

S.F. Airport Phone

Yellow Slip in Angela Trial

By Stephen Cook
Examiner News Staff

SAN JOSE — The prosecution introduced in evidence today a yellow slip of paper which it hopes will link Angela Davis to the plot that ended in the Marin County Courthouse shootout.

It bore the telephone number 588-9073, and it was taken from the wallet of Jonathan Jackson, the 17-year-old who smuggled guns into the courtroom of Marin Superior Judge Harold Haley in an attempt to free three prisoners.

Marin County coroner's investigator Keith Craig testified that, immediately after the shooting in which Judge Haley, Jackson and two of the convicts died in August, 1970, he identified Jackson's body by the driver's license in his wallet.

At that, Assistant Attorney General Albert Harris Jr. cited the various identification cards and pictures that were also found in the wallet — and among them was the slip of paper with the telephone number.

In his opening statement to the jury of eight women and four men, Harris said a number had been found on Jackson that referred to a telephone booth near the American Airlines counter at San Francisco Airport.

He suggested that no one would be carrying such a number unless he expected someone to be there to answer. Miss Davis flew out of San Francisco Airport to Los Angeles that afternoon.



KEITH CRAIG
Identified the body
—AP Photo

Implication

The implication — still to be proven — was that it was she who awaited a phone call to that booth from Jackson. Indeed, testimony is still to come that the number was located at the airport.

Newsmen who called the number, however, were told by a Pacific Telephone repairman who answered that it is located in American Airlines' waiting room No. 1, and is the last in a line of four booths. It has been there more than two years, he said.

Craig testified that he found a total of \$2.07 scattered in young Jackson's clothing, and he also identified the bloodied clothing of the victims killed in the getaway van that day.

All of the items, including the judicial robes worn by Judge Haley, remained wrapped in plastic bags and were not displayed to the jury.

The witness said he found an expended bullet slug in the pocket of William Christmas, one of the slain convicts, together with a coil of wire like that used to bind the five hostages taken by the escapers.

Role of Tape

In the pocket of James

McClain, another of the dead prisoners, he found a roll of adhesive tape similar to that used on a shotgun that was bound to Haley's neck.

Officer Edward Klementovich, who tagged each item for identification, finally established for the prosecution that the shotgun had indeed been fired. He said he found an expended shell in the chamber.

It was Craig's second day on the witness stand in the trial which is now bound by a strict new gag rule forbidding out-of-court discussion of the case by any of the attorneys.

He testified yesterday that he went to the shooting scene and climbed into a bullet-riddled yellow rental van after a bullet crashed through the second-story window of his office in the Civic Center.

Slumped against the wall of the van, his face half blown away by a shotgun blast, was Judge Haley. Craig "determined he was dead."

Next he turned to Jackson. The youth, lying just behind the driver's seat, "was rolling his head back and forth and he was moaning and his eyes were rolling around in the sockets. I asked him a question but he didn't answer. Mr. Jackson died while I was examining him."

Trial Judge Richard E.

Arnason, in a closed meeting with defense and prosecution lawyers yesterday, imposed a strict gag rule, forbidding the attorneys from discussing the trial.

"I advised counsel I do not expect them to make any statements with respect to the trial," he said later.

The judge called his warning to the lawyers a "reaffirmation" of the gag rule imposed in December 1970, when Miss Davis was arraigned in Marin Superior Court, but added:

"You might say they are under more strict reins now."

Judge Arnason's rule goes farther than the rule Prosecutor Albert W. Harris unsuccessfully requested in February. Harris asked for a ban on press conferences but his proposed rule would have permitted the passing of background information to newsmen.

Stephanie Allen, of the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis, said that organization would issue no more statements on the case because it was "uncertain over implications of the gag rule."