

Man With Gun at Rites Denies Guilt



Associated Press

Gary De Dell, left, and Francis R. Belge, lawyer, at court

Gary De Dell, who was arrested with an unloaded gun in an attaché case on the steps of St. Patrick's Cathedral last Saturday during the services for Senator Robert F. Kennedy, described himself yesterday having been "a staunch supporter" of the slain Senator.

Mr. De Dell appeared in Criminal Court on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon. He pleaded not guilty and was scheduled by Judge William Shea to return July 9 for a hearing.

Mr. De Dell, 30 years old, told reporters that he had a permit for the pistol as well

as invitation to Senator Kennedy's funeral.

Police said his pistol permit—issued in his home town of Syracuse—was not valid here and a source close to the Kennedy family said that Mr. De Dell's name did not appear on the master list of invitations to the funeral.

Although describing himself as a "conservative Republican," Mr. De Dell said that he had worked for Mr. Kennedy's election as Senator, had corresponded with him, and even had a framed, autographed picture of him.

Asked why he had the gun in his attaché case, Mr. De Dell said he had not been aware that it was there.