

Out on Bail, He'll See Psychiatrist

\$55,000 Frees Arms Tycoon

William Thoresen III, the Pacific Heights collector of guns by tons, was free on \$55,000 cash bail today and his promise to let a psychiatrist check him out on the reasons for gathering enough weapons to support a small war.

Thoresen, 30, who surrendered himself yesterday at the U.S. Marshal's office here, will face charges, however, of illegally possessing automatic weapons both here and in New York.

In a day marked by fresh discoveries of 45,000 pounds of Thoresen-owned weapons in two East Bay warehouses, the wealthy son of a Chicago steel company president scored one victory.

Through Attorneys J. W. Ehrlich and Edward Dullea, he beat down a government motion which could have sent him on a court-ordered, 30 day stay in either the Lompoc, Calif., or Springfield, Mo., medical facilities for a full dress psychiatric examination during incarceration.

MANSION CACHE

Assistant U.S. Attorney Gerald Ladar had argued before Federal Judge Oliver J. Carter that there appeared to be "a serious question of rationality" about a man

who had 90,000 pounds of weapons and ammunition seized in his white portico mansion at 2801 Broadway last Friday.

Yesterday's roundup included old Lewis machine guns, a French anti-tank rifle on a carriage, parachute flares, an 81 millimeter mortar, and 250,000 rounds of mouldering ammunition.

Ehrlich countered that there could be no question of his client's sanity because "he trusted me (Ehrlich) with \$55,000 for bail" and because "there is no evidence he bought these arms and shells to shoot anybody."

DENIAL

"The man's idea was to open a business here as a dealer in guns," observed Ehrlich.

The tall and dapper Thoresen denied this in an out-of-court chat with reporters.

"I am not a gun dealer," said Thoresen. "I would love to tell you the whole story."

At this point Ehrlich interrupted with: "Either shut up or get yourself another attorney." Thoresen plodded on with what could be a real but immediately undecipherable reason for his addiction to

weapons. Newsmen interpreted him as remarking:

"I am in the same type of business as Mike Konig (or Koenig) of Pasadena."

CIA MENTION

A check of Southern California sources produced no information of a Mike Konig associated with gun collecting. Ehrlich had effectively hushed his client before the remark could be explained.

Possible connections with the Central Intelligence Agency were raised again yesterday when it was noted many of the Thoresen weapons stored in the Coast Drayage Co. warehouse at 1595 Eastshore Freeway in Berkeley had been sold originally by International Armaments Co.

The California-based company (known as Interarmco), is headed by Sam Cummings, 39, admittedly a former CIA agent who unblushingly has stated he "sells guns to anybody, no questions asked."

The company has been mentioned as possible supplier of arms both to Fidel Castro and to the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion force, which tried to toss Castro out of Cuba.

There were indications that Thoresen had not been the

most willing surrenderer to face federal charges.

"Mr. Thoresen," said U.S. Attorney Cecil Poole, "has been here since Monday, arriving on a TWA flight from the Los Angeles community, where everyone was well aware of this situation."

BIG ESTATE

Ehrlich also indicated the vast wealth available to his client by informing Judge Carter that he has known Thoresen for three years and has been representing him on a estate matter involving \$100,000.

