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Local Lawmen Nab S.F. Killer Suspects

By Peter Walls
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California Highway Patrolmen and Santa Cruz police officers put an end Tuesday afternoon to the hunt for the suspects wanted in connection with the murder of a San Francisco police officer last week.

And police were out this morning near the arrest scene on the chance the six men, stopped in their car on Mission Street near Western Drive, might have tossed a weapon from their car prior to their arrest.

A team of six officers headed by Capt. Richard Overton combed the tall grass on their hands and knees beside Mission Street near Western Drive looking for a revolver. A witness said something was thrown from the car window prior to the arrests. Officers searched "every square inch" of about an acre of vacant lot for two hours but found nothing.

Officer Brodnik was killed with the revolver taken in a scuffle from his partner, Paul McGoran.



Jose Mario Martinez, left, and Jose Danilo Melendez, are led to waiting cars for their return to San Francisco in the company of a team of detectives. They

were among six suspects arrested in Santa Cruz Tuesday afternoon in the murder of a San Francisco police officer last week.

The suspects, all of Latin extraction, were returned to San Francisco Tuesday evening by a team of detectives. None of the suspects was questioned in Santa Cruz concerning the shooting death of Police Officer Joseph Brodnik in the Mission District. They were charged with

auto theft, armed robbery and carrying a loaded weapon in a vehicle.

Law enforcement officers gave this account of the apprehension of the suspects:

San Mateo Sheriff's officers reported that a couple sunbathing at Pescadero Beach were approached by several young men. One of them brandished a rifle and said "How'd you like to be shot?"

The group stole the car keys and clothes from Daniel M. Goodell, 34, of Redwood City, and fled.

Goodell reported the theft to a service station attendant across Highway 1. San Mateo Sheriff's deputies broadcast a description of the vehicle, and a short time later it stopped in Davenport for gas.

Alerted that such a vehicle was headed south, CHP Officer Karl Gordon stationed himself beside Highway 1 about two miles north



Six Santa Cruz police officers, headed by Capt. Richard Overton, combed the tall grass along Mission Street near Western Drive for two hours this morning in a vain hunt for a revolver which they surmise might have been thrown

from the vehicle just before six suspects were arrested Tuesday in connection with the murder of a San Francisco police officer. They laid string lanes to make sure they didn't miss any portion of the acre they combed.

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Four of the six suspects arrested Tuesday in Santa Cruz are led to patrol cars. They

are, from left, Jose Adaberto Rio and Rodolfo Antonio Mar-

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tinez. In the background are Nelson Rodriguez and Gary Lee Lescallet.