

APR 7 1972

Guns Shown, Identified at Angela Trial

SF Chronicle

By Carolyn Anspacher

Eight guns, all of them used during the bloody Marin county civic center shooting, were heaped on a table yesterday in the San Jose courtroom where Angela Davis is on trial for murder, kidnap and conspiracy.

Six of the weapons had been taken from hapless Marin county law enforcement officers during the course of the attempted breakout. But two brought into the courtroom of Superior Court Judge Harold Haley by 17-year-old Jonathan Jackson were, for the first time, directly traced by witnesses to Miss Davis.

According to the state, Miss Davis plotted the escape attempt with young Jackson and provided him with arms in order to take five hostages, among them Judge Haley, and exchange them for the so-called Soledad Brothers, primarily for George Jackson, with whom the prosecution contends Miss Davis was in love.

PURCHASES

Owen W. Swisher, then a salesman for the Western Surplus Store of Los Angeles and now unemployed, testified that on April 4, 1969, Miss Davis came to the establishment and purchased an M-1 Plainfield carbine with an expandable stock, serial number 18514.

At the same time, he testified, she bought two .30-caliber banana clips, each holding 30 rounds; 100 rounds of .30-caliber ammunition, a carrying sling and

See Back Page

From Page 1

a gun cleaning kit. The total sale price was \$158.42.

To make the purchase, Swisher testified, Miss Davis gave him her passport and her driver's license. From them, Swisher said he obtained sufficient information to fill out the required Federal form.

ERROR

In filling it out, Swisher made one slight error. He listed Angela Yvonne Davis, 5 feet 8, 138 pounds, aged then 25, as a "male Negro."

Swisher, a pale man in a leather jacket, said he had seen Miss Davis before in the war surplus store, and believed he knew she was a professor at UCLA.

The ammunition she bought, he said, was "strictly military" and illegal for use in hunting.

Next, John E. Plimpton, testified that 15 months earlier, on Jan. 2, 1968, when he was assistant sales manager of the Brass Rail Gun Shop in Hollywood, Miss Davis bought from him a Browning automatic pistol, serial number 595071.

REASON

She told him, Plimpton said, she needed a gun for "self protection" and he suggested she buy the Browning because the store had "an ample supply on hand."

On the application form to purchase the pistol, Miss Davis was listed as a student at the University of California, San Diego, and 5 feet 8½ inches tall and weighing 150 pounds.

She received the gun five days later after clearance by the Hollywood Police Department.

The Browning automatic was smallest and seemingly the daintiest of the weapons displayed yesterday. It was used by Jackson when he took over Judge Haley's courtroom, and later was given to convict James McClain, on trial there for assaulting a San Quentin guard with a knife.

A succession of law officers then took the stand to

identify their guns, seized during the breakout. There were two 12-gauge shotguns and three 357 Colt magnums.

(With Miss Davis' two weapons, the prosecution had thus accounted for seven of the eight guns on the table. The source of the sawed-off shotgun that had been taped to Judge Haley's neck has not been identified.)

Deputy Sheriff Theodore B. Hughes astonished everyone in the courtroom by relating that as he stood in the hallway, arms over his head, he heard someone say loudly: "We are brothers at Folsom. Free all."

So far, nearly all witnesses to the escape attempt have testified the convicts declared themselves "revolutionaries" and demanded freedom of the Soledad Brothers, then fellow convicts at San Quentin.

The day's final witness was Roger Alan Bockrath, a San Rafael news photographer at the time of the breakout.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Longhaired and poised, Bockrath said he had taken a number of photographs from behind a parked California Highway Patrol car until one of the convicts ordered him to stand up, pointed a pistol at him and said: "Now m---- f----, march."

"What did you do?" asked prosecutor Albert Harris Jr.

"I hoo-hooed out of there," Bockrath said. He walked, he said, until he found cover behind a truck, saw some of the shooting and watched a black San Quentin guard fire a high-powered rifle at the yellow van stopped in the Civic Center driveway.

He said he saw smoke coming out of the barrel of the gun.

Superior Court Judge Richard Arnason, before whom the trial is being held, congratulated counsel for both prosecution and defense for the rapid progress they are making, and recessed the case until Monday.