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56/12/22 Pen quiz of death shifts Sam

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Pen Quiz *news - 12-22-56* Of Death Shifts Sam

Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard has been "completely exonerated" of any connection with the death of a fellow Ohio Penitentiary convict but has been moved from the prison hospital, Warden Ralph Alvis reported today.

Alvis said Dr. Sam and three other hospital workers have been cleared as possible sources of a death potion or the unauthorized use of stomach pumps.

The dead convict is William (Bilmont) Miller, 57-year-old editor of the Ohio Penitentiary News, a prison newspaper. He and another convict, Fred
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DR. SAM

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Grambo, became violently ill on Dec. 14 and were taken to the prison hospital for treatment. Grambo recovered but Miller died early Thursday.

"An investigation was started when it was first thought that the two men had been drinking sodium pentathol, which is available only at the hospital, but the hospital workers were cleared when it was learned that the men had been drinking rubbing alcohol," Alvis explained.

Nurses Also Cleared

"The male nurses were also cleared on any charges regarding the use of stomach pumps on the two men when we learned that they did so under instructions of a doctor," he added.

In clearing the hospital aides, Alvis said Grambo worked in the prison gymnasium where he could have taken the alcohol which he and Miller drank.

Calls Transfer Routine

Dr. Sam, serving a life sentence for the murder of his wife, Marilyn, in their Bay Village home on July 4, 1954, has been transferred to the planing mill. Alvis said this was a routine transfer "of which we have 150 every day."

Miller, sent to the penitentiary last September on a grand larceny conviction in Hamilton, O., has been confined there almost continuously since 1925. One of his convictions was for a Cleveland burglary in 1950.