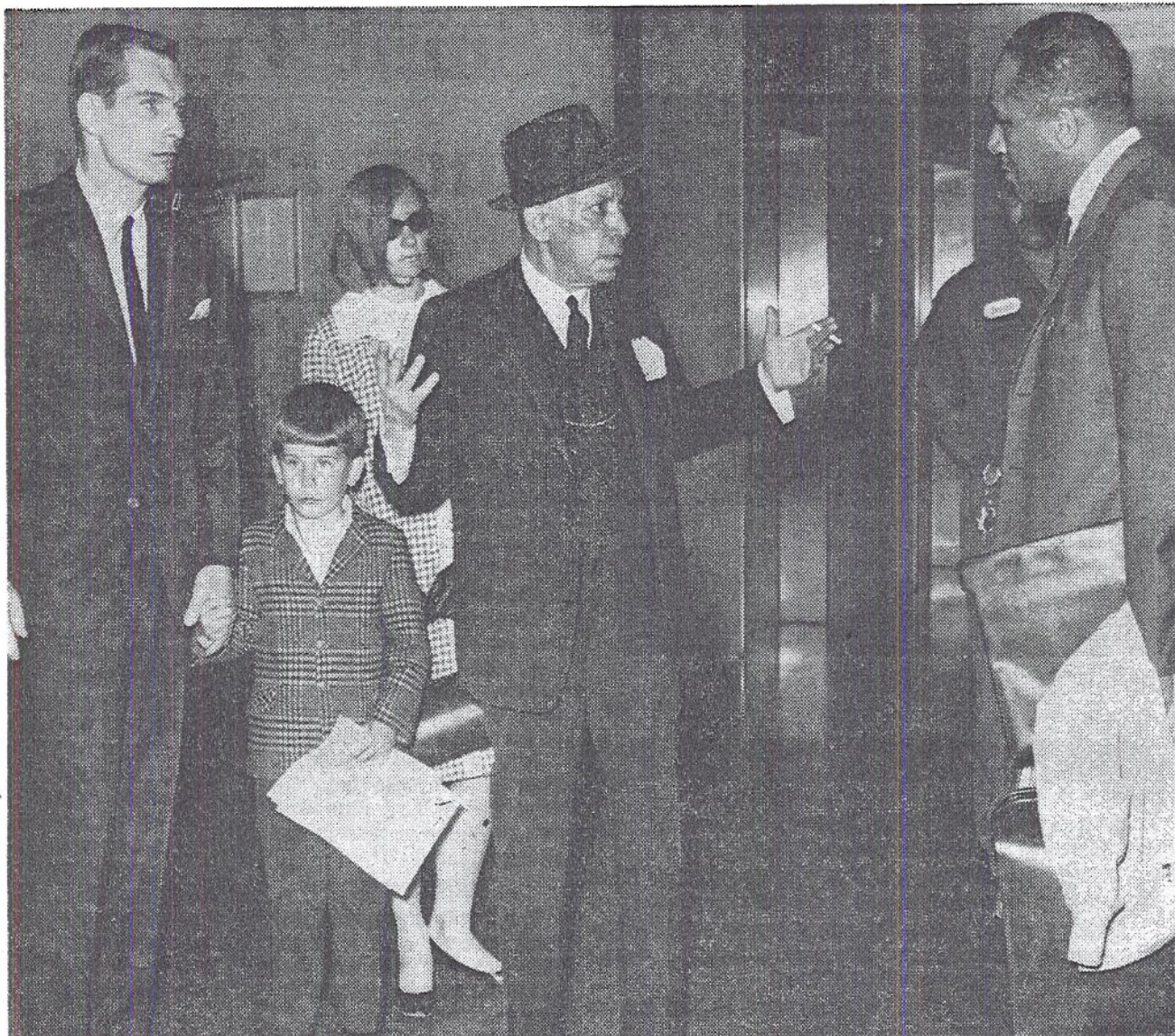
Thoresen hastily whispered to Ehrlich and the attorney amended the earlier statement to read:

"Well, I understand it's more than \$1,000,000."

The client's gun cache was estimated by the attorney as "only worth \$10,000 to \$15,000."

On Thoresen's promise to cooperate with any psychiatrist selected by the Federal Probation Department here, Judge Carter set all future legal matters over until May 10.

Thoresen and his leggy, attractive wife, Louise, 30, will appear in court here May 24 to answer charges of illegal possession of firearms in New York.



THORESENS LISTEN AS JAKE EHRLICH HAS WORDS WITH U.S. ATTY. POOLE
The client was effectively hushed—'Either shut up or get yourself another attorney'

—Examiner Photo