

Police, Crowd in Court



Tac Squad men wade in and courtroom fight breaks out

—Examiner Photo

women formed around her, apparently to prevent her ouster.

The Tac Squad rushed in with clubs at the ready — and moments later started swinging. Those in the center of the melee were striking out at the officers with their fists.

The heads of two men were bloodied. Mrs. Maxwell fell to the floor but apparently was not injured.

Police said two bailiffs were injured.

Examiner photographer

4 Injured, 2 Jailed in Outburst

By Harold V. Streeter

A dozen Tactical Squad officers and a like number of spectators clashed today in a violent courtroom melee that broke out when bailiffs tried to remove the mother of one of the Soledad Brothers from the chamber.

At least four persons — two spectators and two bailiffs — were injured.

Two men were arrested.

The Tac Squad rushed into the spectator's gallery moments after bailiffs started to remove Mrs. Doris Maxwell, mother of defendant John Clutchette, because she was disrupting the proceedings.

Clubs and Fists

As the court aides approached her a half dozen screaming, shouting men and

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Clash

Sid Tate, who dashed into the courtroom moments after the police squad, was battered by both officers and spectators but did not require medical treatment.

TV Crews Roughed Up

Several television cameramen also were roughed up just outside the courtroom by spectators being herded out.

The hearing for Clutchette and Fleeta Drumgo, co-defendants against charges they murdered a guard at Soledad State Prison, opened again today with tensions running high.

Tuesday's hearing also was marked by shouting and screaming — and the Tac Squad also was called in then, but no blows were exchanged.

The violence today came after Mrs. Maxwell repeated-

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ly yelled obscenities at the judge.

At first she was complaining that newsmen were occupying the first row of seats on the outside of the bullet proof glass partition.

Later she shouted that the judge was a "son of a bitch."

2 Booked

Booked on charges of assault on police officers were Earl M. Price, 27, and Phillip Jake Price, 25, both of Oakland.

Phillip Price suffered face injuries in the rush by the Tac Squad and was taken under guard to Mission Emergency Hospital.

The courtroom was crowded with nearly 100 spectators. All were cleared and the court's doors were locked.

After a 30-minute recess, a carefully screened crowd filed back into the courtroom for an hour of orderly proceedings.

Developments

They included:

- Denial by Charles Kirk, a deputy in the attorney general's office, that Clutchette and Drumgo have been mistreated in any way since the prison outbreak.

- Rejection by Judge Allen of a move to allow convicts, ex-convicts, unregistered blacks, Chicanos "and poor people" to be included on panels for juries.

- A defense charge that a bailiff acted on his own to remove Mrs. Maxwell from the courtroom, touching off the riot — and Judge Allen's firm reply, "I gave the order."

- Announcement by the defense of filing a petition seeking Judge Allen's disqualification as "biased and prejudiced."

The spectators, who included Drumgo's mother, Mrs. Inez Williams, remained quiet throughout the resumed session. Six bailiffs guarded

the courtroom door to the spectator section. Another six bailiffs were on duty inside the bullet-proof glass barrier where the judge, lawyers and defendants were seated.

Today's hearing was scheduled to consider a series of motions from defense lawyers — including one to remove the \$15,000 bullet-proof glass partition that separates the spectators' gallery from the judge, defendants and court aides.

Claim Beating

But before that motion was made, though, attorneys Floyd Silliman and Richard Silver claimed their clients were beaten up by guards at San Quentin when they were returned after Tuesday's hearing.

They moved to have the pair transferred to City jail pending an investigation of alleged brutality at the state prison.

"These men are in fear of their lives and bodily well-being," Silver said. He submitted to the court the names of two guards he said had participated in the beating of Clutchette and Drumgo on Tuesday.

'Kill Me'

At one point Drumgo shouted:

"Go ahead and kill me now. They're going to kill me anyway."

Later, he tore off his shirt and turned his back to the

judge to show what his attorney claimed were injuries from burns and blows administered by prison guards. The judge commented that

Drumgo looked no different than he had Tuesday.

The judge also scolded both defendants and attorneys for their behavior.



Policeman ejects woman demonstrator while man complains in grip of another officer

—Examiner Photo