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The Missing Lawyer Still A Mystery

The whereabouts of attorney Stephen Mitchell Bingham, or even whether he is alive, remained unknown yesterday.

The radical lawyer, accused of smuggling the gun that touched off the August 21 escape attempt at San Quentin Prison, is the object of a nationwide manhunt.

Bingham, 29, is charged with five counts of murder stemming from the violence in which three guards and two inmates were slain by one or more of the convicts attempting to breakout of the maximum security facility in Marin county.

The FBI is seeking him as a fugitive on the assumption he has fled the State. Friends and relatives, however, fear he has met with foul play.

Bingham, member of a politically prominent eastern family has not been seen since the evening of August 21 when he left his home in Oakland, supposedly to attend a meeting in San Francisco.

At San Quentin, officials refused comment on the location of inmate Allan Mancino, one of the 26 convicts released by "Soledad Brother" George Jackson when he pulled the gun from a wig he was wearing and took command of the prison's adjustment center.

Mancino was transferred last week from San Quentin to the California Medical Facility at Vacaville. Yesterday it was revealed he had once again been moved, to an undisclosed location, possibly a federal prison.

Prison officials refused to comment on reports that Mancino has given statements to investigators and he may be a state witness in proceedings against those involved in the murders of the guards and inmates.