

Soledad Lawyers

Call Judge Bigot

Attorneys for the two surviving black convicts charged with murdering a white guard at Soledad Prison are demanding removal of Superior Judge Carl Allen from the case as "a deeply racist and bigoted man."

Judge Allen has been hearing pre-trial motions during a court shuffle over who will conduct the trial.

Picked as Judge

Judge Walter Carpeneti was removed as trial judge on a peremptory defense challenge based on the charge he belonged to the Elks and Moose which deny black membership. Judge Frank Shaw was ousted because two years ago he was in the District Attorney's office.

Judge S. Lee Vavuris has been picked as the new trial judge but has yet to sit at a pre-trial session. The next session is scheduled for Monday.

Yesterday attorneys for John Chutchette, 28, and Fleeta Drumgo, 26, petitioned in the State Court of Appeal that Judge Allen be disqualified from hearing any future pre-trial motions.

Killer in Prison

Judge Allen was presiding Aug. 26 when an attempt by bailiffs to remove the screaming mother of Clutchette touched off a melee which brought in the police Tactical Squad with clubs swinging.

The third defendant,

George Jackson, 30, was shot and killed during the Aug. 21 San Quentin prison break attempt.

San Quentin officials say Jackson tried to escape with a gun smuggled into maximum security quarters. Two other San Quentin convicts and three San Quentin guards died before the quarters were secured.

New precautions for security have been taken at the Hall of Justice for Monday's resumption of the Soledad guard murder case. The same type of electrically-operated metal detectors used at San Quentin are being installed at the Hall of Justice front and back doors to guard against smuggled weapons.

First Floor Wait

Instead of allowing persons unable to find seats in the third floor courtroom to wait outside in the corridor, the overflow will be kept waiting on the first floor. Only a pass from a departing spectator can get one of them upstairs.

The courtroom has a bullet-proof glass and metal barrier, erected at a cost of \$15,000, separating the spectators from the defendants, defense attorneys, prosecutors, the judge and — in time — the jury.

The case was transferred here on a change of venue from Monterey County on the contention that prejudice there precluded a fair jury.