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54/08/03 Doctor Gets Hospital Checkup

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Doctor Gets Hospital Checkup

Spirited from Jail for Exam by Four Physicians at City

"Nothing Seriously Wrong," Story Reports After Sheppard Complains of Pain; Corrigan Protests Removal as Father and Brother Seek Whereabouts; Dr. Steve Later Demands Visit

By John G. Blair

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard last night was suddenly spirited away from County Jail and taken to City Hospital for a physical examination, which found "no serious disability."

The "cloak and dagger" actions of detectives who sought to smuggle him out of the jail to evade reporters set off a series of repercussions, including:

Vigorous protests from William J. Corrigan, Dr. Sam's lawyer, over the removal of his client from the jail without notice to him.

Demands from Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, a brother of Dr. Sam, that he be allowed to visit the alleged wife-slayer to see if he had been beaten by police.

Search for Dr. Sam by his father and another brother, Dr. Richard A. Sheppard and Dr. Richard N. Sheppard.

Reports "No Protest" Police Chief Frank W. Story revealed that he "finally" got Dr. Sheppard examined by four physicians specializing in orthopedic and neurological fields.

Story said the prisoner "made no protest" about the examination despite his earlier refusal to be examined by two of the physicians who were on hand last night.

Asked if Dr. Sam consented, Story replied: "He made no protest. I don't know whether he consented or not."

Examining Sheppard were Dr. Spencer Braden, a police department neuropsychiatric consultant; Dr. Harry Slade, assistant visiting neurosurgeon at Clev Hospital; Dr. Alyen W. Tramer.
acting chief of orthopedic service at City, and Dr. George P. Greene, police surgeon.

Story said Dr. Sam had complained of neck pains yesterday morning. He said it became the duty of Sheriff Joseph M. Sweeney to have the prisoner examined.

“And we arranged to have it done by experts,” Story added.

The exact diagnosis will not be known until today, the chief said. The doctors will submit written reports to him.

Story said there “was nothing seriously wrong” found in the examination, which did not include any psychiatric tests.

Shortly after 7:15 p.m. Deputy Sheriffs Carl A. Rossbach and Dave Yettra ran down the front steps of the Criminal Court Building, 1560 E. 21st Street, pulling the handcuffed osteopath after them.

Waves to Reporter

They sought to evade reporters who had been waiting at the rear door of the jail to observe the arrivals and departures of figures in the baffling mystery.

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Doctor Spirited to Hospital for Examination

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"Hi, Sam," one of the reporters shouted as the doctor was shoved into a police car that had reared to a stop in front of the building.

Dr. Sam waved to the reporter as the car sped south on E. 21st Street.

It was 10:40 p.m. when Rossbach and Yetta re-entered the building by the front door. Photographers' flash bulbs served notice that the secret was out.

Protests to Sheriff

Corrigan lodged an immediate protest with Sweeney when he learned Sheppard had left the jail. He demanded that his client be returned.

This put him in the position of asking that Dr. Sam be released from the jail in the morning and demanding his return there at night.

Yesterday morning, Corrigan unsuccessfully sought a habeas corpus writ to free the Bay Village doctor accused of killing his wife, Marilyn, July 4.

The lawyer termed the action a violation of the law. He said police had no right to take Dr. Sam from the jail without informing him.

Prepares to Stay

Alarmed by the report that Dr. Sam had been taken from the jail, Dr. Steve appeared at the back door at 9:30 p.m. and said: "I'm staying here until they bring Sam back."

"I'll beat the hell out of him?" Dr. Steve asked. "You beat a person long enough and he'll confess to anything."

He was refused admittance.

After he learned Dr. Sam was back in his fourth-floor cell, Dr. Steve left for a short period. He returned in about 15 minutes, saying he had told his wife he would be home late.

Shortly before midnight Dr. Sam was taken up to his vigil and left with his medical kit. He talked for a half hour with Assistant Guardian Anthony McGinty before departing.

Meanwhile, flashing off and on of lights in the Sheppard home, 28524 West Lake Road, where Mrs. Sheppard was found dead, her head hacked 25 times, attracted attention.

