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EX-FBI AGENT WILL HEAD KENNEDY'S UPSTATE OFFICE

Special to the New York Times

Washington, Jan. 26 - Senator Robert F. Kennedy today named Walter J. Sheridan, a former Federal Bureau of Investigation agent and Justice Department investigator, as a special assistant on his staff. He will head the Senator's office in Syracuse, N.Y.

In the Justice Department between 1961 and 1964 Mr. Sheridan headed the special unit that finally succeeded in obtaining a court conviction of James R. Hoffa, international president of the Teamsters Union.

"I am pleased to continue my association with Mr. Sheridan," the former Attorney General said. "His detailed knowledge of upstate New York will be of tremendous help in making progress on the major problems facing upstate communities."

A native of Utica, the new Kennedy assistant will concern himself with all of upstate New York except the Hudson Valley. He is 39 years old, a graduate of Fordham University and the father of five children.