

Silent on Shooting

Gunman 'Cool, Calm, Lucid'

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — The young man arrested in the shooting of Sen. Robert Kennedy was "very cool, very calm, very stable and quite lucid" under a drum-fire of questioning after the shooting, Police chief Thomas Reddin said today.

During "a number of lengthy conversations," he talked freely and with interest — until he was asked who he was and anything about Kennedy, Reddin said at a news conference.

Any time the questioning got around to the assassina-

tion attempt, the man would say "I prefer to remain incommunicado."

Reddin said the man spoke with a slight accent and speculated it might be Jamaican or Cuban.

In his pocket was a car key, which Reddin said fitted a 1959 model auto parked near the Ambassador Hotel where Kennedy was shot.

The police chief said the car belonged to a hotel employee who worked in the kitchen — not the gunman. Reddin said the man had

no narcotics in his possession when seized and did not appear under the influence of either of drugs or alcohol.

Several times investigators felt they were close to identifying him. But so far checks of city, county, state, and FBI officials have proved inconclusive.

The chief said the gunman fired all eight shots from an Ivoir Johnson .22 caliber pistol, hitting Kennedy twice in the head — one grazing his skull — and again in the collar. Four or five other persons were wounded.

Reddin gave these details:

- The gunman carried a few scraps of paper, not identified, but had no identification. "We made a skin search of him, checking that he had nothing on him to take his life." He is under 24-hour guard.

- "We have advised him of his rights. He doesn't want a lawyer now."

- Questioning continues at Central Jail, with a representative of the district attorney's office. Any statements will be tape recorded, which

was not done after the Dallas assassination in 1963 of President Kennedy.

- "We describe him as a male Caucasian, around 25, 5 feet 5 and about 120 pounds, swarthy complexion. His hair is described as wiry or bushy."

- The gun is the only evidence.

In Washington, the Justice Department said the suspect's fingerprints had been sent from the FBI office in Los Angeles to Washington to aid in identification.