

New York Times

—NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 1968—

KENNEDY STATE SUSPECT, ARAB IM- PRESIDENT PUTS

'EXTREMELY CRITICAL'; MIGRANT, ARRAIGNED; GUARD ON CANDIDATES



United Press International
AFTER THE SHOOTING: Senator Kennedy's wife, Ethel, bends over him as a man checks pulse for vital signs

A BULLET REMOVED

Senator 'Must Die by June 5,' Suspect's Notebook Said

Texts of the medical bulletins appear on Page 22.

By GLADWIN HILL

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, June 5—Senator Robert F. Kennedy fought for life in the Good Samaritan Hospital tonight after a three-hour brain operation.

His condition was described this evening as "extremely critical as to life." No decisive turn was expected by physicians for at least 36 hours.

The man accused of shooting Mr. Kennedy early this morning in a pantry of the Ambassador Hotel was identified as Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24 years old, who was born in Palestinian Jerusalem and had lived in the Los Angeles area since 1957. Sirhan had been a clerk. Today, he was hurried through an early-morning court arraignment and held in lieu of \$250,000 bail at an unspecified detention center of the sheriff of Los Angeles County.

Sirhan was charged with six counts of assault with intent to murder, an offense involving a prison term of 1 to 14 years.

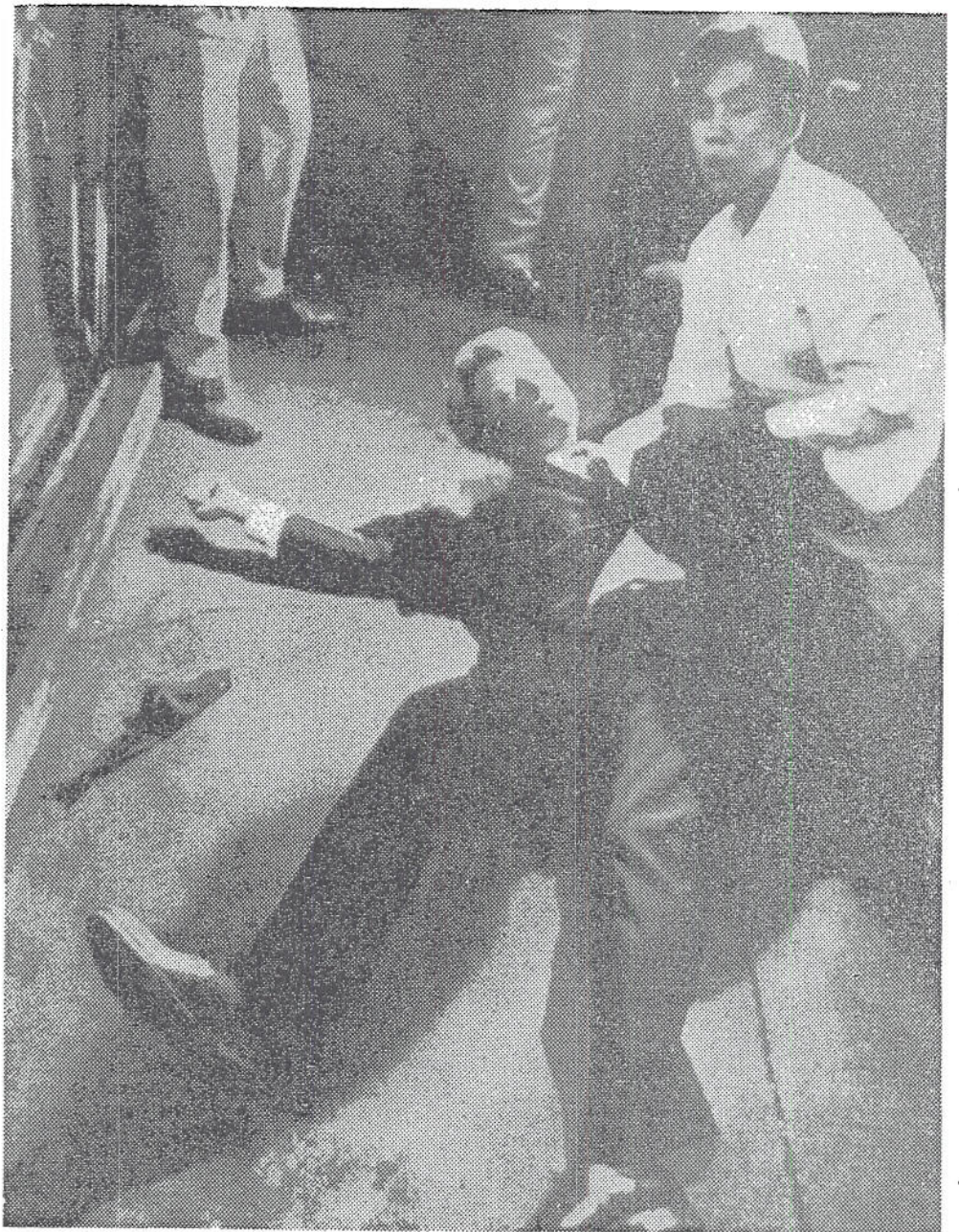
Defendant Is Silent

Five other persons in addition to the 42-year-old Senator were wounded by the eight bullets from a .22-caliber revolver fired at almost point-blank range into a throng of Democratic rally celebrants surging between ballrooms in the hotel. The shots came moments after Senator Kennedy had made a speech celebrating his victory in yesterday's Democratic Presidential primary in California.

The defendant, seized moments after the shooting, refused to give the police any information about himself. He was arraigned as "John Doe."

Three hours later, Mayor Samuel W. Yorty announced at a news conference at police headquarters that the defendant had been identified as Sirhan. He said the identity had been confirmed by Sirhan's

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FELLED: Senator Kennedy lying in a kitchen area of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles after being shot by the would-be assassin. A hotel worker tries to give assistance.

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Kennedy Remains in 'Very Critical Condition'

A DECISIVE TURN NOT LIKELY SOON

Most of One Bullet Is Taken
From Head — Senator
Still Unconscious

Continued From Page 1, Col. 8

brother and a second individual: Mayor Yorty said late today that two spiral-ring notebooks had been found in the defendant's home, one containing a notation to the effect that Senator Kennedy "must be killed by June 5."

