Alleged Conspiracy

3 in 'Kennedy Plot' Plead Not Guilty



SANDRA RONDEAU Released, she hid her face

Springfield, Mass.

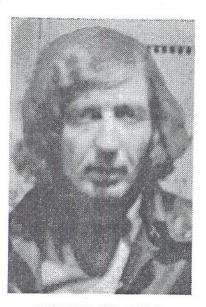
Three persons arrested in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate Senator Edward Kennedy (Dem-Mass.) pleaded not guilty yesterday during arraignment in Springfield District Court.

The not guilty pleas were entered by the court on behalf of Robert Earl White, 42, and David J. King, 31, both of Springfield, and Sandra Rondeau, 34, of Westfield.

Judge George Brigianes ordered White and King to meet with a court appointed psychiatrist today. King and Mrs. Rondeau said that since they were unemployed they could not afford an attorney. The judge appointed a public defender and continued the cases until September 20.

Bail for White, which had been set at \$50,000 after the arrests Saturday, was reduced to \$25,000 by the judge. King and Mrs. Rondeau continued to be free on their own recognizance.

White, who revealed during arraignment that he has an alias of Nick Santorini, was questioned last year by the Secret Service in Milwaukee as a possible threat to



ROBERT EARL WHITE His bail was reduced

President Ford and other political figures.

One of the alleged conspirators said Kennedy was to have been killed by a sawed-off shotgun at a Springfield restaurant Saturday morning.

Thomas Smith, agent in charge of the Boston office of the Secret Service, said Sunday that White was questioned about a year ago for making "derogatory statements in general" about politicians. But charges were never pressed.

Springfield police said yesterday that they are investigating whether the alleged plot was a real threat or "just drunken and idle boasting."

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