

Sirhan 320

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LOS ANGELES AP — Sirhan Bishara Sirhan's defenders will call psychiatrists next week to try and convince his murder-trial jury that his mind was not functioning properly when he killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan says he can't remember shooting the senator, who then was in the flush of winning California's Democratic presidential primary.

At least five psychologists and psychiatrists—some of whom hypnotized Sirhan to unlock his mind—are on the witness list. There testimony is expected to take most of the week, the 10th of the trial.

Sirhan's defense is diminished capacity, a limited insanity plea under which a defendant is deemed not to have the mental capacity to form a meaningful plot. A conviction of first degree murder would put the decision of life or death in the hands of the same jury.

The last of 13 witnesses Friday, Richard Lubic, said he heard a voice saying "Kennedy, you obseenity" just before Kennedy was shot in a kitchen area of the Ambassador Hotel.

Another defense witness, Enrique Rabago, said he had come to the hotel to attend the Kenned party but hesitated because he felt he wasn't dressed well enough.

He said Sirhan, also tieless, engaged him in conversation.

"I said, 'Do you think Sen. Kennedy will win?'" Rabago testified. "He said, 'Yes.'" I said I was worried that he might not. And he said, "Don't worry, if Sen. Kennedy doesn't win. That obseenity is a millionaire. Even if he wins he is not going to do anything for me or you or the poor people."

Newsmen asked if the testimony of Rabago and another witness, Hans Bidstrup, was not damaging to Sirhan, who the defense claims, was drunk and in a trance.

Grant B. Cooper, the chief defense attorney, said he knew the nature of their testimony in advance, but wanted to use it as a basis for questioning the psychiatrists.

Bidstrup, an electrician, said Sirhan asked "a question about Sen. Kennedy's security—if there was any security.

Q. What did you say?

A. That I would assume any man of his importance would have some.

Bidstrup testified he felt Sirhan "was half drunk and very talkative."

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