

Mullin denied at hearing

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SAN LUIS OBISPO — Convicted mass murderer Herbert Mullin, convicted in 1973 of killing 10 10 people in this county, was denied possibility of parole at a hearing before the State Board of Prison Terms this morning.

Mullin will have to wait three more years for a sixth hearing to determine if he can ever be allowed parole.

He was convicted in Santa Cruz County in 1973 of two counts of first degree murder and eight counts of second degree murder following a killing spree.

Mullin was arrested on Feb. 13, 1973, minutes after shooting Fred Perez, 72, a retired fisherman. He was quickly charged with the Jan. 25, 1973 murder of five persons: Kathy Francis, 29 and her sons David Hughes, 9, and Daemon Francis, 4, who were found shot at the end of Mystery Spot Road.

That same day, James Gianera, 24, and his wife, Joan, 21, were found shot in their Western Drive home.

Later he was charged with murdering four teen-agers in a makeshift cabin near Felton. The victims were David Allan Olicker, 18, Mark Dreibelbis, 19, Robert Michael Spector, 18, and Brian Scott Card, 19. They were shot.

Mullin was also convicted in Santa Clara County for killing a Catholic priest. He admitted to two other killings, but was not tried on those two counts.

His attorney tried to win a plea of insanity.

Mullin has contended that he was ordered by his parents to sacrifice people so that a devastating earthquake would not destroy California.

This morning from San Luis Obispo, Santa Cruz County Assistant District Attorney John Hopkins said Mullin has changed his story and now says he "takes full responsibility for my crime and carry a great deal of remorse because of that responsibility."

Hopkins said, "I believe he is just parroting those words and the psychiatric report shows he still acting under a delusional system."