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**Defense Rests Case
In RFK Murder Trial**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The defense rested its case Thursday in the murder trial of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan—a case a psychiatrist called absurd in nature but nonetheless valid.

“The defendant rests,” attorney Grant B. Cooper announced at 3:46 p.m. after a month of defense testimony concerning the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The jury of eight men and four women then was dismissed for the night. The state on Friday will begin rebuttal testimony, adding to a record already over 7,000 pages since the trial began Jan. 7.

It had been the state's intention to open rebuttal with a film of Kennedy's victory speech in the California Democratic primary, delivered only moments before and a few feet away from his assassination in Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel.

Judge Herbert V. Walker de-

nied the request to show the 12-minute film, saying it would be inflammatory since Sirhan in his testimony gave no indication that he heard Kennedy speak. The state said it wanted to show the film to remove any doubt in the minds of jurors that its content could have triggered Sirhan to shoot Kennedy.

The claim that Sirhan killed Kennedy while in a self-induced trance earlier was described by a defense psychiatrist as “too illogical even for the theater of the absurd”—but he called it valid nonetheless.

“To me this is a script which would never be acceptable in class B motion pictures,” said Dr. Bernard Diamond, a University of California criminologist, “and yet these are, I think, the reality of the psychiatric findings.”

Diamond was the final major witness in a month of defense

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AY testimony at the 25-year-old Sirhan's trial for his life for the June 5, 1968, assassination.

rs. Testifying earlier, Diamond, of 65, said Sirhan subconsciously ied programmed himself like a day computer to shoot the New York hi- senator, through mystic studies, as- self-hypnosis experiments and a ran- festering hatred of Jews. W. he- lat-

of The defendant was said to R. have considered Kennedy pro- ar- Israeli in campaigning for the enn- Democratic presidential nomi- ay, nation. as-

res In a summary, Diamond wrote: “I agree that this is an absurd and preposterous story, unlikely and incredible. I doubt that Sirhan himself agrees with me as to how everything happened.”

he Among windup defense witnesses was Dr. Georgene Seward, a slender, graying woman psychologist from Los Angeles.

ge It was from her that Sirhan n- for the first time in weeks of ,” testimony heard himself called de- crazy—a term hitherto shrouded n- in such professional words as a psychotic, paranoiac or schizo- phrenic.

ve Dr. Seward was asked by the th prosecution to evaluate tests ?” made on Sirhan by other psychologists. She agreed with he them that Sirhan represented or “a clear case of schizophrenic he reaction of a paranoiac type—a psychosis.”

se She asked to assume that cer- ve tain of Sirhan's individual test ed scores had turned out differ- :h tly than they did. She replied :s that each score was valid only of in relation to all scores, and a added with a smile: “He'd still be crazy.”