

4236

lbylzyyyx

Assassination Plot 240, 2 takes, total 600

NEW YORK AP - An immigrant from the Arab nation of Yemen and his two sons were held in \$100,000 bail each Sunday in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate President-elect Richard M. Nixon.

Ahmad Ragen Namer, 48, and his sons, Hussein, 20, and Abdo, 18, stood silent at their arraignment in Brooklyn Criminal Court on charges of conspiracy to assassinate Nixon, criminal solicitation, and possession of dangerous instruments and appliances.

They were arrested Saturday night by the Secret Service and police, who burst into their tenement apartment in Brooklyn. Authorities said a carbine and a rifle, 24 rounds of ammunition and three long knives were seized.

The officers had a search warrant they said was obtained after an unnamed informant told police the three men had tried to recruit him for the assassination plot because he was an expert marksman.

The informant, said to be a 36-year-old man with an Arab name, is in protective custody, police said. He reported that just after the election the Namers offered him a large sum of money to help kill Nixon, although an exact amount wasn't mentioned.

Nixon lives in New York and was due back from a Florida vacation on late Monday.

Nixon-like Democrat Hubert H. Humphrey has said that the United States is committed to preserve Israel and should maintain that nation's arms superiority over its Arab foes.

A Jordanian immigrant, Sirhan B. Sirhan, goes on trial Dec. 9 in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy

last June. Kennedy also advocated arms aid to Israel.

Police said their informant told them the Namers took him to their apartment and showed him three rifles, all equipped with sniper scopes. He said he stalled them and decided to expose the conspiracy by an anonymous phone call to police.

Police traced the call to a Brooklyn bar, where they took the informant into custody. They said he seemed relieved.

MORE

mm240ps Nov. 10

4237

lbylzyyee

NEW YORK-Plot 4236 add. relieved.

Dozens of city and federal officers took part in the seizure of the Namers. To gain entry, one of them posed as the building superintendent seeking a gas leak.

The elder Namer and Abdo were seized in the apartment, police said. Hussein fled down a fire escape, but was captured five hours later on the street near the tidy building in Brooklyn's East New York district, police reported.

Acting Dist. Atty. Elliott Golden said the elder Namer, who came to the United States 12 years ago and is a naturalized citizen, has a wife and three daughters in Yemen.

"Aside from the gravity of the charges so far, there are strong ties outside the country, certainly family ties," Golden told Judge T. Vincent Quinn.

Quinn, who served in Congress with Nixon from 1949 to 1951, rejected Golden's request that the three men be held without bail.

He set a hearing for Tuesday, but Golden said he planned to present the case to a grand jury on that day. He also told reporters he planned to confer with the U.S. attorney about the possibility of charging the defendants under the federal law that provides a maximum of life in prison for conspiracy to assassinate a president or president-elect.

A Legal Aid Society attorney, Elliot Case, who represented the defendants, noted in asking for bail that none of the arrested men has a criminal record, that two are U.S. citizens, and that all three live and work together as shipping clerks. He did not say which son is a citizen.

Bail bond would cost each defendant about \$2,000, and they would have to provide collateral.

Golden said they were arraigned on a short affidavit rather than a full complaint because the short affidavit did not require him to reveal the identity of witnesses or informants.

Four other men had been taken into custody and questioned but were released. Two were found in the Namer apartment and the others were seized with Hussein Namer.

mm340ps Nov. 10 1968