

DESIGN TO KILL NIXON IS DENIED

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Namer Free on Bond,
Says He Is Innocent

By TERRI SHAW

NEW YORK (AP) — A Yemeni Arab denied Friday night that he plotted with his sons to assassinate President-elect Richard M. Nixon, pleading with open emotion, "I love America—I'm innocent."

"I have nothing to do against the United States of America," said Ahmed Rageh Namer, 43, his chin trembling, his voice close to breaking. "I'm happy in this country. How am I gonna do that?"

Namer was released on \$25,000 bond and met newsmen later at the office of his lawyer, Joseph Iovine. The lawyer refused to let the defendant answer questions about the case following Namer's statement of innocence.

Earlier in the day, Acting

Dist. Atty. Elliott Golden of Brooklyn denied that he had questioned the veracity of his key witness and informer in the case against Namer and his two sons, Hussein, 20, and Abdo Namer, 19.

Nor, said Golden, had he confirmed the identity of the witness, named in published reports as Mohammed Hazan Algamal, 36, also a native of Yemen.

"I made no such statements, nor did I confirm any such identity," Golden said in a statement.

Algamal was said to have called police with information which led to arrest last Saturday of the Namers. The defendants were indicted Wednesday on charges of criminal conspiracy and illegal possession of weapons. Iovine said Namer did not have enough money at present to free his sons from jail.

Iovine told newsmen the defense will seek to show that Algamal is "not a reliable witness."

The lawyer said Algamal had a serious argument with the Namer family before the telephone call to police. Reportedly, Algamal had been living with the Namers but had been forced to leave after the quarrel.

"He's hardly the kind of man they would entrust with a secret of this sort," Iovine said.