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Here Is Cleveland Police Report on Murder in Bay

Early on the morning of July 4, Cleveland homicide detectives, Patrick A. Gareau and Robert Schottke were sent to the Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard home at 28924 Lake Rd., Bay Village, to assist in the investigation of the brutal beating to death of Dr. Sheppard's wife, Marilyn.

Following is their report which is on file in Central Police Station. It is this report and this investigation which homicide detectives today are trying to "pick holes in."

By questioning Dr. Sheppard, Police Chief Frank W. Story, Detective Chief James E. McArthur and Capt. David E. Kerr are attempting to find that some of Dr. Sheppard's statements are false. They hope to base an indictment for first degree murder on what they find out and find untrue.

Dr. Sheppard has stuck by his original story with few variations.

The report follows:
At 8:05 this date, July 4, while assigned to Car 478 with Detective Schottke, received an office assignment to assist the Bay Village Police Department in the investigation of a homicide at the Dr. Sheppard residence, 28924 Lake Rd., Bay Village. Upon arrival at the scene, met Dr. Samuel Gerber, county coroner, Police Chief Eaton, Sgt. Hubach, Patrolmen Drenkhan and Cavagh of the Bay Village police department and together investigated.

At the scene our attention was directed to an upstairs bedroom situated at the top of the stairway on the second floor in the bedroom which contained two beds, twin size type. We found the body of a white female lying on the top of the bed. The body was lying on its back, the head resting about the middle of the bed and pointing in a southerly direction.

The legs were bent at the knees, resting underneath a horizontal post that extended the width of the footboard. The lower part of the legs were dangling over the bottom edge of the mattress pointed in a northerly direction.

The arms were in a horizontal plane with body bent at the elbows and the hands were resting on the stomach.

Examination of the body of the victim showed numerous deep lacerations of the forehead and head and the upper part of the body was covered with blood. The victim was clothed in a white short-sleeved pajama top open in the front. A pair of pajama bottoms on the right leg were bunched at the right knee.

Underneath the body as it was being removed from the bed two broken tooth facings were found laying on the bed in the region where the small of the back was resting by Dr. Gerber and Detective Schottke.

(These tooth fragments were later to be found those of Mrs. Sheppard).

Learned the victim to be Marilyn Reese Sheppard, 31, white, married of 28924 Lake Rd., Bay Village.
Continued on Page 4, Column 3
Bare Full Report
On Killing at Bay Village. Pronounced dead at the scene at about 6:30 a.m. by Dr. Richard N. Sheppard. Conveyed to county morgue by private ambulance where an autopsy was performed which revealed approximately 27 lacerations about the head and forehead, death resulting from skull fracture due to violence.

Examination of the bedroom revealed a large blood spot on the pillow at the head of the bed on which the victim was laying. A larger blood spot on the bed under the victim's head, numerous blood spots on the south wall, and curtains, and numerous blood spots on the east wall, closet door and entrance door that was apparently open at the time of the homicide.

On a chair located at the corner and east walls we found the following clothing:

A pair of white ladies shorts, a pair of ladies blue shorts, a white brassiere and over the top of the left corner of the chair we found one beige long-sleeved men's sport shirt. None of the furniture had been disarranged and apparently no signs of a struggle in the room.

Examination of the downstairs of the house revealed several drawers in a downstairs doctor's office pulled from a desk and overturned. A bag of surgical instruments was found overturned in a hallway outside the doctor's office. On the floor in front of the desk in the doctor's office were found a lady's yellow gold wrist watch with a yellow gold stretch band. Three drawers were pulled from a desk in the living room and overturned. Several exposures were taken at the scene by Detective Grabowski.

We went to Bay View Hospital and interviewed Dr. Sam Sheppard and he stated that last night they were entertaining guests, Mr. and Mrs. Don Ahern of 29146 Lake Rd., Bay Village. About 12 a.m. he became sleepy and he laid on a sofa in the living room at the bottom of the stairway leading upstairs and fell asleep. He further stated that he awakened suddenly when he heard his wife screaming.

(Later he said he heard her yelling "Sam, Sam, Sam!")

Dr. Sheppard stated that he ran up the stairs to his wife's bedroom. As he got to the top of the stairs he saw a man and also heard someone working over his wife and that the man he saw struck him on the side of the head with his fist and knocked him unconscious.

(Later he said he was struck by an unknown man as he went into his wife's room to battle the man who was striking his wife.)

He stated that when he came to consciousness he heard someone making noise downstairs. He ran down and saw a man run out of the rear door and he ran after him.

(Later he said he came to, picked up his billfold lying on the floor, went to his wife's room and then went to his son Chip's room to ascertain if he was all right and was feeling his wife's pulse when he heard a noise downstairs.)

He stated that this man ran down the stairs leading to the beach and he pursued the man and when he got onto the beach he tackled him and started a struggle with him and struck him with his fist.

Dr. Sheppard further stated that he was knocked unconscious again and that when he became conscious he was lying on his stomach in the lake and that he knows that it was daybreak. He stated he went back up to the house and went to his wife's room and attempted to administer to her and found she was dead.

