

Sirhan Guilt Plea Nixed by Lawyers

LOS ANGELES — (CDN) — Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will not be allowed to plead guilty to the murder of Sen. Robert Kennedy despite his emotional demands to do so, his chief counsel says.

"We're not going to let him," Grant Cooper declared. "We're representing him as lawyers and we're not going to let him run the case."

The angry Sirhan told Judge Herbert Walker in chambers yesterday he would "rather plead guilty and go to the gas chamber than have people think I'm getting a fair trial."

The 24 year old Jordanian immigrant interrupted court proceedings three times in two days protesting the judge's decision to admit three of his personal diaries into evidence. The dairies contain his repeated pledges to kill Kennedy.

'Rights Violated'

"He feels his constitutional rights have been violated," Cooper said.

Judge Walker called an overnight recess after Sirhan's latest outburst, barely half an hour after the afternoon session began. Cooper asked for the time-out.

"Siahn's blowing his top and we're trying to control him," Cooper said.

The wandering diary, in Sirhan's own handwriting, advocates the overthrow of the United States, killing of its leaders and says, "I firmly support the Communist cause and its people, whether Russian, Chinese, Albanian."

'Die, Die, Die, Die'

In several passages, the diary says things like "Robert F. Kennedy must be sacrificed for the cause of the poor exploited people," and "Robert Fitzgerald Kennedy must die, die, die, die, die, die, die, die, die, die, die," or "RFK must be assassinated . . ." The word assassinated is repeated a dozen times.

One entry said "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before June 5." The New York Senator was felled by shots from a gun held by Sirhan shortly after midnight the morning of June 5, 1968, in a pantry of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

Attempt Failed

Cooper fought unsuccessfully to keep the diaries out of evidence. He argues that Los Angeles and Pasadena police got them without a search warrant or permis-

sion from Sirhan in a search of his room in the home owned by his mother.

Chief prosecutor Lynn Compton said Sirhan's older brother, Adel, gave permission for the search when no one else was home, and di-

rected police to search Sirhan's room.

Judge Walker ruled that that was sufficient, considering the emergency situation that prevailed hours after the shooting when a hunt was on for possible conspirators.