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54/11/21 Grant Bay 'Suspect' Lie Test

Cleveland Plain Dealer

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PD 11-21-54

GRANT BAY

'SUSPECT'

LIE TEST

Police Check Out Move- ments of Ex-Patient in Tour of Bars

A former patient of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, fingered as a new "suspect" in the murder of the osteopath's wife, late yesterday demanded a lie detector test to prove he has no connection with the slaying.

The test will be administered tomorrow morning at Central Police Station.

The suspect, Phillip A. Schilling, 39, a former Bay Village resident, took Cleveland homicide detectives on a tour of West Side homes and taverns earlier.

He wanted to prove his story that he was nowhere near the murder home when Marilyn Sheppard was battered to death July 4.

Schilling voluntarily accompanied detectives here from Marine City, Mich., where he has been living, to establish his whereabouts at the hour of the brutal slaying.

Named by Family

He had been named as a possible suspect by members of the Sheppard family last Wednesday.

Cleveland homicide men said they believed Schilling's alibi.

Capt. David E. Kerr said 12 persons questioned already had accounted for the "suspect's" movements at least until 2 a. m. July 4. Marilyn Sheppard died between 3 and 4 a. m.

Kerr said two more witnesses were to be interrogated.

"We are satisfied from the witnesses we have talked to that he has no connection with the Sheppard case," Kerr said.

Meanwhile, Schilling is being held in a jail cell at Central Station for investigation of a suspected probation violation discovered in his interrogation.

The Plain Dealer learned Schilling told detectives that he had been on a week-long drinking bout before July 4 and that a friend picked him up on the West Side at 2:30 p. m. on that date and drove him to Marine City.

Dr. Sheppard's trial for first-degree murder goes into its sixth week tomorrow. His story

(Continued on Page 8, Column 4)



NEXT WITNESS. Dr. Lester T. Hoversten, next state's witness to be called in the trial of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, leaves the county prosecutor's office after a conference with Assistant County Prosecutor John J. Mahon.

Lie Test Set Tomorrow on Bay Ex-Patient's Urging

(Continued From First Page)

is that he awoke from a nap on a downstairs cot, rushed to Marilyn's bedroom and was assaulted by a bushy-haired man, about six feet three inches tall. Schilling was described as about six feet two inches tall and has black, wavy hair.

Dr. Sam's brother, Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, identified Schilling yesterday.

"I think this is the most significant thing that has come to my attention since Marilyn's murder," Dr. Steve told Plain Dealer Reporter John G. Blair.

"This is what (Detective Inspector James E.) McArthur and (Police Chief Frank W.) Story call a 'red herring.'"

Quotes Detective

Dr. Steve said he was informed Homicide Detective Peter Becker told authorities in Detroit, where Schilling was questioned Friday: "If we didn't have the right man in jail in Cleveland, we'd think this was the guy who did it."

Becker and Detective Vincent Morrow brought back with them a T-shirt and a mill file.

Dr. Steve said the T-shirt was stained and the 17-inch file was discolored. The file was said to have been found in the basement of a private hospital where Schilling was admitted on July 6.

Dr. Sam's T-shirt worn on the eve of the murder was missing when police arrived to answer his message that "I think they've killed Marilyn."

According to Dr. Steve, Schilling was admitted to Bay View Hospital on Aug. 24, 1952, for treatment of acute gastritis and alcoholism. Dr. Sam signed his chart as attending physician and Dr. Lester T. Hoversten as resident doctor.

Dr. Hoversten, now a California osteopath, was a house guest in the Sam Sheppard home until a few hours before the murder and is scheduled to testify for the state, possibly tomorrow, on Dr. Sam's extra-marital affairs.

Dr. Steve said Schilling was readmitted to Bay View on Dec. 19, 1952, for the same ailments, and stayed 10 days. The same doctors signed his chart.

On the first stay, Schilling gave a Marine City address and listed a Kenny Hubbell of Elyria as the relative to be notified in case of emergency.

Relates Story

In December his address was given as 24327 Electric Drive, Bay Village.

Dr. Steve said he got his information about Schilling from Henry Myers and his wife, Thelma, co-owners of a private hospital in Marine City, and their business associate, Don Gulland.

