

Premeditation

Expert Says Sirhan Knew

LOS ANGELES—(UPI)—The prosecution's chief psychiatrist in the Sirhan murder trial believes the young Arab premeditated the killing of Sen. Robert Kennedy but still has stated he feels the gas chamber is too severe a penalty.

Dr. Seymour Pollack, a professor of psychiatry at the University of Southern California, told the jury yesterday Sirhan Sirhan was mentally ill, but also said his motives were political.

2 of Sirhan's Brothers in Difficulties

PASADENA — (UPI) — Two of Sirhan Sirhan's four brothers were in difficulties today.

Saidallah Sirhan, 36, was in a hospital in "serious" condition as the result of being hit by an automobile.

Sharif Sirhan, 37, was free on \$125 bail, charged with creating a disturbance at the hospital where Saidallah was being treated.

Sharif was arrested early Friday at St. Luke's Hospital in Pasadena, where he came to visit Saidallah. Not satisfied with a physician's explanation of Saidallah's injuries, police said, Sharif yanked the covers off his brother's bed and flailed at doctors and nurses who tried to restrain him.

Police said Saidallah, a pedestrian, was hit in a cross walk by a car driven by a college student in Pasadena Thursday night. He received a skull fracture and a broken arm.

The key to life or death sentence for Sirhan lies largely in whether the jury can be convinced he "meaningfully and maturely" planned Kennedy's assassination.

Paranoid

Pollack believes he had that ability. But the psychiatrist also wrote in a preliminary report that he is a paranoid and should not be sentenced to death.

The trial was in recess until Tuesday.

Pollack will be on the stand probably two more days. It is now considered likely the case will not go to the jury until the Monday after Easter.

The defense had a rough time yesterday as witnesses tore into Sirhan's story that he was in a self-induced hypnotic state when he wrote pledges in a notebook to kill Kennedy and also was in a trance at the time of the shooting.

Handwriting expert Laurence Stone said it was his opinion that Sirhan was not in a hypnotic state when he scribbled that "Robert Kennedy must die like his brother."

Comparison

Stone said he had compared that handwriting with other done in hypnosis in his jail cell and decided the differences were such that there was no reason to believe his claim he could not remember anything about the notebooks.

Police officer Frank Patchett testified that shortly after the shooting when Sirhan was in custody he was trying to get him to reveal his name.

"I asked him if he wouldn't tell me his name because he was ashamed of what he pulled off that evening," Patchett said. "He told me, 'Hell, no,' but he still wouldn't reveal his name."

Sirhan has claimed that at the time of his questioning in jail right after the shooting he did not know he had shot Kennedy.