

### **Yorty's Defense**

Editor — I have read with interest your editorial, "An Example in a Time of Doubt," appearing June 10, and I would like to take this opportunity to advise you that I am still convinced my release of pertinent information about the accused Sirhan Sirhan was in the public interest and did not prejudice his rights.

Because the tragedy of Senator Kennedy's assassination occurred in Los Angeles, our people had a special interest and a right to know something about the accused person and his possible motivation.

Before I revealed the identity of the suspect, rumors had begun to circulate that the shooting had been committed by a Mexican-American. This was very unfair to a large group of people in our community, and I felt that this baseless rumor had to be set at rest forthwith.

It is wrong to accuse the entire American people or any particular ethnic group of guilt in this and the other violent and senseless assassinations which have occurred recently in our nation. These dastardly killings were, it appears, the work of men who had either repudiated all this nation stands for or who had never embraced the principles of our democracy.

Telegrams, letters and editorials from the nation's press are two to one in favor of my action . . .

SAM YORTY,  
Mayor.

Los Angeles.