This was Dr. Steve's account as told to him by the Myers couple:

Schilling appeared at the Marine City Hospital on July 6 and was admitted for treatment for alcoholism. He asked Mrs. Myers and the nurses to alter the hospital records to show he had been admitted there June 28, explaining that he had been in trouble in Cleveland with a girl named Betty.

This trouble, he added, consisted of his being on probation for having stolen some of her luggage, and he had failed to keep an appointment with his probation officer on June 29.

Called "Apprehensive"

He was quoted as saying he had been discharged from City Hospital on June 28 after a kid-

ney operation, but Mrs. Myers said she saw no evidence of an incision. She said he did have a laceration on his right flank.

Mrs. Myers said Schilling stayed at the rest home for 12 days. He seemed "apprehensive," she said. He discussed the Sheppard case with several persons.

Mrs. Myers said she told Schilling on one occasion: "It looks as though Sam Sheppard must have done it."

"No," she quoted Schilling as replying, "it's out of the question. I know him. He's my doctor. He would give you the shirt off his back."

Tells of Threat

Mrs. Myers said Schilling once threatened a nursing supervisor: "If you don't stop, I'll hit you with a judo blow."

On one day alone Schilling made 13 telephone calls to Cleveland, Mrs. Myers said.

She said Schilling reappeared at the hospital on Aug. 4 and asked for and was given employment as a handyman. He left on Sept. 12, leaving behind clothing and an outboard motor.

She said his brother, Francis, and father, Charles, appeared two days later and demanded his possessions, which the hospital refused to surrender until the matter of a missing bottle of demerol, or synthetic morphine, was cleared up.

His laundry, she said, included a T-shirt that went through the

laundry and remained stained.

Mrs. Myers called Dr. Steve Monday and made an appointment with him to hear her story. The Myers couple repeated their account Tuesday before Police Capt. Richard Kluth of Rocky River. Dr. Steve relayed the information to homicide detectives Wednesday and was called out of the trial room Thursday to be questioned by Morrow and Becker.

Dr. Steve complained that the two detectives displayed a "closed-mind attitude."

Schilling has a daughter. Last known address of his divorced wife, Alice B. Schilling, was given as 18975 Hilliard Road, Rocky River, an apartment house where she could not be traced.

Schilling's lawyer, John Cain, of Algonac, Mich., told the Associated Press:

"I have been assured by Detroit and Cleveland police my client had nothing to do with the case. Some screwball injected his name into it and Schilling has gone to Cleveland to clear up any questions police there may have."

Ends Conjecture

Schilling once worked for the Standard Products Co. both here and in Marine City.

In another Michigan development in the case, a former army nurse ended conjecture that a pair of surgical scissors found at Arbutus Lake near Traverse City might be connected with the murder.

The scissors had the initials "M. J. S." and the name "M. Shepard" scratched on them. Mrs. Margaret Shepard of Traverse City said she had lost

them at Arbutus Lake, where she has a cottage.

Major revelation in the state's case this week was an imprint in blood on the pillow slip under Marilyn's head. Coroner Samuel R. Gerber testified that the mark could have been made by the murder weapon, which he said could have been a surgical instrument.

Dr. Hoversten conferred two hours yesterday with Assistant County Prosecutor John J. Mahon, outlining his testimony which is expected to lay the groundwork for the state's picture of Dr. Sam as an unfaithful husband thinking about divorce.

Schottke to Return

When the trial resumes tomorrow, Detective Robert F. Schottke will be back on the stand for more cross-examination and some redirect testimony. Mahon said the state might call Dr. Hoversten before the day was over.

The state will probably require two more weeks before resting, Mahon said, unless Defense Counsel William J. Corrigan and Fred W. Garmone speed up their cross-examination.

That would give the defense a scant three weeks to present its case before Christmas Eve.

In any event, Mahon must be out of the case by Jan. 5, when he is to take office as a Common Pleas Court judge.

Common Pleas Judge Edward Blythin said he would hold to his decision that court would convene as usual Friday, despite some pressure brought for a long week-end holiday after Thanksgiving.