In his third day on the witness stand today, the witness, Dr. Seymour Pollack, said he did not believe, as the defense has contended, that Sirhan was in a dissociative state or hypnotic trance when he shot and killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Agreeing that Sirhan is mentally ill, the doctor "steadfastly avoided terming him a paranoid schizophrenic, as seven previous psychiatrists and psychologists have called the defendant," said the newspaper.

Another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) reported that Grant B. Cooper, one of Sirhan's attorneys, challenged an earlier statement by Pollack that the defendant was only slightly mentally ill.

Cooper read "the psychiatrist's Feb. 5 report to Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger, in which he described Sirhan as 'psychotic.'

"The report said in part, '...In my opinion the killing of Sen. Kennedy was a political assassination by a psychotically disturbed defendant.'

"Dr. Pollock told the court, however, that he meant Sirhan -- 'psychotic' not 'clinically psychotic.'

"The psychiatrist said a psychotic was a person suffering from psychosis,' a term used by me in the broad sense meaning that an individual may have within a long continuum a mild or minimum to severe degrees of personality disorganization.'

"'Clinically psychotic,' he said, meant 'clinical evidence -- something you can see or feel or interpret -- of minimum to major

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evidences of mental impairment.'

"Jousting with Cooper over semantics, Dr. Pollack indicated a person could suffer minor 'psychotic' symptoms and still be able to plot a murder, but that those minor symptoms would not make him 'clinically' or measurably psychotic.

"Dr. Pollack also admitted, prodded by Cooper's questions, that it is 'possible' that Sirhan would have demonstrated greater psychosis if he had had more time to examine him."

Pollack said that he had spent about 25 hours with the defendant between last June and Feb. 1, "and admitted that he later wrote that longer sessions would 'probably' uncover more serious signs of psychosis," related another Los Angeles newspaper (Times).

Continued the newspaper:

"'This defendant is on trial for his life,' Cooper interrupted 'If you felt it was probable that you would find signs of psychosis, don't you think you should have asked for more time with him?'

"Pollack, obviously angry, replied that the chief defense psychiatrist, Dr. Bernard L. Diamond, had become 'angry and resentful' at Pollack's reluctance to divulge his conclusions" at a Feb. 2 gathering of psychiatrists and psychologist and that he had therefore not sought further meetings with the defendant.

Reported another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner):

more --

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"Cooper sought further to discredit Dr. Pollack's diagnosis of Sirhan by questioning the interviews with witnesses of the shooting on which much of it was based.

"Dr. Pollack admitted that the lay witnesses, themselves involved in an emotional situation, 'could easily miss the diagnosis of psychosis...unless they had had special training.'

"He also conceded that equally qualified psychiatrists could look at the same symptoms in a patient and draw different inferences from them, but insisted, 'our inferences are generally more than less likely alike.'

"Dr. Pollack said he 'gave less weight' to psychological test results than to personal interviews with Sirhan and others because the 'total picture' did not bear out what the tests indicated.

"He said he felt Sirhan's Arab background may have influenced his responses to the tests, causing exaggerated results of psychotic signs."

Meanwhile, a Los Angeles newspaper (Times) today offered additional information on facilities being planned for possible use by Sirhan, "if and when" he reaches the California Medical Facility for prisoners at Vacaville.

Reported John Kendall, staff writer:

"He (Sirhan) will be under the direct supervision of a guard 24 hours a day and his meals will be prepared individually, probably by

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a guard.

"Prison officials are afraid the little 25-year old Palestinian Arab might be killed if he were to mingle with other prisoners.

"'We have unconfirmed grapevine reports that there are inmates that would want to kill him,' said Phil Guthrie, information officer for the State Department of Corrections in Sacramento.

"'Probably we have never had a more notorious case, if we get him. We have an obligation to keep people in, but we have an equal obligation to protect them.'"

Guthrie, related the newspaper, "disputed that Sirhan was to receive a red carpet treatment.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

THURSDAY, APRIL 3 -- In his fourth day on the witness stand, Dr. Seymour Pollack, prosecution psychiatrist, said today "that when he wrote his first diagnosis of Sirhan B. Sirhan, he thought Sirhan would never be tried for the killing of Robert F. Kennedy," according to a story in a Los Angeles newspaper (Times).

The newspaper related that Pollack wrote a "confidential" report on Feb. 5 to Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger in which he described the defendant as a "psychotic...suffering from a borderline schizophrenia with paranoid and hysterical features."

The report was written after a Feb. 2 meeting between Pollack and psychiatric and psychological consultants to the defense who agreed that Sirhan was mentally ill.

Said the newspaper:

"On the basis of that meeting, the defense and prosecution agreed to a plea of guilty to first-degree murder with life imprisonment. But after Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker rejected the agreement and ordered the trial to proceed before a jury, defense attorney Grant B. Cooper charged Thursday, Pollack wrote another report, in which Sirhan's mental illness was described less boldly.

"In a 30-page report dated March 21, after the trial was already 2½ months along, Pollack termed Sirhan 'a developing paranoid personality.'"

Today, Cooper asked the doctor if he hadn't believed on Feb. 5 that Sirhan would never come to trial, and Pollack replied: "I was led to believe that, yes."

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Cooper also asked Pollack if he hadn't also believed that the Feb. 5 report would never have reached the defense, and Pollack denied this. He said he knew it would have been entered in testimony if the case had come to trial.

The defense attorney then asked why Pollack's March 21 report did not term Sirhan a psychotic, and Pollack replied that he had intended only to discuss Sirhan's motive in killing Kennedy, not his mental state when he did it.

Pollack insisted today, "I have said all along (in direct testimony) that I considered the defendant a borderline schizophrenic."

Continued the newspaper story:

"Cooper challenged Pollack, insisting he had never used that term on direct examination by the prosecution, and Pollack agreed he may not have.

"Pollack insisted that he stood by the diagnoses in both his first and second reports and insisted they were not conflicting.

"He denied implications that he had sought to minimize his earlier findings, in which agreement with defense arguments on Sirhan's mental condition seemed more apparent.

"There were several heated exchanges as Cooper and Pollack parried for points in what essentially was a semantic argument. Pollack explained time and again that psychiatric 'labels' in court cases are often misleading.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Cooper returned to a previous statement of Pollack's that if he had had more than 25 hours with Sirhan he might have unearthed more definite signs of psychosis, but that on the basis of that limited time, he had not found strong symptoms.

"Citing Sirhan's alleged delusions of persecution and his fantasies of destruction and death, mostly to Jews, Cooper asked if Pollack might not have seen these delusions if he had spent more time on the case.

"Pollack, obviously flustered, admitted 'If this is a criticism, I accept the criticism.'

"Noting that several psychological tests had unearthed such delusionary thinking, Cooper asked if perhaps the tests hadn't got farther beneath Sirhan's surface than Pollack had.

"Pollack, his voice rising to a shout, said they might have, but only 'as they applied to psychological material, not as they applied to reality.'