There were also entries, the Mayor said, that indicate Sirhan was sympathetic with certain left-wing causes, but no indications that he was a Communist.

The detailed contents of the notebooks were not disclosed.

Senator Kennedy, accompanied by his wife, Ethel, was wheeled into the Good Samaritan Hospital shortly after 1 A.M. after a brief stop at the Central Receiving Hospital. A score of the Senator's campaign aides swarmed around the scene.

Less than five years back many of them had experienced the similar tragedy that ended the life of President John F. Kennedy.

At 2:22 A.M., Senator Kennedy's campaign press secretary, Frank Mankiewicz, came out of the hospital into a throng of hundreds of news people to announce that the Senator would be taken into surgery "in five or ten minutes" for an operation of "45 minutes or an hour."

One bullet had gone into the Senator's brain past the mastoid bone back of the right ear, with some fragments going into the brain stem. Another bullet lodged in the back of the neck. A third and minor wound was an abrasion on the forehead.

It was after 7 A.M. when Mr. Mankiewicz reported that more than three hours of surgery had been completed, and all but one fragment of the upper bullet had been removed. The neck bullet was not removed but "is not regarded as

a major problem," Mr. Mankiewicz said.

He also reported that the Senator's vital signs remained about as they had been, except that he was now breathing on his own, which he had not been doing before the surgery. Then Mr. Mankiewicz said:

"There may have been an impairment of the blood supply to the mid-brain, which the doctors explained as governing certain of the vital signs—heart, eye track, level of consciousness—although not directly the thinking process."

Further Surgery Doubted

Senator Kennedy was taken from surgery to an intensive-care unit. Mr. Mankiewicz said that "no additional surgery is contemplated at this time."

At 2:15 P.M. Mr. Mankiewicz announced that Senator Kennedy had not regained consciousness and that a series of medical tests had been "inconclusive and don't show measurable improvement in Senator Kennedy's condition."

"His condition as of 1:30 P.M. remains extremely critical," the spokesman continued. "His life forces — pulse, temperature, blood pressure and heart—remain good, and he continues to show the ability to breathe on his own, although he is being assisted by a resuscitator."

"We're always hoping for improvement, but I'm not going to say the situation is encouraging or discouraging," Mr.

Mankiewicz said in answer to a reporter's question.

The test included X-rays and electroencephalograms.

Mrs. Kennedy remained at the hospital.

A team of surgeons treating Senator Kennedy included Dr. James Poppen, head of neurosurgery at the Lahey Clinic in Boston. He was asked to Los Angeles in an Air Force plane on instructions from Vice President Humphrey.

