

Sorrow And Outrage in U.S. Cities

By Associated Press and United Press International

Reaction from public figures came swiftly in the wake of today's shooting of Senator Kennedy with expression of shock, sorrow and outrage and prayers for his recovery.

Some commented they feared such violence is becoming commonplace in America.

President Johnson was notified in Washington immediately after word came that the New York senator was shot.

Johnson said, "There are no words equal to the horror of this tragedy.

"Our thoughts and our prayers are with Senator Kennedy, his family, and the other victims.

"All America prays for his recovery.

"We also pray that divisiveness and violence be driven from the hearts of men everywhere."

Sen. Eugene McCarthy who had gone to bed was awakened and went to the Beverly Hilton hotel ballroom where he asked the stunned crowd to join him in silent prayer.

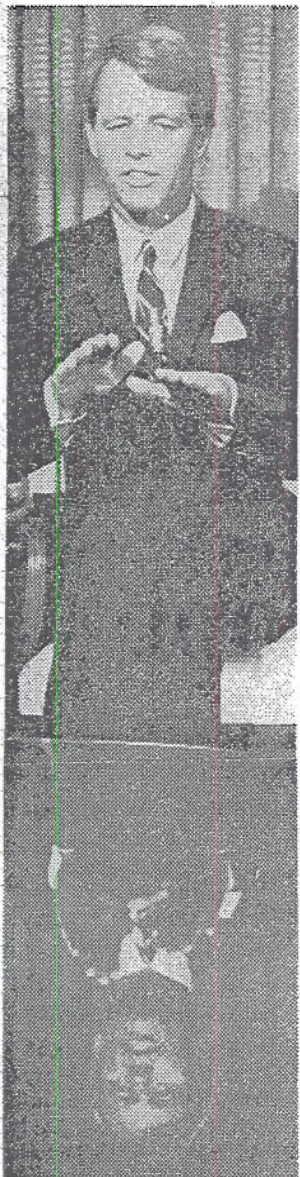
Today, in his first appearance in public since the shooting, McCarthy said:

"We've got to give more rational attention, rational control to the problems of America. We proceed as though we were still a pioneer country. We're not. We've become a rather complicated, sophisticated civilization."

McCarthy said he was suspending all political activity indefinitely and said there were no words to express his feeling for the Kennedy family.

NIXON CANCELS

Former Vice President Nixon, the leading Republican presidential candidate, canceled a news briefing scheduled for today in New York at which he was to announce plans for a "brand-



His image reflected on a table top, Kennedy talks to press on learning he would win.

new campaign" to seek support of Democrats and independents.

An aide said Nixon had sent a personal telegram to Ethel Kennedy but did not disclose its contents.

In New York, Roy Wilkins, executive director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said:

"I'm shocked and horrified to think that this type of attempted assassination has become an American habit it would appear."

James Farmer, civil rights

activist, said "a terrible contagion of political violence has struck again."

'GONE MAD'

"Americans somehow must learn that debate should be conducted with words, and not bullets," Farmer said. "once again our hearts go out to the Kennedy family."

Mayor John V. Lindsay said, "This is shocking beyond belief."

Sen. Ralph W. Yarborough (D-Tex.), who was riding with Lyndon Johnson two cars behind the presidential limousine when President Kennedy was slain by a sniper in Dallas, said:

"The horror of it is that political assassination in this country is becoming as common as it is. America has to reorient and take stock of it-

self that this has become so common in our public life."

Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.) said: "The world has gone mad."

"My God," gasped House Speaker John McCormack. "What is this country . . ." and his voice trailed off. "It's terrible, it's indescribable."

Senate Democratic leader Mike Mansfield said he is "terribly disheartened and saddened that another member of the Kennedy family has been attacked in this manner.

"I wonder what is happening in this country," Mansfield said. "I'm shocked that this violence is becoming so prevalent."

'BAD DREAM'

Senate Republican leader Everett Dirksen termed the shooting "a disaster of national proportions."

Sen. Mark Hatfield

(ROre.) said he was totally stunned by the act.

"It's a bad dream," Hatfield said. I can't believe it. It's just something beyond me."

House Republican leader Gerald Ford, a member of the Warren Commission that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy, said "it's shocking, unbelievable.

"An attacker must be demented to do something of this sort," Ford said.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits (RN.Y.), said it "is a shocking, terrible tragedy."

Yarborough said the "deep stain of criminality and assassination in American life" appears aimed at "the most brilliant and progressive among us.

"My main hope is that he recovers for the benefit of America as well as his family," he said.