"He explained that tests showed what Sirhan's inner reality was like, but that he judged Sirhan's mental state on the basis of his outward behavior."

The newspaper noted that Pollack said Sirhan believed it was good and right for him to kill Kennedy because of Kennedy's support for Israel. Cooper asked if this wasn't delusional thinking, and the psychiatrist said it wasn't.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Added the newspaper:

"One key point in much of Pollack's testimony was his contention that Sirhan had shown no outward symptoms of psychosis. Sirhan's notebook writings of his intent to kill Kennedy, his mystical experiments with Rosicrucianism and his violently anti-Zionist political views, Pollack said, were not by themselves, considered separately, symptomatic of psychosis.

"Cooper made it obvious that he felt these matters should not be dismissed one by one as unsymptomatic, but considered together, in light of psychological tests to which Pollack said he also gave less weight than eyewitnesses' descriptions of Sirhan's outward behavior.

"With obvious anger, Cooper asked Pollack, 'Could the killing of Sen. Kennedy be considered a symptom of paranoid schizophrenia?'

"After a long pause, Pollack said, 'Yes, it could.' He began to amplify his answer but Cooper cut him short.

"Testimony ended Thursday on a dramatic high point as Cooper declaimed from Pollack's Feb. 5 report: 'I believe that Sirhan's mental illness was related to his act of assassination in that his paranoid convictions went beyond those of a normal personality in the average citizen.

"'This mental illness should be considered a substantial mitigating factor on the issue of penalty.'

"Cooper skipped one portion for brief questioning of Pollack, then went back, minutes before adjournment, to read the omitted portion:

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"'Should a conviction of murder of the first-degree be obtained, I hope that Sirhan is able to avoid the death panalty and is sent for treatment to the California Medical Facility at Vacaville.'

"Pollack acknowledged that, 'as you know, I am strongly opposed to capital punishment for moral and ethical reasons.'"

Another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) reported that "a new picture of Sirhan in the days immediately following Kennedy's fatal shooting also emerged."

The newspaper was referring to a report of Dr. Marcus Crahan, County Jail physician, who examined the defendant on June 6 and 7.

Crahan wrote the following, which was read into the record, according to the newspaper:

"(My) interviews revealed an unconcerned young male...entirely pleased with himself...showing no remorse, no regret."

Crahan said he found Sirhan, whom defense psychiatrists insist was suffering from acute mental illness at the time, "alert, wary, impassive, unconcerned and well directed."

At the time, according to Crahan, Sirhan believed Kennedy still lived...that the shots had not been fatal.

Then an attorney visited the young Arab and told him of Kennedy's death. After this, according to Crahan:

"Sirhan appeared exhausted and complained he had had no sleep... His attorney had no doubt told him his victim had expired. This may have accounted for his exhaustion."

The same newspaper indicated Sirhan told Pollack he believed he should receive a sentence of "a couple of years" for Kennedy's murder.

"He felt that was all the act deserved, if anything," the psychtrist said.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FRIDAY, APRIL 4 -- Dr. Seymour Pollack, psychiatrist for the prosecution in the Sirhan B. Sirhan case today said the defendant told him several times that "he was through with the whole damned thing. He was through with psychiatrists bugging him and he wanted out. He wanted to plead guilty."

Pollack related that these incidents, like similar outbursts after the murder trial began, were "temper tantrums in a paranoid individual."

The doctor told the jury he did not believe Sirhan was faking the tantrums.

Reported a Los Angeles newspaper (Times) on today's session:

"In final cross-examination, defense attorney Grant B. Cooper asked Pollack if he felt Sirhan had shown inappropriate responses for a man in his circumstances -- overracting, smiling at serious moments and paying little attention as the possibility of a death penalty was discussed.

"Pollack said he had not seen 'the degree of inappropriate response we see in a psychotic person,' but said Sirhan's responses were more 'impulsive and volatile' than those of a normal person on trial for his life. 'I suspect he wishes he could control himself better,' Pollack said."

Pollack said he had seen a lot of the defendant and confided, "I have actually gotten somewhat to like Sirhan. He may still think I'm an s.o.b."

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

In further questioning, Cooper asked if Pollack still believed that although Sirhan is mentally ill, his illness was not so severe as to diminish his mental capacity to maturely and meaningfully premeditate Kennedy's death.

Reported the Times:

"Pollack replied that he did believe it 'with reasonable medical certainty.'

"Cooper asked if he believed if 'beyond reasonable doubt' -- a condition on which a first degree murder conviction must be based.

"Pollack said he regarded 'beyond reasonable doubt' as a moral judgment which he, as a doctor, did not feel qualified to make. 'Reasonable medical certainty,' he said, is a medical judgment which does not equate with the moral concept.

"Under redirect examination by Dep. Dist. Atty. John E. Howard, Pollack read at length from the transcript of a Feb. 2 meeting between psychiatrists and psychologists for both the defense and prosecution.

"It was after this meeting, at which there was general agreement that Sirhan was mentally ill and to some degree, that the defense and prosecution agreed to change Sirhan's plea to guilty, with an understanding that he would be sentenced to life in prison.

"However, the agreement fell through and the plea remained not guilty.

"The transcript of the meeting revealed a sharp dispute between Pollack and defense psychiatrist Bernard L. Diamond, who expressed

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

irritation at Pollack for not revealing his conclusions about Sirhan's mental state."

Yesterday, Pollack contended that Diamond had given him to understand he could have no further interviews with the defendant after his last interview on Feb. 1.

However, the newspaper pointed out:

"...the transcript showed it was Pollack who first suggested that it would be of little further value for him to see Sirhan again. On Thursday, Pollack had testified that if he had had more than 25 hours with Sirhan, he might have seen clearer evidence of Sirhan's alleged psychotic symptoms.

"Diamond, on Feb. 2, told Pollack, 'I do not feel, Seymour, that you have played fair.' Diamond said Pollack had 'evaded' and 'quibbled' while defense psychiatrists and psychologists had made full disclosures, and said Pollack had 'misused the conference' by holding back his opinions.

"Pollack insisted, at that meeting and in his testimony this week, thar at that time he had not come to any conclusions.

"But he confirmed that two days after the meeting, on Feb. 4, he dictated an 18-page diagnosis in a confidential memo to the district attorney's office.

"At that time, Pollack confirmed Thursday, he had not thought the case would come to trial. But after Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker ordered the trial to proceed before a jury, Pollack wrote another report on March 21."

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

4/14/69

AIRTEL AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156) (P)

RE: KENSALT

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau dated 4/9/69.

