



AP Wirephoto

ROOSEVELT GRIER
He grabbed Sirhan



UPI Telephoto

JESSE UNRUH
"Don't kill him"

Hotel Employees

Sirhan Asked Two About Kennedy

Los Angeles

For half an hour before Senator Robert F. Kennedy's assassination, two State witnesses testified yesterday, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was on the murder scene, asking if the senator would be passing that way.

"He asked me if Kennedy was coming through that place," said Jesus Perez, a kitchen helper at the Ambassador Hotel. Perez said this was in the kitchen area where the shooting later occurred.

In a further attempt to show premeditation, the State then put Martin Patrusky on the stand. He was a bartender in the Embassy Room where Kennedy proclaimed victory before his followers in the California Democratic presidential primary. Patrusky, too, said he was in the kitchen area before the shooting and saw Sirhan.

APPROACHED

Kennedy had entered the ballroom through the kitchen area. While the senator was

speaking, Patrusky said, Sirhan approached him in that same area.

"He asked me if the senator was coming back through this way," Patrusky testified. "I said 'I don't know, I'm not the matred'."

Former football player Roosevelt Grier and Jesse M. Unruh, former speaker of the California Assembly and Chairman of the Kennedy for President campaign, testified for the prosecution in the seventh week of the murder trial of the 24-year-old Sirhan.

Unruh accompanied police to the station where they took Sirhan and said the defendant told him, "I did it for my country," when asked why he shot the New York

Senator.

OSWALD

Unruh said he did not want to see a repetition of the Lee Oswald case. Oswald, President Kennedy's reported assassin, was shot to death by Jack Ruby while in the custody of Dallas police.

Grier, with the same thought as Unruh when he realized that Kennedy had been shot, said he saw Sirhan with a gun and "I put his leg in an arm lock and took my other hand and got the gun.

"People were coming at him (Sirhan) and I hit one guy and kicked another guy on my right and they got the idea we were trying to save this guy and they stopped."

Unruh said he first realized there had been gunfire when he saw Paul Schrade, United Auto Workers official and a member of the Kennedy party, lying on the floor "with a gaping wound in his forehead . . . I thought he looked very dead.

"Next thing I saw Senator Kennedy definitely alive with his eyes open (on the floor).

"I became terribly aware we could have a repeat of the Oswald situation."

Unruh said he leaped on a table and shouted, "Don't kill him. Keep him alive."

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