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Dr. Sheppard Relaxes in the Sun

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard late today was seen dressed in shorts and taking a sun bath on his father's rear porch.

He said he had just performed a spinal operation at Bay View Hospital.

He sun-bathed minus his leather collar brace which he said he wears now only a few hours a day.

He enthusiastically described the operation as "a new technique" in which the surgeon sits on a stool and works on the patient's back.

Dr. Sheppard said he successfully manipulated a slipped disc in a woman patient's back. "I expect to have her walking around tomorrow," he said.

He took the sun bath stripped to his shorts. When he put on his trousers again, he also buckled on the holster and gun he has been carrying for protection since the July 4 murder.

Dr. Sheppard said he was "pleased" by hundreds of letters and cards from "old friends" expressing sympathy with him.