RE: WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE FROM
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Attached herewith are two copies of an eighteen page weekly summary of information prepared for the benefit of the news media by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. This release is dated 4/9/69 and is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

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1 - Los Angeles
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NEWS RELEASE
Office of the District Attorney
600 Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California 90012

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Call: Jerry Littman
News Secretary
626-3888, Ext. 82396

RELEASE: Wed., April 9, 1969

ADDITION TO WEEKLY SUMMARY #44
Re: The assassination of
Senator Robert F. Kennedy

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 -- The cost of the Sirhan trial to date is well in excess of $850,000, according to a report in a Los Angeles legal newspaper (Daily Journal) quoting Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

He said, "this undoubtedly is the most expensive trial in Los Angeles County history and certainly will cost $1 million before it is ended. Any appeals will add to the expense."

Hahn broke down the cost as follows: county, through Feb. 28, $449,767; estimated county costs for March, $50,000; additional Sheriff's Department costs not audited, $100,00; estimated Pasadena Police Department costs, $50,000; and Los Angeles Police Department, $208,829.

Continued the official:

"Although it is unfortunate the people of Los Angeles County have to pay for the expenses of the case, the trial is worth every penny.

"If it reveals the truth of what happened that night last June, if it guarantees Sirhan Sirhan justice, then who can say the cost is not justified."

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NEWS RELEASE
Office of the District Attorney
600 Hall of Justice
Los Angeles, California 90012

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
Call: Jerry Littman
News Secretary
626-3888, Ext. 82396

RELEASE: Wed., April 16, 1969
After 10 a.m.

WEEKLY SUMMARY #45
Re: The assassination of
Senator Robert F. Kennedy

Note to editors: Because of the widespread interest in the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy in Los Angeles on Wednesday, June 5, 1968, and proceedings in court, the Office of Los Angeles County District Attorney Evelle J. Younger is publishing a weekly summary of the case. This is the 45th summary, and others will be for release on subsequent Wednesdays.

MONDAY, APRIL 7 -- Dr. Leonard B. Olinger, instructor in abnormal psychology at USC, said today in court that he disagrees with two previous clinical psychologists' diagnosis of Sirhan B. Sirhan as a paranoid psychotic with schizophrenic reaction.

According to one Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner), Olinger "believes Sirhan is not seriously mentally ill. So concerned did he become by claims of defense alienists that the young Arab does suffer serious mental impairment, he volunteered his services to Dep. Dist. Atty. John Howard."

Continued the newspaper:

"As Dr. Olinger sees Sirhan:

"He is...relatively intact...hardly impaired, gifted in certain imaginative ways, capable of seeing the overview, proceeding in a highly organized method, giving a harmonious kind of performance.

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"'...There is an indication that there is some measure of control over emotions, good ability to make judgments, even if these do not correspond to the judgments of other people, remarkably little distortion of the material or of the individual's perception of the outside world...Despite his fundamental differences in political views, he holds to them on the basis of ideas, notions and value systems that are important to him...There are some indices of character disorder. Most indices are of neurosis...especially hysteria and obsessive compulsion. There are few indices of schizophrenia (divided personality).'

"Asked to pin a specific label on Sirhan, Dr. Olinger summed up, 'He would be a borderline schizophrenia with principally neurotic features...suffering from pseudo-neurotic schizophrenia.

"Howard then asked the psychologist if on June 5, 1968, when Sirhan admittedly shot Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel, he had the capability to 'meaningfully and maturely premeditate and carry out the killing.'

"Dr. Olinger replied:

"'The (psychological) tests strongly suggest that he could.'"

In a report in another Los Angeles newspaper (Times), Olinger told the jury he believed that the two previous clinical psychologists, Drs. Martin M. Schorr and O. Roderick Richardson, approached Sirhan with preconceived notions of what they should find, knowing they were testing the man who killed Kennedy. He also indicated the pair "subsequently

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

interpreted test data in light of their expectations," said the newspaper.

Continued the article:

"In disputing Schorr's diagnosis, Olinger said Sirhan was not showing paranoid tendencies but common sense when he gave affirmative answers to these true-false statements:

"'I know who is responsible for my trouble.'

"'I am sure I am being talked about.'

"'I have been in trouble with the law.'

"'I have enemies who wish to harm me.'

"'I tend to be on guard around people who are friendlier than I expect them to be.'

"'I feel uneasy indoors.'

"As Sirhan had been jailed since June 5, Olinger said, his positive answers to all these indicated that he 'had good contact with reality' and that his suspicions weren't paranoid but all too true."

(The Los Angeles Herald-Examiner noted that Olinger "added that it was his belief that neither Dr. Schorr nor Dr. Richardson had given sufficient weight to the fact that Sirhan has been jailed for several months and faces a capital murder charge in evaluating his tests.

("Sirhan has not seen the sun, nor the outdoors since early last June when he was transferred from the County Central Jail to an isolation cell in the Hall of Justice.")

Continued the Times report:

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"...the effect of Olinger's testimony on the jury, while difficult to determine exactly, was hardly galvanizing. For more than a month they have listened to such psychiatric verbal shorthand as 'C-prime response,' 'small animal movement,' 'inanimate movement,' 'large human movement,' 'pure form response,' 'large H and small fm,' 'large F and little c' and 'TH column.'

"It is debatable how efficiently the jurors have been able to translate such arbitrary terms in their meaningful emotional equivalents. But the mere effort has exacted a toll that was apparent Monday as they listened to still more of the same with faces that ranged a gamut of expression from boredom to stupefaction.

"Olinger enunciated what he termed the 10 basic precautions to be observed in administering psychological tests -- two of which, he made clear, he felt Schorr and Richardson had violated.

"These were 'the law of parsimony, or Occam's Razor' -- giving the simplest, most factual interpretation of data -- and the 'Procrustean Fallacy.' This last derives from Greek mythology, in which the robber Procrustes thrust his victims into a bed and then stretched the short ones to fit the bed or lopped off the tall ones at the head or knees.

"Ripples of amusement alternated with mutters of confusion in the courtroom as testimony translated into talk of how this or that interpretation was 'fitted for a Procrustean bed.'

"Sirhan, meanwhile, seemed frankly disinterested for most of the day."

In cross-examination by Grant B. Cooper, defense attorney, Olinger said he contacted the District Attorney's Office and offered consultation.

Later, Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton "told reporters that Olinger had not wanted to testify, but later agreed after he had examined the defense consultants' test results," reported the Times.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

TUESDAY, APRIL 8 -- Both the prosecution and defense rested today in the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan, the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, as the final prosecution witness, Leonard B. Olinger, psychologist, completed testifying.

As Olinger, the 90th witness, spoke, Sirhan, according to a Los Angeles newspaper (Times) "betrayed not a flicker of interest as defense counsel Grant B. Cooper finished cross-examination."

The newspaper added that Olinger was the last of 10 psychologists and psychiatrists to testify and his "opinion differed sharply not only with the eight expert witnesses for the defense but also with the prosecution's star witness, psychiatrist Seymour Pollack.

Related the newspaper:

"Defense testimony painted Sirhan as a paranoid psychotic with schizophrenic reaction, unaware of and unable to control his actions when he shot Kennedy last June 5.

"Pollack termed Sirhan a paranoid personality with a borderline schizophrenia but held that his mental illness did not reduce his capacity to maturely and meaningfully premeditate and carry out murder.

