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Bingham Parents Visit S.F.

No Clues to Missing Son SF Examiner

By Ed Montgomery

The parents of Stephen Mitchell Bingham, 29, sought on charges of smuggling a gun to black militant George Jackson in San Quentin August 21, are in San Francisco "talking to people." The Examiner learned today.

The Alfred Bingham, stopping with friends on Green Street, said they have received no word of their son who dropped from sight a few hours after the attempted prison break which left Jackson and five others dead.

"We have no idea where our son is," said Mrs. Bingham, who with her husband arrived from their Salem, Conn., home earlier in the week.

"We are here for a few days because Mr. Bingham wanted to talk with certain people. Naturally we are concerned as to our son's whereabouts."

Attends Trial

Bingham, accompanied by a young Berkeley resident, attended the afternoon session of the Soledad trial at the Hall of Justice on Wednesday.

There he saw, ostensibly for the first time, John Clutchette and Fleeta Drumgo, who, with Jackson, are accused of killing Soledad Prison guard John V. Mills on Jan. 16, 1970.

"Mr. Bingham simply wanted to look in on the proceedings," explained Attorney Jerome B. Falk Jr., who, with Attorney Robert Treuhart of Oakland, is representing the Bingham family.

Falk reiterated the statement of Mrs. Bingham that no contact whatsoever has been had from their son.

Prayerful

"We are going on the hopeful, even prayerful assumption that Stephen Bingham is alive and that we eventually will hear from him," Falk said.

Earlier the father, son of a former Connecticut governor, expressed belief his son was being held captive against his will by members of a radical-militant faction which has been active in behalf of the so-called "Soledad Brothers" and other militant prison inmates.

Private Investigator Harold Lipset said that while he had not been retained by the family to conduct a search for young Bingham, he has been working on the case in assisting in the preparation of a defense in the event the suspect turns himself in or is arrested.