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Police Rap Dr. Steve on 'Suspect' Handling

Detective Chief James McArthur today sharply criticized Dr. Stephen Sheppard and a Rocky River police captain for their handling of "information about a new suspect" in the murder of Marilyn Sheppard.

The "suspect" — a former Marine City (Mich.) alderman and justice of the peace—was "completely cleared" by a police investigation.

McArthur discounted another "new suspect" named by an "accomplice" who surrendered to police at a Cincinnati suburb. This man previously had attempted to "confess" a murder to which the FBI failed to connect him.

Bay Village police drove to Cincinnati last night and returned the "new suspect," Henry W. Fuehrer, 52, who said that he had accompanied another man to Bay Village last July 4 on a mission of burglary.

Told About "Pal"

Fuehrer said he knew the other man only as "Pal"—and he had run away when he heard a commotion in the house "Pal" was attempting to burglarize.

He will be taken to the Sheppard home today to see if it refreshes his memory further, and then given a lie detector test.

McArthur flatly accused Dr. Stephen of "insincerity" in his handling of the earlier "new information."

The suspicion of Phillip A. Schilling of Marine City, former Cadillac Tank Plant employee here, was first reported to Dr. Stephen Tuesday night by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Myers, operators of a rest home at St. Clair, Mich.

They claimed they had heard Schilling—a former patient of Dr. Sam's — make remarks which aroused their suspicions.

Interested in Reward

The Myers' obtained a stained T-shirt, a rusty file and some medical bottles which belonged to Schilling and brought them to Dr. Stephen. They expressed interest in the \$10,000 reward offered by the Sheppard family for the arrest and conviction of Marilyn's murderer.

"If Dr. Stephen was really

sincere," McArthur said, "he would have notified us immediately—instead of waiting until Wednesday evening, after these people had returned to Michigan."

On Tuesday, Dr. Stephen called Rocky River Police Chief Robert Kelley. Kelley referred him to Capt. Richard Kluth.

"We have yet to receive any report from Capt. Kluth about this," McArthur said.

Steve Comments

Dr. Stephen's comment on McArthur's criticism was: "I didn't know the Cleveland police were so sensitive. I felt the tip should go to the Rocky River police first, since I received it at my home there."

Homicide Capt. David Kerr noted that Dr. Stephen usually suggests that "his suspects be given a lie detector test—but he's steadfastly refused to take one himself."

Fuehrer surrendered last night to Police Chief Tom Fitzpatrick of Elmwood Place, a Cincinnati suburb. An ex-convict released from prison last January after serving a burglary term, he said he had met "Pal" in Cleveland July 3.

Last Nov. 5, Fuehrer walked into the St. Bernard, O., police station and tried to "confess" killing a man named Harry Smith in a stolen auto in Chicago last July. He was released a week later when the FBI could find no substantiation of his claim.