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54/08/18 List of Key Events and Dates in Sheppard Murder Inquiry

Cleveland Press

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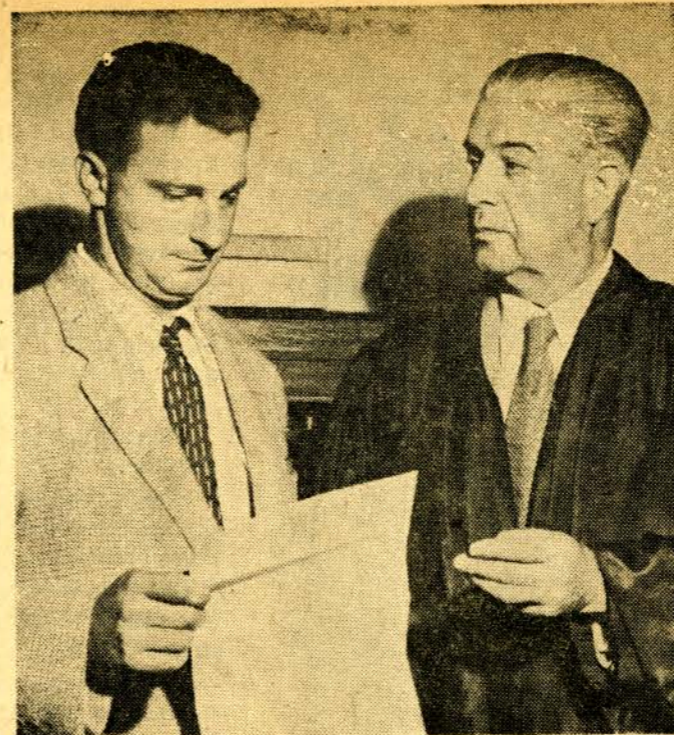
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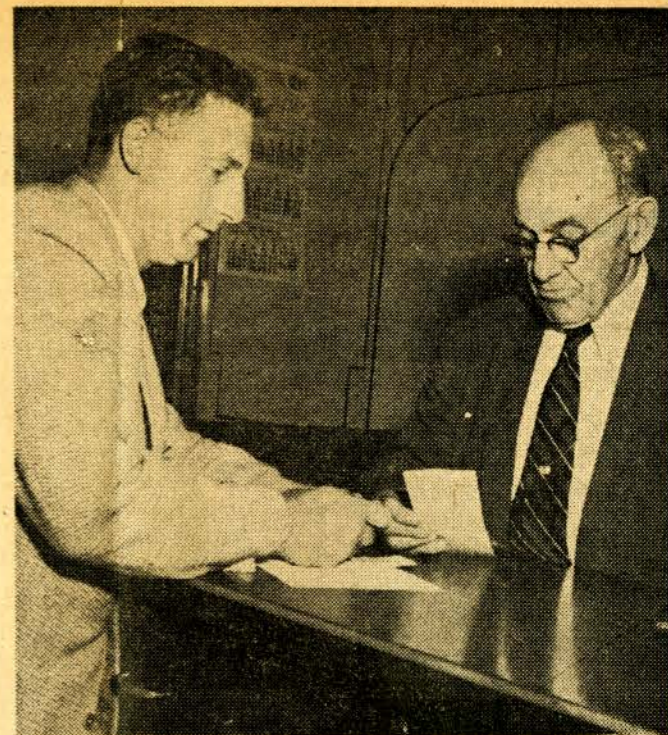
INDICTMENT TIMETABLE begins as Grand Jury Foreman Bert R. Winston confers with County Prosecutors Saul Danaceau and Frank Cullitan "We've decided," he says. "Stand by."



INDICTMENT IS READY, and Foreman Winston peeks over the shoulder of Common Pleas Judge Arthur Day as the presiding judge of Criminal Court inspects the paper.



PROCESS OF LAW grinds forward another step as Judge Day hands the Grand Jury indictment to Howard Reid, clerk of court, and directs him to carry it to the sheriff.



