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An 'Amiable' New Home For Sirhan

Sirhan B. Sirhan, the assassin of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, has been moved from his heavily guarded cell on Death Row to an area reserved for only "the most amiable" condemned prisoners, San Quentin officials announced yesterday.

Sirhan initially was kept under guard in a cell in what is known as Death Row No. 1 because of threats against him from other inmates of the row. The volatile slayer was also something of a problem because of temper tantrums that on one occasion ended only after tear gas had been used to subdue him.

Associate Warden James Park said the source of the threats have been pretty well established and "the people who made them aren't going anywhere."

Also, after nearly three years on Death Row, Sirhan has become a more tractable prisoner and "his behavior in general is now satisfactory."

Sirhan was moved from Death Row No. 1 — which is the prison's original Death Row — to a larger cell in Death Row No. 3, on the second floor of the prison's Adjustment Center. Now for the first time he will be permitted to mingle with other condemned prisoners during exercise periods.

Death Row No. 1 has 52 inmates; No. 2 — which is on the third floor of the Adjustment Center is for less troublesome prisoners — contains 32 men, and No. 3 has 16 occupants.

NYTimes

Notes on People

byline Albin Krebs

His three years in San Quentin Prison have made Sirhan B. Sirhan, convicted of assassinating Senator Robert F. Kennedy, more tractable and "his behavior in general is now satisfactory," a prison spokesman said. Because of this, Sirhan has been moved from his super-secure cell on Death Row to an area occupied by "the most amiable" condemned prisoners, and for the first time he is being permitted to mingle with other condemned men during exercise periods. Originally, threats on Sirhan's life and his own temper tantrums made it necessary for him to be kept under heavy guard in an isolated cell.