He stated he called Mayor John S. Houk of Bay Village on the telephone and told him to come over because he thought his wife was dead and that someone killed her.

Dr. Sam Sheppard further stated that the mayor came to his house and also his brother, Dr. Richard N. Sheppard, and
Court attaches used chairs and desks in the clerk's office next to Common Pleas Judge Frank J. Merrick's courtroom to get a glimpse of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard and listen to the court proceedings.
The police and he was taken to Bay View Hospital. Dr. Sam was treated by Dr. Steve Sheppard, brother of the victim.

His brother reports him to be suffering from concussion of the brain and may have bruises on both sides of the vertexe in the rear of the neck.

We returned to the scene and searched the grounds about the Sheppard home and about 15 minutes later we located a gold wedding band, a baseball bat, and a bag. We located the bag on the foot of the stairway leading from the Sheppard living room to the lower floor. We underbrush a Boy Scout assisting in the search found a green felt wallet and two cigarettes. When we found a yellow gold self-winding wrist watch, a college fraternity ring and a key chain in the search found a green felt wallet and two cigarettes.

We questioned Mr. and Mrs. Ahern with regard to his personal property and he could give no explanation as to its whereabouts.

We then told us that he stopped to look at his watch after he was known to have been in the vicinity of the area and perhaps got the bond on the ground when he looked at his watch. We questioned him thoroughly down to discover the man run out the back door. We learned that at this particular time when he became conscious upstairs he saw his billfold lying on the floor and he picked it up and put it in his pocket. Dr. Sheppard did not want his wife to be any further informed until we questioned him with regard to the man not taking the watch when he had taken his jewelry as he claimed.

We examined the clothing of Mr. Ahern and Dr. Sheppard when he was brought to the hospital and we found that his clothing was clean and that there was no evidence of blood stains in the watch band and inside the face of the watch.

With Police Chief Eaton we returned to Bay View Hospital and we searched the premises with regard to his personal property and he could give no explanation as to the whereabouts of the wallet and the contents inside it. We then told us that he stopped to look at his watch after he was known to have been in the vicinity of the area and perhaps got the bond on the ground when he looked at his watch. We questioned him thoroughly down to discover the man run out the back door.

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We questioned Dr. Sheppard about money and the check still remained in his pocket. He could give no explanation for this.

We arrived at the scene and searched the premises for a white T-shirt which Dr. Sheppard used to wear and we couldn't find on the premises.

We searched the garage for any possible weapons and we were surprised to find a special chrome-plated wrenches in a tool bag. These wrenches were of the most modern type. The handle is a thick, tube-like handle. These wrenches were turned over to Dr. Gerber for comparison with the one Dr. Sheppard had on the morning of Dr. Sheppard's infatuation. The personal property of ring, watch, etc., also turned over to Dr. Sheppard.

The time indicated on the watch which was stopped was 5:50 and that he and his wife went to Dr. Sheppard's house after calling the police. We found that Dr. Sheppard seated in his downstairs office, mumbling incoherently and mumbling incoherently.

Dr. Sheppard's condition was to state that he heard his wife scream and ran down the rear of the house and went on to state substantially what Dr. Sheppard had stated to Mr. and Mrs. Ahern.

We interviewed Mr. and Mrs. Ahern and Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard on the same day that Dr. Sheppard went to the police about dinner time and had a large drink at the bar and then went to bed. We questioned Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard and they maintained there until about 12:10 a.m. that Dr. Sheppard went to bed. They then went home. Mr. Ahern stated that he was suffering from concussion of the neck.

Mr. Sheppard detailed that he was suffering from concussion of the neck.

We learned from a confidential source that Dr. Hoverston was supposed to have been with Dr. Sheppard and the Sheppards over the holiday. Dr. Hoverston was supposed to be infatuated with the Shep­ padd and his advances were spurned.

It was learned that Dr. Hoverston called Dr. Sheppard home sometime previous to his departure for Bay View to keep a golf engagement at Kent. O. It was learned that Dr. Hoverston visited the Sheppard home for quite some time when he was the junior physician at Bay View.

While at Bay View Hospital on the morning of Dr. Sheppard's infatuation Mr. Ahern called from Kent, O., and I spoke to him and requested he return to Bay View and speak to Police Chief Eaton and answer some questions.

Mr. Ahern was questioned by Dr. Sheppard with reference to the rumor of Dr. Hoverston's infatuation and he denied the rumor and said perhaps it was true and he further stated that he was pretty sure that Dr. Hoverston was thoroughly convinced of his faithfulness.

We arrived at the scene this a.m. we searched the beach for evidence and we found no footprints in the sand and an exposure was made of a footprint by Schmidt and he said there was no footprints and he said that it was thoroughly convinced of his faithfulness.

We arrived at the scene this a.m. we searched the beach for evidence and we found no footprint by Schmidt and he said there was no footprints and he said that it was thoroughly convinced of his faithfulness.

Learned further that Dr. Sam Sheppard is a rather tall man, about 6 ft. 2 in. tall on the side of the lower cheek and he has several teeth chipped.

For the benefit of the public and medi­ cal matter indicates what po­lice later learned in their investigation, the time stated in the report of the two policemen.