

## Officials Believe Bingham Fled California After Prison Deaths

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 1 (AP)—Federal officials said today that they had reason to believe Stephen M. Bingham, charged with five counts of murder in the violence at San Quentin Prison Aug. 21, had fled from California—possibly to Canada or Cuba.

"He's been to Canada on several occasions from where he's gone to Cuba," said United States attorney James L. Borwning. "He's certainly not in California, at least not that we know of."

Marin County District Attorney Bruce Bales filed a murder complaint in San Rafael against Mr. Bingham yesterday. It charged that the 29-year-old lawyer, scion of a New England family, had smuggled a gun to George Jackson, in San Quentin. A Municipal Court judge issued a no-bail warrant for Mr. Bingham's arrest.

Jackson, 29, was killed by tower guards in what prison officials described as an abortive escape attempt. Mr. Bingham is charged with the murders of the five others who died in the violence.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation began a nationwide search for Mr. Bingham today after United States Magistrate Owen E. Woodruff Jr. signed a Federal fugitive warrant for his arrest. He also signed a complaint charging Mr. Bingham with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

In an affidavit accompanying the complaint, Special Agent Lance D. Samuelson said that the State Office of Criminal Identification and Investigation "has made all reasonable and diligent efforts to locate Bingham in California without success."

The affidavit aid that Mr. Bingham had not been seen in California since Aug. 21 and that an examination of State Department records had shown that he held a valid passport.

Federal officials said that if there was reason to believe Mr. Bingham was in Canada, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police would be asked to help locate him. Since the United States has no diplomatic relations with Cuba, finding him there would be a different story.