

# Witness Tells of Angela in Tears

By Carolyn Anspacher

A Los Angeles social worker, summoned as another defense alibi witness, testified yesterday that Angela Davis first learned about the Aug. 7, 1970, Marin Civic Center kidnap attempt and deaths while listening to records and playing Scrabble at her Echo Park home in Los Angeles county.

It was about 10:30 p.m. on August 7, testified Ellen Broms, that a dinner party at the Broms' home was interrupted by a phone call.

Present were Mrs. Broms and her husband, William; their friend Franklin Alexander, who headed the Communist Che Lumumba Club, and Angela Davis, described by Mrs. Broms as "an acquaintance."

The call for Alexander was from his wife. Kendra, said Mrs. Broms.

"Was an announcement made by Alexander?" asked Defense Attorney Leo Branton Jr. "Yes," replied Mrs. Broms.

"And what was the reaction of Angela Davis?" Branton inquired.

"She became very upset," Mrs. Broms said. "She said 'I can't believe it. He's so very young,' and she began to cry."

The "he" to whom Mrs. Broms referred was 17-year-old Jonathan Jackson, brother of San Quentin inmate George Jackson, the man with whom Miss Davis allegedly was in love.

couldn't believe that Jonathan was dead, that he was young, that she couldn't believe it," said Mrs. Broms. "I tried to comfort her and so did Franklin and later, I gave her a tranquilizer."

Mrs. Broms said she "insisted" that both Alexander and Miss Davis remain overnight at her home and early the next day either her husband or Alexander went out for a newspaper.

## PAPERS

"We read the papers," she said, "and there was a long article and several pictures. And Angela said: 'My God, there's something about a shotgun. I just bought a shotgun in San Francisco for defense of the Soledad House and I gave it to Jonathan. Then she looked at a picture of Jonathan with a carbine, and she said: 'I wonder if it's one of ours.' Then we talked for a while and early in the afternoon Franklin and Angela left to go to Tamu's house to see if the guns were missing."

("Tamu" is Valerie Mitchell a member of the Che Lumumba Club who testified Monday that three of the four guns purchased by and registered to Miss Davis were stored in a gunrack in her Los Angeles apartment and were used by club members for target practice.

(She suggested young Jackson stole them during a visit to her apartment the Saturday before the Marin shootout.)

During her cross examination by Assistant Attorney General Albert Harris Jr., Mrs. Broms said she had seen Miss Davis "several times" before the August 7 dinner at her home at "social gatherings."

"Were you not a member of the Echo Park chapter of the Free Angela Davis Committee?" Harris asked.

"I attended a few meetings," Mrs. Broms said.

pected that the hostages seized by Jonathan and three convicts in a Marin courtroom could later be exchanged for the elder Jackson's freedom. Instead, four persons were killed — Jonathan, Superior Court Judge Harold Haley and two of the three convicts.

## TRIAL

Miss Davis, whose murder-kidnap - conspiracy trial in San Jose is nearing its conclusion, is accused of having plotted with the younger Jackson, and providing him with four weapons used in the abortive escape attempt.

The State claims she ex-

Mrs. Broms said that after receiving Mrs. Alexander's phone message, they turned on the 11 o'clock news on both radio and television to "verify" the report. They heard a description of the Marin shootout, she said, in which a young man and a judge had been killed.

"Angela kept saying she

"then I stopped going."

#### VISIT

Harris asked Mrs. Broms if she learned that a few days after Miss Davis' visit to her home a warrant had been issued for the arrest of the former UCLA philosophy instructor.

"It was longer than that," Mrs. Broms said. "It was a week or a week and a half."

"And I presume you reported your information to some official agency?" "No, I did not," replied Mrs. Broms.

"And did you hear later that Miss Davis had been arrested in New York City on October 13?" Yes, Mrs. Broms said.

"And I presume you then reported to some official agency?" No, replied Mrs. Broms.

"And you heard that Miss Davis had been returned to California and was confined to the Marin county jail and she had been denied bail, and knowing that you did not report your information to any official agency?"

"No, I did not," said Mrs. Broms.

"And until this morning, in open court, you never have reported your information to any official agency of the State of California?" Harris asked.

"That's right," Mrs. Broms said.

There were strong indications yesterday that the defense might conclude its case today without calling upon Miss Davis to testify in her own behalf.