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Clutchette Says He Was Watching TV

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John Clutchette took the stand in his own defense yesterday and told his murder trial jury he was watching TV when Soledad guard John Mills was killed.

He watched the Steve Allen show, a local newscast, and "left when everybody else left," he testified.

That was a little after 6:30 p.m.

Then Clutchette testified he heard "glass breaking and hollering."

"I went to the door. I saw Mill's body on the tier and I went back upstairs to my cell."

He stayed in the cell until the "guards came later and searched us," he said.

"Did you play any part in the killing of Officer Mills?" his attorney, Floyd Silliman, asked.

"No, I didn't," Clutchette replied.

Earlier, Clutchette's testimony was corroborated by Donald Poole, a parolee and former Soledad inmate who testified he saw Clutchette in the prison's TV room.

"When I left, he (Clutchette) was still sitting there," Poole testified.
