

Love Drove Miss Davis, State Says

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SAN JOSE, Calif., March 27—Simple human passion drove Angela Davis to join in a conspiracy to kidnap and murder, prosecutor Albert Harris Jr. declared as the celebrated case entered the evidence phase today.

"It was passion for George Jackson, the Soledad brother, a passion that knew no bounds, no limits, no respect for life, not even the life of George's brother," said Harris, who is a deputy state attorney general.

At about the moment Harris began his opening statement a jury in San Francisco was acquitting the remaining two Soledad brothers of charges that they murdered a guard three years ago in Soledad prison.

Miss Davis is accused of helping to set up the courthouse break-out attempt in Marin County, north of San Francisco, on Aug. 7, 1970, in which George Jackson's 17-year-old brother, Jonathan, was killed, along with a superior court judge and two San Quentin inmates.

Prosecutor Harris alleged today that the escape attempt and kidnaping of the judge, Harold Haley, and three jurors was an effort to ransom George Jackson, Fleeta Drumgo and John Clutchette—the Soledad brothers—from San Quentin, where they incarcerated pending trial on the guard slaying.

"This conspiracy was simple,

ingenious and very nearly successful. Its ultimate objective was the release of George Jackson," Harris said.

Jackson was slain last August in what was described as an escape plot inside San Quentin. The prosecution charged that Miss Davis and Jackson—who met several times—had been in love.

Harris said Miss Davis's romance with Jackson was revealed in a series of letters, some of which were found in Jackson's cell. She became attached to him in May, 1970, when she first saw him at Soledad prison, he said. "That was the first physical contact when the seed was planted that led to the day of horror."

Miss Davis, said Harris, "considered herself married to George Jackson. She showed a willingness to do whatever was necessary to free him."

Harris said there was a meeting between Miss Davis and Jackson in the mess hall of San Quentin. They went to a holding cell. He described their meeting as a "close, passionate physical involvement." Her ultimate goal was "to free the prisoner she loves."

(A spokesman for the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis has said their love was "a revolutionary bond" rather than a romantic love.)

Harris told the jury of four men and eight women that:

All four guns used in the courthouse shoot-out had been purchased by Miss Davis over

the preceding two years—one of them just two days before the incident. This allegation—central to the case—was part of the indictment.

In the months before Aug. 7, Miss Davis also bought 450 rounds of 30-caliber ammunition suitable for firing in two carbines that Jonathan Jackson secreted in the courtroom.

On Aug. 3, four days before the escape attempt, Miss Davis boarded a plane from Los Angeles to San Francisco, "for the purpose of playing her role in the conspiracy. She was not to leave the bay area until after the crime was committed."

At the time Jonathan Jackson entered the Marin County courtroom—concealing the weapons, adhesive tape, and a spool of wire under a long trench coat—Miss Davis was at the San Francisco airport. The plotters intended to make their escape by plane from the airport, declared Harris. He added that the prosecution would show that Jonathan Jackson borrowed a Volkswagen sedan on Aug. 4, which later was found at the same airport. Harris said a slip of paper found in Jonathan's wallet had the telephone number of a public phone near the American Airlines counter.

Among the books young Jackson carried in a briefcase, along with one of the guns, into the courtroom were two that bore the signature of Miss Davis. They were: "The

Politics of Violence" and "Violence of Social Change."

Harris said that the case was "largely circumstantial."

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