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ARMY MINE DETECTOR

USED IN NEW SEARCH FOR MURDER WEAPON

Hunt Today to Concentrate on Beach and Embankment Behind Sheppard Home; Combining of Flower Beds Fruitless; Victim's Death Slow and Agonizing, Coroner Reveals

BULLETIN

Bay Village Patrolman Fred Drenkhan late last night interviewed a 23-year-old Lakewood woman who told of noticing an “odd-acting” man who fitted Dr. Samuel Sheppard's description of his attacker loitering in her neighborhood.

The woman told Drenkhan she had seen a tall bushy-haired man near her home both before and after, but not during the week when Marilyn Sheppard was murdered. She said he always carried a red sweater over his arm.

Drenkhan said it was one of many similar “leads” volunteered by citizens since the murder. The woman walked into the Rocky River police station with the story. Drenkhan interviewed her there.

Army experts, using a magnetic mine detector, last night joined in the search for the missing weapon in the Marilyn Sheppard murder case.

First Lieut. James L. Faulks, 21153 Erie Road, Rocky River, and Sergt. Gerald Golden of New London, Conn., brought the device from Fort Hayes, Columbus, and immediately searched flower beds around the Sheppard home, 28924 West Lake Road, Bay Village.

With Sergt. Golden operating the detector, six rusty building nails and a child's double-barreled “popgun” were dug up by Bay Village Patrolman Howard S. Smith. As the device registered iron or steel beneath it, Smith dug in with a spade.
Hunt Called Off for Night

The search was called off for the night at 8:45 p.m. It will be resumed this morning at 10, with the hunt to be concentrated on the beach behind the house and the embankment leading to Lake Erie.

Assisting in the search were Patrolmen Frank Drenkhan and James Cowles and Police Chief John P. Eaton.

Sergt. Golden explained that the detector would locate only iron or steel. If the weapon was brass or copper the detector would not pick it up. It can pick up items buried two feet in sand or about 18 inches in grasscovered earth. It can also pick up items in shallow water.

Home for Week End

Both Lieut. Faulks and Sergt. Golden are with the 554th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Control Detachment at Fort Hayes. Lieut. Faulks was coming home for the week end and brought Sergt. Golden to Bay Village after the army received the suburb's request for the detector.

Use of the detector was the latest development in the investigation of the murder of the 31-year-old pregnant Zili Sheppard of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, Bay Village osteopath.

Investigators Parley

While investigators parleyed to co-ordinate efforts to solve the baffling mystery, the killer-madman or cunning plotter—remained a potential threat to the community.

That Mrs. Sheppard died a slow and agonizing death was revealed yesterday as investigators met at the Cuyahoga County Morgue.

Death of Zili Sheppard was not instantaneous, Dr. Samuel R. Gerber, county coroner, told the group.

Dr. Gerber estimated that Mrs. Sheppard lived from five to 30 minutes, while Dr. Lester Adelson, deputy coroner, said the victim could have survived an hour.

Dr. Adelson pointed out that the wounds on the front and top of Zili Sheppard's head would not have brought immediate death. Sheppard probably went into convulsions as she sobbed out her last moments of life.

Dr. Moritz at Meeting

Dr. Alan R. Moritz, the nation's leading medicolegal expert, joined county and municipal officials at the Morgue meeting.

Dr. Gerber said that Dr. Moritz was brought up to date on the brutal crime at a closed-door conference at which unpublicized leads were discussed. The conference followed an hour-long briefing by Dr. Gerber and Dr. Adelson at which officials and newsmen viewed photographs of the victim and evidence.

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Mine Detector Used in Bay Hunt

(Continued From First Page)

Some 20 slides were shown on a screen in a crime chalk-talk, X rays of the victim's back showed, excluding him from a head injury. He had fallen asleep listening to the baseball game on the radio with his wife and a neighbor couple, Mr. and Mrs. Don J. Ahern.

Back Door Locked
The Aherns departed around midnight after noting Mrs. Sheppard was drowsy, Mrs. Ahern locked the door, and Mrs. Sheppard saw the visitors out the front door.

In two weeks since 5:30 a.m., there has been little real progress in solving the case.

Investigators were hampered in their work by the delay in questioning Dr. Sheppard. It was not until Dr. Gerber threatened to hold a public inquest and subpoena Dr. Sheppard that the police got a detailed story from the osteopath.

T-Shirt Unexplained
But even this offered little aid in the search for clues. Dr. Sheppard could not explain what had happened to the T-shirt he wore when he fell asleep and that was missing when he was found sprawled on the living room floor by Bay Village Mayor and Mrs. J. Spencer Houk.

A T-shirt found snagged on a nearby pine tree was clean and Mrs. Gerber said. Mrs. Sheppard's head was examined the body around 8 on the morning of July 4.

Adding strength to the theory that Mrs. Sheppard lived for some time after the chopping attack was the fact of blood found on her twin bed in a second-floor bedroom.

Dr. Gerber said Mrs. Sheppard must have lived for some time to account for the bleeding. While there could have been some "leakage," heart action and blood pressure would have been necessary to explain the extent of bleeding.

