

# Witness Says Tests On Sirhan Misread

4/7/69

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LOS ANGELES, April 7—The judge looked bored, the assassin looked at a mini-skirted brunette and the jurors looked glassy-eyed.

With that, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's lengthy murder trial droned into its 14th week of courtroom sessions today to hear one last psychologist take the witness stand.

A debunker called by the prosecution, clinical psychologist Leonard B. Olinger maintained that two colleagues who testified for the defense had exaggerated Sirhan's mental illness by misreading the tests they gave him.

Testifying in a soft monotone, Olinger, 46, an instructor at the University of Southern California, intimated that they approached Sirhan with

preconceived notions that invalidated their findings.

## Brother's Summation

Sirhan's brother, Adel, 30, summed it up during a recess.

"After hearing all this," he said with a weary smile of the psychiatric testimony that has filled the musty courtroom for weeks now, "I don't know who is sane and who is insane any more."

For his part, Olinger, a classroom pointer in his hand indicated that he would peg Sirhan as a neurotic.

Defense psychologist O Roderich Richardson who interviewed Sirhan last summer after the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy said he considered the 25-year-old Arab immigrant a paranoid schizophrenic. Another defense witness, psychologist Martin Schorr called the moody defendant a psychotic paranoid with touches of a split personality.

## Tests Reviewed

Olinger, who reviewed their tests, contented that both men failed to observe all the precautions "which clinicians should use in making evaluations."

In grading Sirhan as a paranoid on one test, Schorr, for example, pointed to 16 responses that the defendant gave him in his jail cell last fall.

Sirhan told Schorr among other things that "I am sure I am being talked about" and "I'm in trouble with the law."

Olinger said he would hardly call such protestations paranoid, as Schorr did. Rather, he said, they reflected "excellent contact with reality."

## Anxiety Noted

If the paranoid flavor that Schorr attributed to these and several others were removed, Olinger said, Sirhan would wind up with a score "well within normal limits," at least for this particular test.

Defense psychologist Rich-

ardson, the witness went on, put significance behind the anxiety he noted in Sirhan in testing him last August.

Olinger said he would expect as much of a first-degree murder suspect after a few weeks of confinement.

Sitting expressionless in his seat, Sirhan occasionally glanced at spectators in the courtroom as the prosecution put the finishing touches on its case.

The jurors, locked up in special downtown quarters at the Biltmore Hotel since February, are expected to begin deliberations Friday after three days of closing arguments.