

Acquitted Angela Davis May Take Up Law Career

Page 5-6-72
SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Angela Davis, free for the first time in 22 months, started planning a future Monday that may include a law career.

She slept late and spent the rest of the day relaxing after her acquittal Sunday of murder, kidnap and conspiracy charges.

Friends said they were urging Miss Davis, 28, a black scholar and former UCLA philosophy instructor, to attend law school and. They said they urged her, through work in the courts, carry out her avowed efforts to "free all political prisoners."

Miss Davis, 28, had been charged in connection with an Aug. 7, 1970, Marin County courthouse shootout which resulted in four deaths.

The tall, articulate Miss Davis had acted as cocounsel at her trial and delivered her own opening statement to the jury.

Defense attorney Howard Moore Jr., who tutored her in law during her months as a prisoner, said during the trial: "I think she's the best lawyer in the courtroom."

Relaxing at her San Jose apartment, Miss Davis said her mind wasn't made up about the future. She may take a vacation before making any permanent decisions.

Associates appeared concerned about Miss Davis' future personal security, and she conceded, "It will be a problem."

She said there had been numerous threats against her in the final weeks of her trial. But she added, "I'm not going to al-

low that to prevent me from becoming active in the liberation struggle."

One of her first plans, she said, is to vote in Tuesday's California primary election, but she wouldn't say for whom she would vote.

Miss Davis was granted bail shortly before her trial began last February. But she had already spent 16 months in jail.

After the verdict was announced, Miss Davis declared it a "people's victory," and vowed to devote her time to helping the imprisoned.

"I can begin to give all I have to free all political prisoners and oppressed people," she said.

"Now... is the time to start making plans. I haven't made any plans yet," she told reporters. "I guess we're going to celebrate some and steel ourselves for the struggle ahead."

The celebrating went on into the predawn hours Monday. Hundreds of Miss Davis' supporters danced to blaring rock music, popped champagne corks and toasted "Angela's freedom" at a San Jose night club.

Nine of the jurors who had pronounced Miss Davis innocent joined the celebrants—returning hugs and kisses from Miss Davis' friends and family.

A young woman juror, caught up in the festive spirit, danced to the rock beat with a defense attorney.

But the honored guest—Angela Davis—neither danced nor mingled with the crowd. She sat at a corner table surrounded by bodyguards who occasionally allowed friends through to greet her.