

## Sirhan's Brother Is Shot At Twice In Freeway Chase

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An apparent attempt to kill the eldest brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, Senator Robert F. Kennedy's alleged assassin, on the Pasadena Freeway early this morning was reported by the Pasadena police today.

They said the brother, Saidallah Sirhan, a 36-year-old unemployed machinist, had reported that seven men in two cars boxed him in as he was driving from downtown Los Angeles to Pasadena at about 4:30 A.M. and fired two shots, apparently from a .38-caliber gun. Mr. Sirhan was not hurt.

One bullet was found on the back seat of the car. The other was embedded in the side of the car. "We have no reason to doubt his story at this time," Police Lieut. Jerry Wright said.

The two cars veered off the Freeway just after the attack, Mr. Sirhan said.

The incident was reported shortly after news came out that the Kennedy assassination had apparently disrupted Saidallah Sirhan's plans for becoming a United States citizen. Like his brother, Saidallah is a Jordanian citizen who has lived

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here for about eight years.

The Pasadena Independent Star-News, in a copyrighted article, quoted Saidallah as saying that about 18 hours after the attack on Senator Kennedy last June 5 at the Ambassador Hotel, two Federal agents had called at his Pasadena home to tell him that his immigration hearing, scheduled for June 7, had been postponed indefinitely.

Mr. Sirhan's lawyer, David Marcus, confirmed today that the Immigration and Naturalization Service "refuses to take any action whatsoever until the entire matter [involving Sirhan Sirhan] is cleared up."

Mr. Marcus also disclosed that he had been acting as counsel to the Sirhans' younger brother Munir, a Pasadena department store clerk, in Federal deportation proceedings started about two years ago still pending. The lawyer did not disclose the basis for the action.

Lieutenant Wright said that since reporting the freeway shooting, Saidallah Sirhan had remained at police headquarters in "protective custody."

### Family Under Guard

Saidallah, lives in Pasadena where, in a separate home, Sirhan Sirhan, 24, and another brother, Adel, 28, lived with their mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, a church nursery worker, and other family members.

The family has been under police guard while the defendant, charged with first degree murder, has been in the Los Angeles County Jail during arraignment proceedings, which last Friday were continued to July 19.

Saidallah said he had not asked for any protection. A number of threats have been made against Sirhan Sirhan and others related to the case.

The Pasadena newspaper quoted Saidallah as having said

that he had not seen his brother Sirhan for about a month before the Kennedy attack, and had not seen him since. Adel and Mrs. Sirhan have visited the defendant in jail.

Saidallah was also quoted as having said that he did not share his brother's alleged antipathy for Senator Kennedy — said to have grown out of the Senator's pro-Israeli expressions — and that he had followed Senator Kennedy's television speeches with admiration.

Saidallah told the police today that he had been in Los Angeles last night looking for a woman reporter on The Los Angeles Free Press, an "underground" weekly that circulates widely in the "hippie" world. He did not say why.

The Pasadena Freeway runs from downtown Los Angeles about five miles to Pasadena.

Mr. Sirhan said two cars began following him as he passed Chinatown on the edge of downtown Los Angeles.

### Coincidence Discounted

He was almost to Pasadena, near the Orange Grove Avenue exit, he said, when one of the cars, a white Volkswagen containing four men, came up on his right side, and the other, a light green Chevrolet about 10 years old containing three men, came up on his left.

The shots came from the Volkswagen, he said. Hearing the first one, he ducked. The bullets punctured jagged holes in the shatter-proof glass of the small, hinged "wind-wing" window to the right of the driver.

"If Sirhan hadn't ducked he might have been struck in the upper part of his body by the second shot," Lieutenant Wright said.

The incident, the officer commented "doesn't appear to be a coincidence — we don't believe the misses were intentional."

The police began ballistics tests on the bullets, but reported no immediate deductions from them.

Two cars turned off at the Orange Grove Exit, Mr. Sirhan said, while he continued on and drove to police headquarters.