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## AMSEC 04 – Richard Eberling Background Investigation

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**RICHARD EBERLING**  
**BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**

**BIRTH**

Richard Lenardic was born in St. Ann's Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio, December 8, 1929. Richard's birth weight was 6 pounds, 10 ounces, length 47 cm., head 36, chest 32. Mother's name is Louise Lenardic, 1432 E. 33rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio. Louise's age 20, born in Yugoslavia. Her occupation is listed as a factory worker. Father listed as unknown.

Louise served as a domestic worker in 1928. She was unmarried at the time of Richard's birth. Louise's father's name is Charles Lenardic. After Richard was born, Louise married a baseball player and soon divorced him. She later remarried and moved to Oklahoma. She died as Louise Harter in 1987.

Louise Lenardic left Richard as an infant with St. Ann's Hospital, but never signed adoption papers. Louise was referred to in a Children's Aid Society report as being stubborn, difficult to deal with, slow in thought.

## **SOURCE**

Exhibit 1 Birth Certificate - Richard Lenardic

Exhibit 2 Documents obtained from Children's Aid Society (CAS)

Richard's father is unknown. There have been several rumors regarding identity of the father, but to date, Richard's father remains unknown.

## **1929-1939**

### **PLACEMENTS:**

According to Children's Aid Society (CAS) documents and statements made by Richard Eberling to Cynthia Cooper, he lived in a series of foster homes until 1938, when he was sent to CAS.

- (a) Richard remained at St. Ann's until June 14, 1930
- (b) Mrs. Macklem, Humane Society Boarding Home For Babies, June 14, 1930 to June 30, 1930
- (c) Mrs. Elizabeth Dynes Boarding Home, June 30, 1930 to June 19, 1932
- (d) Hogans - possible adoption home - not successful in handling, June 19, 1932 to May 2, 1934. Richard was hospitalized January 10, 1933 to March 29, 1933.

- (e) Lacys, N. Ridgeville, boarding home for babies, May 2, 1934 to January 6, 1937
- (f) Draimes in Clyde, Ohio, June 6, 1937 to July 1938. Could not get along. Family asked to have him removed.
- (g) Richard claimed in conversations with Cynthia Cooper, that he was sexually assaulted in one of the foster homes.
- (h) Children's Aid Society, July 1938 to September 1939
- (i) Eberlings - September 1939 to 1965

**SOURCE**

Exhibit   2   Children's Aid Society Documents

During Richard Lenardic's stay at Children's Aid Society, the following information was recorded:

Richard was given psychological examination on March 21, 1933. Results - IQ 105.2. He had the normal childhood disease, Chicken Pox 1937, Measles 1931, Whooping Cough 1931, wet bed at night.

The child has been in several foster homes. "He always presented problems. He had severe temper tantrums. At one time, it was thought he might have epilepsy. Was in Babies and Children's and Rainbow Hospitals for observation. Masturbation, enuresis, untruthfulness, and taking things which did not belong to him have been problems."

Recommendations on CAS medical report states, "In view of feminine body build and tendencies, a course of Antuitrin 5 is advised, (10cc) 1-17-39." Exhibit 2.

Documented results of CAS treatment conference held May 15, 1939, by two doctors, Child Guidance Clinic representatives, and several members of CAS staff show the following:

"He demands much attention from the classroom teacher and sulks or cries when this is not given him."

"In the group of children, Richard does not play with other boys. His greatest interest seems to be in doing work about the department. This he does well, but he wants his efforts appreciated by the staff worker. He has appeared to become more feminine in his interests and actions, and has definitely been labelled "sissy" by the boys. Richard has also been the leader of disturbances in the dormitory and has paraded in an exhibitionistic manner, danced, jumped on other children's beds, and been generally disturbing after being put to bed. Recently, he has engaged in sex play with two boys -- both of whom have had previous experience."

"With the institutional social worker, Richard has done a series of finger paintings during weekly interviews. These demonstrate attention to decorative detail which is a tendency of schizophrenic patients and show no artistic ability, although Richard has great interest in drawing and decoration of all kinds. He seemed to express his feminine interests indirectly through interest in the worker's room, clothing, and jewelry. He showed exaggerated drive for attention concerning his paintings, and this activity has meant most to him in terms of what notice others give it."

"The psychiatrist observed that Richard was taller and thinner than on previous examination, that his asthenic body build is more pronounced, and that he appears to be more feminine. There have been no appreciable results from the course in Antuitrin-S. Richard was friendly, but showed lack of spontaneity in talking with psychiatrist. He showed marked imaginative powers with a decrease, however, in the bizarre and fantastic qualities before exhibited."

"IN THE DISCUSSION, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT WE ARE DEALING WITH A DISTINCTLY FEMININE BOY. THIS QUALITY IN THIS CHILD IS SOMETHING ORGANICALLY FIXED AND IS NOT DUE TO TRAINING. EFFORTS MADE TO INCULCATE MASCULINE TRAITS HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL. THERE IS MUCH QUESTION ABOUT WHAT BRINGS ABOUT SUCH CONDITIONS OF HOMOSEXUALITY WHICH HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH TRAINING. THEY ARE NOT HEREDITARY. PERHAPS THE CAUSE LIES IN THE INTRAUTERINE LIFE OF THE CHILD. THIS BOY HAD A BREECH DELIVERY, WAS ILLEGITIMATE, AND THERE WAS A QUESTION OF PREMATUREITY. HE HAS NOT PROGRESSED NORMALLY AND HAS BEEN UNDER WEIGHT ALL HIS LIFE. WE WONDER IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG IN THE TOTAL DEVELOPMENT OF SUCH A CHILD. ANTUITRIN-S TREATMENT HAD NO AFFECT ON THIS CONDITION. THIS SHOULD BE

CONTINUED IN LARGE DOSES, HOWEVER, SO THAT WE CAN OBSERVE WHAT MAY HAPPEN. WE WONDER WHETHER THIS MIGHT BE THE BEGINNING OF A SCHIZOPHRENIA. THE ATTENTION TO DETAIL SHOWN IN THIS CHILD'S DRAWINGS IS AN EARLY CHARACTERISTIC OF THE PRAECOX. WE MAY SEE THIS CHILD DEVELOP A DEFINITE PSYCHOTIC STATE, AND THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO AT THE PRESENT TO HELP HIM."