At 8 a.m. the blood on the bed was dry and Mrs. Sheppard's blood had clotted, Dr. Gerber said.

Dr. Gerber said that it had now been determined that Dr. Sheppard, after being "clobbered" when he ran upstairs to get his wife, fell with his head in the bedroom and legs in the hallway.

At first it was reported Dr. Sheppard had been struck as he came up the stairs.

Dr. Sheppard told investigators that he awoke on a downstairs couch, hearing his wife naming. He had fallen asleep listening to the baseballgame on the radio with his wife and a neighbor couple, Mr. and Mrs. Don J. Ahern.

John J. Mahon and Thomas J. Sweeney, the suspect in the murder of Mrs. Sheppard, and his deputies, Carl A. Rossbach, Harvey Weiss and Dave Yettra, Bay Village Police, and Capt. Sergit, Jay Hubach and Petrol- man Drenkhan of the sub-bureau, were questioned Police Chief Frank W. Story.

Story Is Observer
Chief Story said that he was there "only as an observer." The police department in solving the case had been offered by Mayor Houk, but it has been indicated that the in- vestigation will continue on the basis to date.

Story said that he did not relish the idea of taking charge of the case, which he said now is in the hands of Cleveland detectives will act as a consultant without pay in the search for the slayer, Dr. Gerber said.

No One to Be in Charge
"The air has been cleared and everyone intends to co-operate with each other," Dr. Gerber said.

"As a result of the meeting we hope something will result to give the slayer the Fifteen.

The investigation will con- tinue without one person in charge. Each of the agencies will continue to search for the truth in the case and will continue to do so, Dr. Gerber said.

Cleveland detectives will par- ticipate to some extent but only upon a written request. That is the agreement in writing was asked by Chief Story.

Two Drivers Quizzed
Bay Village police continued their efforts to find a bus driver who may have picked up a man resembling the intruder de- scribed by Dr. Sheppard. The man was said to have been in a Baltimore - bound bus near the Sheppard home, according to information from Elsa Seabury, of Elberta Beach, near Vermilion.

Drivers of two buses were traced and did not remember the "nervous" man in the driver of a third bus remains to be checked.

Fingerprints Lacking
Police were hampered by the lack of fingerprints and other clues usually found at a scene of a crime. It was thought at first that the slayer was slaying to wipe away telltale prints and clean up some of the blood from the victim. The search for a bus driver of Mrs. Sheppard yesterday said he believed the idler would be caught.

A view of the horrible nature of the crime, I do not believe that whoever committed it will be able to keep it concealed," Dr. Sheppard said.

Sheppard's Theory
Dr. Sheppard said he did not care to answer a question asked whether he felt that he had been treated fairly in the investigation.

"In order to even imagine a motive for a crime as horrible as this it is necessary to visualize an individual who is either psychotic or under the influence of narcotics or alcohol," Dr. Sheppard said in discussing his theory for a possible motive for the murder.

This theory is supported by the fact that a large amount of narcotics was stolen and by the vicious nature of the attack.

"Ordinary robbery would not be sufficient to explain a crime of this sort, but it is a fact that over $100 in cash was stolen from our wallets, in addition to the narcotics which were taken.

Here, Dr. Sheppard reiterated his story about the lack of narcotics and money—factors which investigators have put little em- phasis upon.

Cites Obligation
About his plans for the future, Dr. Sheppard said he had none except to care for his patients and to "raise our son the way I know my wife, Marilyn wished."

"I feel these obligations most strongly because of the great and continual active help, sup- port and encouragement she al- ways gave me," he said.

He added that the son, Chip, 6½, has been informed of the manner of his mother's death.

Dr. Sheppard pointed out that he had offered a $10,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the slayer.

"I can only hope that whoever is responsible for this horrible crime will be convicted and pub- lished," Dr. Sheppard said.

Charged With Violation
George W. Ennis, 37, yesterday was held in $2,000 bail on charges of probation violation in Balti- more, the Associated Press re- ported.

Ennis was arrested Wednesday after he telephoned the Plain Dealer from Baltimore with a story of being offered money to kill Mrs. Sheppard. He admitted to Baltimore police and to Par- rio, who flew to Baltimore, that it was a hoax.

Authorities asked that Balti- more hold Ennis for violating provisions of his probation. He pleaded guilty last November to embezzling $317 and stealing another $60 from the Spacecar Co.

Here, Sobriety was mandatory under the probation terms. En- nis said he had been drinking when he made the hoax call.
SEARCHING for the weapon used to hack Marilyn Sheppard to death, an army mine detector was used last night at the Sheppards' Bay Village home. Above, left to right: First Lieut. James L. Faulks of Rocky River, Sergt. Gerald Golden of New London, Conn., and Bay Village Patrolmen Howard S. Smith and Fred Drenkhahn. Below: Studying photos of evidence in the case are (left to right) Dr. Samuel R. Gerber, county coroner; Cleveland Police Chief Frank W. Story and County Prosecutor Frank T. Cullitan.