"Olinger, while agreeing with Pollack that Sirhan was not a victim of diminished capacity in his planning of Kennedy's death, diagnosed Sirhan as a 'pseudo-neurotic schizophrenic' -- which he said is not a recognized clinical label for real psychosis but a mere descriptive term for a condition much less serious than even Pollack had found.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Olinger flushed frequently under a blistering cross-examination by Cooper, who sought to draw an admission that Olinger solicited his way into the case only last month.

"Olinger said he telephoned the prosecution shortly after psychologist Martin M. Schorr began testimony. Olinger said he disagreed with inferences in Schorr's testimony he had read in the newspapers.

"Citing Olinger's own testimony Monday about the care psychologists must take in interpreting clinical tests, Cooper asked if Olinger hadn't violated his own precautions in forming attitudes about the Sirhan case on the basis of newspaper accounts. Olinger said he hadn't.

"Citing Olinger's testimony that Schorr and other psychologists, knowing whose tests they were evaluating, might have interpreted the tests in a way that matched their preconceived notions about Sirhan, Cooper then asked Olinger if he hadn't also known in advance whose tests he was interpreting and whether he hadn't been slightly influenced by that knowledge.

"'Some,' said Olinger.

"Cooper also launched an oblique attack on Olinger's professional qualifications as compared to those of defense witnesses, two of whom, Cooper noted, were professors of psychiatry at USC and UC Berkeley. Olinger is a part-time instructor in abnormal psychology in USC's extension division.

"Cooper asked repeatedly why Olinger had phoned the prosecution rather than the defense, and Olinger replied, "I believed I could be of help.'

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"'Not to the defense,' Cooper interjected.

"'Not particularly to the defense,' Olinger said.

"'To the prosecution?' Cooper asked.

"'Not particularly to the prosecution,' said Olinger.

"'Then whom did you believe you could help?' Cooper asked.

"'I thought I could help justice,' Olinger replied.

"'In giving information to the prosecution?' asked Cooper.

"'In this case, yes,' Olinger said."

The newspaper noted that "Olinger's appearance was the capstone of more than a month's obscure, technical psychiatric jargon, in which both the defense and the prosecution waged a hot war of psychiatric attrition.

"The defense sought to command the jury's respect for their case by stunning them with expert witnesses of both solid and/or glittering reputation and with no fewer than six clinical psychologists who corroborated and confirmed yet again the findings of the others.

The prosecution chose, with its two experts, to try to deflate the defense theories with sober, logical outlines of verifiable fact. In cross-examination of defense experts they inched painstakingly, sometimes maddeningly, over and over the same tiny technical points.

"The stated aim was to find and enlarge weak spots in the ornate psychiatric facade erected by the defense.

"But the more likely aim appeared to be to thoroughly sicken the jury on all psychiatric testimony, pushing jurors from confusion

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

through boredom and to such exasperation that they might wave aside all expert testimony and weigh the case solely on these facts:

"That Sirhan hated Zionism and its allies, wrote of his intention to kill Kennedy, did so and isn't sorry.

"As the prosecution prepared its final arguments, Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton confirmed what has been common knowledge since early February -- that the prosecution will not press for the death penalty for Sirhan. Nor will they ask the jury not to impose it."

Today's session in court took place only in the morning, due to an in-chambers meeting on Judge Herbert V. Walker's instructions to the jury.

Reported a Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner):

"Dist Atty. John B. Howard said that part of the delay was caused by procedural matters and part by a disagreement over proposed instructions to the jury.

"While neither side would comment on the disagreement, there were authoritative reports that the two sides were split as to the fine details of the law of 'diminished capacity' in California. The defense of diminished capacity is the core of Sirhan's case.

"The law provides, in effect, that if the jury believes Sirhan lacks the mental capacity to 'meaningfully and maturely' premeditate and carry out Sen. Kennedy's killing, he cannot be sentenced to death -- even though he admits the slaying. A battery of defense and pro-

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

secution psychologists and psychiatrists have said he lacks this capacity. Dr. Olinger and psychiatrist Dr. Seymour Pollack have testified that in their opinion, he does have this capacity.

"Guided by the law as it is given them by Judge Walker, the jury will make the final decision.

"Judge Walker has been at work on his instructions to the jury for the past several weeks. However, each side has the right to offer additional suggestions to the jurist at the close of the case.

"Lawyers' summations and Judge Walker's instructions are expected to take the remainder of this week. It is now expected the jury will get the case Monday.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9 -- Sirhan B. Sirhan is being depicted on posters distributed by the Palestine Liberation Organization "as a heroic Arab commando," according to William Tuohy, Beirut correspondent for a Los Angeles newspaper (Times), it was reported today.

"Circulation of the posters," wrote Tuohy, "adopting Sirhan as a member of the Palestinian cause, is the most significant development in the Arab reaction to the Sirhan trial, sources here (Beirut) say.

"The trial has been widely reported in the Arab press and followed closely.

"However, because of a decision by Arab governments to adopt a hands-off policy on the Sirhan case, very little editorial comment has been made about the trial.

"One of the few occasions when Arab editorialists complained came when psychiatric testimony at the trial suggested Sirhan had killed

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Kennedy while mentally deranged.

"'Sirhan is not a madman,' argued one editor.

"'There has been an awful lot of testimony at the trial in Los Angeles about Sirhan's sanity,' says one veteran Arab affairs specialist here (Beirut), 'but if you go into one of those Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan, you will find a lot of people with the same mental makeup as Sirhan.'

"The commandos hope, in their widely distributed posters, to capitalize on the extremist view that Sirhan was acting rationally on behalf of the Palestinian guerillas -- to wipe out a hated enemy."

In court today, the prosecution in the Sirhan B. Sirhan case conceded that the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy is sick, "but not so sick that he could not plan, cooly, carefully and for a long time to murder" the senator, a Los Angeles newspaper (Times) reported.

"Opening the summation of the prosecution's case against the 25-year old defendant, Dep. Dist. Atty. David N. Fitts told the jury of five women and seven men:

"'The state will urge you to return a verdict of murder in the first degree.'

"In an impressive four-hour summation delivered entirely without notes, Fitts waved aside psychiatric theory and marshaled an imposing chronology leading up to the June 5 shooting of Kennedy on the eve of his victory in California's Democratic presidential primary.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"As he piled up the facts one by one, Fitts said they showed a consistent, developing premeditation to murder Kennedy."

At one point, reported the newspaper, Sirhan erupted with "He's lying, he's lying, he's lying," as Fitts said the defendant deliberately left his wallet in his car "to avoid identification" after the Ambassador Hotel shooting.

Defense counsel and security officers plopped Sirhan back into his chair, quieted him and then ushered him out. After cooling off in an adjacent room for 20 minutes, Sirhan came back to the court room and listened quietly but intently as Fitts continued the summation, the same newspaper related.

