

Police Bust In on Vict

By Don West

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SAN JOSE — Angela Davis' victory celebration was a carnival, a spiritual revival, a rock-and-roll paced affair that nearly ended in a riot.

Just cleared of murder, kidnaping and conspiracy charges, Miss Davis did not see how close she came to being accused of causing a riot.

She caused the celebration at the Safari Room, an east side San Jose night club, after winning acquittal on charges that she helped engineer an Aug. 7, 1970 abortive escape plot that killed four people.

600 Celebrate

She had invited the 12 jurors who acquitted her — seven joined in the merriment — and her friends and followers, who came some 600 strong to the club that was equipped to handle only 200.

Champagne and quantities of other spirits flowed freely before Miss Davis began taking her leave shortly after midnight.

At almost the same time, outside, two men wrestled around in a parking lot, attracting the attention of a San Jose police squad car that moved in to arrest one of them. As the man protested they had only been fooling, a crowd began gathering.

Six squad cars responded to the scene within 30 seconds of the first car. People began pouring out of the packed night club as five more units arrived, including Santa Clara County sheriff's patrol units.

Dog Lunges

One of the police officers with a Doberman leaped from his car, letting his dog lunge first at three reporters making inquiries and then belatedly at the closing circle of partygoers.

The reporters, Rick Car-

roll of the San Francisco Chronicle, Edith Lederer of the Associated Press, and Cathy Calvert of the San Jose News, all complained the officer did not have his dog under control and they narrowly escaped being bitten.

One black man standing by the two arresting officers began screaming the suspect was being choked. Another man began slapping the roof of the squad car rhythmically.

The arrested men, Sidney Moore, 20, of San Jose, one of Miss Davis' security contingent, and William Colman, 24, of San Francisco, were rushed from the scene by San Jose police and booked on charges of resisting arrest.

Angry Words

Officers were dispersed and returned to their patrol within eight minutes, but not before some angry exchanges between them and some members of the crowd.

With the aid of cooler heads in the crowd, the mood of the partygoers was calmed. Miss Charlene Mitchell of the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis (NUCFAD), was one of several women circulating among the angry black men, urging them to either leave the area entirely or return to the party.

Miss Davis was kept inside the club and was unaware of the near riot until nearly all police units had left the area.

Protected

She had arrived nearly two hours late for her own party, surrounded by about a dozen bodyguards who formed a protective wall around her throughout the evening.

The Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco, her spiritual adviser, led several rounds of musical handclapping set

to the words, "Angela has been set free."

Franklin Alexander, of NUCFAD, made a few speeches crediting her acquittal to "a mass movement around the world."

But mostly the celebration was dancing and shouting and singing and trying to see over Miss Davis' bodyguards for a glimpse of the black militant.

Few Get In

The jurors and a few close friends were the only persons allowed past the tight security around Miss Davis.

Even John Thorne, attorney for the late George Jackson, who Miss Davis was accused of plotting to free, was not in the inner circle of friends. He attended the celebration but chatted with friends outside Miss Davis' circle.

The jurors who accepted Miss Davis' invitation ranged from uneasy to free-swinging in their response to the three-hour party.

Other Jurors

Robert Seidel, eldest of the jurors at 70, arrived and left too early to talk to Miss Davis, but he was the most talkative of all. He explained the jurors had never taken a ballot to consider Miss Davis guilty, the first ballot being 10-2 for acquittal with the two dissenters holding out only "to see the evidence."

Anne Wade and her hus-

band were a little ill at ease, as was Nicholas Gaetani, but the San Jose bachelor soon got into the swing of the party. Ralph Delange arrived early, stayed late, and appeared to enjoy himself thoroughly. Stephanie Ryon was a latecomer but arrived in time to dance with defense attorney Leo Branton Jr.

Michelle Savage, the youngest of the jurors at age 20, stayed only briefly, but told reporters her first experience as a juror had been an exciting one.

"At times, we got pretty

ory Party

uptight, but there was a lot of etiquette involved. Whenever one person was recog-

nized, we were quiet and he got to talk after we finally got organized."