

Information sent overseas

U.S. campaigns to portray Davis trial as democratic

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States has quietly mounted a worldwide campaign to portray the murder-conspiracy trial of Angela Davis as an example of democracy at work, and to counter claims she is being persecuted because she is black and a Communist.

The U.S. Information Agency has sent packages of background information and detailed instructions, some of them classified, to

its 106 posts overseas on how the story should be played.

"As soon as this broke, I knew it would be a cause celebre around the world," said Ken Towery, USIA policy chief. "That's the way the Commies operate."

"Our only goal here is to see the U.S. gets a fair trial overseas," said Joseph Glazer, a labor economist who heads a 20-member, all-white agency task

force to handle the Davis case.

Besides its instructions and background information, the agency last year notified its posts in a classified circular that they could order up to three copies of the Grand Jury proceedings that led to Miss Davis' indictment on charges of murder, kidnapping and conspiracy.

Miss Davis, an avowed Communist who was dismissed from the University of California faculty in 1966, is accused of sup-

plying guns used in a 1970 shootout at the Marin County, Calif., courthouse. Three black convicts and a judge were killed.

Now on trial in San Jose, Calif., Miss Davis says she is innocent and claims she is being persecuted because she is black, a woman and a Communist.

Twenty-five USIA posts ordered copies of the Grand Jury transcript, which presents only the state's side of the case.

Lyle D. Copmann, chief of USIA's Overseas Press Service, said mailing of the transcripts drew a complaint from an agency official in Brazil that the move was unusual and possibly illegal since such proceedings usually are kept secret.

Copmann said, however, the agency's legal department had

ruled there was nothing wrong with the action since the transcript already had been made public in this country and did not violate California law.

Asked why the agency had classified in its circular that the transcript was available, Copmann replied, "Well, you know, it was a sensitive subject."

Davis attorney accuses prosecution of racism

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP)—Angela Davis' chief attorney accused the prosecution of being racist for dumping the only prospective black juror at her murder-kidnap trial. But the chief prosecutor said "it wasn't racial."

Chief defense attorney Howard Moore Jr. told newsmen after Monday's jury selection session, "we are now confronted by the specter of Miss Davis brought to trial by an all-white jury."

His colleague, attorney Leo A. Branton, explained that Janie L. Hemphill was the only black in the first group of 150 called for prospective jury service at the trial of the 28-year-old black militant. He said the chances of finding a black in another panel—if one is needed—are slim.

Prosecutor Albert Harris Jr. was hissed by some spectators in the courtroom when he used a peremptory challenge to excuse Mrs. Hemphill.

When Harris left the court,

several supporters of Miss Davis jeered him. Franklin Alexander, co-ordinator of the National United Committee to Free Angela Davis, shouted: "You racist pig . . . You dirty scum. You've got your all white jury."

Harris said nothing and walked away. Later, he told newsmen: "It wasn't racial. I don't know if anybody will ever believe me, but it wasn't."

When court adjourned Monday, the ninth day of jury selection, the defense had used two per-

emptory challenges and the prosecution four. Each side has a total of 20 such challenges, which automatically eliminate a juror without any reason.

Miss Davis, a former UCLA philosophy instructor, sat quietly during the challenges, an orange shawl draped around her shoulders. She is charged with murder, kidnap and conspiracy in the Aug. 7, 1970, shootout at the Marin County Civic Center in which a judge and three others were killed.

Moon rock to be on display Friday, Saturday at Zachry

A moon rock brought back from the Apollo 11 mission by Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin will be on display in the Zachry Engineering Center at A&M Friday and Saturday.

The sample is a fresh-appearing lava containing small cavities which represent bubbles formed by escaping gases within the rock and which occupy 15 per cent of the rock by volume.

The mineral content is Pyroxene 50 per cent, Ilmenite 30 per cent and Plagioclase 20 per cent. The rock was sent to A&M by NASA Manned Spacecraft Center and will be on display on the third floor.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Aerospace Engineering Department in conjunction with the

Space Technology Division of Texas Engineering Experiment Station.

Guest economist lectures Friday

Dr. Lacy Hunt, research economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, will present a guest lecture on "Major Strikes and Monetary Indicators, 1953-71" Friday.

He will be heard at 2 p.m. in Room 313 of Nagle Hall. Hunt is one of several distinguished scholars of economics to lecture during the spring semester under sponsorship of the Department of Economics.

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