54/11/22 Probe New Bay Tip; Detroit Man Clear

Cleveland Plain Dealer
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Bay Village police early today were bringing a 51-year-old ex-convict here from Cincinnati to check out the latest Marilyn Sheppard murder tip shortly after another suspect had been cleared by Cleveland Police.

Henry Fuehrer was questioned by Bay Police Sergt. Jay H. Hubach and Patrolman Fred F. Drenkhan for 45 minutes at Elmwood Place, a Cincinnati suburb, before starting for Cleveland.

Fuehrer, a self-admitted burglar, said he accompanied "a tall, broad-shouldered man" known only as "Pal" to Bay Village late on the night of July 3 with the intention of breaking into homes.

He said he waited in a car while "Pal" entered a home overlooking Lake Erie.

Returning to Scene

Whether this was the Sheppard home at 28924 West Lake Road was to be determined by returning Fuehrer to the scene, police explained.

Fuehrer said that while he waited he heard "fighting and swearing" from the beach behind the house. The ex-convict said he ran and later hitchhiked a ride into Cleveland. He said he never saw "Pal" again.

The alert, mild appearing tipster said that on July 4 he took a bus to Toledo. It was not until several days later that he heard of the Sheppard murder, he said. Fuehrer said that he immediately connected it with his companion, but that being an ex-convict he did not want to become involved.

Walks Into Station

Fuehrer walked into the Elmwood Place police station at 10 yesterday. Police Chief Thomas Fitzpatrick telephoned Drenkhan here, and the two Bay policemen drove to Elmwood Place yesterday afternoon.

The ex-convict said that he and "Pal," had been drinking since early in the afternoon of July 3 and that when they ran out of money "Pal" said, according to Fuehrer:

"We'll go to Bay Village."

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EX-CON'S BAY TIP IS BEING CHECKED

Detroit Suspect Cleared in Sheppard Case

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know where we can get some money. I'll get some money if I have to knock somebody's head off. There's plenty of money around here.'

Parked Near a House

Fuehrer said they drove to an area where he was told was Bay Village and parked near a house. He said he saw no lights. Investigators said one light was on upstairs in the Sheppard home on the night of the murder.

On his arrival here, Fuehrer will be taken on a tour of the suburb to see if he can pick out the house where he and "Pal" stopped that night.

Fuehrer told police, "I don't believe in violence. I'm sorry I didn't stay with this man long enough to turn him in to the police."

Arrived Here July 2

Fuehrer was said to have been released from the Tennessee State Prison last January. He arrived here July 2 and told police.

He said the information "had been on my mind all this time and it finally got so I couldn't sleep at all," Fuehrer added. "I feel better already."

Meanwhile, Cleveland police cleared Phillip A. Schilling, 39-year-old alcoholic, of any connection with the sensational case. Homicide Chief David E. Kerr said Schilling "was absolutely ruled out" after passing a lie detector test at Central Police Station. He was also questioned extensively by detectives Vincent T. Morrow and Peter J. Becker.

Schilling was subjected to the polygraph examination by Detective Bernard J. Conley of the police scientific investigation unit. The test lasted from 6:15 to 8 p.m.

"He made no attempt at deception in answering the questions," Capt. Kerr reported.

Schilling volunteered to take the test after he was named as a possible suspect in the killing by Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard, a brother of Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard.

Dr. Sam's trial as the murder of his pregnant 31-year-old wife will resume this morning at 9:30 before Common Pleas Judge Edward Blum. Schilling was not released after passing the lie detector test. He is being held in connection with an earlier conversion charge, Kerr said.

Schilling entered the case after Dr. Steve was approached by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Myers, co-owners of a private hospital near Marine City, Mich., where Schilling's family lives.

After Dr. Steve gave Cleveland police the information, Morrow and Becker went to Marine City and brought Schilling back. Schilling said he came voluntarily to clear himself of the charge.

Schilling, on Saturday, took the detectives on a round of West Side bars and haunts. Becker said Schilling's alibi was checked out entirely before he took the lie detector test.

No Blood Found

Morrow and Becker yesterday showed reporters a T-shirt and a long, rusty file that were brought back with Schilling. Both had been examined by the police scientific investigation bureau and no blood was found on either, Morrow said.

"There is no trace of blood on the T-shirt," Becker said. "The file came out o.k. too."

"The T-shirt, similar to one worn on the murdered night by Dr. Sam but missing since, was stained with green paint."

Schilling said Dr. Sam had treated him on two occasions. He termed the murder defendant "a brilliant surgeon."

Schilling was a patient on two occasions in 1952 at Bay View Hospital. He was treated for acute gastritis and acute alcoholism, according to Dr. Steve.

Both times Dr. Sam was attending physician and Dr. Lester T. Overhenson was resident physician.

Dr. Overhenson possibly will take the stand as a prosecution witness against Dr. Sam today. Dr. Overhenson has been in Cleveland for nearly two weeks waiting his turn to testify.

Cleveland Homicide Detective Robert F. Schottke will return to the stand this morning, still under cross-examination by Defense Lawyer Fred W. Garmone.

It is possible that questioning of Schottke will be completed this morning. If so, it is possible that Originals will be taken out of order and questioned. The Glendale (Cal.) osteopath is anxious to go to Germany to continue his medical studies.

Left Home July 3

Dr. Overhenson was a house guest at the Sheppard home at the time of the murder. However, he was visiting another osteopath, Dr. Robert Stevenson, in Kent, O., at the time Mrs. Sheppard was killed. Dr. Overhenson left the Sheppard home the afternoon of July 3 and was called back from Kent for questioning after the murder.

Following Overhenson to the stand will be Deputy Sheriff Carl A. Rossbach and police scientific experts, who will blast at defense claims that the probe was muffed.