

Not Guilty Plea by Mrs. Thoresen

Tues., July 28, 1970

Fresno

Louise B. Thoresen entered pleas of not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity yesterday in the June 10 shooting death of her gun-collecting husband.

Mrs. Thoresen, 34, made the pleas in a loud, clear voice before Superior Court Judge Harold Thompson, who set October 19 for the trial date. He set August 6 to hear arguments over releasing her on bail.

William E. Thoresen III, the eccentric heir to a Chicago steel fortune, died from five bullet wounds in the back at the couple's fashionable home here.

At a preliminary hearing earlier this month, witnesses said Mrs. Thoresen burst into a neighbor's home afterward and screamed "I just shot William."

Thoresen, 32, had been convicted two years ago of possessing a vast ammunition dump of military-type weapons following a raid on his lavish San Francisco home.

Autopsy reports said there were traces of LSD in Thoresen's bloodstream. A large quantity of marijuana was also found.

Mrs. Thoresen, a former speech therapist, said her husband had tried to kill her the night before the shooting.

Our Correspondent