

3 Red Reporters at Trial

By Don West
Examiner News Staff

SAN JOSE — Three key Communist nations today have first hand news coverage of the Angela Davis kidnap - murder trial including dispatches from the first reporter to be accredited to this country from East Germany.

Representatives from Russia and Hungary also were present as jury selection began yesterday.

The East German representative is Klaus Steiniger, head of the capitalist countries desk for the one - million daily circulation newspaper, Neues Deutschland.

Peter Vajda, Washington correspondent for the Hungarian daily, Nepszabadsag, was assigned to the trial.

Tass Man

Edward Baskakov, New York correspondent for the Russian news service, Tass, was sent here.

Pretrial activities had been covered from Iron Curtain countries by news service or television crewmen who are citizens of western

bloc nations, but the three are the first natives of the Communist countries to cover the case.

Steiniger, who just published a book on the Davis case, said he was convinced from his research that charges against Miss Davis have no merit.

His research consisted of interviews with Fania Davis Jordan, Miss Davis' sister, poring over a dozen U.S. publications he received "and other sources," he said.

"I cannot believe a young, intelligent scientist like her

could get involved in anarchy such as happened in Marin County," said Steiniger.

Roadblocks

Severe travel restrictions were imposed upon both Steiniger and Baskakov.

Steiniger cannot travel outside the city of San Jose during his stay here.

"I plan to be very careful not to violate any of the rules, because my case sets quite a few precedents," said Steiniger.

Lack of established diplomatic relations between the U.S. and East Germany

have kept journalists from there out of this country.

Currency problems made it necessary for him to fly from Berlin to Moscow to purchase a round - trip ticket in the money of the People's Democratic Republic.

Baskakov is restricted to travel in a 25 mile radius of the trial site.