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Sirhan Bjt 240

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LOS ANGELES AP - A specialist who has hypnotized Sirhan Bishara Sirhan eight times in an attempt to find out why he killed Robert F. Kennedy was recalled to the stand by the defense today.

Grant Cooper, counsel for the Jordanian-born, 25-year-old Arab, says Sirhan was "out of contact with reality, in a trance in which he had no voluntary control over his will, his judgment, his feelings or his actions" when he fired the fatal shot last June.

Sirhan professes not to remember planning the shooting, pulling the trigger or his police interrogation afterward. A psychiatrist said last week Sirhan's memory had been erased like the tape on a tape recorder.

To retrieve the details from Sirhan's subconscious, Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, a prominent doctor-lawyer-criminologist, hypnotized Sirhan in his jail cell in a series of sessions beginning last December. He was on the witness stand as Sirhan's murder trial went into its 12th week and was recalled for today.

Diamond, 65, is a professor in the schools of medicine, law and criminology at the University of California at Berkeley. Testimony to date has portrayed Sirhan as a Jew-hater and Arab zealot who was so incensed at learning about Kennedy's long standing support of Israel that he became obsessed with the idea of assassinating him.

Defense attorney Emile Zola Berman suggested that the mirrors in the Ambassador Hotel, where the killing occurred, and the bright lights from television cameras sent Sirhan into a confused and intoxicated spell.

Before Diamond began testifying Friday, the defense introduced into evidence a series of photographs made in the hotel showing how floor-to-ceiling mirrors bounced images around the room.

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