

PSYCHOLOGIST SAYS TESTS SHOW SIRHAN HAS PARANOID TENDENCIES

By DOUGLAS ROBINSON

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LOS ANGELES, March 10 —A clinical psychologist who administered tests to Sirhan B. Sirhan in his jail cell said today that the Jordanian immigrant exhibited "paranoid and schizophrenic tendencies."

"That is not an official diagnosis," said the psychologist Dr. Martin M. Schorr, a defense witness, "but it does indicate a psychotic person."

Dr. Schorr, who is on the staff of the San Diego County Hospital, testified that his tests indicated Sirhan was more paranoid "than 95 out of 100 people" and showed he had a "marked reduced intellectual function under stress."

The psychologist was the first of a number of psychiatrists, psychologists and other experts who are expected to testify this week in the trial of the man who has admitted killing Senator Robert F. Kennedy last spring. Some of the testimony will center on Sirhan's re-creation of the crime while under hypnosis.

The defendant, who has said he cannot remember killing Mr. Kennedy, looked defiant and angry as Dr. Schorr testified at length about his personality problems and intellectual capacity.

At one point Sirhan looked as though he were about to stage another outburst like the one that disrupted the court two weeks ago. A security man moved his chair directly up in back of the defendant in order to grab him should he try to get up. There was no outburst, however.

Psychological Jargon

Dr. Schorr, a slight, nervous man who used psychological jargon before what appeared to be a sometimes bewildered jury, wrote on the record of Sirhan's Rorschach ink blot test that the "percentages all point to a paranoid state of psychosis and trend toward further deterioration."

"Concept of N.G.I. [not guilty by reason of insanity] could be considered as percepts conceivably reach beyond McNaghten," he wrote.

The term "McNaghten" refers to a legal rule that defines a criminal as insane when he is proven to have been incapable of determining right from wrong in the commission of the crime.

Although Sirhan has admitted killing Mr. Kennedy, he has pleaded not guilty, and his attorneys are trying to prove that he acted under "diminished capacity" — not able to

give rational consideration to his action.

Dr. Schorr testified he had given the battery of tests to Sirhan in his cell last Nov. 25 and 26. Among the tests, in addition to the Rorschach, were the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale and the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory.

Dr. Schorr said that in the Wechsler test Sirhan did very well in the verbal portions — "better than 75 out of 100 adults" selected at random.

In the performance part of the test, which involves problem-solving with blocks and pictures, the defendant, he said, did "very badly." Ninety out of 100 persons would do better, he said.

'He Lost His Cool'

"In the language of these days, he lost his cool when trying to solve problems within a time limit," Dr. Schorr said.

"It was apparent that the materials controlled him."

The extreme range of ability between the verbal portion and the problem-solving, the psychologist said, indicated the possibility of a "psychotic personality." It also showed that schizophrenic tendencies were present, he said.

In the testing, Sirhan's I.Q. came out as 98, or about average, Dr. Schorr testified.

Speaking of one problem-solving test that the defendant had completely failed (the assembly of pieces similar to those in a jigsaw puzzle), Dr.

Schorr used the terms "moron" and "mentally underdeveloped." It was at this point that Sirhan looked angry.

Discussing the Minnesota test, Dr. Schorr said the defendant's score indicated that paranoia and hypomania (a mild degree of manic excitement) were part of his personality.

He defined a paranoid as a person who believes that "I'm okay but everyone else is wrong" and said hypomania was a mental condition in which the person was apt to be "aggressive, restless, constantly in turmoil and unable to relax."

Dr. Schorr said that part of a true-false test showed that Sirhan lied in his responses to the 566 questions only twice, "well below the normal for the normal population."

Sees No Brain Damage

Part of the witness's findings included questions that Sirhan did not respond to. One was: "A person should try to listen to his dreams and be guided or take warning from them?" Another was: "There is something wrong with my mind?"

Dr. Schorr said his test re-

sults virtually ruled out any chance that Sirhan was afflicted with brain damage.

He also testified that he was concerned at the outset of the tests that Sirhan might experience difficulty with the English language. He told the court however, that the defendant's high score on the information vocabulary parts of the Wechsler test eliminated that possibility.

"Sirhan performed the tests pretty much like any other American," Dr. Schorr said. "It was a typical American picture."