

Sirhan Notes Say, 'R.F.K. Must Die'

By DOUGLAS ROBINSON
Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 25 — Documents in the handwriting of Sirhan B. Sirhan calling for the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy were introduced today in the murder trial of the young Jordanian immigrant.

Some of the papers came from three notebooks that were found by the police in the bedroom of Sirhan's home in Pasadena, Calif. Others were discovered in a trash can in the back yard of the house.

Shaken and angered by the disclosure in his notebooks, Sirhan told his attorneys that he wanted to change his plea to guilty. The lawyers appeared uncertain as to whether the defendant would stick to his position but warned him that they

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mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, was summoned to her son's cell while the lawyers met with the judge in his chambers.

Mrs. Sirhan emerged crying after a few minutes.

She told a reporter, "They have the trash, even the trash, and are using it against him."

At 2:28 P.M., 25 minutes later, the session reopened. The lawyers and Judge Walker emerged. Sirhan also came into the courtroom, red-eyed and wiping tears away. He did not look up.

"Not a Serious Offer"

Judge Walker told the court that the defense had moved for a continuation. He then adjourned the case until tomorrow morning.

Meantime, the chief deputy assistant district attorney, Lynn D. Compton, confirmed a report that Sirhan told Judge Walker in a chamber conference this morning that he would rather plead guilty and go to the gas chamber than have people think he was getting a fair trial.

"It was not a serious offer," Mr. Compton said. "It was just him popping off. We ignored it and the judge told him to listen to his lawyers."

Later, Mr. Cooper said that if Sirhan persisted in wanting to change his plea to guilty, "first he'd have to discharge us because we are not going to plead him guilty."

"He is not guilty of first-degree murder," Mr. Cooper said.

Mr. Cooper said after court was adjourned for the day that Sirhan had "blown his top and we're trying to control him."

"He just feels that his constitutional rights have been violated in taking these personal documents of his and offering them in evidence," Mr. Cooper told newsmen.

Asked if Sirhan had wanted to change his plea in the judge's chambers this morning, Mr. Cooper said:

"We're representing him as lawyers and we're not letting the client run the case. He doesn't know what the hell he's doing."

Sirhan has pleaded not guilty to the murder of Senator Kennedy in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel early on the morning of June 5. Although his attorneys have conceded that their client did shoot Mr. Kennedy, they are contending

that his state of mind was such that he could not give rational or mature consideration to his action.

The introduction of the notebook pages and other material was accompanied by a defense effort to keep it from being admitted as evidence. However, Judge Walker ruled that all the material was relevant and had been legally obtained by the police.

The defense contends that the police had not had a search warrant when they were invited into the Sirhan home by the defendant's older brother, Adel Nor, they say, did the police have the permission of Sirhan to take the notebooks.

Excluded From Evidence

In his ruling, Judge Walker did exclude from evidence two pages of one of the notebooks, agreeing with the chief defense attorney, Grant B. Cooper, that it was "irrelevant and immaterial" to the case. The judge declined a defense motion, though, to keep the two pages from the press because of what Mr. Cooper called "its inflammatory nature."

The notebook entry, again in Sirhan's handwriting and con-

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would leave the case if he did. "We'll have to wait until tomorrow morning to see what he does," one defense lawyer said. "I just don't know what his posture will be tomorrow when court resumes."

The discussion of the documents in the courtroom set off an angry outburst from Sirhan, who rose from his seat and shouted at Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker. He was quickly restrained by sheriff's deputies.

"Wait a minute, your honor, they haven't been admitted into evidence yet," the defendant cried out before being pushed back into his chair. He whispered, "let me go, let me go," at the deputies.

"Unshakeable Obsession"

One page from the notebooks, dated May 18, 1968, 19 days before the Senator was killed, bore the following notation at the top.

"My determination to eliminate R. F. K. is becoming more of an unshakeable obsession."

The rest of the page bore the phrases "R. F. K. must die," "R. F. K. must be killed" and "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated." The last phrase was repeated about 20 times.

Near the bottom of the page were the words "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated before 5 June 1968."

