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54/07/07 FBI Enters Bay Slaying; Hunts Cranks

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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The FBI moved into the investigation of the murder of Mrs. Marilyn Sheppard yesterday as the result of "crank" telephone calls to the victim's father, Thomas S. Reese, 4233 Silsby Road, University Heights.

Reese, vice-president of the Dinoc Co., told the FBI he had received two telephone calls at his home Monday from a man representing himself as an FBI agent with information on the murder of Reese's daughter.

Arrangements were made for a meeting between Reese and the caller at W. 65th Street and Lorain Avenue late Monday night. Reese, at the caller's request, gave the license number of his auto so as to be identified.

On second thought Reese called the FBI to check. He discovered that the name "Tom Dixon", by which the caller had identified himself, was unknown.

Changes Mind

Mrs. Reese, Mrs. Sheppard's stepmother, burst into tears and was emotionally upset when the trick was related to her, Reese said.

"I told her we would just forget all about the telephone calls and pretend we never received them," Reese reported.

As a result Reese, who at first had agreed to follow through the (Continued on Page 4, Column 6)
CRANKS PUT FBI IN BAY SLAYING

Wife’s Father Phoned by Man Posing as Agent

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plan to meet “Dixon,” refused to co-operate with FBI agents in going to the scene. He refused also to permit them the use of his car.

FBI agents were in Bay Village yesterday to report the circumstances to police there. They said also that Reese had changed his mind and would co-operate with them should “Dixon” call again.

Reese, distraught and weary for lack of sleep, arose from his bed to talk to a reporter who called at his home yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Reese was meeting all callers at the door in her desire to permit Reese to rest.

Among the several cranks who have pestered the family was an astrologist, members of the family said.