Another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) published highlights of Fitts' summation as follows:

"This trial commenced on Jan. 7. We have now passed the three-month anniversary. We have heard the testimony of some 90 witnesses. But I suggest to you that for the last three we have departed in some measure from the basic premise of this trial -- murder.

"Murder, and I'll read it, is the unlawful killing of a human being with malice aforethought.

"Malice may be either expressed or implied. It is expressed when the killing is done outright. It is implied when the killing results from an action involved with wanton disregard for human life.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"I suggest what we are dealing with in this case is expressed malice."

Fitts then related what took place on June 5 at the Ambassador Hotel.

Continued the summation by Fitts as related in the newspaper:

"Malice -- let's go back to that word. It is expressed when there is manifest intent unlawfully to kill a human being. We have an individual recognizing his target, rapidly approaching the target and firing eight shots.

"What could be clearer than that?

"What you will be concerned with is whether this individual could know that this was a wrong thing. Malice in this way implies the doing of something not socially acceptable, the doing of something wrong.

"You will be concerned with whether or not this defendant at that time was able to appreciate that firing bullets into the head of another individual is a thing not generally approved of in our community.

"Did he know if that was a good thing to do, or a bad thing to do? It is no more complicated than that.

"The state has asked and will continue to ask that you return a verdict of murder in the first degree.

"The theory of murder is that Sirhan Sirhan premeditated and deliberated upon his intent to act. That involves intent to kill. The intent to kill is something that the defense will, let us say, concede.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"It is the issue of premeditation and deliberation that the defense is primarily concerned. Premeditation and deliberation, as distinguished between first-and second-degree murder, mean some kind of decision-making process about the act. It is the weighing of arguments pro and con, rather than acting on rash impulse.

"The law envisions the possibility that an individual may harbor malice aforethought, they (the law) know the thing he is doing is wrong but he acts so quickly without making the decision as to how he is going to act, so that there is no premeditation.

"The law does not prescribe to you to what extent an individual might weigh and premeditate before a calculated goal to kill is formed.

"The law says this will depend on the situation. and the individual -- that a cold, calculated decision to kill may be arrived at within minutes or seconds, depending on the circumstances and the individual.

"In this case, the people suggest to you that the cold and calculated decision to take the life of Robert F. Kennedy had been arrived at long in advance of Sirhan's arrival at the Ambassador Hotel.

"The facts in the opinion of the prosecution lead logically to the conclusion that this defendant did not act in a rash or impulsive manner at the time he fired the bullet into the brain of Robett F. Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel.

"With respect to his state of mind, we are asked to accept when the defendant tells us he first intended to go to the Ambassador Hotel

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

because of the Rafferty party. Some time in the past, he and Kathleen Rafferty had been in school together. There is no suggestion that Kathleen Rafferty would have been glad to see Sirhan and one would suppose that some years had passed since they had been at school together.

"Mr. Sirhan is 25 years old. He isn't the only young protester. I view with alarm the protests of the last few years. They alarm me and I wonder what will happen a few years from now when these protesters take our places?

"Sirhan's view is shared by many. He is not the only one who is disillusioned. His illusions are shared by many. They are not disillusions -- illusions, perhaps.

"But he has an absolute right to have opinions not shared by the majority. It is all right to entertain ideas that this is not the best of all possible worlds.

"In any event, this is Mr. Sirhan. He felt rejected at the Rafferty party.

"He is something of a loner. He doesn't want to stay where he is not wanted.

"In the light of that, and if Sirhan hated Kennedy as has been made clear, and if he felt he wasn't wanted, why did he stay there?

"But stay he did.

"From the point of view of the assassination, it doesn't make any difference whether the senator was going to the Colonial Room first or the Ambassador Room first.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

In one way or the other, he was going both places.

"I suggest it was no fortuitous circumstance that Sirhan waited in a place where at one time or another the senator would pass and become a target.

"All the logic points to this -- his hatred, the notebooks, his visiting the ranges, his rapid fire, his inquiry at the pantry, the loaded gun in his belt, the mini-mag ammunition, the conduct of the defendant, his statements after his arrest, the cute way he avoided identifying himself.

"Now with respect to the defendant's state of mind. His testimony is replete with what I consider to be lies, some of it demonstrable, some not.

"Anything in this case which would appear to indicate that this was premeditated or deliberated murder is denied by the defendant, regardless of who said it -- even by those who are trying to help him, who advanced his best interests in this case.

"We believe that the defendant is not divorced from the reality of his position as a defendant in a murder case.

"It has been suggested that this defendant exists in a delusional state.

"The defendant has always had the hope to get away with this. He knows some people don't like what he has done. This hope is alternated with despair.

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"It is conceded by both sides that Mr. Sirhan is not a well man. The question is how sick is he? The question is what does 'mature' mean? The question is what does 'meaningful' mean?

"'Mature' — old enough to procreate, ripe for picking. Does it mean you must have the global view of the world of a great sage or philosppher? What exactly is 'mature'?

"What is 'meaningful'? How much is the individual required to read into his contemplated act before it becomes meaningful?

"No individual after mature and meaningful reflection would commit murder.

"Yet murder is commonplace in our society. What are we do do with individuals who commit this?

"We deal in a society that is still grappling with the solutions to the problem of crime, still grappling as best it might with what can be described as criminal responsibility.

"We admit Sirhan is less than the full man. How much less I don't know. He is the man you have seen in court, the man who testified on the witness stand eagerly...with flair, with intelligence somewhat unusual in criminal courts if you accept my word for it.

"The question is, that given the degree of mentall illness or diminished capacity if you will that Sirhan has, he yet had the ability to harbor malice and maturely and meaningfully, whatever it means to you, premeditate and deliberate on what it means to take the life of a fellow human being. That is your job."

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

THURSDAY, APRIL 10 -- The three defense attorneys for Sirhan B. Sirhan, Grant B. Cooper, Russell E. Parsons and Emile Zola Berman, today offered their summations in the case calling for mercy tempered with justice for the young Arab.

According to a report in a Los Angeles newspaper (Times), Cooper told the jury:

"We are not here to free a guilty man. He is guilty of having killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. We are not asking for an acquittal.

"On the facts of this case -- whether Mr. Sirhan likes it or not -- Mr. Sirhan deserves to spend the rest of his life in a penitentiary."

Continued the newspaper:

"Cooper, in a detailed explanation of the various aspects of the law that Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker will give the jury to judge the facts by, said that on the basis of both evidence and law, the defense 'will ask you to return a verdict of murder in the second-degree.'

"Such a verdict, Cooper stressed, would still enable the jury to sentence Sirhan to life in prison. 'Because of the conduct that brought him to the bar of justice in this case,' Cooper said, " I wouldn't want Sirhan Sirhan turned loose on society.'"

Another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner) published excerpts of remarks by the trio of lawyers and quoted Cooper, in part, as follows:

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"I propose to discuss with you the law and to attempt to help you if I can with what the law is in this case and then to do my dead-level best to apply the law to this case. Not with the idea of turning Sirhan Sirhan loose...but to put it in proper...and intelligent perspective.

