

**Times Reporter Pleads
Not Guilty in California**

SAN JOSE, Calif., April 21 (AP)—Earl Caldwell, a reporter for The New York Times, pleaded not guilty today to a reduced charge of misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

The 37-year-old newsman entered the plea after Municipal Court Judge William J. Harris reduced the marijuana possession charge from a felony to a misdemeanor.

Judge Harris set May 22 for a jury trial.

Mr. Caldwell was arrested March 6 after undergoing a routine search before entering the courtroom of the Angela Davis trial. Sheriff's deputies said a film canister containing a small amount of marijuana was found inside a folder he was carrying.

Judge Harris reduced the charge after Mr. Caldwell testified that he had never been convicted of any crime.