Mr. Humphrey and Senator Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota have been Senator Kennedy's rivals in the Democratic Presidential competition.

Traced Through Brother

Mayor Yorty said the defendant's identification had come through a brother, Adel Sirhan, after the police had traced the ownership of the .22-caliber revolver involved in the shooting to a third brother, Munir Bishara Slamaeh Sirhan, also known as Joe Sirhan.

The weapon was traced through three owners, one in suburban Alhambra, the next in Marin County, adjacent to San Francisco, and back to an 18-year-old youth in suburban Pasadena. The youth said he had sold it to "a bushy-haired guy named Joe" whom he knew only as an employe of a Pasadena department store.

Detectives identified the bushy haired man as Munir Sirhan, from him, the trail led to the two other brothers, who have been living together in Pasadena.

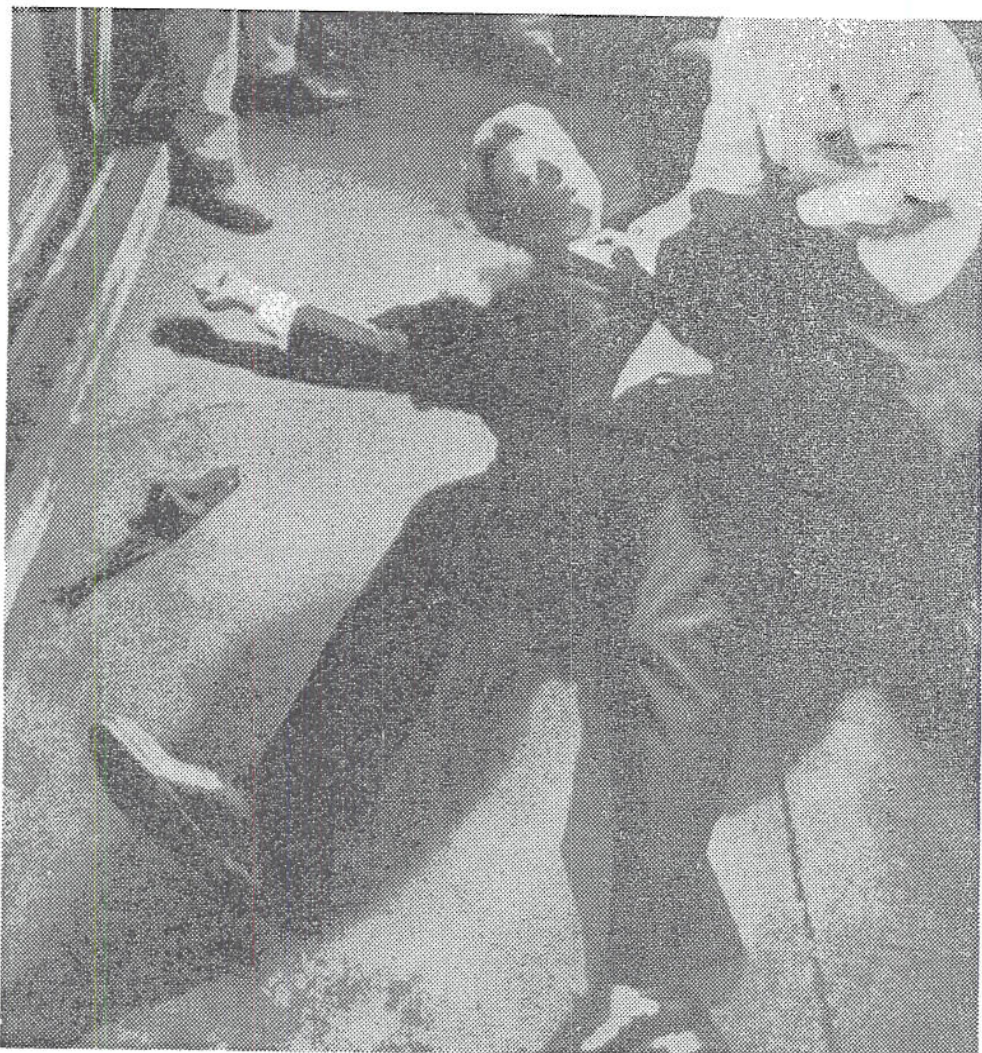
The defendant was arraigned at 7 A.M., unusually early, before Municipal Judge Joan Dempsey Klein, on a complaint issued by District Attorney Evelle Younger after all-night consultation with the police.