"Let me explain how your instructions will come...Both sides prepare their conception of what they think the law is. We submit them to his honor...his honor has the last word. He tells us what law he is going to give you so that when we argue the law to you we will state it truthfully.

"First, I think you should know what the presumption of innocence is. If after considering all the evidence you entertain reasonable doubt as to whether it should be first-degree or second-degree murder, I believe his honor will tell you that it is up to you under the law to give the defendant the benefit of reasonable doubt.

"If there is doubt in your mind as to whether it should be murder in the second degree or manslaughter, it would be your duty under the law to return a verdict of manslaughter, providing that you entertain reasonable doubt.

"A reasonable doubt is not mere possible doubt...It is...you the jury say that you cannot feel an abiding conviction to a moral certainty, a moral certainty is all that is required.

"You have been bombarded with the testimony of experts. An expert witness is a person who has special skill, knowledge or training...You

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

should consider their background of experience and education and the credibility of the education. You are not bound to accept the testimony of any expert.

"On the real, only issue you have before you as to whether or not the defendant had diminished capacity, the only way that can be established is by circumstancial evidence. That is the guts of the whole case, the whole sole issue in this case."

"You are not permitted to find the defendant guilty...unless the proved circumstances are not only consistent with that the defendant is guilty of the crime...but cannot be reconciled with any other rational conclusion. If the evidence is susceptible to a reasonable interpretation, one of which points to the defendant's guilt and the other which points to his innocence, it is your duty to reject that which points to guilty and accept that which shows his innocence.

"Let's take motive. Can there by any question in anyone's mind but that his motive was political?

"When we talk about crime, we talk about the elements of crime. Murder has the following elements: There must be the intent to kill. In first-degree murder, it must be willful, deliberate and premeditated and it must be the killing of a human being. Motive is not an element.

"Was it a mature motive; was it a meaningful motive?

"Let's take excerpts from things you have heard over and over again. To do away with the government and declare anarchy. Is that mature thinking? Is that meaningful thinking?

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"In his pronuncimento, he wrote: 'I advocate the overthrow of the current President of the United States of America. I have no definite plans yet, but will soon compose some.' Is that mature thinking? Is that meaningful thinking?

"All murder which is wilful, premeditated and deliberate with malice aforethought is murder in the first degree.

"You may assume...and from my point of view it would be illogical to suggest that this wasn't a wilful, deliberate and premeditated murder.

"But what I want to point out you have wilful, deliberate and premeditated killing in manslaughter...That is the law.

"Deliberate means formed or arrived at...weighed or considered for and against the proper course of action.

"The word 'premeditation' means thought over before-hand.

"The law doesn't undertake to measure premeditation of deliberation...the true test is not the time elapsed but the extent of the mature and meaningful reflection. The cold, calculated decision may be arrived at in a short time.

"Remember...the elements: To form specific intent to kill; premeditate and deliberate; reflect upon the gravity of the contemplated act.

"If you find that the defendant's mental capacity was diminished to the extent that you have a reasonable doubt whether he did meaningfully, wilfully premeditate and deliberate...you cannot find him guilty of murder

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

in the first degree. The instruction goes on with respect to harboring malice.

"The next thing is malice aforethought. If there is malice aforethought, it is not manslaughter. It has got to be a decision between the two degrees of murder.

"One other instruction that we discussed at length when we examined you...that is the individual opinion of each juror. The people and the defendant are entitled to the individual opinion of each juror. Each one of you is supreme in determining the facts. Your powers are equal even above his honor, in a jury trial. You are the judge of the facts.

"The reason we have 12 jurors is so that we have 12 individual opinions. You must agree before the verdict can be reached.

"You have told us, you will recall...that you would not compromise just for the purpose of arriving at a verdict...just so you can get home earlier."

The same newspaper also publishedexcerpts of comments made by Parsons, including remarks on the defendant's life and his family.

Some excerpts follow:

"If I may go back to Mrs. Sirhan and her son, she did the best she could with this boy.

"He was hurt out here at the race track. He loved horses. The frustrations mounted up until this fellow didn't know what he was doing.

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Here we are with a perfect example of a man who is sick. In this field they hardly refer to persons as being 'insane' anymore. If you ever had a perfect case, you had it here. Here's a man who wants to stand up and fire the lawyers who are trying to help him.

"You have seen him. One moment he appears to be smart as a whip. The next he can't tell right from wrong.

"I would like this verdict to spell out in every hamlet, in every Arab desert and all over Europe, that a man can get justice in America. That is neither life imprisonment nor the death penalty, because this case doesn't warrant it. Not for this poor, sick wretch, no matter what he did.

"Let us make sure that throughout the world, that in every hamlet, the people know that in America you can get justice, whether it is in Mississippi or in Los Angeles.

"It is going to take a little courage to return a proper verdict in this case, a little courage to see that justice is done. But it can and must be done.

"It will go down in history."

The same newspaper also contained these excerpts from the summation by Berman:

"I want to talk to you specifically about a thing called trauma, Trauma is a blow or an insult -- trauma to one's personality, a blow to what makes a person become what he is.

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

""I'm going to talk to you about the traumatic events upon Sirhan's personality. From a young boy to the 24-year old man -- what it was, step by step, that put him in the posture which created the tragedy that blighted our nation."

He then cited Sirhan's relations with his father and mother, the death of his sister, his flunking out of college, his accident at a horse ranch.

Concerning events at the Ambassador Hotel, Berman said, according to the newspaper:

"There were bars...and mirrors in the Venetian Room. That is pretty much of the nitty-gritty in this. There were mirrors everywhere he turned. Mirrors in his home, mirrors in the hotel.

"It was by mirrors that he induced self-hypnosis or -- what is that term the doctors use -- a dissociative state.

"We have no way of knowing over how long all of his drinking took place, but we do know that Sirhan began to feel his drinking and decided it was time for him to go home.

"He went to the car three blocks away and suddenly found he was too drunk to drive.

"He saw his gun in the back seat and picked it up. He returned to the Ambassador to get some coffee.

"All through the theme of the prosecution case is premeditation and planning. We have checked this every way we can.

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"One thing is that Sirhan was alone. There was no conspiracy here, no helpers here, nobody backing him up, no reward for money. This was his act alone.

"You must remember that when Sen. Kennedy was making his speech to his followers in the Embassy Room...he was to go to a large overflow crowd in the Ambassador ballroom on the floor below, and the route to be taken would never have taken the senator and his entourage through the pantry.

"At the last moment, somebody changed his mind. There could not be any possible knowledgeable waiting for the senator, where Sirhan could take a position where he would have a pot-shot at him.

"I take this up because it has to do with the inference that Sirhan was lying in wait...waiting for a crack at Kennedy. This does not and cannot fit the facts in this case.

"This freakishness changes the whole history of our country and possibly of the world."

