

Blue Pencils on Costs of Case

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SAN JOSE — The impending end of the Angela Davis trial today brought a sharpening of blue pencils by Santa Clara County and California officials in preparation for a battle over who pays what costs.

A budget of \$673,467 set aside by county officials after being assured the state would pick up the tab still has some \$158,000 of unspent funds in it.

The earlier than anticipated end of the trial will make it possible for another \$211,210 proposed for the 1972-73 budget to be cancelled.

A state auditor has spent six weeks reviewing county expenditures to see what the state will pay under special legislation.

\$9500 a Week

Each week short of the June 30 close of the fiscal year that the trial ends will save some \$9500 in security forces costs.

Another \$40,000 in security costs was saved when nine matrons did not have to be hired to staff a special jail cell constructed for Miss Davis.

Freeing her on bail rendered superfluous some \$32,500 spent for building a special women's section in the main jail.

Another point of contention is expected to be \$42,960 spent to move the county's adult probation department out of the court building to ease security problems.

Under Budget

Although some \$44,160 was budgeted for this move, only

\$42,960 was needed to secure new quarters for 120 staff members for the last six months of this fiscal year.

Presiding Superior Judge Marshall Hall decreed that the departmental move was necessary to reduce the number of people daily entering the superior court building where Miss Davis' trial was held.

The space was converted to a special jury assembly room the superior court judges had wanted for several years, but which had been turned down previously by the Board of Supervisors. This cost nearly \$20,000 to furnish.

Special Security

Some \$231,000 was spent for special security measures in the court complex, jail and at the Palo Alto branch of the jail where Miss Davis was initially held when the trial was transferred here from Marin County. Part of this was also spent for special press quarters.

Another \$51,118 was expended for special security equipment, television monitors and telephone hookups.

A \$2,375 uniform allowance was set aside for six months along with \$900 for postage and \$100 for medical and dental supplies for Miss Davis while she was in jail.

Trial costs have been financed out of this county's general fund, but special legislation authorized state repayment of costs. Another legislative act will be necessary to appropriate state funds once state and county officials reach agreement on precise costs.