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Cleveland Press, Monday, Aug. 2, 1954

Corrigan Tactics Stall Quizzing

"I've never heard of another case in which a defendant's attorneys have used up so much time interfering with his interrogation in County Jail," Police Chief Frank W. Story said today.

"On the other hand, there's never been a case where the Cleveland police spent so much time talking to a prisoner in County Jail."

The harried chief was referring to the Marilyn Sheppard murder and the jail experience of her husband, Dr. Samuel Sheppard.

Attorney William J. Corrigan touched off the game of wits Saturday by instructing Dr. Sheppard not to talk to the police.

"He doesn't have to," the defense counsel snapped. "He's charged with first degree murder—now they're trying to make a case against him."

Despite Corrigan's "orders" to Story and Sheriff Joseph Sweeney, who runs the County Jail, that he didn't want his client questioned, homicide detectives began quizzing Dr. Sam shortly after noon.

Parried Questions

There was a brief interruption when Corrigan called to see him. "They can talk to my client for the next 30 years," he said on his way out. "They're not going to learn anything. My client didn't do it."

Following Corrigan's instructions, Dr. Sam parried all questions about the July 4 murder in his Bay Village home with: "I won't talk about the murder on the advice of my counsel. . ."

He did talk extensively about his education at the Los Angeles College of Osteopathy . . . how he had become an osteopathic neuro-surgeon and his skill in performing delicate operations. . .

Shortly before 11 p. m., Detectives Adelbert O'Hara and Jame McHugh noted that Dr. Sam "seemed nervous. . . he was gulping. . . we thought he was about to tell us something."

But at 11 p. m. a deputy sheriff interrupted them. "This man has to have some sleep," he said. "You can talk to him again tomorrow."

When McHugh and O'Hara entered the jail at 8:15 a. m. yesterday, they were informed that Corrigan had arrived eight minutes earlier, and was consulting with Dr. Sheppard.

Arthur E. Petersilge, Dr. Sam's other attorney, arrived at 10:25, and joined his co-counsel and client.

Corrigan went out for lunch at 11:30. Petersilge stayed on until 1 p. m., reading a newspaper to Dr. Sheppard part of the time. ("That's how they were conferring about the case," commented Detective Chief James McArthur.)

When Petersilge left, Detectives Robert Schottke and Pat Gareau, who had relieved O'Hara and McHugh, began talking to Dr. Sheppard.

Shortly thereafter, Corrigan returned and demanded to see his client again.

He was refused admittance, although he cited jail rules drawn up by the Common Pleas court judges which grant an attorney authority to see a client at any time.

"We told him he'd had enough time already," Sweeney related.

Corrigan and Petersilge were allowed to see Dr. Sheppard again at 8:30 p. m. They stayed for an hour. No police interrogation followed.

"What is the purpose of all your visits?" a reporter asked Corrigan.

"Have you ever been arrested

and charged with first degree murder?" the attorney replied. Homicide Capt. David Kerr "What do you think a lawyer said: "Corrigan seems to be is for? We're here to protect running the jail."