

Angela's Fund Raisers Cite Red Party Support

By Don West
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SAN JOSE — Fund-raising spokesmen for the Angela Davis defense have offered a general picture of the way money raised on her behalf has been spent.

Miss Davis, who is seeking a state subsidy to finance her trial costs on kidnap and murder charges, is benefiting from broad Communist Party support, they said.

Miss Charlene Mitchell who was the party's black presidential candidate in 1968 and is now on loan to the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis (NUCFAD), yesterday outlined the system used for collecting and disbursing contributions for Miss Davis.

Financial details were released following a news conference in which spokesmen for Miss Davis angrily blamed The Examiner and other newspapers for spreading "false and unsubstantiated rumors" that funds were being diverted into party coffers.

Actually, The Examiner story referred to quoted an informed source as saying, "The party has used her case to raise a lot of money. Unfortunately, very little has filtered through to her legal defense fund."

The Davis funds' spokesmen said a four-member legal staff headed by Howard Moore Jr. now costs \$5000 a week for salaries alone.

Income, Outlays

Some \$60,000 has been paid from the Angela Davis Legal Defense Fund (LDF) for attorney fees. That fund collected \$74,000 during the past calendar year. Another \$10,000 was spent from the \$100,000

NUCFAD Fund for attorney fees, according to Miss Mitchell.

Moore told reporters he believed \$250,000 to \$500,000 would be "reasonable" legal costs for Miss Davis, which should be paid by the state "if she is to have parity with the unlimited resources of state prosecutors."

A statement from Miss Davis was read. It charged the "media's collusion with the state to sabotage our fund-raising efforts."

Miss Mitchell, whose salary is paid by the Communist Party, said that out of the \$100,000 NUCFAD fund, some \$15,000 annually is paid for staff salaries, \$10,000 for travel, \$3700 for rent and \$5000 for telephone.

Promotion

Largest cost is for publicity materials, mailings and advertising. Some \$35,000 was spent for this last year, she said.

Money is collected through Communist Party rallies and local Angela Davis organizations.

Local organizations — now

said to number 140 nationwide, including ones in San Francisco, San Jose, San Rafael, Stanford, Oakland-Berkeley and Sonoma — collect contributions for Miss Davis, keep some for their own operations and forward the balance to either

Affiliation requirements do not make it necessary for local organizations to inform the national groups the total collections, said Miss Mitchell.

Paid staff members for the national funds average \$75 a week, except for one fundraiser who takes home \$125 a week, she said.

Travel Allowance

Travel expenses are restricted to \$7 a day for all staff members.

Franklin Alexander, a trustee of LDF and member of NUCFAD, told reporters that a great deal of money was spent "organizing" the "tremendous grass roots support that took place immediately after Miss Davis was arrested."

Miss Mitchell, who has been working on the cam-

paign since Miss Davis was arrested in October of 1970, said that nearly all Communist Party functionaries are working on her cause.

Miss Davis, a former UCLA teacher and avowed Communist, has been charged with murder, kidnapping and conspiracy involving an Aug. 7, 1970, shootout at the Marin County Civic Center that left four dead.

While the legal defense fund took in \$4000 more than was spent last year, a \$10,000 loan to begin the fund remains outstanding.

Plans to Wait

"We will probably wait as long as possible to pay that back," said Miss Mitchell.

The only large contribution was \$10,000 from the Presbyterian Church, but the rest have seen small, individual donations, Alexander insisted. Miss Davis' statement also denied published reports of large sums of money being contributed.