

WEDNESDAY

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NEW ORLEANS

LIAR CHARGE PROVOKES OUTBURST

Sirhan Said Capable of Plot

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Subdued and apologetic after a new display of ill temper, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan listened abstractedly to testimony that he did indeed have the mental capacity to plot Robert F. Kennedy's murder.

The young Jordanian cursed and had to be led from the courtroom yesterday when a wit-

ness, psychiatrist Seymour Pollack, suggested he was a liar.

But during discussion of the point most crucial to his case—whether he could maturely and meaningfully plot the murder—

Sirhan swiveled in his chair and let his gaze roam the room idly.

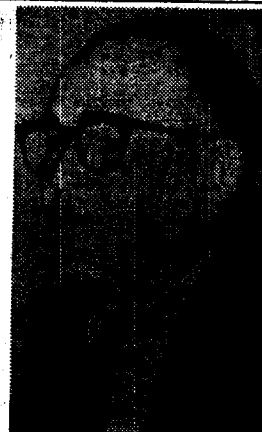
Pollack directly contradicted previous psychiatric testimony when he said, "I believe Sirhan

went to the Ambassador Hotel with the conscious intent of killing Sen. Kennedy."

Defense psychiatrists had said Sirhan killed Kennedy in a trance.

"It is my opinion Sirhan killed Kennedy because he hated him for what he stood for," said Pollack. "He saw himself as the defender of the Arab cause."

Q. You didn't find any sugges-



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tion of a break with reality?

A. Not at any time.

Sirhan 25, highly partisan to the Arab cause in the Middle East turmoil, became "convinced that Sen. Kennedy was an opportunist, exploiting the political scene by becoming subservient to American Jews in order to get their votes," Pollack said. "He focused on Kennedy as a leader to be destroyed."

The gray-haired professor from the University of Southern California added, "In my opinion, his mental capacity was not impaired to the extent that Sirhan had diminished capacity to harbor malice aforethought."