

SFChronicle JAN 1 1976

Further Delay of RFK Death Probe

Los Angeles

A county judge postponed for at least three weeks yesterday a decision on whether additional tests are needed to determine if more than one gun was fired during the Robert F. Kennedy assassination seven years ago.

Presiding Superior Court Judge Robert Wenke postponed his decision after hearing nearly three hours of arguments by attorneys for Paul Schrade, one of five persons injured during the shooting that killed Kennedy in the pantry of the Ambassador Hotel in June, 1968.

A panel of seven independent experts told Judge Wenke more than two months ago that there was "no substantive or demonstrable evidence" to indicate that a second gun had been used to fire any of the bullets examined by the panel members.

But Schrade has filed a personal injury suit against Kennedy's killer, alleging that more than one gun could have been fired.

The suit is based on statements by two hotel employees and two Los Angeles police officers who said they saw what appeared to be bullet holes in a door jamb in the pantry.

Since seven of the bullets fired from the eight-round, .22-caliber pistol of convicted assassin Sirhan Sirhan were recovered and the eighth was lost in the space above the pantry's ceiling, Schrade contends the statements by the hotel employees and officers could mean only that more than one gun was fired.

United Press