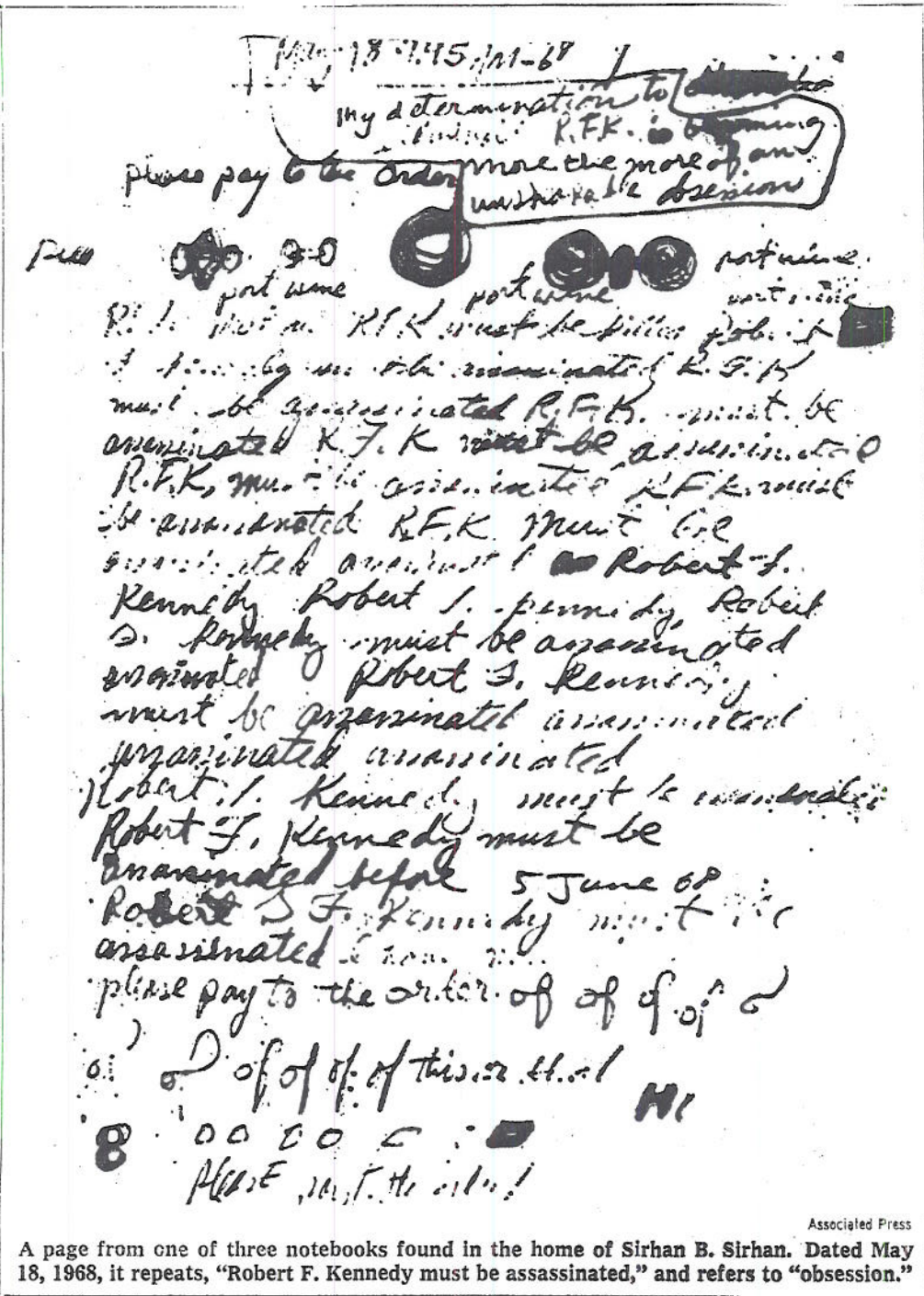
As the afternoon session got under way, there was a second interruption by Sirhan, and Judge Walker declared a recess so that the defendant could calm himself.

This outburst came when the prosecution attempted to renew a discussion of the notebooks.

"Your honor," the defendant began, gesticulating with his right hand.

Before he could say more, he was silenced by his attorneys and a security man.

A few minutes later, Sirhan's



Associated Press
A page from one of three notebooks found in the home of Sirhan B. Sirhan. Dated May 18, 1968, it repeats, "Robert F. Kennedy must be assassinated," and refers to "obsession."

book that was admitted as evidence said that "the so-called President of the United States of America must be advised of their punishment for their treasonable crimes gainst the state against the glorious United States of America will eventually be felled by an assassins bullet." The words "bullet" and "assassin" were repeated several times after this entry.

Other Material Found

Included in the material were two envelopes that had been found by a policeman in the trash can in the rear of the Sirhan home.

One of the envelopes bore the return address of the United States Treasury, Internal Revenue Service, and had the following words in the defendant's handwriting on it:

"RFK must be disposed of like his brother was."

On the back of the other envelope, containing the return address of the Argonaut Insurance Companies, was the following in the defendant's handwriting:

"RFK must be disposed of properly. Robert Fitzgerald Kennedy must soon die." The word "die" was written nine times.

The notebook entries also call for the assassination of Arthur J. Goldberg, former chief United States Representative to the United Nations, and Bert C. Altfillisch, owner of the Altfillisch Construction Company, which owns the Granja Vista del Rio Ranch in Corona, Calif., where Sirhan once worked as an exercise boy, and where in September of 1966, he fell from a horse and injured his head.

During the discussion of the notebooks, the jury was asked by Judge Walker to leave the courtroom.

The Judge told the defense that he would not order the press refrain from using the notebook pages not in evidence because "in my 15 years on the bench, I have found it impossible to keep anything from the press if they want to get it."

He also reminded counsel that the jury was sequestered and that all newspaper, magazine and television reports about the trial were denied them.

Mystical Documents

Among the other documents brought forth were several that showed a tendency by Sirhan to be somewhat of a mystic.

"For a person to put his thoughts into words," another notebook entry says, "is a difficult task if you were to remember that that person is a troglodyte who is therefore more physically inclined than his urban contemporary."

Also introduced was an application to the Rosicrucian Society, a mystic sect, in which Sirhan declared in part that "by reading your book, mastery of life, I have discovered how much I do know about myself despite all the philosophical works I have been reading."

In the application he was asked if he tried to "practice good citizenship and respect the laws of the country in which you live."

"Yes," Sirhan wrote.

taining misspellings and faulty English began:

"I advocate the overthrow of the current President of the United States of America. I have no absolute plans yet but soon will compose some."

"I am poor," the entry went on, "This country's propaganda says she is the best country in the world. I have not experienced this yet. The U.S. says life in Russia is bad. Why, supposedly no average American has even lived in a Slavic society so how can he tell if it is good or bad. "In't his Government utting words in his mouth.

"Anyway, I believe he U.S. is ready to start declining anyway, not that it hasn't. It began on November 23, 963, but it should decline at a faster rate ot he real utopia will not be to far from being realized during the early 70's in this country.

"I firmly support the Communist cause and its people, whether Russian, Chinese, Albanian, Hungarian, or whoever, workers of the world unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains and a world to win."

Another page of the note-