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54/07/15 Probes Tale Of Plot In Sheppard Murder

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PROBES TALE OF PLOT IN SHEPPARD MURDER
Prosecutor's Aide Confronts Caller in Baltimore (Photos on Picture Page)

BY JOHN G. BLAIR AND PAT GARLING

George W. Ennis, 36, on probation on an embezzlement charge here, late yesterday was arrested by Baltimore police for questioning in connection with the murder of Marilyn Sheppard.

Baltimore police acted after Ennis had telephoned the Plain Dealer using a fictitious name and told a fantastic story about a murder plot.

Assistant County Prosecutor Thomas J. Parrino began questioning Ennis at midnight after flying to Baltimore.

Parrino said Detective Lieut. Gordon Mintiehs had told him that Ennis had changed his story several times under questioning.

Ennis, alias Patrick O'Brien McGinty, was picked up as he walked along St. Paul Street in downtown Baltimore.

Dictates Questions

A few minutes earlier he had told Plain Dealer reporter Robert J. Drake, Dr. Sheppard said: "The face looks strangely familiar.

He added that Ennis' name was "vaguely familiar." The startling development came soon after the recovery of a stained, ripped T-shirt from Lake Erie. The shirt resembled one which was worn by Dr. Sheppard the night of his wife's murder but which was missing when Dr. Sheppard was found on the living room floor of their home, 28924 West Lake Road, Bay Village.

Tests "Inconclusive"

Bay Village Patrolman Cy Lipaj discovered the tattered garment, ripped from top to bottom. The shirt was snagged on wire reinforcing of the concrete pier behind the home of Mr. and Mrs. Karl R. Schuele, 28944 West Lake, immediately next door to the Sheppards.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber had tests made to determine if the stains were blood. Medical Technician Mary E. Cowan said first tests were "inconclusive." She said there was not enough there to interpret. The garment will be submitted to further soaking and tests to determine if there is blood on it.

The investigation took a new tangent when Plain Dealer reporter collect phone call to the Plain Dealer. The call was received at 2:25 p.m.

Held on Phone

Using the name George Harrison, he told the Plain Dealer about a plot.

While the reporter held Ennis on the phone, Baltimore police were telephoned and asked to pick up the caller, who said he was telephoning from a drug store at Mount Royal and St. Paul Streets. Baltimore police said they had to have a request from Cleveland authorities before they would (Continued on Page 4, Column 5)

PROSECUTOR'S AIDE

THOMAS J. PARRINO

QUESTIONED in connection with the Sheppard murder case in Baltimore, where he was picked up by police, was Ennis. Assistant County Prosecutor Parrino flew there to quiz Ennis.
Tale of Sheppard Murder
Plot Probed in Baltimore

(Continued From First Page)

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 1954

Doctor Offers Theory

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard last night theorized that the slayer of his wife was a man perhaps a psychotic who had admired her for some reason, the psychotic

Talking to newsmen as he left the hospital, he suggested that the murder might have been a result of her shopping each day. Then, for some reason, the psychotic decided he had to be killed

wearing work pants and a white shirt.

Whether the T-shirt found in the lake was the one that Dr. Sheppard's was still undetermined.

Deputy Sheriff Carl A. Ross- 

E. Baltimore police were then

The shirt found in the lake was marked "Large 42-44" and possibly could be Dr. Sheppard's, it was said.

Wife Bought Shirts

Dr. Sheppard himself said he had purchased many "large" T-shirts. He said that his wife took care of the house. He only casual friendship with Mrs. Sheppard. Dr. Sheppard himself said he had been drinking and "wanted to be a big shot.,' so had killed her.

Admits Drinking

However, it was brought out that he had been here on July 12, that he had been out and "flew" to death by 25 savage

blows in the face and head.

Ennis was questioned until 5:30 p.m. and then booked for Cleveland authorities.

He then denied knowledge of the plot he had detailed to reporters and said he knew nothing of the Sheppards' laundering.

Pleaded Guilty

He pleaded guilty before Com-

missioner John J. Mahon as a Dement without

leaving for a year. He was court-

marital and the "Cleveland Coun-

tion that the weapon used to

erate at Bay View Hospital just

before midnight. He had a "Lord Dorchester," also in the brand name.

The shirt found in the lake was marked "Large 42-44" and possibly could be Dr. Sheppard's, it was said.

Explains Gift

Miss Hayes, 24, was questioned

in New York, after returning from

a visit to Dr. Sheppard after she left them while attending a wedding in Los Angeles last night. She had suggested

the T-shirts in the lake would be Dr. Sheppard's, she said. He was wearing his now-famili

ar rest of Cleveland, beverage

operator of Los Angeles County, and had asked him to question Professor Edward B. Marek, former Bay View technician, again.

Plain Dealer learned he

was essential, but

had not been drinking and

that when he wanted to change his story and admit he was the

she had. He was wearing his now-fami-

ty theory that the slayer was the best hiding

place for the weapon.

The Rocky River High School

graduate said Dr. Sheppard had loaned him the car and drove him to go to the wedding. She said she did not know if Mrs. Sheppard knew about it at all time.

Later Mrs. Sheppard found out about the wedding by her friend, Dr. Sheppard. She told Roll that she had re-

ceived a gift of a watch from

Dr. Sheppard after she left them while attending a wedding in Los Angeles last night. He had asked

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One of the Bay Village.

May 18, 1954.

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