Deputy District Attorney William Ritzi said the case would be presented to the county grand jury on Friday.

The other victims of the shooting were Paul Schrade, regional director of the United

JUNE 6, 1968

After a Three-Hour Brain Operation



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FELLED: Senator Kennedy lying in a kitchen area of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles after being shot by the would-be assassin. A hotel worker tries to give assistance.

Automobile and Aerospace Workers Union, a prominent Kennedy campaigner; William Weisel and Ira Goldstein, television and radio newsmen; Mrs. Elizabeth Evans and a young man named Irwin Stroll.

Mr. Schrade, the most seriously wounded of the five, underwent an apparently successful operation at the Kaiser Foundation Hospital today to remove a bullet from his skull.

Mr. Weisel, a member of the American Broadcasting Company's Washington staff, was reported in good condition following removal of a bullet from his abdomen.

The court complaint against Sirhan charged that "on or about the fifth day of June, 1968; at and in the county of Los Angeles a felony was committed by John Doe, who at the time and place aforesaid, did wilfully, unlawfully and feloniously commit an assault with a deadly weapon upon Robert Francis Kennedy, a human being, with the intent then and there wilfully, unlawfully, feloniously and with malice aforethought to kill and murder the said Robert Francis Kennedy."

Sirhan was represented at the arraignment by the chief

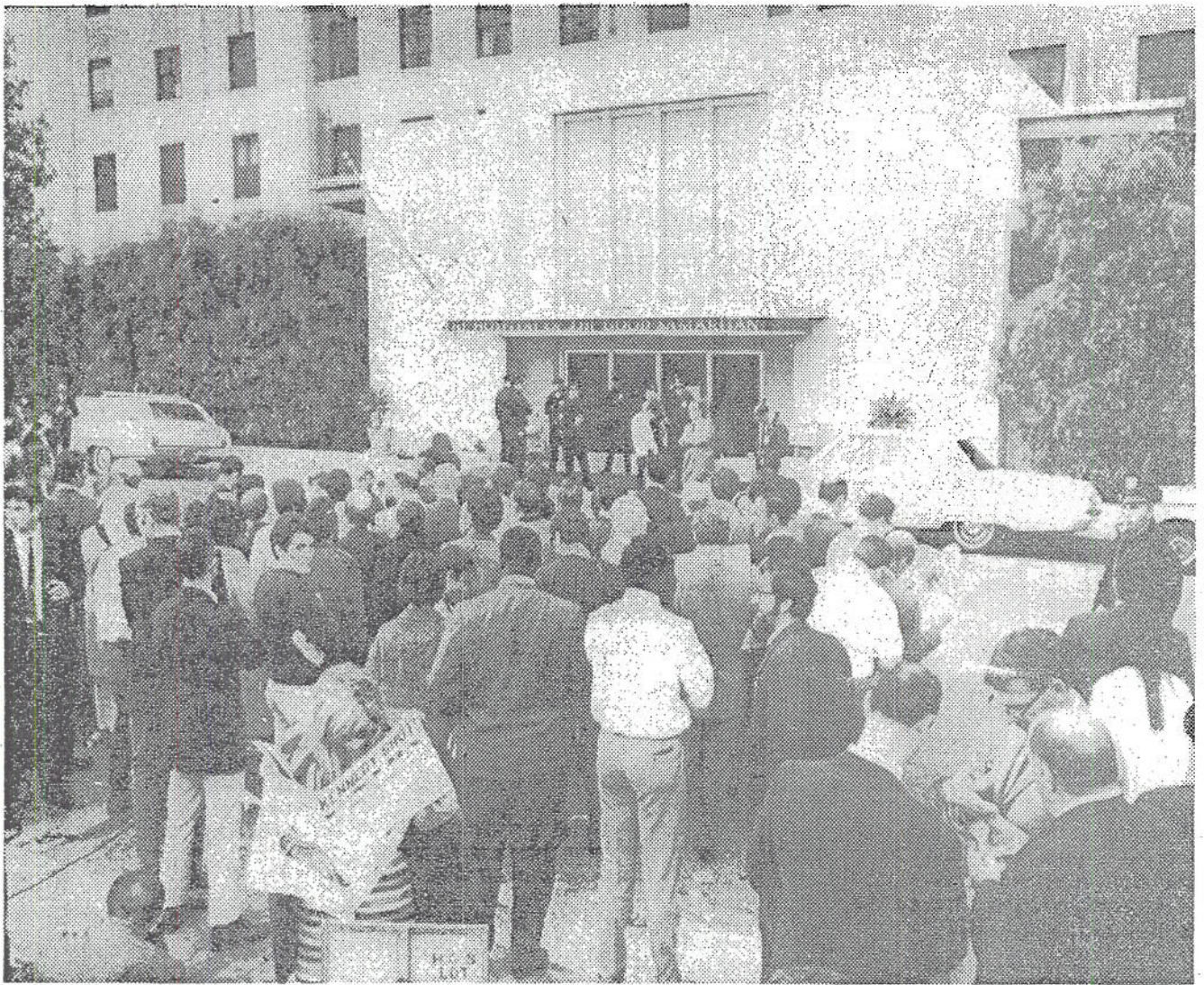
public defender, Richard S. Buckley. He asked Mr. Buckley to get in touch with the American Civil Liberties Union about getting private counsel for him. The request coincided with a telegram to Police Chief Thomas Reddin from the liberties union's chief counsel here, A. L. Wirin, which said:

