

Defense Hits Jury Setup

Angela's Statisticians

By Carolyn Anspacher

The Angela Davis defense team mustered an array of academic talent yesterday to support its claims that the former UCLA philosophy instructor cannot receive a fair trial in San Jose because of Santa Clara county's procedure for jury selection.

The defense thesis, argued before Superior Court Judge Richard Aranson, holds that the selection system virtually excludes from jury service Mexican-Americans, poor people and blacks.

Bradley Efron, associate professor of statistics at Stanford University and cur-



FRANKLIN ALEXANDER
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BRADLEY EFRON
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rent editor of the American Statistical Association journal, testified he had surveyed 21 census tracts to determine the relationship of income to the number of people registered to vote.

RELATION

He determined, he said, there is almost a linear relationship between income and voter registration. Among those whose mean annual income was \$16,500, 81.79 per cent were registered voters. Among those in the lowest bracket, whose income averaged \$5172, the percentage of registered voters was 42.79.

Efron, who said he had "volunteered" to testify, declared that his random sampling showed that voter lists "skewed" to the wealthier.

Charles Hughes Bruner, a young Stanford graduate student in political science, was called by defense attorney Margaret Burnham to report on a public opinion survey he and a group of volunteers

conducted throughout the county late last month.

INTERVIEWS

He testified that he, ten Stanford undergraduates and ten graduate students completed 89 interviews (of 250 names picked at random from the city directory).

"From the evidence gathered," he said, "there is less than one chance in 100 that either low income or low education individuals are as likely to be registered to vote as are high income or high education individuals."

He said the survey results "strongly suggest the general climate of opinion in Santa Clara county is biased against Miss Davis and the procedure for jury selection accentuates this bias."

CHARGES

Miss Davis is to be tried here, as soon as pre-trial motions are completed, on charges of murder, kidnap and conspiracy arising from the escape attempt in Marin

county in August of 1970 in which four persons including a judge were killed.

Bruner is to be recalled Monday for cross-examination by Assistant Attorney General Albert Harris Jr. and Deputy Attorney General Clifford Thompson, who were something less than satisfied with the techniques used in the poll.

Charles A. Drekmeiser, a Stanford professor of political science and a specialist in voting behavior, reiterated that people of lower economic, occupational and educational status participate in

the electoral process far less frequently than the more favored.

FEELINGS

He said they are subject to discrimination, have less clear ideas of gains as individuals, are often subject to cross pressures and have a low sense of political efficacy. They are alienated, confused, lacking in self-confidence and feel they have no control of the world, he testified.

This particularly affects the underprivileged Mexican-American population, testified Dr. Ralph Guzman, professor of political science at the University of California at Santa Cruz and himself a Chicano.

It was not said, but implicit in Guzman's testimony was the fact that Mexican-Americans comprise the largest minority group in Santa Clara county. The black population is only 2 per cent.

QUIET

While the legal process droned on throughout the day there was unusual quiet outside the heavily guarded courtroom wing of the Santa Clara County Superior Court.

But Franklin Alexander of the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis warned that the quiet was

merely the lull before the storm.

He made four demands and said unless they are met "authorities . . . will be confronted with hundreds if not thousands of people who will peacefully assemble to demonstrate for their right to demonstrate and for Angela's right to a fair trial . . . There will be no more demonstrations for 11 days."

Specifically, Alexander demanded lifting the ban on "lawful protests" and assemblies at the courthouse, dismissal of all charges against the persons arrested last Monday and Wednesday, expansion of facilities for public attendance at the trial and the removal of security fences surrounding the courtroom.