

Sirhan Bjt 450

LOS ANGELES AP - With Sirhan Bishara Sirhan behind bars, top prosecutors are meeting daily in hopes of closing holes in Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. A233421.

That case contains the murder charge against the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant accused of slaying Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan is to enter a plea to the charge June 28.

Although Sirhan was arrested at the scene of the fatal shooting early Wednesday, and identified by several witnesses as the New York senator's assailant, the case presents unanswered questions.

Not the least of them is whether there was a conspiracy behind the shooting.

Police haven't been able to produce the dark-haired "girl in the polka-dot dress." Sandy Serrano, 20, a Youth for Kennedy worker, reported seeing the girl run from the Ambassador Hotel after the shooting and say, "We shot hi!"

Three young women, the latest a 18-year-old belly dancer, have claimed to be the girl in the polka-dot dress, all saying Miss Serrano misunderstood their words as they ran from the hotel. But Miss Serrano says none is the girl she saw.

"You've got to be color-blind to think that's the girl," Miss Serrano said of the belly dancer, Kathy Fulmer, who had told police she was wearing a polka-dot scarf and a blonde wig the night of the murder.

Meanwhile, Pasadena police are keeping a 24-hour guard at the home of Sirhan's family, although the family reportedly has not been staying there.

In Chicago, a Jordanian grocer was shot to death Saturday in his store and police speculated his killers, described by the victim's wife as two Negroes, may have been seeking revenge for Kennedy's death.

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Abder Rayyan, 55, father of nine, was shot in the head as he bent over a vegetable bin. His assailants left without saying a word.

Besides imposing the strictest security precautions ever at Los Angeles County jail here, authorities are trying to limit comment on the case by all persons connected with it and by public officials.

Superior Court Judge Arthur Alarcon issued a 32-page order outlining restrictions Friday and Dist. Atty. Evelle A. Younger issued a similar pronouncement the next day, saying he would not tolerate statements from official sources which could jeopardize his case.

Younger said he will designate several top deputies as trial prosecutors.

Of five other persons wounded during the Kennedy shooting, three have been released from hospitals and the other two are reported in good condition.

In the city of Tayieba in Israel-held Jordan, Bishara Sirhan, father of the one-time racehorse exercise boy accused in the assassination, said Sunday that childhood memories of killings in the Arab-Israeli war of 1948 could have disturbed his son.

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