Scientific experts conducted a series of tests to find blood stains, aided by weird lights that glowed through the suburban darkness.

Detectives Bernard J. Conley, Henry E. Dombrowski, Elmer A. Roubl and Jerome C. Poelking were seen in the house overlooki ng the scene.

Frown Inside House

Lights were turned off in the house, and the detectives prowled around aided by flashlights. For 15 minutes the flashlights were turned on in the northeast corner of the Sheppard garage.

At 8:30 p.m. their work was hampered by the appearance of Dr. Sam's father and a brother, Dr. Richard N. Sheppard.

The elder doctor went to the front door of the house while the brother waited outside the rope fence that encircles the desolate home.

As the father knocked, lights went on in the house and Conley came to the door. The father asked if Dr. Sam was inside, and Conley replied that he was not.

Shouts for Son

"Sam, Sam," the father shouted in the door, but received no answer.

"You are making scientific tests," Conley told the father and Plain Dealer Reporter William L. Mackey, who had sidled up to the door.

"You'll have to get off of the property," Conley told the two, who then retreated.

I thought when you arrested a person he was supposed to stay in jail," the father said as he and his son drove away.

Early today the detectives halted all work at the house. The excursion to City Hospital was the third time yesterday that Dr. Sheppard left his cell.

"Mugged" at Station

Sheppard was taken to Central Station earlier in the day. At Yost Law office from Common Pleas Court, where his application for a writ of habeas corpus was denied, the doctor was "mugged" and fingerprinted at the station. He was then returned to County Jail.

Arthur E. Peteriselig, another lawyer for Dr. Sheppard, entered the building at 3:30 p.m. to see his client.

Mission Not Routine

Peteriselig left at 4:30 p.m. and reporters on his mission was "something more" than a routine visit.

He was asked how Dr. Sam was feeling and replied: "Put yourself into his place. You wouldn't feel very happy about this situation."

A police car with officers and Dr. Sheppard in the back seat sped away with lights flashing. As the car sped south on departing, the lawyer came.

Sweeney said the police did not tell him of the arrest of his client. The clergyman said Dr. Sam was in the car while the handling of the investigation was being conducted at the jail.

He added that Dr. Sam had refused to answer questions from friends and was encouraged that they believed him innocent of the murder.

At 7:15 p.m. Detectives William Lonchar and Harry Metzger entered to begin what was thought to be new questioning of Sheppard. Within a few minutes they hurried out and got into their police car, parked at the rear entrance of the jail.

They drove around the block and then pulled up to the front door to pick up Dr. Sam and his deputy escorts.

Announces Black-Out

Announced Black-Out announced a black-out on news covering the investigation of the murder.

"All the information now is coming from us..." Story said. "You can yackety-yak going on and it has helped the other side. This now is to stop giving aid and assistance to the other side."

Story said the officer's office, the prosecutors and the sheriff's office had all agreed to let him issue the results of investigation.

He said the black-out was not aimed at the newspapers.

Story said there would be no announcements of when Dr. Sam was to be questioned "or where or by whom, any more."

Admits Relations

Dr. Sam admitted to detectives who have questioned him intermittently since he was charged with first-degree murder Thursday night that he had been intimate with "some" of his wife. Marilyn, since Miss Hayes had told about the intimacies, he considered himself no longer bound to keep the secret.

Dr. Sam would not admit he had told Miss Hayes that he loved her or that he wanted to divorce Marilyn to marry the Rocky River medical technician.

Weigh Mayor's Testimony

Story said no decision had been made to request Mayor J. Spencer Houk of Bay Village.

Houk, at the public request, did not say he had viewed Marilyn's body on the morning of the murder. Yesterday, at the habeas corpus writ hearing, he said he had seen the battered body.

However, on July 4, Houk told a Plain Dealer reporter that he had gone up to Marilyn's room when he arrived and had become ill at the bloody sight.

He returned downstairs, he told the reporter, and called police while his wife, Esther, determined that Mrs. Sheppard was dead.