"The question of what we can do with such a child arises. Because of his physical characteristics and because he is self-centered, egocentric, and narcissistic, he is likely to become involved in homosexual difficulties. Boys who have already been in difficulty will make advances toward him. Richard is always parading himself before other children. For this reason, he is a moral hazard and probably should not be placed in a home with other children."

"The average foster home will scarcely accept this boy. He would be a liability if placed with other children who would probably tease him and yet be annoyed by him. He is also difficult in the school environment. PERHAPS IT IS BEST TO MAKE UP OUR MINDS THAT THIS BOY IS INSTITUTIONAL MATERIAL FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE, AND THEREFORE, THAT HE SHOULD BE PLACED NOW. WE DO NOT HAVE AVAILABLE THE SPECIAL KIND OF INSTITUTION THAT HE WOULD NEED, HOWEVER. HE WOULD NOT FIT INTO PARMADALE, AND IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO SEND HIM THERE."

"Since an adequate institutional set-up that would fill this boy's needs is not possible, the whole object should be to see that there is as little moral hazard to the community as possible. Placement might be arranged in a relatively small town where his actions could be watched more readily. Foster parents should be able to fall in with his bend toward feminine activities and to

accept him as he is. PERHAPS HE COULD BE GIVEN TRAINING IN HOUSEWORK AND HELPED TO GET SATISFACTION FROM SUCH WORK. PERHAPS HE MIGHT WORK INTO SOME SORT OF INTERIOR DECORATOR'S HELPER."

"The agency should plan such a placement for Richard as soon as possible, as there is no reason for further treatment at Children's Aid Society." Exhibit 2.

The following information was obtained from summary from Cuyahoga County Child Welfare Board to Children's Aid Society, dated July 23, 1938. Reference Louise Lenardic - parent, Richard Lenardic - child. Exhibit 2.

#### **IDENTIFYING DATA**

"White, male, only child, eight years seven months, born December 8, 1929, St. Ann's Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. Completed 2nd grade at Clyde Public School, Clyde, Ohio; Roman Catholic. Mother born in Yugoslavia. Alleged father born in Cleveland. Mother last heard of in 1936, living at West 48 Street."

#### **STUDY REQUESTED BY:**

"Mary P. McIntyre, Case Worker, Cuyahoga County Child Welfare Board."



**REASONS FOR REQUEST BY:**

"Recommendations for further placement and treatment of problems."

**PROBLEM:**

"Patient has a constant drive for attention. He has been continually getting into difficulty at school by taking things from other children and by annoying the children near him. He is very active and nervous, and it is difficult for the teacher to get him to concentrate. He is very untruthful and will never admit that he is wrong. Teacher has attempted to handle him by praising him and allowing him special privileges, but he took advantage of this and the other children objected. Punishment seemed to have no effect. At home, foster mother did not question his truthfulness until she received reports from the outside. He always had a story to tell foster mother which seemed reasonable. His stealing episode at church was probably the final incident which made foster mother decide that she was making no progress with him and it would be better to have him replaced. It was true that they were not originally interested in such a young child, and he may not receive an adequate amount of affection and love to satisfy him. He has been praised for the good things he has done, and foster mother has tried to ignore the undesirable things to some extent. Family have a good understanding in the community and his behavior reflects on them."

"Patient has always presented problems. First, he had severe temper tantrums. He held his breath to the point where he became unconscious. Masturbation and enuresis have also been problems. Enuresis continues to be a problem at times when he gets overly excited. His untruthfulness and taking things which do not belong to him are at present causing the most difficulty."

A. THE PATIENT:

- I. Health: Patient was illegitimate. Mother entered St. Ann's Hospital on December 8, 1929. She was in labor at the time, and patient was born that day. It was impossible for doctor to say whether or not patient was premature. Labor continued for fourteen hours. It was a Breech birth. Weight 6 pounds, 10 ounces."

"Patient was removed from St. Ann's Hospital on June 14, 1930, and placed in a foster home. At that time, he was under-weight. In 1931, he had measles, mumps, and whooping cough. In February 1937, he had Chicken Pox. His hearing was questioned at one time, but there is no specific information regarding this."

"Patient had severe temper tantrums from the time he was first placed in a foster home. He would hold his breath until his face was blue and he would fall over on the floor. Foster mother's treatment was to throw cold water in his face. His

first two placements were in Humane Society sub homes. The first placement lasting sixteen days and the second from June 30, 1930 to June 19, 1932. Foster mother believed that at times, these were caused from fear. Patient improved some in this home. On June 19, 1932, he was placed in the home of Mrs. J. Hogan, which was hoped would be a permanent home. Family had no children of their own, and were interested in having a son. His adjustment for the first ten days was fine. After that, he again began to have temper tantrums which continually grew worse to the point where it was thought he might be epileptic. These spells would be caused by his not having his own way and at times fear of new situations. He would hold his breath until he became unconscious. This foster mother used same treatment as former foster mother or putting him in a tub of cold water. She also spanked him on several occasions. He then began to walk peculiarly throwing his right leg and falling frequently. In September 1932, he was seen in the Orthopedic Clinic. There were no definite physical findings except the circumference of his right leg was slightly less than the left. Foster family were consistent in their disciplining of patient and tried to ignore these spells as much as possible. As spells became more frequent, foster mother was under the impression that at times they came on unexpectedly and patient did try to fight them off. Several times, enuresis occurred while he was unconscious. He did not bite his tongue or work his body in any way. There was no evacuation during these spells. On January 20, 1933, he was admitted to Babies and Children's Hospital for observation where he remained until February 4, 1933,

when he was placed at Rainbow Hospital. While at Babies and Children's Hospital, he held his breath once, but did not go into unconsciousness. He made a terrific drive for attention. Physically he was alright. An x-ray of his skull had shown nothing. The doctor could not make a diagnosis. Since he had to remain in bed all of the time at Babies and Children's Hospital, and he had never had one of these spells in bed while at foster home, it was decided to transfer him to Rainbow Hospital where he would be up."

"While at Rainbow Hospital, he had temper tantrums, kicking and screaming, but not becoming unconscious. His course was quite uneventful. It was definitely apparent that patient reacted to new people and situations poorly and could not be forced into them without violent outbursts of temper. This was particularly noticeable during the first two weeks. It would be overcome with patience and a gradual growth of confidence in the person who worked with him and his temper tantrums became less frequent. They were never severe enough to suggest convulsions. His speech defect was not so pronounced and they insisted that he try to enunciate clearly. His imitative behavior was noticeable, but he had some initiative. The necessity of allowing patient to use his own initiative and to become more self reliant was stressed."

