

Prosecution Rests

Thoresen Trial Nears Jury Phase

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Fresno

The prosecution rested its murder case against Louise Thoresen yesterday and there were strong indications that the jury may begin deliberating charges against her today.

The 34-year-old wife of one-time gun czar William E. Thoresen III is accused of shooting him to death in Fresno on June 10, while he was asleep.

The death penalty is not being asked for and Mrs. Thoresen could be punished with a maximum sentence of life in prison if found guilty.

RAID

A former secretary of San Francisco attorney J. W. Ehrlich testified for the prosecution yesterday.

Ehrlich once handled criminal charges pending against the Thoresens stemming out of a Federal raid that produced tons of munitions in their Pacific Heights mansion.

Lorraine Ammenti testified that in late 1966 in Ehrlich's office, and with Mrs. Thoresen present, the gun czar said "he did not think his brother had committed suicide but had been murdered

and that Chicago police were not satisfied it was suicide."

LIFE

Last week Mrs. Thoresen testified that until shortly before June 10, when she killed her husband, "we had all thought that he (Richard Thoresen) had taken his own life."

The defense has maintained Mrs. Thoresen killed her husband shortly after he told her he had had his brother murdered and then said she could not leave him because now "you know too much."

Mrs. Ammenti smiled warmly at Mrs. Thoresen after she finished testifying and was overheard to say "I hope she makes it" in the corridor outside the courtroom.