

# Angela Interview-- Claims Innocence

Angela Davis, in a rare interview with the "straight" press, claims she is totally innocent of any involvement in the Aug. 7, 1970, shootout in the Marin County Civic Center.

Miss Davis, talking to Mary Neiswender, a reporter for the Long Beach Independent, Press-Telegram, also commented on her actions after the bloody kidnap, saying she went into hiding because she feared she would not receive a fair trial.

Miss Davis demurred when asked why she thought she might be subjected to trial.

### Weapons

She is accused of supplying the guns used in the shootout which ended in the deaths of a Superior Court judge, three convicts and a young man who brought the weapons into the courtroom.

Refusing to say where she was during the shootout, Miss Davis said she fled California afterward because, "I couldn't have received a fair trial."

She said she feared to turn herself in "because it was not simply a question of my turning myself into be prosecuted. There was a very large chance that I might end up like George, murdered." (George Jackson, a

convict, was slain in what prison officials characterize as an abortive escape attempt at San Quentin on Aug. 21, 1971.)

### 'Principles'

She said she did not flee the United States because "it would have run counter to my own principles to have left the country."

Furthermore, Miss Davis said, "I realize that they probably wanted me to leave the country — that's another way to deal with growing movements in this country — not only by arresting individuals who are leading the movements, but by scaring them away."

She also commented — obliquely — about her relationship with the so-called "Sole-

dad Brothers," accused of murdering a guard at Soledad Prison in January 1970.

One of the trio was George Jackson, the convict slain in the San Quentin violence. It was Jackson's younger brother, Jonathan, who took the guns into the San Rafael courthouse, and was killed in the resultant shootout.

"I remember their picture on the front page of the Los Angeles Times and reading

the story and feeling sort of very impotent because I didn't know at that time whether anything was going to be done and how to go about things."

Later, she said, "I found myself right in the center — in charge of projecting an effective defense."

Miss Davis said she wanted to remain in the United States to work to "improve" it.