

EA139 (180)

FIRST LEAD KENNEDY- A35

ALGIERS, NOV. 22 (AP)-SEVERAL HUNDRED CHEERING ALGERIANS BROKE THROUGH POLICE CORDONS TODAY TO APPLAUD SEN. EDWARD M. KENNEDY, D-MASS., AT A CEREMONY MARKING THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

THE CROWD SURROUNDED THE SENATOR AND HIS WIFE IN A SUDDEN OUTBURST OF ENTHUSIASM, WAVED AND REACHED OUT TO SHAKE HANDS WITH THEM.

KENNEDY, ACCOMPANIED BY ALGERIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ABDELAZIZ BOUTEFLIKA, WAS VISIBLY MOVED BY THE RECEPTION. SOME OF THE CROWD HAD WAITED FOR SEVERAL HOURS IN BITING COLD TO WATCH HIM LAY A WREATH IN MEMORY OF HIS BROTHER ON KENNEDY SQUARE IN SUBURBAN EL BIAR.

THE ENTHUSIASM WAS IN CONTRAST TO THE OFFICIAL COOLNESS TOWARD THE UNITED STATES, DESCRIBED ALMOST DAILY IN ALGERIA'S STATE-RUN PRESS AND RADIO AS AN "IMPERIALIST AGGRESSOR."

THE KENNEDYS, ACCOMPANIED BY REP. JOHN V. TUNNEY, D-CALIF., AND HIS WIFE, FINALLY LEFT EL BIAR WITH THEIR POLICE ESCORT WITH THE CHEERS STILL RINGING ACROSS THE SQUARE.

EARLIER, THEY ATTENDED A PRIVATE COMMEMORATIVE MASS IN ALGIERS' MODERNISTIC ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL TO MARK THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION.

THE GROUP IS FLYING TO TUNIS THIS EVENING.

(NO PICKUP)

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