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Chief Story Says Osteopath Proves He Didn’t Return Here on Night of Murder, Makes Case Against Sam Stronger; Dr. Steve Gives Altered Version to Police

The Sheppard family swerved its finger of suspicion toward a Bay Village man yesterday and stopped pointing at Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, 42, after he flew here to give police new facts in the Marilyn Sheppard murder case.

Today the Sheppard’s newest suspect was due for a police grilling.

Dr. Hoversten, house guest of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard and the slain woman until the day before she was fatally beaten, made the case against Dr. Sam stronger, Police Chief Frank W. Story said.

Hoversten had been thought to be en route to Berlin, where he was to study a chest and near course, according to Dr. Richard N. Sheppard, eldest of the osteopath brothers.

But he wrote to doctors here from Glendale, Cal. One letter came Wednesday to Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, the middle brother. It said he was returning to submit to police questions.

“Helped Persuade Him”

The police told Dr. Hoversten that he was the number one suspect, in the eyes of Dr. Sam’s family and attorney. That helped to persuade him to come back.

Approaching him again in that way was suggested by County Prosecutor Frank ‘I’. Cullinan when he reviewed all the harvested evidence on Tuesday.

Dr. Hoversten had moved in at the Shepherds’ on July 1. A jacket of his still is hanging in a bedroom there.

He went to Kent, O., to visit Dr. Robert Stevenson, on July 3. Early the next morning, some three hours after Marilyn was felled hacked to death, he and Dr. Stevenson were golfing there.

He proved, Chief Story said, that he had not made any flying trip to Bay and back in the night.

Mileage figures on the speedometer of his car added another tight bond to tie that fact down, it was learned.

Triple Checked

He had been triple checked by investigators before he left for Glendale, where he lives with a brother. But he did not talk about the relationship of Dr. Sam and the clubbing victim, although he had been close to it three days as a house guest.

He had also worked at Bayview Hospital with the Sheppards. His specialty is eye, ear, nose and throat ailments. Dr. Richard Sheppard said.

“He had a tendency to try to more than he was capable of doing,” Dr. Richard said. “He would not wait until he had the experience and developed the judgment for more advanced work.”

“That was the only difference I had with him, and that was a minor one.”

Galoshes, shoes and some copy.

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Shepards Point to Another Suspect as Hoversten Talks

(Continued From First Page)

Faces of medical journals were left behind by Dr. Hoversten at the home of Dr. Stephen Shepard, where he stayed briefly before he went west.

It was Dr. Stephen Sheppard who went to tell Chief Story the altered version of the killing, involving the new suspect.

"He was very sincere," said the chief after an hour and 45 minutes with Dr. Steve.

Chief Story conveyed the information to County Prosecutor Cullitan and said he would quiz the most recent Sheppard suspect.

"But not today. We're none of us in shape for that today," said Story.

He and a battery of others had questioned Dr. Hoversten for hours in a room at Hotel Carter early yesterday morning.

Signs Statement

Dr. Hoversten's information was set down later in a written and signed statement, Story said.

Another suspect suggested by William J. Corrigan, lawyer for Dr. Sam in his first-degree murder case, was crossed off the list by Bay Village police.

The suspect, a dead man, was waiting in his car when detectives arrived at his house.

He went west.

"What does he think this is? A branch of the Gestapo?" Broling, Cullitan warned that no coercive tricks must be tried that might foul up the case.

Marilyn's Words, even when written in letters, are not admissible as evidence. No matter how significant might be her complaints about marriage troubles, as witnesses have told them, they cannot be used in court unless spoken in the hearing of the defendant.

Police stopped Gervase Flick, whose father is a radiologist at Bay View Hospital, is studying to become an osteopath. Dr. Sam encouraged him to go.

He came up with a suspect last Friday. He told detectives that he picked up a hitchhiker in Conneaut, O., a few hours after the murder and the hitchhiker—with bloody shoes—said told of the killing and described the death weapon, a wrench, in detail long before news of the slaying had reached the public.

Bay Village police disclosed that two young next-door neighbors of the Sheppard's drove home late on the murder night and that one of them, Miss Gretchen Schuelke, 17, heard a scream.

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