

Carr's Vanishing Act Probed

Special to The Examiner

SAN JOSE — Investigators seeking a motive in the James E. Carr assassination today narrowed their search to a three-month period when he dropped from sight.

As Carr's accused slayers appeared in court to plead not guilty to murder charges, investigators concentrated attention on the dead man's activities in late December, 1971 and January, February and early March of this year.

Lamarr Lloyd Mims, 21, of Los Angeles, and Richard Rodriguez, 22, of Baldwin Park pleaded not guilty yesterday to murder and con-

spiracy charges in a heavily guarded courtroom.

San Jose-Milpitas Municipal Judge William J. Harris set their preliminary hearing for next Thursday.

Carr, who was shot by two men as he left his mother-in-law's home on April 6, dropped from sight soon after his release from jail Dec. 17, 1971.

A close friend and former cellmate of George Jackson, Carr was charged with assaulting a police officer during a Soledad brothers hearing April 6, 1971. He was held in jail until last December without bail, because at the time of his arrest he had

been on parole after serving six years for armed robbery.

Rodriguez and Mims, both of whom have connections with the Black Panthers, were arrested about 20 minutes after the shooting of Carr.

When Carr had been on his way to a construction job when he left his mother-in-law's house in a fashionable section of this city, investigators were told.

But officials of the Construction and General Laborer's Union local said he had never been sent on any job for them. He had been granted membership after applying March 29.