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## MISS DAVIS'S EYES WORRY PHYSICIAN

He Joins Family in Concern  
Over Activist's Condition

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Special to The New York Times

SAN RAFAEL, Calif., Nov. 7  
—Angela Davis's personal physician has joined her lawyers and family in asserting that the imprisoned black activist is in failing health.

"There are no life-threatening emergencies," said Dr. Tolbert J. Small, "but her health is certainly not normal."

Dr. Small showed particular concern over Miss Davis's eyesight, but he said that she also experienced frequent viral infections that have caused her to lose more than 20 pounds.

Last week, Miss Davis's sister, Mrs. Fania Jordan, said at a news conference in Paris that the activist was losing her eyesight. She was quoted as having said that her sister had contacted glaucoma, a condition that results in progressive loss of vision and ultimate blindness.

### In Prison a Year

"Her eyes have deteriorated," Dr. Small said. But he added: "There is no danger of her going blind." He did say that her eyes were constantly tired.

Miss Davis has been imprisoned here in the Marin County Jail for more than a year while awaiting trial on charges of murder, kidnapping and criminal conspiracy.

Her trial had been scheduled to get under way last week but was postponed after the judge agreed to grant a defense motion for a change of venue. Her health has been a subject of debate for several months.

Members of Miss Davis's family first became alarmed over her health last March when she was brought into a courtroom here and reportedly failed to recognize her parents.

Dr. Small, her physician, explained that she suffered from nearsightedness. Because of her confinement, he said, the condition has worsened.

He was critical of Marin County officials, saying that he ordered new glasses for Miss Davis in February but that they did not arrive until April 11.

Dr. Donovan Cooke, the director of medical services for Marin County, said that there was no indication that she had glaucoma.

As for her health in general, Dr. Cooke said that she was suffering from nothing serious. "As far as I am concerned," he said, "her health is good." Howard R. Moore Jr., Miss Davis's chief defense counsel, disagreed. He said her health was only fair.

Miss Davis, 27 years old, is charged in connection with a gun battle last Aug. 7 at the Marin County Courthouse. A judge and three other persons were killed in the incident, resulting from an abortive escape attempt.

She is accused of furnishing guns used in the escape attempt and of helping to plot the crime.

Last Tuesday, her trial was ordered moved from Marin County to San Jose, 50 miles to the south. In ordering the transfer, a Superior Court judge said that there was a "reasonable likelihood" that she could not have received a fair trial in Marin County.