

Taunts Again Bar Quentin Hearing

Six chain-rattling, shouting San Quentin inmates halted their arraignment today in a Marin County courtroom on charges of murder, conspiracy, and assault in the aborted escape attempt that led to the death of convict George Jackson last August 21.

It was the fourth time disruptive conduct has stalled the arraignment.

But it was the first time the six had been brought into court together to shout obscenities at Judge E. Warren McGuire and demanding the jurist disqualify himself as prejudiced.

The disruption occurred in the courtroom where 24 armed deputy sheriffs and prison guards kept watch.

Shackles, Bolts

The six — Luis Talamantes, Willie Tate, Fleeta Drumgo, David Johnson, John Spain, and Hugo Pinnel — were bolted to the floor in the last seat row of the jury box in the Marin Civic Center courtroom.

The peep-through windows in courtroom doors were covered with paper during the transfer into court.

Spectators, who had passed through two metal detection

devices and twice been searched for weapons, were admitted after the chaining.

The chain-rattling swelled as Judge McGuire began reading of the 12 page indictment, charging the murder of two prison guards and two inmates who balked at taking part in the attempted escape.

Disqualify

Talamantes shouted above the din for the judge to disqualify himself. The judge replied that he would consider such a motion only if made by court-appointed attorneys, with whom the inmates refuse to deal.

After a spate of obscenities by Tate, Johnson shouted:

"Take us out. Line us up and shoot us. This is just a formality anyway!"

There were shouts from the spectators of "power to the people" and "power to the peoples' army."

Judge McGuire, the indictment still unread, ordered the courtroom cleared of spectators and the prisoners, who were removed to the small holding cell next to the court.

The windows were again carefully covered with paper during the transfer.