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Motions Denied

Thoresen Arms Trial to Go On

By TOM HALL

An attempt to delay the trial of the William E. Thoresen III gun case because of the atmosphere resulting from Senator Robert F. Kennedy's assassination has failed.

U. S. District William N. Goodwin, assigned to handle the trial in Fresno, denied the motion for a continuance yesterday after defense attorneys wired him.

Goodwin last month ordered the trial transferred to Fresno because of prejudicial pre-trial publicity in San Francisco.

Defense attorneys also yesterday attempted to get the judge to change his mind and conduct it either in the State of Washington or in San Diego.

John J. Flynn, Phoenix, attorney for Thoresen, and Peyton Ford, Washington, D.C., attorney for Mrs. Louise Thoresen, said in a telegram that Fresno was no better than San Francisco.

Goodwin denied both motions.

The wire said: "In view of tragic events of last day and impossibility of fair trial under conditions prevailing, ask trial continuance until critical stage of current national tragedy has passed or for 30 days."

The attorneys said "a fair trial in Fresno is impossible due to prejudicial pre-trial publicity.

U. A. Attorney Cecil Poole said Ford had phoned him about the continuance request but that he objected on the ground "the case had been pending a long time and should proceed."

Defense attorneys had asked that Goodwin schedule a hearing on their motions today in Yakima "or any other place."

The Thoresons are charged in 10 counts with illegal interstate shipment of firearms.

Some 70 tons of firearms and ammunition, including a small cannon and machine guns, were seized at their 2801 Broadway mansion in an April 21, 1967, raid by alcohol and tobacco agents