"On March 29, 1933, he was discharged from Rainbow Hospital and returned to foster home. In the meantime, foster parents had taken an eleven month old boy

from agency. Patient had been told about this before they took child and child was with foster mother when she called for patient on this date. Patient immediately reacted with his same type of behavior and in the first nine days in foster home, had fourteen spells. He became very stubborn and defiant and imitated the baby's behavior. He would not allow the baby to play with any of his toys. Although he seemed to like child, he was evidently very jealous of him. Foster parents finally decided that he would never improve and was removed from their home. In this next foster home, patient had only a few temper tantrums and in last home has never had any."

"Patient had a tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy on November 16, 1932."

"Patient had a large dark spot at the end of his spine which was claimed to be a birth mark."

"Tuberculin and Wassermann tests on March 3, 1932, were negative".

II. "Habits: Patient was very slow in walking and talking. At two years of age was just beginning to walk."

"Feeding: Patient was breast fed for one month. He was then given Similac. They had difficulty in getting him to eat after he returned from Rainbow Hospital

as he would play with his food, but when no attention was given him in this respect, he began to eat again. His eating habits are regular and table manners have been acceptable".

"Personal Hygiene: There is no information regarding time when toilet habits were established. Nocturnal enuresis has always been a problem. This has lessened in his two last placements. Recently it has occurred only when he has been excited before going to sleep. In the last home, it occurred after visits of former foster parents. Foster parents reported that promising him a reward for "dry nights" was the most successful method to use."

"Speech Defects: Until the time patient left Rainbow Hospital, it was very difficult to understand him. There seemed to be no physical cause for this. At Rainbow Hospital, he was encouraged to enunciate clearly and gradually seemed to forget his baby talk. Masturbation was a problem which continued for a long time. This usually happened in the mornings when he would remain in bed after awakening. This has not been observed in last foster home."

- III. "School: Patient entered first grade at Holy Trinity School, North Ridgeville, Ohio, in September 1935. He found it very difficult to settle down to routine and the teacher told him that it might be better for him to discontinue with his school

work for another year. After this talk, he was much more conforming. He was not happy at school and was not accepted by the children. They called him a sissy and a baby and many times he came home crying. When foster father suggested that he hit the children when they hit him, he stated that he did not like to fight. He used profane language at times at school. Although he seemed capable of doing the work, he did not apply himself and was not promoted."

"In September 1936, he did not enter school at the beginning of the term as foster mother had requested his removal and also foster family were having difficulties with their neighbors and did not want patient to ride on same bus with neighbors' children. Case worker insisted that he be sent to school and he did enter several weeks late. His adjustment was better, although he was still fidgety and nervous. His teacher was surprised to find that he had absorbed so much of the work from the previous year. In January 1937, he entered Clyde Public School. He showed a marked improvement both in his behavior and school work at first. He later became quite annoying to the teacher because of his continual drive for attention. However, teacher seemed to be able to handle him quite well and kept him interested in the work. His final grades were as follows: Conduct--B, Effort--A, Attitude--A, Spelling--D, Reading--C plus, Writing--C plus, Mathematics--B, Art--B, Music--B. (Ratings A--95-100, B--90-94, C--80-89, D--70-79)"

"Patient entered the second grade in September 1937. At the beginning of the semester, he was in the B division. He was transferred to A division as it was necessary to make room for a very slow moving child in the B division. Miss Cleveland, his teacher, had several years of experience in the lower grades and was considered a fine teacher. She was very much interested in patient, but found him very difficult to understand. His work was satisfactory when he would put forth any effort. He continually wanted attention and teacher found it difficult to ignore many things that she would if it were not for the other children. He always wanted to help her clean the boards, erasers, etc. Teacher found him to be very untruthful and he would never admit that he was lying, even when confronted with the truth. He took a tangerine from a child in the room and insisted that he brought it from home, even though foster mother told him that they did not have any tangerines in the house. Another time, he took a pad belonging to another youngster. He insisted that it was his, but finally said he would give it to the youngster. He brought an artificial plant to teacher which had been outside and insisted he received it from foster father's store. Teacher thought that he probably took it from the cemetery. Patient was always quarreling with the other children in the room, and for this reason, was disliked by most of them. He always wanted to have his own way, so consequently, the children did not want to play with him. Foster mother kept in contact with the teacher and was cooperative in her plans. Teacher felt she was at a loss as to know just how to handle patient. He was promoted to third grade. Grades for the year were as follows: Conduct--C,



Effort--A, Attitude--A, Spelling--B, Reading--C, Writing--C plus, Mathematics--C, English--C, Art--B, Music--B."

"On June 10, 1932, patient was given a mental test at the Board of Education. He was most uncooperative and was terribly frightened. Dr. Luckey believed he was normal, but suggested a retest."

"On March 21, 1933, he was tested at Rainbow Hospital. Chronological age 3 years two months, mental age three years four months, Intelligence Quotient 105.2. Comment was "patient appeared to be a timid, retiring child, who looked to adults in doing anything which was at all difficult for him. His timidity made him appear to be a bit slow in his reaction. Very little intelligible verbal response was obtained due to his enunciation and also because he spoke in a timid scarcely audible voice."

- IV. "Personality: Patient is a tall youngster for his age. He is thin and frail looking. He has large brown eyes and brown hair. He has a nice complexion. He is a hyperactive youngster. Patient has always presented problems. At six months of age, he had severe temper tantrums which were later questioned as epilepsy. However, upon different treatment, he overcame these. He has never had a tantrum since placement in last foster home. Shortly after coming to the Draime home, he told foster mother that he was going to get real mad if he could not do

just as he pleased, and foster mother told him that she would get just as mad as he could, that he would not frighten her. He seemed quite surprised and this seemed to end this. Patient has no fear whatever of punishment. Nothing seems to have any affect upon him."

"When first placed in the Draime home, he seemed to improve in all respects. He was not as nervous as he had formerly been, and was taught to sit quietly for some length of time. Foster parents treated him on a more grown up level and took it for granted that he was always treated this way, instead of being babied. Foster mother did want a child more of her son Richard's age, rather than patient's age, but at the time, another Cuyahoga County Child Welfare Board boy was in the home who was fourteen years of age. Neither her son nor this boy paid much attention to patient. Patient did annoy them by getting into their things and by tattling on them. Foster mother for a long time believed patient and did not question his truthfulness until she received reports from school concerning his taking things from other youngsters. In the fall, there was a funeral at their church, which is directly across from the school, and the cemetery is in the rear and there were a great number of flowers placed on the grave. After everyone had left, patient went over and took all of these off and put them on foster daughter's grave. Patient had never seen this daughter. He denied doing it, but was seen by someone, so foster mother insisted that he go up there with her son and put them all back. Another time they were having a Street Fair in the town.

Plans were made for patient to go with family on a certain evening. The evening before foster mother had to go out and no one was home except for patient. Since foster father was on his way home, foster mother left. When foster father reached home, patient was gone. He returned late in the evening and told foster father that foster mother said he could go. For punishment, he was deprived of going the next evening."

"His recent behavior at church has caused foster mother a great deal of concern. He went into make a visit with a little girl one day after school. Instead of kneeling down, he went directly up to the alter and rubbed his hand along to see if it were dusted, telling the girl that foster mother told him to do this. The child became frightened and ran home telling her mother of this. At instructions which he attends every Saturday, he has been causing disturbance. On one occasion, he continued to talk aloud after Father Donahue had requested him to be quiet. He continued to such an extent that Father told him to leave his seat and go to the front of the church and kneel. He began to scream and finally he had to be sent home. On Good Friday, the money was missing out of the basket at the front of the church and patient was the last one there. Father Donahue told foster mother about this, and one day at lunch time when they were alone, she asked him what he had done with the money. He was so taken by surprise that he admitted taking it, but said that he had put it back into church. There was no way of verifying this. It has been a constant worry to foster mother. He will always stay to his story no matter what evidence there is against him."

"Patient claims to like foster home, but states that he is lonesome. He does not have anyone to play with in the neighborhood. Foster mother hesitates to permit him to go too far away, because of the many things he brings home with him. She has made an effort to have children come there to play as they live at the end of a street and have plenty of space for play. He does not play well with other youngsters. He enjoys dressing up in girl's clothing and dancing around. Recently, foster mother's best shoes were found at the end of the lot next to them. He had taken them out to play in them, and when found, they were in no condition to wear again."

"Patient never seems to hold a grudge. No matter how he was punished, he forgets it immediately. He seems to have a fine relationship with both foster parents. There has been no direct evidence that their own son has been jealous of patient. He does like affection, but probably this has not been manifested outwardly in this home as it was in former homes."

"Patient has told foster mother that his real parents are Mr. and Mrs. Hogan. They have visited twice since he has been in this home. This was not with the agency's permission. The Lacey's also visited and patient visited in their home last summer. Agency requested that this contact should be discouraged. After these visits, patient was anoretic. He asked about his mother once while in the Lacey home and told that she was dead as foster mother did not know what to tell him." Exhibit 2.

B. THE FAMILY

I. Paternal Relatives: Unknown.

II. "Maternal Relatives: Louis Lenardic, maternal grandmother, died in 1916. No information available regarding her. Charles Lenardic, maternal grandfather, was born in Yugoslavia. He never supported family and was reported to have drank a great deal. He never accepted any responsibilities and sent all of his children out to work at an early age. He never showed any interest in family. When last heard of in 1932, he was living with his two sons on East 33 Street."

"Maternal aunts--Mrs. Mary Schmaltz lives on East side. Has a family of her own. At one time, had her younger sisters in her home, but did not give them proper supervision. Her reputation was questionable. Mrs. Rose Streiner, has a family of her own. Was considered to be a better influence for her younger sisters than Mrs. Schmaltz."

"Anna Lenardic, born 1905. Anna was sent to Cleveland Girl's School by Municipal Court as she was implicated with a man. It was thought that she was pregnant, but later found out that she was not. She remained there for one and one-half years, and made a fairly satisfactory adjustment. She decided to remain there. She was given a mental test on May 6, 1919, mental age eight years."

"Mollie, born 1907. Mollie did not get along well at home and did housework at an early age. On April 11, 1922, was given a mental test, Intelligence Quotient 68, mental age nine years seven months. Mollie had an illegitimate child at St. Ann's. The baby died."

"Amelia and Catherine--when last heard of were nuns at Magdeline Order at Cleveland Girls' School. They were reported at one time to be delinquent and were both dull mentally."

- III. "Mother: Louise or Lucille Lenardic, born September 20, 1909, in Yugoslavia, Roman Catholic. When last heard of in May 1935, was living with her sister Mollie at 1773 West 48 Street. In April 1935, she married a William Shoemaker whom she claimed left her two days after their marriage. She denied knowing the reason for his leaving."

"There is no information regarding mother's early life. After her mother's death, the family separated and mother lived with friends in Sidney, Ohio, for a time. She completed the eighth grade. She was described as being of borderline intelligence, felt inferior, and lacked self-confidence. While at St. Ann's, she was very obstinate and uncooperative. Although she did not want child placed permanently, she had no plan to offer. She needed encouragement and close supervision. Mother never got along with any of her sisters except Mollie. She has worked in factories and has done housework."

"Mother always stated she would never consent to patient's adoption, but has shown no interest in him. In October 1930, she made two payments on his board. Mother has never seen patient since he was placed in the Hogan home and it is doubtful if she saw him since leaving St. Ann's."

- IV. "Foster Parents: Present foster family consists of foster father and foster mother, Mr. and Mrs. A. Draime, and their son, Richard. Foster parents are in their early forties and Richard is fourteen years of age. A daughter, 19 years of age, is in St. Louis taking a nurses training course."

"Foster mother is a very capable person. She has a very pleasing personality and has so far been very successful in handling children. She believes a youngster should be taught to take care of himself, although their own son was ill when he was young and required a great deal of attention, they did not spoil him. He is making a very satisfactory adjustment. Foster mother takes an active part in all things in the community and the church. She is always ready and willing to help. She is an efficient housekeeper. Family enjoys company and encourage the children to bring their friends home. They enjoy quite a happy home life".

"Foster father is more reserved than foster mother. He is a butcher and works in a store in Clyde. He has been interested in patient and has tried to gain his confidence and help him overcome his difficulties. Patient seems fond of father.

Patient usually walks to the corner in the evening to meet him. Foster parents get along very well together."

"Foster home is located in Clyde, Ohio, a small town seventy-five miles west of Cleveland. Family lives a distance from the business section of town. It is across the main highway, and there are few houses on their street. Home is at the end of a short street, and there is plenty of space to play. Boys have a ball diamond next to house. Family have their own vegetable and flower gardens. Boys help foster mother with these."

"Family have an eight room house. It is in good repair. Home is comfortably furnished. Patient has his own bed in a room with one of the boys."

"Foster family are active members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. They are devout in their religious practices. There is a close connection with their pastor, Father Donahue, and he, too, has been concerned with patient's behavior. Patient has had foster son's toys to play with and has also had a number of his own. He seems more interested in dressing in foster mother's clothes than anything else. Family plans recreation together such as going to the lake swimming, going on picnics, etc. Foster mother permits child to attend movies occasionally when there is a suitable picture. Foster mother tries to keep patient busy and plans things for him to do."



## PREVIOUS LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

"Patient was born at St. Ann's on December 8, 1929, and remained there until June 14, 1930, when he was placed in the Humane Society sub home of Mrs. Macklem, 4269 Warner Road."

"On June 30, 1930, he was transferred to the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Dynes, 610 East 123 Street, Protestant home. This was a home that was used for babies and foster mother was considered as being very capable of handling small children. Since this was a Protestant home, it was necessary to move patient to a Catholic home, and on June 19, 1932, he was removed to the home of Mrs. Hogan, at 1274 East 90 Street."

"The Hogan home was chosen as they wanted a child that they could keep permanently, and it was hoped that patient would adjust in the home. The Hogans had been married several years and had no children. Both of them were interested in children and spent a great deal of time going to Parmadale and taking children out. All of the children in the neighborhood were fond of them. They were not successful in handling patient and after another child was placed in their home during patient's absence, decided to give patient up."

"On May 2, 1934, he was placed with Mrs. Catherine Lacy, North Ridgeville, Ohio, Catholic boarding home. Foster family consisted of foster father, age 41, foster mother, age 40, two daughters, Jane, 18, and Peggy, 16, and foster father's father, age 66. Family had a small poultry farm on Route 20. His adjustment in the beginning was quite satisfactory, but gradually foster

parents' daughter Jane became very jealous of patient and caused a great deal of friction in the home. Foster father was very fond of patient and would have preferred his remaining in the home, but there was nothing that he could do. At foster mother's request, he was removed to the Draime home on January 6, 1937."

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND SSCH REPORTS

"Information was secured from Humane Society and Children's Bureau records, from reports received from Lakeside Hospital, Babies and Children's Hospital, and Rainbow Hospital. Also from summaries sent to agency."

### TREATMENT

"Cuyahoga County Child Welfare Board placed and supervised patient in foster homes. Every effort was made to work with foster parents and to have them carry out suggestions in the handling of patient's problems. This has not worked out very successfully." Exhibit 2.

Medical Diagnosis: Exhibit 2.

- (a) "He is dolichocephalic" (Webster's New World Dictionary--having a relatively long head; having a head whose width is less than 76 percent of its length.)

- (b) "He has a history of blackouts which have not been adequately diagnosed."
- (c) "Possible severe neurological symptoms."
- (d) "January 1933 was admitted to hospital for observation (two hospitals) released March 19, 1933."
- (e) "One referral states possible epilepsy."
- (f) "Years later, Dr. Karnosh, Cleveland Clinic refers to one problem as St. Vitus Dance."

#### GEORGE AND CHRISTINE EBERLING HOME

Richard Lenardic was placed in the Eberling home located at 3961 Bradley Road, Westlake, Ohio (Westlake called Dover until the 1940's).

Foster father: George Eberling, age 69 in 1939. George farmed 40 acres. He previously had a construction business. George's third marriage was to Christine Klinker, Richard's foster mother. George had five grown children, as well as adult grandchildren. John Eberling was one of the grandchildren. John was in the military service when Richard Lenardic arrived at the Eberling home. George and Christine had other foster children, all boys, including John Antelic. Richard was the youngest foster child and entered third grade upon placement at the Eberling home. All of the foster children helped with the farm work.

George Eberling was born in 1870, died July 9, 1946, at age of 76. The death certificate states that the cause of death was cerebral apoplexy. Family members suspect that he drank poison thinking that it was his medication. Exhibit 3.

George Eberling left a will naming his wife Christine as beneficiary of a life estate with all powers to manage and sell properly, naming her also as executrix, with any remaining estate to go to his children upon Christine's death. Exhibit 4.

### **NAME CHANGE**

Richard Lenardic filed a petition to change his name to Richard George Eberling August 31, 1948. One Alice Hart signed as Eberling's guardian. Eberling claims Alice Hart was a social worker. Exhibit 5.

### **HIGH SCHOOL.**

Richard Eberling stated that he was prohibited from participating in sports by his foster mother. In interviews with Cindy Cooper, Eberling expresses resentment in not being allowed to participate in sports, Exhibit 46. Interviews with former high school classmates Sally Hutcherson and Barbara Smith Morman disclosed that Eberling was both quiet and energetic in high school. He started his house cleaning business while in school and paid other students to help him. He did not date, did not go to senior prom, and did not participate in sports. Picture in high school year book Exhibit 6.

## MILITARY

Eberling was declared 4F for the draft. Military records. During an interview with Cooper, Eberling states that the reason he was classified 4F was due to his "blackouts." Exhibit 7.

## BARBARA ANN KINZEL

Barbara Ann Kinzel was, according to interviews with Eberling, the only woman he ever loved. Barbara lived in Avon Lake Village, Ohio, and worked as a nurse. Her date of birth is September 26, 1932. She never married. According to Eberling, he and his foster mother Christine attended Barbara's father's funeral in December 1955, where he met Barbara. Barbara owned a 1954 red Ford convertible. Eberling and Barbara were returning home from Michigan, Eberling was driving, when their car struck the rear of a parked truck. The collision involved the passenger side of the convertible. Barbara was killed and Richard suffered some head injuries. Ira McConnell, driver of the truck, said the vehicle was parked six feet off the concrete highway. Richard Eberling stated the truck was partially on the road. Exhibit 8 traffic accident report. The report supports Eberling. The death certificate shows that an autopsy was ordered. A diligent effort was made to obtain a copy of the autopsy report without success, death certificate Exhibit 9. News article dated July 6, 1956, Exhibit 10. There are questions arising from accident that remain unanswered. According to the accident report, the area where the accident occurred is designated business and residential. The road was straight with upgrade. The weather was cloudy, but vision was not obscured. The condition of the road was dry, no

defects. The highway was 23 feet wide with shoulders of nine feet. Eberling was traveling 50-55 miles per hour. Conditions alone, raise questions on why the accident could not have been avoided. In checking with the funeral directors in Monroe County, Michigan, we were told that autopsies were not ordered in accident cases unless the circumstances were unusual or suspicious.

Barbara Kinzel worked as a nurse for Bay View Hospital. We found in the files of Bill Corrigan, a handwritten document which included interviews with personnel at Bay View Hospital. The document included notes on Barbara Kinzel, indicating that she worked at Bay View Hospital at the time of the Marilyn Sheppard murder. The notes further indicate that she had, on one occasion, provided care to Dr. Sam Sheppard right after the murder. Two years later, July 5, 1956, Barbara Kinzel died in a vehicle accident in her vehicle driven by Richard Eberling. Corrigan file notes Exhibit 11. (Note: Marilyn Sheppard was murdered July 4, 1954).

After leaving high school, Eberling pushed his window cleaning business to the point he was able to save some money. He managed to acquire small parcels of the George Eberling farm from Christine Eberling. The Cuyahoga County property records show Richard Eberling acquired the George Eberling farm over a period of 14 years.

February 2, 1951	Parcel 12
July 13, 1956	Parcel 13 (Eight days after Kinzel died)
January 22, 1962	Parcel 16
December 9, 1965	Parcel 16 (House)

## PSYCHIATRIC EVALUATION<sup>1\*</sup>

On July 23, 1938, summary form Cuyahoga County Child Welfare Board to Children's Aid Society it was reported: Exhibit 2

Patient has a constant drive for attention. He takes things from other children. Active and nervous. Very untruthful and will never admit he is wrong. Punishment seems to have no effect. Always has a story that seems reasonable. Severe temper tantrums. Masturbation and enuresis. Patient reacted to new people and situations poorly and could not be forced into them without violent outbursts of temper. "Patient has no fear of punishment. Nothing has any affect upon him." Enjoys dressing up in girls clothing. Patient never seems to hold a grudge. No matter how he is punished, he forgets it immediately.

ON MAY 15, 1939, THE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY, CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO, REPORTED THAT "WE MAY SEE THIS CHILD DEVELOP A DEFINITE PSYCHOTIC STATE, AND THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT." ....."PERHAPS IT IS BEST TO MAKE UP OUR MINDS THAT THIS BOY IS INSTITUTIONALIZED FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE, AND THEREFORE, THAT HE SHOULD BE PLACED NOW." "WE DO NOT HAVE AVAILABLE THE SPECIAL KIND IF INSTITUTION THAT HE WOULD NEED." ....."SINCE AN ADEQUATE INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP THAT WOULD FILL THIS BOY'S NEEDS IS NOT POSSIBLE, THE WHOLE OBJECT SHOULD BE TO SEE THAT THERE IS AS LITTLE MORAL HAZARD TO THE COMMUNITY AS POSSIBLE. PLACEMENT MIGHT BE

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<sup>1\*</sup> Refer to Psychiatric Profile, following section.

ARRANGED IN A RELATIVELY SMALL TOWN WHERE HIS ACTIONS COULD BE WATCHED MORE READILY. FOSTER PARENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO FALL IN WITH HIS BEND TOWARD FEMININE ACTIVITIES AND TO ACCEPT HIM AS HE IS. PERHAPS HE COULD BE GIVEN TRAINING IN HOUSEWORK AND HELPED TO GET SATISFACTION FROM SUCH WORK. PERHAPS HE MIGHT WORK INTO SOME SORT OF INTERIOR DECORATOR'S HELPER." (See detailed report Exhibit 2.)

"On November 11, 1959, Dr. Louis J. Karnosh, M.D., Cleveland Clinic wrote, "There is a history of St. Vitus Dance for which he was treated at Rainbow Hospital during the time of his adolescent years. Since 1953, he has been subject to compulsive stealing which is one term for Kleptomania. He admits that the impulse to take the stolen material is not normal and that the objects which he stole were all symbolic of some craving which he, himself, is quite unable to crystalize. His foster mother is very demanding, domineering, and a possessive type of person."

**"Our working diagnosis is that of immature personality and obsessive - compulsive neurosis which is manifested by Kleptomaniac tendencies. I believe that he is in dire need of prolonged care which we recommend." Exhibit 12.**

After the murder of Ethel Durkin, Eberling moved to Tennessee. Eberling was treated at Erlanger Hospital, Chattanooga, on November 5, 1988, for stress, rel. disorders, blood tests, observation; Valley Hospital, Chattanooga on December 1, 1988, Dr. Mark W. Peterson and Memorial Hospital, Chattanooga December 1-14, 1988, Dr. Mark W. Peterson. Source: Cleveland Criminal Court Records files (motion for examination to stand trial filed by prosecutor.)



On November 10, 1988, Dr. Mark W. Peterson wrote a letter stating (Eberling) "is currently in a psychiatric hospital undergoing numerous medical and psychiatric tests because of extreme disturbance of behavior and mood. ....he has been unable to coordinate his mental activity, has racing of mood and has potentially life threatening changes in both mood, mental status, and his behavior, based on these physical and psychological changes."

Note: It must be noted that Dr. Peterson wrote this letter at the request of Richard Eberling. Exhibit 13.

### EBERLING BARN FIRE

During the early morning of July 23, 1955, Richard Eberling arrived at the Eberling farm where he was living. He parked his car near the barn. Moments later the barn burst into flame and burned to the ground. Eberling stated that the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion of the hay. Everything in the barn was destroyed including landscaping equipment belonging to John Antelic. This incident occurred a year and 19 days from date of Marilyn Sheppard's murder.

Richard Eberling started to steal items from his customer's homes in 1953, according to Dr. Karnosh (Eberling's psychiatrist Cleveland Clinic) letter dated November 11, 1959 (Exhibit 12).

Eberling was arrested for grand larceny on November 22, 1959. Upon arrest, Eberling admitted to numerous thefts from homes where he had worked. The thefts took place in Westlake,

Lakewood, Rocky River, Bay Village, Fairview Park, North Olmstead, and Cleveland, Ohio. George Jinda, retired detective for Rocky River Police Department, arrested Richard Eberling in November 1959 for grand larceny. Mr. Jinda was interviewed in August 1994 and disclosed the following information. "He (Eberling) was putting up storm windows. The owner was downstairs. He saw a man's wallet. He opened the window and took \$90. Put the money in the bucket. At home, he put the money under a radiator. He admitted to stealing a lot of Royal Doultons..... We got Royal Doultons, small oriental rugs, and these stones. The charge was grand larceny..... He took the stones out of the settings and rings. He kept the stones. It was all there. He just kept it." Exhibit 14.

Richard Eberling admitted to Bay Village Police on November 10, 1959, that he stole a dinner ring, with one diamond and several chips, valued at several hundred dollars, from the residence of Dr. Richard Sheppard, 23346 Lake Road. The ring belonged to Marilyn Sheppard and was stored in a box with Marilyn Sheppard's name on it. Eberling stated that he took the ring in 1958.

Eberling told Bay Village Police that he removed the stones from one of Marilyn's rings, discarded the setting, then removed the large stone from the other ring, but saved the setting, as he did not have the time to remove the small stones.

Eberling stated that previously he had occasion to notice these dinner rings at the home of Dr. Sam Sheppard and Marilyn Sheppard where they were on the dressing table in their bedroom.

"I admired the ring at the time, but I didn't take it." Exhibit 15, signed statement given to Bay Village Police officers.

Richard Eberling was first interviewed by police regarding the murder of Marilyn Sheppard when he was arrested for grand larceny, including the theft of Marilyn Sheppard's rings, in November 1959. During the interrogation by Bay Village Police on November 10, 1959, Eberling was asked:

Q: "Had you ever seen these rings (Marilyn Sheppard's two dinner rings) before you took them from Dr. Richard Sheppard's home?"

A: "Yes, I had seen the large dinner ring lying on Marilyn Sheppard's dresser in Dr. and Marilyn Sheppard's home before Marilyn was murdered. I believe it was the fall before she was murdered."

Q: "What was the occasion of your visit to the home of Marilyn Sheppard?"

A: "I myself had started to work for Dr. Sam and Marilyn Sheppard after she had called me on the phone the fall before she was murdered. I then went to work for them, washing their windows and storms and making the fall change-over from screens to storms. While doing this work from inside, I had occasion an to notice these dinner rings on the dressing room table in their bedroom, I admired this ring at that time, but I didn't take it."

Q: "Did you do any other work for Dr. Sam and Marilyn?"

A: "Yes, in the early part of the summer, that would be in the last week of June 1954."

Q: "What did you do for them at that time?"

A: "I washed the windows and made the spring change-over, inserting the screens."

Q: "Do you recall what date you performed this work?"

A: "It was the early part of the week of the Sunday preceding her death."

Q: "Did anything happen to you while you were there?"

A: "Yes, I cut my finger in an effort to take the storm window out of the window by the kitchen sink, and in doing so, I went about my work throughout the house and down into the basement and at various times dripped in blood in various parts of the house."

Q: "Was anyone present while you were there at the Sam Sheppard house on this occasion?"

A: "No, I was alone."

Q: "Where were you the morning Marilyn Sheppard was murdered?"

A: "The evening before we had guests at our house. They left about 11:30 p.m. I then went upstairs to bed, shut the door and looked out the window, opened it, and went to bed. We have tenants living at the house on the same floor as my bedroom and they were up when I went to bed. I believe their names are Stanly and Joyce Vrabec who now reside in Lakewood on Clarence. The next morning I arose at 7 a.m. and went to 8 o'clock Mass with my mother at St. Peter's church in North Ridgeville. Later that day in the evening, I heard of Marilyn's death over the radio."

Q: "Why didn't you take the bigger ring apart as you did the smaller ring that you stole from Dr. Richard Sheppard's home?"

A: "I had decided that the next time I was called to work at Dr. Richard's home, I would replace the ring and other stones back in their original box." Exhibit 16 signed statement by Richard Eberling obtained from Bay Village Police Department. See page 4 Police Report, Bay Village Police, dated November 12, 1959 Exhibit 16A.

On November 11, 1959, Eberling was again interviewed regarding Marilyn Sheppard, Eberling agreed to take a polygraph. A polygraph was arranged to be run at Shaker Heights P.D. Eberling was taken to Shaker Heights P.D. by City Prosecutor Patrick Gareau (Gareau was a former Cleveland P.D. homicide detective who was assigned to assist Bay Village P.D. during the initial investigation of the murder of Marilyn). Shaker Heights P.D. refused to run the polygraph after their arrival saying that they needed permission from the County. A formal statement is then taken from Eberling by Prosecutor Gareau and witnessed by Sgt. Hubach and Ptl. Duperow.

On November 12, 1959, Cuyahoga County Coroner Samuel Gerber was contacted by Bay Village P.D. officers after Cuyahoga County Prosecutor John Corrigan told them to drop the matter. Eberling was taken to the County Coroner's office and interviewed by Coroner Gerber in the presence of Sgt. Hubach and Ptl. Duperow. Eberling dictated a statement to Dr. Gerber. Dr. Gerber was going to arrange a polygraph or sodium penethol test for Eberling.

On November 13, 1959, Dr. Gerber told Bay Village P.D. that he decided not to give Eberling a test.

On November 19, 1959, a polygraph examination was conducted at Ohio BCI on Richard Eberling by A. Kimball. No deception indicated. Exhibit 17, on November 30, 1959, Bay Village Police Chief John Eaton sent a copy of the polygraph report to Dr. Gerber and to Mr. Gareau. Exhibit 18.

Letters obtained from Bay Village Police Department show that on March 21, 1989, after Eberling was indicted for the murder of Ethel Durkin, Lieutenant James R. Tompkins sent a summary of the 1959 arrest and interrogation of Eberling along with polygraph test strips and questions to be reviewed by an expert (the name and address were left blank on copy provided by Bay Village Police Department). Exhibit 19, letter and summary dated March 21, 1989, obtained from Bay Village Police Department.

On May 1, 1989, results of the review were received by Bay Village Police Department. The party reviewing the 1959 polygraph charts and questions reported that the data was insufficient to render a diagnosis of truth or deception. Exhibit 20 supplementary report obtained from Bay Village Police Department.

