

Jackson Killing

Ex-Informer Stuns San Quentin Trial

A former police informant startled the trial of five San Quentin inmates and an ex-convict yesterday by saying he was assigned by the Los Angeles Police Department "to assassinate George Jackson."

Loud gasps greeted the claim by defense witness Louis Tackwood, a shadowy figure who was the first to say that the late Donald DeFreeze — the Cinque of the Symbionese Liberation Army — had been a paid police agent. Tackwood made yesterday's assertion in reply to a question from attorney Charles Garry.

"What was your last assignment with the LAPD?" asked Garry, who is representing John Spain, one of the men on trial in connection with an abortive escape attempt at the prison Aug. 21, 1971, in which Jackson and five other persons were killed.

"The assassination of George Jackson," Tackwood said.

Snapped Garry, "What?"

"To assassinate George Jackson," the witness repeated.

By that time, prosecutor Jerry Herman was on his feet asking Marin County Superior Court Judge Henry Broderick to have the jury moved out of the courtroom and the testimony stricken.

Judge Broderick ordered the jury out, but delayed his ruling on whether to strike the testimony as irrelevant as well as a motion by Herman that Los Angeles police be asked whether there are any documents substantiating the witness' claim.

Tackwood has been telling various versions of his story since the fall of 1971, but yesterday was the

Alameda Judge Named

Sacramento

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. named Richard A. Bancroft yesterday as a judge of the Alameda county Superior Court.

Bancroft, 51, of Berkeley, has practiced law since 1954.

He is a graduate of Howard University. He is a former president of the San Francisco chapter of the NAACP. *Our Correspondent*

first time he claimed to have been personally involved in a plot to murder Jackson.

He said yesterday that he worked for eight years as an informer for Los Angeles police and, at the time Jackson was killed, worked for the department's criminal conspiracy section. The section, according to Tackwood, was cooperating with the state's criminal investigation and identification bureau.

But the section and the bureau had a feud over plans, according to Tackwood, and so he was working solely for Los Angeles police when he accompanied two policemen to the prison on August 1 to give a guard an inoperable .38 caliber revolver meant for Jackson.

By his account, Jackson was supposed to die August 23 in an escape attempt planned to coincide with a scheduled courtroom appearance, but the prison break happened first. The day after that, Tackwood claimed, he met with 16 other agents, informers and police.
