the world—I have not experienced this yet.

"The U. S. says that life in

Russia is bad—why—supposedly no average American has ever lived in a Slavic society so how can he tell if it is good or bad—isn't his gov't putting words in his mouth.

"Anyway," the introverted young immigrant wrote on, "I believe that the U.S. is ready to start decling at a faster rate so that the real *Utopia* will not be to far from being realized during the early 70's in this country."

The so-called dissertation concluded by proclaiming, repeatedly, "workers of the world unite, you have nothing to loose but your chains and a world to win."

Sirhan signed it with his nickname, "Sol," and polished it off with a few words in Arabic.