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Sheriff Says

Angela Ought To Get Bail

Santa Clara county Sheriff James Geary said yesterday that black militant Angela Davis should be free on bail—but cautioned that he knew little about the evidence gathered against her.

“I want to make it clear that I do not have the investigation and don't know anything about any evidence on it because it's not in my country,” said Geary during an interview in San Jose.

However, he added, “On that basis, I don't see why she shouldn't be on bail.”

“There's a lot of security that wouldn't be needed if she was out of jail,” Geary said.

The sheriff was reportedly annoyed last month when, after his staff had made plans for a Palo Alto trial, the court ruled Miss Davis should be tried in San Jose.

Miss Davis is awaiting trial on murder, kidnap and conspiracy charges a rising from the bloody Marin Civic Center shootout in 1970 that left four people dead.

She has been denied bail repeatedly by state and U. S. District courts.

While Miss Davis remained in her two-room jail cell in Palo Alto, friends celebrated her 28th birthday last night at a party in a San Francisco law office.

At the fund-raising cocktail party, Miss Davis's brother, professional football player Ben Davis, cut a pink birthday cake with “Happy Birthday Angela” decorated with frosting. With him were his wife Sylvia and his brother Reggie Davis.

More than 60 people attended and paid \$20 each to the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis.