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7-7-1954

54/07/07 (4) 10:15pm, Gretchen Schuele

Bay Village Police Department

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MARCH 1996

Case # 76629 A - 3 - 3

July 7, 1954

The following is the statement of Gretchen Schuele, White, Female, 28944 Lake Road, Age 18, with reference to the homicide of Marilyn Sheppard.

I live with my parents, the first house west of the Sam Sheppards. I met the Sheppards shortly after they moved in. We had a lot of fun together. Doc and I were closer than Marilyn and I were. That was due to water skiing. The first I knew what had happened it was about 7 or 7:15 a.m. Sunday, July 4. I was awakened by Mayor Houk and Chief Eaton knocking on our door. Papa answered it, and I eavesdropped. Then I got dressed, went in and told my Brother, Karl. We went next door, and listened to Mrs. Houk tell what had happened. We talked to her for a while. Then, I think, we went down to the beach, my Father, my Brother, and I. We looked for foot prints, and things. Found dog prints. We came up and ate breakfast. My Dad and I went horseback riding. Then we got a call from Vernon Stouffer. He wanted us to go on his yacht that day, but didn't say definitely where we were going. We left the house about 11:30 am.

Q. At approximately did you retire Saturday evening, July 3?

A. I think it was about 2:45 a.m. Sunday, July 4 that I finally shut my eyes. I was out with Jack Karcher and got home about 2 a.m.

Q. When you arrived home did you notice if any lights were lit in the Sheppard residence?

A. I don't think there were any. If there were I would have noticed them, as my room is right next to the house.

Q. When you arrived home did you notice any cars or persons in the Sheppard yard or vicinity?

A. No.

Q. Did Jack Karcher accompany you home?

A. No. We "doubled" with my Brother and his girl, and we took Jack home first. Then the three of us came home.

Q. Approximately what time was it when you went to the beach?

A. I went to the beach about 7:30 a.m.

Q. Were you wearing shoes?

A. No.

Q. What was Coke, the Sheppard's dog, attitude toward strangers?

A. He welcomed strangers, and seldom barked at them.

Q. How did Dr. Sam and Marilyn get along together?

A. Normally. I never noticed any controversy between them.

Q. Is there anything else you can tell us that may help?

A. Saturday night as we drove home through Metropolitan Park from Wolf Road to Lake Road, in the dip (between the two roads), I heard a scream. I commented about it. My Brother ridiculed it. It was close to 2 a.m. Sunday. We had not yet taken Jack Karcher home.

Q. Have you read this statement, and is it true?

A. Yes, it is true.

Signed

Gretchen Schuele

Witness

Frank J. Dunkley, Jr.

Taken by ldo

10:15 p.m. July 7, 1954

City Hall, Bay Village, Ohio