

Weather

MONTEREY BAY AREA—Fair through Tuesday but with patchy early morning fog. Slightly warmer. High Tuesday in the 60s. Low tonight in the 40s. Light winds.

Temperatures for 24 hours ending at 8 a.m. today: High 69, low 39.

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Frazier Defense Cites Injury

By DON RIGHETTI
Sentinel Staff Writer

The sudden transformation six months ago in the character of accused slayer John Frazier may have been due to an auto accident in which the suspect allegedly suffered head injuries, his court-appointed defense attorney indicated at a press conference today.

Attorney James Jackson said the accident, alleged to have occurred in Scotts Valley, correlates in time with the change in Frazier, which has been noted by a number of his associates.

Jackson added that, in his opinion, Frazier is not sane, a claim which, he said, is supported by David Marlowe, a clinical psychologist and former

head of the department of psychology at UCSC.

Both the attorney and Marlowe have been in frequent contact with the accused man since he was arrested Friday morning, Jackson said.

"The defendant denies any involvement in the murdering of anyone," Jackson told reporters.

He indicated that he thinks District Attorney Peter Chang's case is shaky at this time and he will begin his defense on a simple plea of "Not guilty" and will attempt to defend Frazier on the basis of facts, not his alleged insanity.

The "not guilty by reason of insanity" plea will be held in reserve as a kind of safeguard, the attorney indicated.

He said he is not using the

insanity plea now "because it is not in the best interest of my client."

Jackson, a member of the local law firm of Britton and Jackson, got a break Sunday morning when private investigators hired by the law firm turned up several pieces of evidence. In a shed near Frazier's mountain shack they found an orange backpack filled with provisions, a machete, sleeping bag, wide brimmed straw hat and a .45 caliber automatic pistol.

Asked whether Jackson had found anything among the clues to bolster his case, he replied he was pleased by the fact the investigators had turned up a .45 pistol when a .38 and a .22 have been listed as murder weapons in the Ohta case.

He said he has no idea where the .22 and the .38 are, and added District Attorney Peter Chang is reported to have collected some guns, but Jackson does not know whether they may be the murder weapons.

Asked whether it wasn't strange the sheriff's deputies had not turned up such a rich cache of evidence as the backpack and other items, Jackson replied, "The sheriff is in a better position to evaluate what is strange in that regard than I am."

Jackson said Marlowe's preliminary opinion that Frazier is insane is based on four interviews with the accused 24-year-old man.

"He doesn't think the same nor act the same way as peo-

ple normally act," the attorney said.

He added he has no idea whether drugs may have contributed to Frazier's incompetency, but said he understands the accused slayer does take drugs.

Chang, meanwhile, said he would go to the grand jury for an indictment Tuesday and, after a closed session, expected it to be returned Tuesday night.

Chang said he expected no difficulty in having the indictment returned, based on the evidence he has accumulated thus far.

He reminded that an indictment finds cause only to hold and try a defendant, and need not prove guilt "beyond a reasonable doubt," as does a trial.

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A number of items resembling prominently mentioned clues in the Ohta murder case were turned up Sunday afternoon by private investigators working for the public defender's office. Investigators Harold Cartwright and Bill Tubbs turned up an orange backpack, a wide-brimmed straw hat, sleeping bag, machete and a .45 caliber automatic pistol in a shed near the shack occupied by John Frazier, accused of the deaths at the Ohta mansion.

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The district attorney said his people spent the weekend in talking to more witnesses and in transcribing new testimony.

Jackson, for his part, hinted he would seek a change of venue in the case to assure a fair trial for his client.

He noted Santa Cruz is "a small town" and Dr. Victor Ohta, was "well-known and well-liked here."

Frazier is accused of the Oct. 19 slayings of Dr. Ohta, his wife, two sons, and his secretary.

If the case is moved out of Santa Cruz County it will hike the cost of the trial, an aspect of increasing concern to local residents since rumors now place the cost of the Manson "family" trial in Los Angeles at past the \$1-million mark.

But Jackson said the Manson trial is a "Hollywood case" involving multiple defendants, and he doesn't expect Frazier's trial to be overly expensive.

He noted the trial in the Karen Mickens slaying earlier this year, which involved four defendants, had cost some \$22,000.

The district attorney case thus far seems based on Frazier's "vaage threats directed at some persons — not specifically the Ohtas and some people who say they saw him (Frazier) do something — I don't know what," Jackson maintained.

He said the district attorney has informed him Frazier's fingerprints were not discovered on a typewriter in the Ohta home as was previously reported.

Chang corroborated that statement this morning.

Jackson said he does under-

stand that "some fingerprints" were discovered on Dr. Ohta's Rolls Royce.

He added that insofar as he knows, investigators have failed to turn up any pertinent evidence from Mrs. Ohta's station-wagon, found abandoned in a San Lorenzo Valley railroad tunnel.

Queried on the current condition of the suspect, Jackson said Frazier "is frightened and has been from the first. He is surrounded by upwards of 60 armed men who go for their guns every time the defendant sneezes."

He admitted that Frazier appears happy with his treatment in jail and is mostly disturbed when moved under heavy guard from one place to another.

The attorney said Frazier has not been given a private cell,

but is in a "tank" with several other prisoners.

Jackson said in his opinion Frazier is of above normal intelligence but does not know the difference between right and wrong—the legal definition of insanity.

Jackson, 33, a county deputy public defender, is former chief trial deputy for the Alameda County district attorney's office. He has 10 years' criminal trial experience and was a professor at the University of San Francisco Law School. He is a graduate of Hastings College of Law in San Francisco.

His associate, Public Defender Gary Britton, said his office expects to stay with the case through its conclusion. He said no "big name" lawyers have come forward to volunteer their services.

Portugal's Struggle To Keep Guinea Approaching Showdown

LISBON (AP) — Portugal's seven-year struggle to maintain control of Portuguese Guinea appears to be approaching a showdown. Lisbon government spokesmen predict dire consequences for the West if an insurgent movement succeeds.

A 10,000-man rebel army has wrested from the Lisbon government almost two-thirds of the 16,000-square mile territory, which lies between Senegal and the Republic of Guinea. The major advocate of independence is Amilcar Cabral, an agricultural engineer who is a friend and follower of Cuban Premier Fidel Castro.

"If Portugal were to lose Guinea, the defeat would open the floodgates of Communist-inspired revolt all over Africa," said a Lisbon official involved in

military operations in Guinea and Portugal's other African territories, Mozambique and Angola. "The West would be the prime victim of such a situation."

"Cabral knows what he is talking about," an army officer says. "He pins down our troops with hit-and-run tactics which are wearing down our morale. To win we must strike in the open and fight him with his own methods."

Cabral's African Independence Party for Guinea and Cape Verde—PAIGC—fights the 25,000 government soldiers in the area with AK rifles from Communist China and bazookas from Czechoslovakia. He has field guns, mortars and ammunition from other Communist countries.