

Foreign Press at Davis Trial

Political Probe By Europeans

By Don West

Examiner News Staff

SAN JOSE — A large contingent of foreign journalists has been assigned to determine whether the Angela Davis murder-kidnap trial here is politically motivated.

Some 30 foreign agencies and publications — significantly, all European and none from the "Third World" — have been accredited to cover the trial.

Foreign reporters covering the pre-trial maneuvering reflect a strong European impression that Miss Davis' charges arose from her Communist Party activities rather than from any real belief that she took an active part in the Aug. 7, 1970, shootout at the Marin County Civic Center that left four dead.

But most concede this impression may result from differing systems of justice.

Davis Supporters

Horst Schafer, a free lancer from Munich who serves the Berliner Presse Buro and some Iron Curtain countries, explained the large German representation — nine agencies — as mirroring public concern there created by Angela supporters.

Opponents to the North American Treaty Organization and the Vietnam war have also demonstrated about Miss Davis.

Maurizio Berlincioni, cor-

respondent for the weekly magazine *Il Mondo*, told of crowds between 15,000 and 20,000 demonstrating in central Italy about Miss Davis, NATO and the Vietnam war.

Fania Jordan, Angela's younger sister, toured Italy and drew exuberant crowds in the country with the largest European Communist Party outside the Iron Curtain.

French Contingent

France now has the largest contingent accredited to cover the trial with seven news-

papers, the national television network and two wire services.

La Nouvel Observateur has already personally interviewed the defendant, and the French television network has an interview scheduled.

Minor international incidents threaten to erupt in the in-fighting for an interview with Miss Davis.

The government television agency from East Germany has been scheduled to interview her, while representatives from West Germany complain they have been un-Russia on procedures for able to see her.

Court Restrictions

Stephanie Allen, press representative for the national United Committee to Free Angela Davis, contends most of the problem comes from court-imposed restrictions that limit interviews to one a week with only one agency at a time.

Other international interviews already held include Swedish, English and Canadian television networks.

British news representatives cleared for coverage are from two wire services and the London Times, Daily Mail, Express and Telegraph.

Italy has representatives coming from one newspaper and two magazines. Denmark and Sweden each has one from a major daily newspaper.

Russian Inquiry

An inquiry has come from Russia on procedures for press accreditation, but no request has been made as yet.

* There have been no requests from Asia, Africa or the Middle East, but the French, German and British wire services serve newspapers and magazines in those parts of the globe popularly called the Third World.