

Hints of East Bay Arms Cache

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Persisting in Bizarre S.F. Case

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Hints of an East Bay arms cache persist in the bizarre case of the William E. Thoresen III family of San Francisco.

Authorities are seeking Thoresen and do not know why he turned his Pacific Heights mansion into an arsenal with 30 tons of weapons and ammunition.

His wife and attorney claim he merely has a "fetish" about weapons and likes to collect them, but it is not explained why there were crates of ammunition and other war-making paraphernalias.

The latest find in the collection was a 37-millimeter cannon seized Saturday in the Thoresen garage, about 2½

blocks from the home.

U.S. Attorney Cecil Poole indicated that other weapons are expected to be seized by federal agents in the East Bay, but he would not disclose any details.

It has been reported that a sealed truck trailer believed to contain more than 1,000 pounds of guns and ammunition is under surveillance by federal agents at an Oakland truck terminal.

The 40-foot trailer is thought to have come from the East Coast.

Mrs. Thoresen, who has been uncommunicative about the arms cache, and her husband are the subject of a warrant being sent from New York

charging illegal transfer of a Thompson submachine gun.

Thoresen is scheduled to appear today in Tucson, Ariz., his alternate home, to enter a plea on two traffic warrants, but authorities there are doubtful he will appear. The warrants stem from a traffic collision last December when Thorsen fled the scene, according to police.

The house formerly occupied by the Thoresens when they wintered in Tucson is owned by Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall. Another family now occupies it. The Thoresen's San Francisco home showed no evidence of occupation other than the weapons and a few personal items.