

A Dazed Drumgo Held As Intruder

By Jack Viets

Fleeta Drumgo, freed last Wednesday from San Quentin after his acquittal in the San Quentin Six trial, was taken into custody Friday night after he allegedly walked uninvited into a San Rafael home, police said yesterday.

San Rafael police officers, who cited the 31-year-old Drumgo for trespassing, described him as dazed and disoriented when they found him wandering aimlessly along D street with a 10-year-old boy just minutes after a nearby homeowner reported an intruder.

Drumgo is free pending a hearing September 3 in Marin County Municipal Court on the trespassing charge. A spokesman for the county's district attorney said yesterday that no formal complaint has been filed yet.

Drumgo's latest brush with the law began about 6:30 p.m. Friday when a resident of downtown San Rafael phoned police and said he had seen a man who fit Drumgo's description wander into his house, look around the living room and walk out.

When they located him, Drumgo did not appear to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, police said.

He was taken to police headquarters where he was held while police called his attorney, Michael B. Dufficy.

"He was dazed and disoriented when I arrived," said Dufficy. "He really just didn't know what he was doing."

After Drumgo's ten years of imprisonment—the last six years in San Quentin's tough adjustment center—for trying to steal two television sets, his sudden freedom after his dramatic acquittal of murder and assault charges at the end of the San Quentin trial "was too much for him," Dufficy said.



FLEETA DRUMGO
On Quentin release day

Drumgo was "just out for a walk when he ended up kind of wandering into that house," the attorney continued. "He was staying with friends nearby in the same neighborhood."

After police cited Drumgo for trespassing, he was taken to Highland Hospital in Oakland, the attorney said.

"He was suffering from what a

layman would call a nervous breakdown."

After treatment by a psychiatrist, Drumgo was released from the hospital. He is now staying with members of his family in the East Bay, but remains under the care of a physician.

Dufficy said yesterday he is trying to get the Marin county district attorney's office to drop the trespassing citation.

"He just didn't know what he was doing," Dufficy reiterated.

Both San Rafael police and the district attorney's office were both "very understanding," Dufficy said, noting that the district attorney's office is planning a "further investigation" of the incident.