BRIEF GRIM HUDDLE occupies Clerk Reid and Sheriff Joseph Sweeney as the document nears the end of its route and Sweeney directs his deputies to arrest Dr. Sam.

The State of Ohio, }
 CUYAHOGA COUNTY } ss.

Of the term of APRIL

In the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and Fifty-Four

The Jurors of the Grand Jury of the State of Ohio, within and for the body of the County aforesaid, on their oaths, IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF OHIO,

Do Find and Present, That SAM H. SHEPPARD

on or about the 4th day of July 1954, at the County aforesaid, unlawfully, purposely and of deliberate and premeditated malice killed Marilyn Sheppard

THE INDICTMENT ITSELF, the object of weeks of investigation, names Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard as the murderer of his wife Marilyn—in a crime of “deliberate and premeditated malice.

List of Key Events and Dates in Sheppard Murder Inquiry

Here is the timetable of the 45-day-old Marilyn Reese Sheppard murder case:

July 4: A telephone call awakened Bay Village Mayor J. Spencer Houk at 5:50 a. m. It was his friend and neighbor, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, reporting the murder of his wife, Marilyn.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber and Cleveland Homicide Detectives Robert Schottke and Patrick Gareau advised that Dr. Sam be arrested as a suspect. The advice was rejected by Houk and Bay Village Police Chief John Eaton.

Dr. Sheppard was quickly removed from the murder home to Bay View Hospital, where his father is chief of staff. That afternoon the Sheppard family retained William J. Corrigan, noted criminal defense lawyer.

July 7: Dr. Sam left Bay View Hospital for the first time since the murder to attend his wife's funeral.

Faces Questioning

July 8: Dr. Sheppard submitted to questioning by authorities for the first time since brief interrogations on the murder morning. He restated his original account that he had been dozing on a downstairs couch when he heard his wife cry out in terror. He said he raced upstairs to see a tall, bushy-haired man standing over Marilyn's bed. Dr. Sheppard said the intruder knocked him out, then beat him unconscious again when he pursued him to the beach.

The Sheppard family offered a \$10,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of Marilyn's murderer. Dr. Sam refused to take a lie-detector test.

July 17: Well aware that investigators considered him the “No. 1 suspect,” Dr. Sheppard said he was “confident” the killer would be caught and punished.

Cleveland Gets Case

July 20: Conceding that the investigation had been bungled, the Bay Village City Council voted to turn it over

to the Cleveland Police Department.

July 22: Coroner Gerber opened a public inquest at Bay Village's Normandy School.

July 23: Dr. Sheppard testified under oath that his was a comparatively happy marriage. He denied having an extra-marital affair with Miss Susan Hayes.

July 27: Susan Hayes, flown back to Cleveland from Los Angeles, admitted West Coast intimacies with Dr. Sam.

July 30: Dr. Sheppard was arrested on a murder warrant signed by Bay Village Council President Gershom M. M. Barber and confined in the County Jail.

Quiz Is Halted

Aug. 4: Homicide detectives ceased efforts to quiz Dr. Sam about his wife's death when he went on an “I won't talk” strike in the County Jail.

Aug. 5: Investigators placed “at least five other women” in Dr. Sam's recent past.

Aug. 11: Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, named by Dr. Sam's brothers as a “possible sus-

pect,” returned to Cleveland from Los Angeles to deny the accusation. Police said he was “completely cleared,” and gave information which “strengthens the case against Dr. Sheppard.”

Mayor Cleared

Aug. 12: Mayor Houk was taken to Central Police Station for “interrogation as a suspect on the accusation of Dr. Stephen Sheppard,” brother of Dr. Sam. Houk, too, was “completely cleared.” Dr. Sam won his legal contention that Barber was “biased and prejudiced,” and his preliminary hearing was shifted to the court of Common Pleas Judge William K. Thomas.

Aug. 16: Prosecutor Frank T. Cullitan took the case to the Grand Jury. Judge Thomas ordered Dr. Sam freed on \$50,000 bail.

Aug. 17: Dr. Sheppard was indicted by the Grand Jury for first degree murder. He was re-arrested and returned to jail to await his arraignment and trial.