

Illness Delays Soledad Trial

The murder trial of the so-called Soledad Brothers was recessed until Tuesday when it was learned here yesterday that one of the four alternate jurors was ill with the flu.

With the jury excused, defense attorney Floyd Silliman thanked Superior Court Judge S. Lee Vavuris for his "consideration" for allowing defendants Fleeta Drumgo and John Clutchette to be transported by car from San Quentin to the Hall of Justice.

Something of a furor was created Wednesday when the two defendants, accused of the murder of Soledad Prison guard John V. Mills, arrived in a helicopter, their wrists in handcuffs and shackled with transportation chains.

Silliman subsequently was cited for contempt in a contretemps that followed a de-

fense protest against the airlift, which Silliman claims greatly upset Clutchette.

The defendants went by car yesterday because of heavy fog that would have made a helicopter flight hazardous. It was presumed they again will be flown by helicopter during good weather.

In other matters, Inez Williams, the mother of Drumgo, made a somewhat startling appeal "to be allowed to touch my child" after the jury was excused.

On her feet and facing Vavuris from the spectator's section which is blocked by a shield of bullet-resistant glass, Mrs. Williams asked the judge to let her meet briefly with her son after noting "I only get to see him 30 minutes each week." The judge agreed to a meeting.

Vavuris took under submission a defense motion to al-

low the trial proceedings to be tape recorded or even recorded by video-tape.

Noting that two closed circuit television cameras monitor the entire courtroom already, Silliman told the judge that the presence of a tape recorder "could not have an intimidating effect upon the jury."