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Arsenal Case May Go to U.S. Court

The way was cleared for the case of the Pacific Heights arsenal to move into the Federal courts today, but San Francisco did not quite give up its claim to action.

Mrs. Louise Thoreson, 30, was arraigned in Municipal Court after her attorney, J. W. Ehrlich, conferred in chambers with Judge Joseph Kennedy.

They agreed that if Federal authorities took jurisdiction under a warrant for illegally obtaining a Thompson submachine gun, there would be no need to proceed on local misdemeanor charges of storing explosives within the city limits.

MANSION RAID

Mrs. Thoreson came to grief on those and possibly other charges when her mansion at 2801 Broadway was raided Friday and a list of armament that occupied 58 pages in a single-spaced inventory was confiscated.

After reaching his agreement with Judge Kennedy, and having the misdemeanor charge set over until May 3, Ehrlich and his client hurried over to the Federal courts to see if the U.S. warrant had arrived from New York, where Mrs. Thoreson's penchant for heavy duty weaponry also had gotten her into trouble.

Police Intelligence Unit director Thomas Fitzpatrick conferred with District Attorney John J. Ferdon, however, on possible further local action.

FELONY CHARGES

This, Fitzpatrick said, could take the form of increasing a present suspicion of possession of a machine-



LOUISE THORESEN IN COURT TODAY

Raid on her Pacific Heights home yielded an arsenal

—Examiner Photo

gun charge to a straight accusation — a felony — and also of possible proceedings against her husband, William Thoreson III.

An estimated 20 to 30 tons of weapons ranging up to a 37-mm. cannon were seized, along with appropriate ammunition, and were carted off to the Presidio.

Saturday, a 37-mm. Bofors cannon mounted on 24-inch

wheels — described as an anti-tank gun — was seized in a garage two blocks away that was rented by the Thoresons.

Thoresen was reported in Boston over the weekend.

Ehrlich has insisted his clients have been guilty of nothing more than building up a private collection of arms, which they apparently bought at various auctions.