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54/08/13 Family Points To Bay Man As New Suspect As Hoversten Talks

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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FAMILY POINTS TO BAY MAN AS NEW SUSPECT AS HOVERSTEN TALKS

**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 Sheppards' 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 heart 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 T. Cullitan 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 found 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 had not talked 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 Bay View Hospital with the Sheppards. His specialty is eye, ear, nose and throat ailments, Dr. Richard Sheppard said.

"He had a tendency to try to do 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 cop-

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Sheppards Point to Another Suspect as Hoversten Talks

(Continued From First Page) said Story.

les of medical journals were left behind by Dr. Hoversten at the home of Dr. Stephen Sheppard, 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,"

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

Sigs 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 watching television with his wife on the eve of the murder, the wife told Patrolman Fred F. Drenkhan and Sgt. Jay H. Hubach. He retired about 3 a. m.

Her story that she was watching ore boats out on the lake, that she saw fishermen on a nearby pier and three youngsters walking toward the lake about 1 a. m. on the murder day tallied with known facts.

As defense and state forces jockeyed for position, looking ahead to court trial, three grumbles rose among police and prosecutors.

CORONER SAMUEL R. GERBER'S carting away important parts of the murder scene—Marilyn Sheppard's blood-soaked bed, her bedroom and closet doors, chairs and other objects—was the cause in one instance. Police and prosecutors pointed out that if a murder jury is to view the scene it will have to be reconstructed.

Even if it is all put back, such things always set off lawyers' quibbles, they complained.

Says He Needs Them

Dr. Gerber said he "needed" the things he had trucked away. He added that they could be used to make up a three-dimensional courtroom exhibit.

However, it is the prosecutor who stage manages the courtroom "props."

A **PSYCHIATRIST** seriously suggested to police that Dr. Sam—when he had withstood all the quiz teams of the homicide unit—should be put in a win-



CHARACTER SKETCH. Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard perused a map book reflectively before the hearing began at Lakeside Courthouse. Behind him sat Deputy Sheriff Carl Rossbach, whose attention was diverted for the moment.

dowless room for 24 hours and then questioned over a sound system.

Cullitan Explodes

Prosecutor Cullitan exploded over that: "What does he think this is? A branch of the Gestapo?" Broiling, 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 retold them, they cannot be used in court unless spoken in the hearing of the defendant.

Police stopped Gervase M. Flick, 20, admirer of Dr. Sam, from trying to take Dr. Sam's Lincoln Continental out of the Sheppard garage at the death site, 28924 West Lake Road, Bay Village.

"Sam told me I could take it out and get it fixed," Flick said, according to police.

Everything Impounded

They told him everything on the property was impounded.

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

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—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 Sheppards drove home late on the murder night and that one of them, Miss Gretchen Schuele, 17, heard a scream.

Cutting from Wolf Road through Huntington Park and down a dip about 2 or 2:30 a. m., Gretchen, the police said, told her brother, Karl R., jr., 20, that she heard it.

None of His Affair

"That sounded like someone's getting murdered," her police statement said.

"Let them get murdered. It's none of my affair," was Karl's reply, police said.

That was about half a mile from their house, just west of the Sheppards. Police said that they drove into their drive, that Gretchen stayed up reading about half an hour and then went to bed, having neither heard nor seen anything unusual at the Sheppard house.