On March 1, 1994, Attorney Terry Gilbert arranged for polygrapher Morris E. Ragus to conduct a polygraph test on Eberling in Cleveland, Ohio, where Eberling was awaiting a court appearance. Mr. Ragus' qualifications are submitted as Exhibit 21. Mr. Ragus, based upon a pre-testability test evaluation, was of the opinion that Eberling may not be a good candidate to be polygraphed. Mr. Ragus did not have Eberling's mental health history for review. He arrived at his opinion solely on the pre-testability examination administered to Eberling. Exhibit 22 Ragus report.

As previously noted, Eberling told Bay Village Police officers that he was working at the Dr. Sam Sheppard home "the early part of the week of the Sunday preceding her death." (The early

part of the week would have been June 28 or June 29) ..... "I cut my finger in an effort to take the storm window out of the window by the kitchen sink and in doing so, I went about my work throughout the house and down into the basement and, at various times, dripped blood in various parts of the house." Exhibit 16.

On March 28, 1993, Richard Eberling signed a statement that "on July 2, 1954, I washed the windows at the Sheppard home." (July 2 was a Friday) In the same statement, Eberling makes the statement that this was the same day he heard Esther Houk scream at Marilyn Sheppard "I am going to kill you if you don't stop seeing my husband." In this statement, Eberling states, "In the morning, I had coffee with Sam and Marilyn Sheppard." He also stated that "Spencer Houk came in the morning and dropped meat for the Sheppards." Exhibit 23.

Note that in the statement given to Bay Village Police Exhibit 16 above, Eberling is asked "Was anyone present while you were there at the Sam Sheppard house on this occasion (the day he cut his finger)? Eberling's response was "NO, I WAS ALONE."

### **LAVERNE LESLIE LUND**

LaVerne Leslie Lund was employed by Richard Eberling as a window washer in 1954. Lund states that on Friday, July 2, 1955, Eberling dropped him off at the Sam Sheppard home with instructions to wash the windows on the inside as well as exterior. Lund claims that this was the first time he washed windows alone. Every other day of the week he worked along side



Eberling. He stated that when he heard that Eberling was claiming that he, Eberling, washed the windows alone just prior to the murder, he, Lund became very upset. Lund stated that he called Bay Village Police Department July 24, 1989, and told them that he washed the Sheppard's windows July 2, 1954, not Eberling. On July 28, 1989, Detectives Tompkins and Cleary, Bay Village Police Department, interviewed Lund at his residence. He repeated the same story. He kept referring to Friday July 3, when in fact Friday's date was July 2, 1954. Lund called Bay Village Police Department on July 31, 1989. On August 17, 1989, Lund visited the Bay Village Police Department and voluntarily gave a taped interview. Bay Village Police Report Exhibit 24.

In late 1989 or early 1990, Sam Reese Sheppard, Dr. Sam and Marilyn Sheppard's son, received a letter from Vern Lund outlining his story and opinion that Eberling killed Marilyn Sheppard, Exhibit 25. In October 27, 1990, Cindy Cooper interviewed Lund at his daughter's residence in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Nine months later, August 8, 1991, LaVerne Leslie Lund died of cancer. The interview was conducted in the presence of Lund's daughter Julie Schofield. The entire interview was recorded on video and audio. Videotape Exhibit 26, audio tape Exhibit 27, transcript of tape Exhibit 28, general release signed by Lund Exhibit 29, medical release signed by Lund Exhibit 30, statement by Julie Schofield Exhibit 31, Affidavit of Vern Lund Exhibit 32, photograph of video camera and Vern Lund Exhibit 33, photograph of old photo of Vern Lund Exhibit 34.

Vern Lund enlisted in the U.S. Air Force July 29, 1954. He retired September 8, 1974, and received an honorable discharge. Military records attached Exhibit 35. A copy of his passport is attached Exhibit 36. Lund's death certificate is attached as Exhibit 37.

Marty Eskins and wife Pauline live at 209 5th Street, Elyria, Ohio, telephone 216-322-8533. Cindy Cooper interviewed Eskins October 25, 1993. Marty Eskins said, "I don't think Vern (Lund) would fabricate anything. If he didn't know he told you. Vern would not tell you something that wasn't true. He had a close relationship with the Lord. For a long time, he lived in fear of opening his mouth. He'd get really uptight if you brought up Dr. Sam. He'd say he knew things he was afraid to talk about. He'd shake he would get so upset. He called me and said he needed to get his conscience cleared. He said he could clear Dr. Sam - he was going to clear Dr. Sam. This, I think, was in the late 70's or early 80's. That was quite awhile ago." Eskins stated that he worked for John Antelic. Antelic was another foster child living on the Eberling farm. His equipment was kept in the Eberling barn. The equipment was destroyed in 1955 when the barn burned down. Eskins states he and Lund joined the service in July right after Marilyn was murdered. **"I KNOW VERN CLEANED THE WINDOWS. IT WAS JUST AROUND THE TIME SHE WAS MURDERED. I REMEMBER THAT HE WASHED WINDOWS JUST BEFORE WE WENT INTO THE ARMY."** Note: Lund's military record shows date of service beginning July 29, 1954. "Police never talked to me. Whether they talked to Vern, to my knowledge, they didn't. To me, he seemed he was very upset, some things in his life weren't settled. I prayed with him and asked him to forgive all those that had hurt him." Cindy Cooper affidavit Exhibit 38. Old photo of Marty Eskins Exhibit 39.

On February 21, 1994, John Eberling, Bradley Road, Westlake, Ohio, was interviewed by AMSEC instigators Richard Pedersen and John Burkholder. The following information was obtained during that interview: See Burkholder affidavit Exhibit 40. Pederson affidavit Exhibit 41.

John Eberling is 68 years of age and aside from serving in the armed forces during World War II, has spent his entire life in Westlake. John Eberling is married with seven children, was a carpenter with a local construction firm until retirement about two years ago. Eberling was proud to say he built his own house in which he still resides and had never taken a day off during his forty plus years of work.

John Eberling states that he first met Eberling when he, John, was 14 or 15 years old. John went on to say that Richard Eberling made sexual advances toward him at the time he returned home from the service. From that day on, John labeled Richard as a homosexual.

Richard was wearing a hairpiece and neckbrace around the time of Marilyn Sheppard's murder, according to John Eberling. John also stated that Richard claimed to have cut his hand while working at the Sheppard house.