* * *
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FRIDAY, APRIL 11 -- If the prosecution in the Sirhan case "get what they want" -- a verdict of first degree -- "the only remaining question will be one of penalty -- death or life imprisonment," according to Ron Einstoss, staff writer, in a Los Angeles newspaper (Times).

Continued the article:

"That decision would be made by the same jury in a separate penalty trial.

more --

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Both the prosecution and the defense at that time will have an opportunity to submit additional evidence and offer arguments.

"The prosecution's presentation would focus on any matters which tend to aggravate the crime.

"The defense, on the other hand, would seek to get before the jury anything which might mitigate -- or favor -- Sirhan's position.

"A major factor during the penalty proceedings may be the proposed arrangement early in the trial which would have permitted Sirhan to plead guilty to first-degree murder with life in prison.

"If Sirhan is convicted of murder in the first-degree, that might be the best weapon the defense has to save Sirhan's life.

"Because of this, defense attorneys Grant B. Cooper, Emile Zola Berman and Russell E. Parsons most likely will attempt to bring the matter to the attention of the jury, possibly by someone from the district attorney's office -- perhaps even Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger -- to testify about the plea bargaining.

"This could present an awkward situation to the prosecution and it already has led to reports that Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton and Dep. Dist. Attys. John E. Howard and David N. Fitts will not 'demand' the death penalty.

"But the death penalty is seldom demanded anyway. Usually, in proper cases, juries are 'urged' to bring in such a verdict.

"The prosecution, however, may even find it difficult to go that far because it once was willing to settle for life.

"When Superior Judge Herbert V. Walker rejected the plea agreement, it opened the way for the jury to hear all the evidence in the case.

"And that jury may now decide without any urging from the prosecution, at least in so many words, that the only penalty for the heinous crime of assassinating a possible President of the United States is death.

"If the jury votes the death penalty, it could be reduced to life in prison by Judge Walker. But a verdict of life imprisonment is binding on the court.

"All sentences of death are automatically reviewed by the State Supreme Court."

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FRIDAY, APRIL 11 -- In court today, Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton began the prosecution's final summation, and will continue on Monday.

He termed the case "highly overcomplicated" by psychiatric expertise and jolted the jury, composed of seven men and five women, when he raised this question, according to a story in a Los Angeles newspaper (Times):

"Did Robert F. Kennedy, a young, highly successful man at the peak of his career -- a former U.S. attorney general, a senator from New York and a candidate for the presidency of this country -- did he breathe his last breath on the dirty floor of the Ambassador Hotel, there with the mops and the dirty dishes, did he leave a widow with 11 children, because he favored U.S. support of the State of Israel or because he was a substitute father image in some Oedipus complex in Sirhan's mind?"

The newspaper related that the "defense has offered both theories as partial explanation of the Palestinian Arab's motive in killing Kennedy last June 5..."

Continued the newspaper:

"Compton, his voice disdainful as he waved toward a blackboard bearing the names of 10 'so-called experts' -- psychologists and psychiatrists called to testify for both sides -- said he had thought of erasing their names as he rose to speak, but then changed his mind.

"'I hope,' he added, ' that I can erase them all from your consideration.'

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Compton said the psychiatric testimony had been so confusing and conflicting that 'I can be frank to admit right now as I stand here that I can't answer the question of what Sirhan's real motive was.'

"Referring to Dr. Bernard L. Diamond's testimony that Sirhan was in a dissociative state induced by the combination of intoxication, rage and a self-induced hypnotic trance from staring into hotel mirrors, Compton said, with thinly veiled contempt:

"'If you believe Dr. Diamond with his mirror act and believe Sirhan was in some kind of trance, so that he didn't know if he was on foot or horseback, then it would be inhuman to punish him for anything at all.

"'But if you don't buy it -- like I don't buy it, and like (deputy district attorneys) John Howard and David Fitts don't buy it -- then there's nothing left but plain, old cold-blooded first-degree murder.'

"Compton implied that the precise definition of 'mature and meaningful' premeditation that has been so much a part of the defense case is not a legitimate concern to the jurors because, he said, his office deals with about 35,000 felons each year, and in the premeditation behind all the 35,000 crimes, 'none of it reflects mature and meaningful judgment.'"

Compton's remarks were made after a four-hour summation by Grant B. Cooper, defense attorney, who urged the jury to find Sirhan guilty of second-degree murder and sentence him to life imprisonment.

Continued the newspaper:

"As he had on Thursday, Cooper stressed that the defense did not feel Sirhan 'should be given a medal for what he did' -- or, indeed, that

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

he should 'ever be turned loose on society.'

"But, Cooper argued, the facts in the case and the applicable law make a first degree verdict inappropriate.

"Cooper said the defense also would not ask the jury to return a manslaughter verdict -- even though, he contended, the evidence could warrant it -- because he felt that such a request would simply not be discreet in this case.

"Cooper said the jury could accept the facts as stated by the prosecution, ignore the claims of hypnotic or dissociative trances, and accept the evidence of 'premeditation that goes back to at least May 18' -- three weeks before the killing -- and still would have to consider whether Sirhan's plans were mature or meaningful.

"Concluding his lengthy summation, Cooper told the jury, 'I'm the last one to speak on behalf of this defendant. When I sit down no voice will be raised again in his defense...We pass from our shoulders to yours the responsibility and the proper fate of Sirhan Sirhan.'"

Late this evening, according to another Los Angeles newspaper (Herald-Examiner), the "trial went into extraordinary session...in order to excuse" a juror whose father had died.

Ronald G. Evans was excused by Judge Herbert V. Walker "and the special trial session was held in an armor-enclosed auxiliary courtroom in the jail facility atop the Hall of Justice. Sirhan was present and no stranger to the room where the preliminaries to his soon-to-end murder trial took place.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

"Evans, a telephone company switchboard installer, was not immediately replaced. Judge Walker said that a successor to the juror would be chosen when court convenes Monday morning.

"California law requires that a successor to a trial juror be chosen by the spin of the wheel.

"Evans was the second casualty in the Sirhan jury. The first was IBM computer programmer Lawrence K. Morgan, who was dismissed when he suffered a bleeding ulcer and had to be hospitalized."

Meanwhile, a young woman who killed herself early this week was identified today as a go-go dancer who figured briefly in the Kennedy assassination, police said.

She was Kathy Fulmer, 23, found semi-conscious Monday in a motel. She died of an overdose of Seconal a half-hour later.

Said a Los Angeles newspaper (Times):

"Miss Fulmer came forward when investigators were seeking a girl who wore a polka dot dress in the Ambassador the night the senator was shot. She wore a polka dot scarf and had been at the hotel.

"But, as the investigation developed, neither Miss Fulmer nor any of several young women wearing polka dot garments at the assassination scene had any bearing on the case.

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

4/21/69

AIRTEL AIR MAIL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-587)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156) (P)

RE: KENSALT

Re Los Angeles airtel to Bureau dated 3/25/69.