"Los Angeles police action in [this] case has been exemplary. But my seeing the suspect may assure that Los Angeles does not become another Dallas, and will further assure that the suspect's constitutional rights will be fully protected."

Mr. Wirin later conferred with the defendant.

The county sheriff's depart-

ment in a formal statement tonight said that Sirhan had been given a medical examination at the Central Jail and had been found to have a broken left index finger and a sprained ankle. The fracture was set, and the defendant placed in the jail's medical ward.



Associated Press

WAITING FOR NEWS: Newsmen and others who had heard of shooting gathered outside the Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles yesterday. Senator Kennedy was taken here following the assassination attempt at Ambassador Hotel.



Associated Press

SUSPECT APPREHENDED: A man identified as Sirhan Bishara Sirhan being removed from hotel. Behind him, at band was shot down in kitchen area of Ambassador Hotel.



United Press International

THE INSTANT AFTER: Roosevelt Grier, left, Kennedy aide, and others struggling with suspect, center, after shooting. Mr. Grier, professional football player, and Rafer Johnson, former Olympic champion, helped disarm assailant.

Ambulance Aide Tells of Drive To Hospital After the Shooting

By GEORGE GENT

Mrs. Robert Kennedy tried to prevent hospital attendants from administering emergency aid to her wounded husband, the Columbia Broadcasting System reported yesterday.

The report was by Jim Brown, a correspondent for television station KNXT, the C.B.S.-owned outlet in Los Angeles. In his report, carried by both the C.B.S. television and radio networks, Mr. Brown said that Mrs. Kennedy's behavior "undoubtedly was due to the fact that [she] was distraught and upset at this time."

The report quoted Max Behrman, the ambulance attendant who arrived at the Ambassador Hotel shortly after the shooting. He drove with the wounded Senator and his wife to the Central Receiving Hospital in Los Angeles.

"Max Behrman told me that when they reached the second floor of the Ambassador Hotel and prepared to lift Senator Kennedy onto the stretcher, the Senator said to him, 'Don't lift me, don't lift me,'" Mr. Brown reported. "Those were the only words that he recalled hearing from the Senator in the entire time, from the time they arrived at the Ambassador through the trip to Central Receiving."

Mr. Behrman also said, according to Mr. Brown, that Mrs. Kennedy had indicated she did not want any assistance and that she had tried

to prevent hospital attendants from administering aid of some kind to the Senator.

"This continued even in the ambulance en route to Central Receiving," Mr. Brown reported, "Mrs. Kennedy still, according to Behrman, physically tried to prevent this administering of aid to Senator Kennedy."

Despite Mrs. Kennedy's objections, Mr. Brown reported, ambulance attendants were able to place a pack under Senator Kennedy's head.

The C.B.S. report said that, upon arrival at Central Receiving, Dr. Vasilius Bazilauskas, the attending physician, thought at first glance that the Senator was dead.

"However, as he began his examination and medical treatment," Mr. Brown reported, "he said he realized that there was still life, that he slapped the Senator several times on the face saying, 'Bob, Bob, Bob,' as he did so.

"He did determine," Mr. Brown went on, "there was a heartbeat, and when he did find a heartbeat of Senator Kennedy, he took the stethoscope and put it to Mrs. Kennedy's ear—she was in the room at the time—so that she could hear the heartbeat."

Following the heart massage and other emergency treatment, the report concluded, Senator Kennedy was taken to Good Samaritan Hospital.