

SIRHAN IS ENRAGED BY OPINION HE LIED

Second Outburst Touched
Off by Psychiatrist's View

By DOUGLAS ROBINSON

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, April 1—Sirhan B. Sirhan exploded in rage once again today in court and was quickly warned that another outburst would result in his being placed in restraint for the rest of the trial.

The proceedings were delayed for 20 minutes while Russell E. Parsons, one of the defense lawyers, calmed Sirhan in a small cell off the courtroom.

"I put cold water on his forehead and rubbed the back of his neck," Mr. Parsons later told newsmen. "That's the way you have to treat these agitated people."

Sirhan's angry outburst occurred shortly after 11 A.M. when a prosecution witness, Dr. Seymour Pollack, a psychiatrist, was saying that he believed the defendant might be lying in maintaining that he did not remember writing threats against Senator Robert F. Kennedy in his notebooks.

"I am unable to accept his denial of recollection as a genuine amnesia," Dr. Pollack testified. "It reflects his attempt to avoid the serious consequences of his act."

Before the psychiatrist could continue, Sirhan jumped to his feet and cried out: "Your honor, sir . . ." Three security men pounced on him and pushed him back into his chair. As they held him there, Sirhan said: "I'm not going to let him call me a liar."

Warning by Judge

The deputy sheriffs started to lead him from the courtroom as Superior Court Judge Herbert V. Walker warned from the bench that "if you don't keep quiet I'll do what I said I would do."

Judge Walker was referring to his threat to have Sirhan put in leg irons and a leather face mask if he continued disrupting the trial. The warning came more than four weeks ago on the last occasion of an outburst by the defendant.

Michael A. McCowan, an investigator for the defense who spoke to Sirhan in the "holding tank" off the courtroom, said that the defendant, who has freely admitted that he killed Senator Kennedy, was upset because "he thinks the doctor called him a liar."

After Sirhan had controlled himself, court resumed. As the volatile, young defendant walked back into the courtroom, Grant B. Cooper, the Chief defense lawyer, gave him a fatherly hug and Sirhan buried his face in his attorney's shoulder.

Mr. Parsons told Judge Walker that he had spoken with Sirhan and that he had been instructed "to express his most sincere apology to you, sir, and to the court."

Judge Accepts Apology

Judge Walker accepted the apology, but again repeated his warning that any more outbursts would result in leg irons.

In his testimony this morning, Dr. Pollack maintained that Sirhan was not the schizophrenic, paranoid psychotic that other psychiatrists and psychologists had made him out to be. The defendant, Dr. Pollack argued, possessed only "minimal signs of the underlying symptoms of psychosis."

Dr. Pollack said that the term "psychotic" was generally given to a person with a "severe degree" of mental illness. Sirhan, he said, does not meet that diagnosis. "There is nothing to indicate," he said, "that Sirhan is clinically psychotic."

The psychiatrist told the court that the defendant's belief that the United States' policy toward Israel was unfair and that Senator Kennedy was wrong in offering help to Israel against the Arab nations were opinions held by many people "in this country and abroad."

"These feelings were not psychotic delusions or necessarily false beliefs," Dr. Pollack continued. "I don't share these beliefs, but there are a large number of people at home and abroad who do share them."

The psychiatrist said that Sirhan's failure to become a jockey and his inability to get a job had led to his spending more time thinking about what he felt were "injustices to the Arab nations." Sirhan, he said, began to believe that the assassination of Senator Kennedy was a way he could help his cause.

"He didn't expect to be a martyr," the psychiatrist said. "He didn't want to be caught or even punished. He saw Senator Kennedy as selling out American ideals to American Jews in order to get votes. He believed that a person who killed Mr. Kennedy could not be punished in the eyes of the world."

Dr. Pollack described the threats against Mr. Kennedy in Sirhan's notebooks as "examples of his attempts to strengthen his resolve to kill Senator Kennedy."

'Conscious Intention'

"I do believe that Sirhan went to the Ambassador Hotel on June 4 with the express and conscious intention of killing Senator Kennedy," Dr. Pollack told the jury.

He went on to say that he also believed that the defendant's target practice in the days prior to the killing was meant to "improve his shooting skill" with the intent of assassinating Mr. Kennedy.