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State Presents Opening Remarks

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"The evidence in support of this indictment against Dr. Sam H. Sheppard will disclose that Sheppard, his wife Marilyn, and son known as Chip who was about six years old, on July 4, resided at 28924 Lake Rd. in Bay Village.

"The evidence will disclose that this home is situated along Lake Erie, between Lake Rd. and the lake. The house faces Lake Erie and the rear faces Lake Rd. It is a little different from the average house which usually facing the street.

"The evidence will disclose that the defendant is a doctor practicing in Bay Village, that he was associated with Bay View Hospital which is located in Bay Village, two or three miles from the home of Sam Sheppard. Connected with that hospital are Dr. Sam Sheppard's father, Richard Sr., and brothers, Richard and Stephen, all of whom are doctors.

Recalls Dinner
"The evidence will further disclose that on the evening of July 3 that there had been some arrangement for the Don Ahern family to have dinner at the home of Sam Sheppard. The Ahern family lives about five houses west of the Sheppard home.

"The evidence will disclose that between 6 and 6:30 Dr. Sheppard and his wife went to the Aherns' home and had a couple of cocktails.

"Mrs. Sheppard had put roast on before they went to the Aherns'. After they returned to the Sheppard home about 8 or maybe a little after, the meal was prepared. Dr. Ahern and Sam Sheppard and Chip and I believe the two boys of the Aherns went down into the basement where there is a punching bag. For some time they showed the boys how to punch the bag.

"Either after that trip to the basement, or maybe before, Dr. Sam and Don Ahern went out of the house and down to the lake down those stairs you saw yesterday. They wanted to see how the lake was.

Ate Dinner on Porch
"They expected the next day, at least Dr. Sheppard expected, that some people would be at the Sheppards' for water skiing and they wanted to see the condition of the lake. At about 9 they began dinner. While it was rather a chilly and windy evening the dinner was served on the front porch overlooking the lake. This is a large screened-in porch. The adults ate there. The children were served in the kitchen.

"Because of the chilly weather during the course of the meal, Dr. Sheppard put on a corduroy jacket. Mrs. Ahern somewhere obtained a sort of a sweater jact and threw this over Mr. Ahern's shoulders.

"The evidence will show that earlier that evening Dr. Sam had been wearing a khaki or canvas jacket which he had taken off while they were down at the punching bag.

"The meal was finished about dinner about 10. After that Mr. Ahern took their two children home. It is only about five houses away. Mrs. Ahern remained at the Sheppard home. Mr. Ahern returned to the Sheppard house about 16:30."
Dr. Sam Fixes Plane

"Meantime, Mrs. Sheppard and Mrs. Ahern had cleared the table and washed the dishes. Dr. Sam was in the house during this time fixing a toy airplane for his son Chip. Now during the period of the meal the radio was on. There was a baseball game that night and it lasted until after midnight. It was an extra-inning game.

"After the dishes were all cleaned up someone turned on the television which was showing a movie. They also kept the radio going to listen to the ball game. At least the men, or at least Mr. Ahern, wanted to listen to the ball game as well as look at TV. Just before the television was turned on Chip had been put to bed. During this period of time while they were watching the movie, Dr. Sam was seated on a chair with his wife. At some point he went over and lay down on the couch.

"You will remember that, as you go to the second floor from the living room, you go up three steps - to a platform. And that also to this platform three steps rise from the kitchen. Then you go straight up the main steps to the second floor. This couch that Dr. Sam went to lie on was alongside the staircase.

Describes Clothes

"Dr. Sheppard lay on his stomach facing the television set with a pillow under his head. The evidence will disclose that he had on a pair of slacks, a white T-shirt and a corduroy jacket. He had shoes or loafers of some kind and that's the way he was dressed.

"The evidence will disclose while he was lying there he dozed off to sleep, shortly after
Then when the movie was completed, Mrs. Sheppard was rather drowsy and the Aherns left close to 12:30 the morning of July 4.

“arbitrate a little bit, after the meal was completed and the dishes cleaned up, the evidence will disclose that Mrs. Ahern locked the door from the living room on out to the porch. This door, facing the lake, is locked by means of a bolt. In addition to that there is a chain lock which is partly on the sill and partly on the door. When you put the chain together the door is permitted to open only a few inches. This was also put in place by Mrs. Ahern. This was done after all the dishes were taken from the porch.

“When Mr. and Mrs. Ahern left that morning they went out the door toward Lake Rd. Mrs. Sheppard accompanied them to the door. The defendant, Sam Sheppard, was asleep. After the door was closed the Aherns went over home.

