

A Day of Mourning

By The Associated Press and United Press International

President Johnson led the nation in mourning today as Americans great and small reacted in grief and sorrow to the tragic assassination of Senator Kennedy.

The President, saying Kennedy had never abandoned faith in America although he knew far more than his share of personal tragedy, issued a proclamation calling on the nation to observe Sunday as a day of mourning.

The President directed that American flags on all federal buildings be flown at half-staff until Kennedy's burial.

In Sacramento, Gov. Ronald Reagan declared a state of mourning for the period extending through the funeral, with flags at half-staff.

The State Assembly met briefly this morning, adjourning after about three minutes out of respect of the memory of Sen. Kennedy.

TIME OF TRAGEDY

The State Senate was scheduled to hold its regular session later today and plans to pass a memorial resolution in Sen. Kennedy's honor.

The White House released the following statement by the President:

"This is a time of tragedy and loss. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy is dead.

"Robert Kennedy affirmed this country — affirmed the essential decency of its people, their longing for peace, their desire to improve conditions of life for all.

"During his life, he knew far more than his share of personal tragedy.

KEPT FAITH

"Yet he never abandoned his faith in America. He never lost his confidence in the spiritual strength of ordinary men and women.

"He believed in the capacity of the young for excellence — and in the right of the old

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Her Third Son

Rose Kennedy

Alone in a Pew

—From Page 1

and poor to a life of dignity. Our public life is diminished by his loss.

NIXON TRIBUTE

"Mrs. Johnson and I extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy and his family. I have issued a proclamation calling upon our nation to observe a day of mourning for Robert Kennedy next Sunday."

Mrs. Martin Luther King Jr., whose husband was assassinated just over two months ago, perhaps best expressed the grief of a nation:

"How many husbands, how many fathers and how many sons, must die before we as men, women, youths and children — before we as a nation — will rise up in righteous indignation and demand an end to senseless violence?"

Former Vice President Nixon said in New York Kennedy's death "is a terrible tragedy both for a family and a nation which have known too many such tragedies in recent times."

Nixon said:

"Senator Kennedy was a man of tremendous energy and vitality. He was one of the great popular leaders in American history. Our deepest sympathies go out to the family of Senator Kennedy in this hour of grief.

"While the Kennedy children are stricken with sorrow today, as they grow up they will know their father

and uncle was a young man of great courage who already had left his mark on history."

'TERRIBLE LOSS'

Gov. Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York said the death of Kennedy was "an unspeakable tragedy and a terrible loss to the nation.

"Mrs. Rockefeller and I and all the citizens of this state, whom he so diligently served, join in extending our deepest sympathy to his widow and to all the Kennedy family," he said.

Rockefeller proclaimed "the day of burial as a day of mourning in this state."

New York Mayor John Lindsay directed that flags on all city buildings be flown at half-staff for 30 days and asked businesses and private citizens who fly the flag to follow suit. Kennedy was the junior senator from New York.

'IT'S AWFUL'

"Oh my God," said Sen. George Murphy (R-Calif.), awakened to hear Kennedy had died. "This is awful. It's awful."

Vice President Humphrey and Sen. McCarthy were rocked by the news.

McCarthy said, "Words can do little to ease the anguish of the family or the grief of all those who loved him.

"Let us seek to comfort them by our quiet mourning, our rejection of violence and reprisal, and by offering renewed dedication to the cause of peace and reconcili-

Sirhan Family Tells Regrets To Kennedys

LOS ANGELES — (UPI) — The family of Sen. Robert Kennedy's accused assassin sent a brief telegram to the Kennedy family today expressing sadness and remorse.

"It hurts us very bad what has happened. It hurts everybody very much. I am crying for them all," said the telegram, signed by Mrs. Mary Sirhan and the family of the accused assassin, Sirhan Srhan.

The family reportedly was taken from its Pasadena home to another city under police protection.

ation which Robert Kennedy served."

Said Humphrey:

"We have all lost a great American, a man of deep concern, compassion and personal commitment."

The tragedy, the Vice President said, imposes an obligation on the grieving country — "May our nation find the strength, the faith and the wisdom to dispel the forces of irrational hate among us and to replace them with love of man and God."

Jack Palance Is Divorced

SANTA MONICA — (UPI) — Former actress Virginia Baker has obtained a divorce from Jack Palance, testifying the actor told her he wanted to lead his own life.

Palance, 47, agreed to pay Miss Baker, 42, \$27,000 annually for five years and then \$22,000 yearly until her death or remarriage. The couple, married in 1949, have three children, Holly, 17; Brooke, 16, and Cody, 12.