RE: WEEKLY NEWS RELEASE FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Attached herewith are two copies of a one page weekly summary of information prepared for the benefit of the news media by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office. This release is dated 4/9/69 and is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

Also enclosed are two copies of a twenty-nine page weekly summary of information dated 4/16/69.

2 - Bureau (Encs. 4)
1 - Los Angeles
AOR/bje
(3)

A.O. Richards

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

56-156-2809

TRANSLATION FROM GERMAN

The envelope, postmarked 11/30/68, 4018 Langenfeld, addressed to FBI, Washington, D. C., U. S. A., bears the return address of:

Prof. Dr. Sc. und Dr. Philos.
4018 Langenfeld
Koelnerstr. 82, M6(?)
Krankenhaus

*

Langenfeld
11/29/68

Gentlemen:

I do herewith file criminal charges against two killers who murdered Presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy. The names Beckmann and Beck are not their real names. Actually one of them is Mr. Sijan-Sijahm (sic), and the name of his accomplice, unfortunately, is unknown to me. Mr. Sijan-Sijahm's description is as follows: blue-gray, slit eyes, freckled face, and about 185 cm. (6' 2") tall. Unfortunately, I cannot furnish you more information.

Very truly yours,

Prof. D. Sc. and Ph. D.
(Signature illegible)

* * *

Translator's note: The writer of this handwritten communication is possibly a mental case as evidenced by his return address which is that of a hospital in Langenfeld.

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

56-156-2810

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Los Angeles (56-156) DATE: April 16, 1969

FROM : Director, FBI (62-587)

SUBJECT: KENSALT

Re Legat, Bonn letter dated 3-5-69 and your routing slip dated April 7, 1969.

Reference is made to Bureau letter to Legat, Bonn dated 12-13-69, a copy of which was transmitted to the Los Angeles Office. This communication dealt with a letter postmarked 11-30-68, Lagenfeld, Germany, signed Prof. D. Sc. and Ph. D. A copy of the translation is attached.

Referenced communication of 3-5-69 and the enclosure thereto, copy of which was forwarded the Los Angeles Office, pertains to results of investigation by the West German Federal Criminal Police in connection with the aforementioned communication.

Enclosure

56-156-2811
SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
APR 18 1969
FBI — LOS ANGELES

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

5010-108

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 4/16/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)

FROM: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (62-1957) (RUC)

SUBJECT: KENSALT

OO: Los Angeles

Re Los Angeles letter to Indianapolis, 3/21/69.

Enclosed for Los Angeles Division are 44 copies of FD 302s reflecting interviews with JAMES D. NICO and CHARLES D. WHITE at Saint Meinrad, Indiana.

Los Angeles Division is requested to advise Indianapolis if below-listed persons are to be interviewed. As extent of investigation conducted by Los Angeles not known to Indianapolis, no interviews with below-listed individuals being conducted. UAC

At Saint Meinrad College
Saint Meinrad, Indiana

STEVE BANET
MARK SULLIVAN
CHARLIE EDER
STEVE CHURCHWELL
BOB COTTER

Antelsent
Business expedite
overall

(2) - Los Angeles (Enc. 44)
1 - Indianapolis
RJE-cdl
(3)

56-156-2822

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
APR 21 1969
FBI—LOS ANGELES
A.O. Richards

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

IP 62-1957

At Evansville, Indiana

DAN KING
Upper Mount Vernon Road
Evansville, Indiana

At Indianapolis, Indiana

ANDY T. EZZELL
537 East 42nd Street
Telephone #283-6470

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

FD-36 (Rev. 5-22-64)

FBI

Date: 4/22/69

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (62-1957)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (56-156)(P)

SUBJECT: KENSALT
OO: LOS ANGELES

(1) Re Indianapolis airtel to Los Angeles 4/16/69, received 4/21/69; (2) re Los Angeles airtel to Indianapolis 3/21/69; (3) Re Detroit letter 1/14/69 requesting interview of JIM NICO; (4) re Philadelphia letter 12/26/68 requesting interview of CHARLES WHITE.

The policy that has been followed since the inception of this investigation is to present a full, complete investigation concerning all persons who might be in a position to have observed or noted some detail of the assassination of Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY. Accordingly, it will be necessary to interview all of the persons set forth in Indianapolis airtel of 4/16/69.

In addition, Indianapolis should also interview JOHN PUTZ, who is set forth in the interview of JAMES D. NICO on page 2, concerning the individual described by NICO in an effort that an identification may be effected.

A closing report is being submitted in this matter following the decision of the current jury as to the penalty to be imposed upon SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, and these interviews should all

2 - Indianapolis (AM)
2 - Chicago (Enc. - 1)(AM)
2 - Portland (Enc. - 1)(AM)
2 - Washington Field (Enc. - 1)(AM)
2 - Los Angeles
WJN:CM
(10)

a.o. Richards

SEARCHED —
INDEXED —
SERIALIZED
FILED

OFFICE COPY

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

56-156-2813

be conducted promptly, as these reports are disseminated to local authorities.

For the information of Washington Field, there is enclosed one copy of FD-302 of CHARLES D. WHITE, who mentions on page 2 one JOE HIGDEN of 3400 - 16th Street, Apartment 621, Washington, D. C., as being present in the Embassy Ballroom at the Ambassador Hotel on 6/5/68. Washington Field is requested to contact Mr. HIGDEN as to any information he may possess. It will not be necessary to interview WALTER SHERIDAN, also mentioned on page 2 of the interview, as your office has previously submitted results of interviews of Mr. SHERIDAN.

Washington Field is requested to hold the interview of KENNETH F. FUSSELL, 1650 Harvard Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., in abeyance until advice is received from Indianapolis as to whether or not FUSSELL was in the Los Angeles area at the time of the assassination.

For the information of Chicago, there is enclosed one copy of the interview of CHARLES D. WHITE which on page 2 reflects the names of RUSS DAVIS, 3939 West 82nd Street, Chicago, Illinois, and KATHY CWIK as being active in the KENNEDY campaign. This lead should be held in abeyance until advice is received from Indianapolis as to whether or not DAVIS and CWIK were in the Los Angeles area at the time of the assassination.

For the information of Portland, there is enclosed one copy of the interview of JAMES D. NICO, which on page 2, last paragraph, identifies one JIM C. BAILEY of 6039 N. E. 30th Street, Portland, Oregon, as being conversant with an individual mentioned by NICO who he felt was not acting in a proper manner concerning the assassination. Portland should request of Mr. BAILEY all data which might lead to the identification of the individual in question.

Indianapolis is requested to conduct interviews of persons mentioned in referenced Indianapolis airtel, and also JOHN PUTZ of Fowler, Indiana, and to advise Los Angeles, Washington Field and Chicago as to whether or not the individuals mentioned on page 2 of the FD-302 of CHARLES D. WHITE were in the Los Angeles area at the time of the assassination. The files at Los Angeles reflect that WALTER SHERIDAN was in the area,

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