

# Still No Verdict By Frazier Jury

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — The jury weighing the fate of John Linley Frazier on quintuple murder charges wound up its second day of deliberations Saturday by asking to rehear the testimony of seven key witnesses.

The bearded, long-haired 25-year-old defendant is charged with shooting five people to death near Santa Cruz and dumping their bodies in a swimming pool one year ago.

The seven witnesses whose testimony the jurors asked to have reread all were called by the prosecution during the four-week trial. They include Frazier's mother, friends who told of his state of mind in the months and weeks preceding the slayings, and a criminalist who analyzed evidence from the scene of the crime.

Judge Charles S. Franich instructed the eight-woman four-man jury to break off deliberations at 7 p.m. and reconvene Monday morning. The jury voted on Friday not to meet Sunday.

The jury was first called back into the courtroom to hear the testimony with Franich reading the questions and the court reporter responding.

The defendant, dressed in light brown pants and a wrinkled long sleeved white shirt, leaned back in his chair looking at the jurors.

After about 20 minutes, at the suggestion of Frazier's attorney, Franich sent the panel back to the jury room with the five days of testimony, so the foreman could select the portions they wanted to hear.

When Franich said he thought he should go in to the jury room to explain which pages they had been given, Frazier spoke up.

"Have 'em come back and explain everything," he said.

"Yeah, maybe we'd better," Franich replied without looking up.

"Yeah," said Frazier, with a sardonic chuckle.

The jury was brought in again briefly, the material was explained to them, and they returned to the jury room to hear the testimony until adjourning for the weekend.

They had begun the day's deliberations at 9:20 a.m. after receiving a list of exhibits presented as evidence against the former auto mechanic.

Jurors requested the list after deliberating almost six hours Friday.

Frazier has pleaded innocent and innocent by reason of insanity in the Oct. 19, 1970 slayings of wealthy eye surgeon Dr. Victor Ohta, his wife, two sons and a secretary.

Firemen rushing to Ohta's \$250,000 hilltop mansion to put out a blaze discovered the five bodies, bound and blindfolded in bright scarves, floating in the Ohta swimming pool.

After a month-long trial, Superior Court Judge Charles S. Franich told jurors Friday they could return one of five verdicts: innocent, guilty of first degree murder, second degree murder, voluntary manslaughter or involuntary manslaughter.

Frazier, who sat reading George Orwell's "1984" as the judge instructed the jury, could face death in the gas chamber or life imprisonment if found guilty of first degree murder.

Frazier's attorney James Jackson told the panel Frazier was mentally ill and there was no "meaningful deliberation" that could justify a first-degree verdict.

The jury asked to rehear portions of the testimony given by Frazier's mother, Patricia Pascal, 42, who lives in a trailer on the hillside property where Frazier lived in a shack. Frazier had turned his back on her when she took the stand.

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