Recalls Phone Call

“The evidence will further disclose that shortly before 6 o’clock the morning of July 4, Mayor Spencer Houk, the mayor of Bay Village, who also resides on Lake Rd., just a few houses from the Sheppard home, and who was a very close friend of the Sheppards, received a telephone call from the defendant, Sam Sheppard, urging him to come over to the Sheppard home, that something terrible had happened, that Marilyn had been killed.

“ Mayor Houk and his wife went to the Sheppard home and entered from the door facing Lake Rd. The door was closed and they opened it and went in. The first thing that attracted their attention was a doctor’s medical kit up-ended on the floor with contents spilled on the floor. As you enter that Lake Rd. door you come into a hallway. The first door on the left leads to the kitchen and the first door on the right to the study.

“As Mr. and Mrs. Houk proceeded in they saw this defendant seated in a chair in this room designated as a den. He mumbled something to them. The evidence will disclose that immediately Mrs. Houk went up to the second floor, the room occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard directly opposite the stairs as you go up.
Found Marilyn

"Mrs. Houk looked into the room. The room had twin beds in it. On the bed nearest the door was the body of Marilyn Sheppard. The face and head were covered with blood. The upper part of her pajamas were pushed up. One leg of the lower part of her pajamas was out. The body was lying on its back. Mrs. Houk felt the pulse of Marilyn. She found none. Mrs. Houk returned to the first floor and told her husband what she had seen upstairs. The mayor called Bay Village police. He also called Dr. Sheppard's brother, Richard."

"When the Houks arrived they found Sam Sheppard in the den. There was a desk in the den. At that time Sam Sheppard had no clothes on above the waist. His trousers were wet. His shoes were on. They tried to talk to him but he only mumbled and said, "they killed Marilyn." Richard and the police arrived soon. Richard went upstairs, examined Marilyn and found her dead.

"Also found by police and the mayor were the drawers pulled out of the desk in the den. The contents were scattered about. They found Marilyn's wrist watch on the floor. In the living room is a desk set against the north wall next to the door to the porch. The drawers of it were pulled out. On the floor was a bundle of papers from one drawer. The other drawers were out but the contents were not disturbed."

"Quotes Dr. Sam"

"Police, starting an investigation, were told by Dr. Sam Sheppard that someone had been in the house, that he heard Marilyn cry, that he ran upstairs and was clobbered at the top of the stairs and knocked out."

"The evidence will show that Dr. Sheppard had an eye in jury and complained of his neck hurting. After Richard arrived, Dr. Stephen Sheppard came."

"With Dr. Stephen were several internes from Bay View Hospital. Dr. Stephen and the internes took Dr. Sam to Bay View Hospital in a station wagon."

"The evidence will show police made an extensive search of the house and grounds and found no evidence of breaking into the house. Later that morning Mayor Houk's son, who with others was searching the grounds, found a bag to the right of the stairway that leads..."
The evidence will show that this bag came from the home, had been in the den, where it was used for holding tools that were found lying around the den.

Tells of Blood Stains

"The evidence will disclose that the trousers of Sam Sheppard had red stains on one leg. These stains were analyzed and found to be human blood. Upon further investigation, blood was found on the stairway to the second floor, and downstairs across the floor, while we are unable to say whether any of this blood was the blood of Marilyn Sheppard.

The evidence will disclose that this defendant and Marilyn Sheppard were married about 1945 in California. He was going to school there at the time. They returned to California until around 1951, when they moved to Bay Village, Ohio.

The evidence will disclose that while they were living in California, he had affairs with other women out there and that out there he contemplated divorce, because of his infatuation with other women. I might say that besides this hospital that is located in Bay Village, Bay View, that the Sheppards also maintained a beach house there. When the couple came to Bay Village the defendant practiced medicine there. The evidence will disclose that there was a young lady working at that hospital, Miss Sus'n Hayes.

The evidence will show that there were no injuries to the head or the eyes. Neither was there any injury to the body of Marilyn Sheppard. She would go out on calls with him and her association became very close and intimate. Finally, this girl left the hospital and went out to Los Angeles.

Cites California Visit

"The evidence will disclose that at the end of February or the first part of March this defendant and his wife, Marilyn, quarreled and he left her. He got up and went back upstairs to the den, where he went to sleep. He was wearing the trousers he had worn when he was in the den that afternoon.

The evidence will disclose that the defendant became very mad and then started going into the den. When he went into the den, he was wearing the trousers he had worn when he was in the den that afternoon. He was heard moaning, that he had gone upstairs and that he was clobbered by someone. He was heard moaning, that he was clobbered, that he came down to the beach. He was heard moaning, that he was clobbered, that he came down to the beach. I believe that was the case we are dealing with here.

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