

~~Statement~~ 12 JUN 70
'Innocent,' Says

Mrs. Thoresen

S F EXAMINER

FRESNO — (UPI) — Louise Thoresen, who married steel heir William E. Thoresen III in a "Cinderella wedding" and spent a decade in homes he turned into arsenals, pleaded innocent today to killing him with one of his own guns.

Calm and composed in a bright yellow dress, the 33 year old Mrs. Thoresen answered "not guilty" to charges of murder and marijuana possession.

She was arrested after the nude body of her 32 year old husband, shot repeatedly in the chest, was found Wednesday in an upstairs bedroom of their Fresno home.

Police said the home was crammed with land mines, grenades, mortars, knives, guns of all descriptions, and 50 pounds of high grade marijuana.

The slender, brown haired Mrs. Thoresen sat quietly, repeatedly brushing her long hair over one shoulder, until Judge George Hopper arrived for her arraignment.

Hopper asked Mrs. Thoresen and her attorney, Ken Devaney, to stand while he asked if she understood her rights under the law. She replied she did.

She entered her pleas quickly and was taken back to Fresno County Jail, where she was being held with no bail permitted.

Hopper set a preliminary hearing on the charges for 9:45 a.m., June 30.

Mrs. Thoresen was a speech therapist from a poor Chicago family when she married Thoresen, a wealthy and mysterious man afflicted with a stutter.
