

Angela's Motive 'Love'

# Had Passion For Jackson, State Says

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SAN JOSE — Angela Davis "aided and abetted knowingly" the attempted Marin Courthouse escape in August, 1970, that ended with the death of four persons, the State of California charged today.

Assistant Attorney General Albert Harris Jr., outlining the prosecution case in her trial for murder, conspiracy and kidnap, told the jury of eight women and four men here that her motive was love.

"It was a simply human passion for George Jackson, passion that knew no bounds, no limits, and carried no respect for life — even the life of George Jackson's younger brother," he declared.

Harris also disclosed a piece of hitherto secret evidence linking Miss Davis to the case—a link he said that was carried by the man who sparked the shootout.

## Hostages

George Jackson, killed in an escape attempt at San Quentin last August, was one of the three original defendants accused of killing a guard at Soledad Prison.

Jackson was the accused leader of the trio in the Soledad case, but was killed before their trial began. His two co-defendants were acquitted in San Francisco today.

It was Jackson's brother, Jonathan, 17, who smuggled guns into the courtroom of Superior Judge Harold Haley in an attempt to free three other prisoners, who

sparked the fatal shooting there.

Among the weapons young Jackson carried were a shotgun and rolls of tape and wire in a blue briefcase, Harris said.

They were concealed from a casual inspection by six paperback books.

"Three of those books were in French," Harris declared. "The other three were in English. One of them was entitled, 'The Politics of Violence.' Another was titled, 'Violence and Social Change.'

"Inside those books was a name. The name was An-

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gela Yvonne Davis. And it was her handwriting."

## 'Threat of Death'

The purpose of the plot, Harris told the jury in his opening statement today, was to take hostages and hold them for an exchange in which George Jackson and the other two Soledad defendants, then at San Quentin, would be released.

Harris said the plan was to proceed in a rented yellow van from Marin County to San Francisco International Airport with the "threat of death" hanging over the hostages.

That, he continued, was expected to cause the release of the Soledad prisoners by 12:30 p.m.

The plan called for them to go to the airport and take a plane — by a method Harris did not disclose — and then to leave the hostages behind.

Miss Davis, he said, was at the airport as a "part to the conspiracy" when the shooting occurred at Marin County's Civic Center.

## Phone Number

Harris told the jurors Miss Davis left the airport by plane at about 2 p.m., and offered two pieces of evidence he felt linked her presence at the airport to the shootout.

One was a slip of paper found in Jonathan Jackson's wallet. It contained the number of an out-of-the-way phone booth near the American Airlines counter at the airport.

"You wouldn't carry the number of a pay phone," Harris suggested, "unless you expected somebody to be at that telephone when you called."

The other concerned what he implied was Miss Davis'



**ANGELA DAVIS ARRIVES FOR TRIAL**  
 She is charged with murder, conspiracy and kidnap  
 —AP Photo

transportation to the airport.

"We will produce evidence," he said, "that on Aug. 4, Jonathan Jackson borrowed a Volkswagen sedan from a woman named Mrs. Majors, who was living at the San Jose home of Joan Hammer.

"He promised to return it the next day, but didn't. Two weeks after Aug. 7, Jonathan Jackson's mother told Mrs. Majors she could find her Volkswagen in the parking lot at San Francisco International Airport."

At the time of these

events, Harris declared, Miss Davis' life and fortunes were firmly committed to George Jackson, who was then facing trial for the Soledad guard's murder.

**'Ingenious'**

"George Jackson was facing an automatic death penalty," Harris said, "and his time was growing short.

"The conspiracy was simple, but it was ingenious and it was very nearly successful."

He stressed that the ultimate objective of the plot, as the State conceives it, was the release of George Jackson.

The key element in the conspiracy, Harris said, was Jonathan Jackson, who looked young and could enter the courtroom with guns, three highway flares, and the rolls of tape and wire concealed on his person and not arouse suspicion.

All the conspirators, the

prosecutor charged, knew that the mere display of an automatic pistol would be enough to take over the courtroom because it was "well known" in the adjustment center at San Quentin that Judge Haley did not permit attendants in his court to carry arms.

**'Well Aware'**

James McClain, the convict who was on trial that day and who was one of those killed in the shootout, was "well aware of what would happen" that morning, Harris charged.

"He was organized, well-prepared," the prosecu-

tor said. "He demanded the tape from Jonathan Jackson, he selected the hostages and supervised their being wired together.

"He had laid the groundwork for this event by selecting the witnesses who were there, and he cooled tempers when spontaneous violence appeared to jeopardize the project."

Harris, who gave the jury a detailed account of Jackson's entry into the courtroom, the taking of hostages, and the subsequent shooting as their getaway van started to leave the Civic Center, said it was

McClain who announced:

"Tell them we want the Soledad Brothers released by 12 o'clock."

**Getaway Van**

Miss Davis, Harris, said, "supplied almost all the means" for the plot, including the three guns Jackson carried into the courtroom, and one found later in the getaway van. That, he said, she bought 13 days before the escape attempt, and in company with young Jackson.

He also charged that Miss Davis bought hundreds of rounds of ammunition for the weapons, some of which

was expended in a shootout a tape recorder showed as lasting 19 seconds.

When the hostages — Judge Haley, Assistant District Attorney Gary W. Thomas and three women jurors — were taken, it was implicit that they would be killed if the purpose of the kidnaping was frustrated, Harris continued.

“She offered convincing evidence of her guilt by fleeing California,” Harris said. “In fact on the day of the funeral of Jonathan Jackson” — he, too, died in the shootout — she was in Chicago, having disguised herself and was preparing to assume a false identity.”

Harris said he would prove to the jury her guilt beyond reasonable doubt.

“You will also be satisfied beyond any doubt that this case is not a political frame-up, that it’s not a politi-

cal persecution or racist persecution,” he added.

In fact, the only evidence the State plans to offer about her viewpoints may come in connection with some letters that she wrote, the prosecutor said.

Cautioning the jurors to remember that what he was telling them now was not evidence, he promised to prove not only that Miss Davis participated directly, although he admitted that his case rests “largely” upon circumstantial evidence, but that she was “a principal.”

“She aided and abetted knowingly . . . she shared the criminal intent of Jonathan Jackson,” he said.

Miss Davis arrived in San Francisco the day McLain’s trial opened in Judge Haley’s court, on Aug. 3, Harris said, and she came “for the purpose of playing her essential role in the conspiracy.”

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