

Summers extradited for murder hearing

By TINA MAY
Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — Roy Summers, charged in the baffling murder of his ex-wife and the kidnapping of her two daughters more than three years ago, was extradited to here from Oregon Tuesday to face formal arraignment.

After months of delays and legal wrangling between Summers' attorney and district attorney's representatives here, Summers was served last week with an extradition warrant signed by Gov. Brown and forwarded to Oregon Gov. Victor Atiyeh.

The suspect had been in a Bend jail since November when he was charged with attacking his seventh wife, Connie, and breaking her arm in eight places. In February he was convicted of misdemeanor assault in that case and given a year's jail sentence.

Summers, 39, is charged with murder and kidnapping in the case here. Four other persons — three of whom have already faced preliminary hearings — have been charged as accessories.

Beverly Wise, 26, was discovered stabbed to death March 30, 1977, at her home here and her children, Brandi Jondell Summers, then 5, and Tiffani Wise, then 2, were missing, apparently taken by the killer. Summers is Brandi's father.

The children have never been found, but since San Bernardino police reopened the investigation last September, people in Idaho, Northern California and Nevada have told detectives they've seen the girls — sometimes with Summers — in those areas over the last three years.

The latest sightings were last February near Grass Valley, a community about 50 miles north-east of Sacramento.

Handcuffed, but smiling, and dressed in a three-piece tan corduroy suit, Summers was escorted from an airplane Tuesday afternoon at Ontario International Airport by detectives John McDonald and Don Meyer.

Before being placed inside a car waiting to take him to San Bernardino County Jail, he told a reporter to contact his attorney, David Weiner, of Placerville in northern California.

"He's an attorney I can trust against this frame," he said. "It's police corruption." Before he could say more, he was whisked away.

But Weiner, who was retained by Summers' family early this year, may not end up defending Summers. In a telephone interview Tuesday, Weiner said he was "waiting for word from the

family because of the tremendous expense ... because of the complexity of the case."

Police and the District Attorney's Office have compiled more than 1,000 pages of interviews, notes and other "discovery" in the case that have been given to the defense attorney.

Weiner said he didn't know how much it would cost to defend Summers, but said \$100,000 was not an unrealistic estimate.

"I would doubt whether it would be more," he said. "But there are so many witnesses saying a variety of things ... just transporting those witnesses will be a big expense."

"I'm willing to take the case if they can pay me. I want to do it. I think it will be a very difficult case to prove (against Summers). It doesn't make sense. It doesn't compute that a guy would murder and then take two little kids all over and be seen everywhere."

Everyone charged so far has maintained his or her innocence.

One of those is Summers' sister, Karen Carino, 31, of Springfield, Va. She has been charged with accessory to both murder and kidnapping, but is not in jail.

San Bernardino County Chief Deputy District Attorney Joseph Canty, who is handling the case, said Tuesday he plans to extradite her eventually. After her arrest in Virginia last November, Canty didn't extradite her within 90 days so a fugitive warrant against her was dropped.

Police believe that a few months after the children were abducted,

they visited Carino's home in Pleasanton, Calif., where she then lived.

A Boise, Idaho, couple, Michael and Juanita Iwakiri, have also been charged in the case.

Mr. Iwakiri, 31, is charged with perjury and accessory to murder and kidnapping. He was bound over for trial following a preliminary hearing here in April, but was released on his own recognizance and has since returned to Boise.

His wife, 27, was charged in Idaho with what would be the equivalent in California of felony child concealment. She was released on her own recognizance soon after her arrest in February and remained so after her preliminary hearing.

Neighbors of the Iwakiris have told investigators that Juanita babysat Brandi and Jondell between April 1977 and June 1979 at her Boise home.

The remaining suspect, Lee Casner, 37, of Cedar Ridge, near Grass Valley, has been charged with accessory to murder and kidnapping and felony child concealment.

Police followed a trail to him when they learned Brandi identified herself last September as "Brandi Summers" at a Garden City, Idaho, church before quickly correcting herself and saying she was "Brandi Casner."

Lee Casner's name was also found in an address book police confiscated when they searched Summers' Oregon home last fall.

Levy for flood control proposed

By BILL ROGERS
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SAN BERNARDINO — A proposal for levying property assessments to launch the county, as never before, into a program of building its needed flood control facilities was presented in preliminary form Tuesday to the Board of Supervisors.

Flood Control Director Dino Di Pietro proposed assessments of some \$25 million a year — nearly three times what was paid in property taxes for county flood control purposes before Proposition 13 — to raise \$500 million over a 20-year period for construction of major channels and debris basins.

The primary aim, he said, is to build virtually all of the major

floodworks the county needs. The assessments would be levied in cities and unincorporated areas.

The supervisors asked that the proposal be put in final form for a public hearing next month to determine whether it should be placed on the November ballot. Under a new state law, the board could levy the assessments for only one year without voter approval.

Di Pietro estimated the assessments might average about \$20 per home each year in the San Bernardino Valley but would be much higher on businesses and industries in accordance with a formula geared to the amount of storm runoff coming from various types of properties. Higher rates would be paid by commercial and