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Thoresen Abortion Testimony

By Charles Howe
Chronicle Correspondent

Fresno

Despite the strenuous objections of her attorney, the prosecution introduced evidence yesterday that Louise Thoresen underwent a therapeutic abortion less than two months after moving out of the home of a man her late husband believed was her lover.

Deputy District Attorney Frank Wells produced a record from Children's Hospital in San Francisco stating Mrs. Thoresen, on trial for the murder of gun czar William Thoresen III, had a lawful abortion on February 7 and that the fetus was "10 to 11 weeks in size."

Mrs. Thoresen earlier testified she lived with Joe Hinajosa from late November to late December after she received an especially brutal beating from her husband.

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Mrs. Thoresen, who shot her husband in the back five times on June 10, testified on Monday she had never been intimate with Hinajosa. She also testified that her late husband, in a jealous rage, made arrangements to have Hinajosa killed shortly before his own death but canceled these plans when he realized the alleged killing might be traced back to him.

Kenneth DeVaney, her attorney, flatly asked her again yesterday if she had ever been intimate with Hinajosa and again Mrs. Thoresen replied "no."

She said she had had intercourse with Thoresen several days before the beating; that

the aborted child was his; that because of a long-standing gynecological condition it was sometimes difficult for her to determine the exact date of her menstrual cycle and that she had the abortion because she was

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contemplating leaving her husband.

In the audience as she testified were her parents, John and Jessie Banich of Chicago. They sat impassively as go. They sat impassively as go. They sat impassively as she recounted how she killed her husband.

Mrs. Thoresen testified that her husband was awake when she killed him. She said she was in fear of her life because, hours earlier, he had told her for the first time that he had engineered the murder of his brother Richard in Illinois in 1965.

"I know you'll try to leave me now," she said her husband told her as he lay nude and prone in the bed. "I really can't let you out of this house."

The prosecution has contended Thoresen was asleep and under the influence of sedatives when he died.

On cross-examination yesterday, prosecutor Wells determined that Mrs. Thoresen was with her husband's late brother shortly before he was found dead.

Mrs. Thoresen also admitted that she purchased one of several pistols Richard Thoresen acquired shortly before his own death.

"Richard had bought many guns from this dealer and he said he felt strange buying more," she explained. "He asked if I would not say the gun was for me."

Mrs. Thoresen also testified that she knew Richard well enough to lend him her credit card on the day of his death and that she cleaned his apartment shortly before he died.

Her late husband, she said, hired a gunman named Dale Stoddard to kill Richard Thoresen and, a year later, Thoresen killed Stoddard in San Francisco. Mrs. Thoresen said she never saw Stoddard in Chicago before, during or after Richard's death, and

that her late husband was in Honolulu when Richard died.

She also testified she did not receive \$100,000 Richard had bequeathed her.

Mrs. Thoresen said she filed a divorce action against her husband in October of 1969 but that the matter lapsed. She said she had asked for only \$25 a week for six months, plus \$500 cash and \$1000 in furniture from her millionaire husband.