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(After recess, 3:05 o'clock p.m.)

Thereupon the defendant, further to maintain the issues on his part to be maintained, called as a witness DR. WILLIAM BLAKE SELNICK, who, being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

By Mr. Corrigan:

Q Will you state your name, please?

A Dr. William Blake Selnick.

Q Where do you live, Mr. Selnick?

A 1292 Cove Avenue, in Lakewood.

Q How long have you lived in this community?

A About three years.

Q And where did you come from?

A Philadelphia.

Q And are you a graduate of medical school in Philadelphia?

A That's correct.

Q Are you admitted to the practice of medicine and surgery in the State of Ohio?

A That is correct.

Q After you came here to Cleveland, did you have any connection with Bay View Hospital?

A Yes, I did. I came here and interned, and I have been associated with the hospital ever since.

Q When did you finish your internship at that hospital?

A July, 1953, I guess it was -- or '52 --

Q This is 1954.

A Yes. '53. I have been in surgical training a year and a half. '53.

MR. PARRINO: Just a little louder.

THE WITNESS: Do you want me to repeat what I said?

MR. PARRINO: No. Just a little louder.

Q And during the time that you were at Bay View Hospital, and since that time, have you been associated with Dr. Sam Sheppard?

A Yes. I worked with him in surgery.

Q Did you visit with him socially?

A Yes, we did. My wife and I both have been at his house, and he and his family have been at ours.

Q Is your wife a Cleveland girl?

A Yes, she is.

Q Born and raised here?

A No. She wasn't born here, but she was raised here. She was born in Cincinnati.

Q Now, how frequently would you see Dr. Sheppard?

A Every day.

Q And how frequently did he come to your house?

A I think he has been at our house only once.

Q Was he accompanied at that time by his wife, Marilyn?

A Yes, he was. He was accompanied by his wife Marilyn, and Chip.

Q And do you recall what time, when it was that that visit was made to your house?

A I would say probably sometime around May or June of this year. I'm not sure exactly.

Q Well, is there anything that fixes the occasion?

A I know we had company. We had invited a former school teacher of Sam's, I believe, and also my wife's, and she was at our apartment, and we invited Sam and Marilyn and Chip to come over in more or less a get-together. Our folks were there.

Q You visited -- they visited with his former school teacher?

A Visited with us and her. I wouldn't say they just came to see her. I mean they came to see us, too.

Q But the former school teacher of Sam and your wife was there on that occasion?

A That's correct.

Q Now, do you recall during the month of June going to Dr. Sheppard's house?

A Yes, I do. We had a meeting of the -- I think it was --

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some of the leaders of the Surgeons' group in Ohio were meeting at Dr. Sam's house, and we were invited. I am not an official, or anything like that, in the surgeons' group, but we were invited, and that was in June, the first Sunday, I think, in June.

Q Well, were there other occasions when you went to Sam's house and participated in his hospitality?

A Yes, there were.

Q And did you water ski down there or swim, or anything like that?

A Yes, that's correct.

Q And what kind of hosts were Sam and Marilyn?

A They were always very good, I mean very nice hosts. We always enjoyed going out there.

Q Was there anything unpleasant that you noticed about their family life?

A Nothing that I ever noticed, no.

Q On the occasion in June when this meeting of doctors took place, were the wives of the doctors there, also?

A Yes, they were.

Q And what went on that day?

A Those surgeons who were there who were part of the committee from the State organization had their meeting. The rest of us, who were not on the committee, and our wives and the wives of those men who were in the meeting, just all gathered

around and we were eating -- we had dinner there, and just talking and entertaining each other. I think maybe --

Q Generally a pleasant time?

A That's right, yes. We cooked out on the fireplace out in back there, and we had a steak out there, cooked it out there.

Q Do you recall having a conversation with Sam on that particular day about his situation in regard to his home, and so forth?

A Well, Sam and I more or less built this fire that was out in the fireplace, and we were cooking this steak, and we were chatting back and forth. I know he said to me then, he said, gee, everything he would want he had. I mean, he had a nice home there, which I think most people recognize, and he had a nice family. He was in a good profession. He was well set up.

We were just talking about that in general.

Q He what?

A We were just talking about it in general, and how lucky he was to have everything he wanted.

Q Now, then, up to the time he was arrested, you say you were in contact with him frequently. Did you form an opinion about him?

A Well, I thought he was a very fine surgeon. I thought he was a real nice guy personally, and professionally, both. I

had a high regard for him.

Q Well, in addition to your high regard for him as a surgeon, did you form any impression of him as to what kind of a person he was?

A Well, he was kind of an easy-going fellow. A lot of surgeons, when you are in training, sometimes get irritated when you perhaps don't pass things fast enough. I know in my training and medical school, and other institutions, I found men that way, but Dr. Sam was never that way that I ever saw.

Q How was he?

A He was just very easy-going. No matter what seemed to have occurred, he just always took things in his stride and --

Q Even-tempered?

A I would say very even-tempered, yes.

Q And a pleasant man to work with?

A Very much so.

Q Were you in the vicinity of his home on the day that his wife was murdered?

A Yes, we were.

Q By the way, did you know the fact that there had been planned a party at that home on the 4th of July?

A Yes. I know Dr. Sam had mentioned it to me, and then Marilyn had called my wife and we had been invited to come. All the interns had been invited, and then several of the

staff men had been invited as well.

Q And you had planned to go there?

A Yes. We had planned to be there. In fact, we had invited them over to our place. We were having our annual reunion of the group that I had interned with, that day. We were going to try and coordinate the two.

Q And did you go to the vicinity of his home on that day?

A Yes, I did.

Q What time?

A We drove by about ten minutes to 9 in the morning. I was going to the hospital, and was then going to make rounds, and then we were going to go sailing, and we didn't stop. We noticed that police cars were there, and we saw Mayor Houk, and could see some of the people standing around the house, and I didn't know what was up. We went over to the hospital, and I found out what had happened.

We went down and checked around the hospital, and then we drove back, and we just stopped out there on the lawn, and I think I talked to one or two of the men standing around, and then we went back, and then later that morning we stopped back again on the way to the hospital, but just on the lawn there.

Q But you didn't go in the house?

A No, I didn't. We weren't allowed to.

Q Did you see Sam that day?

A Yes, I did. I saw him -- I'm not sure whether it was late morning or early afternoon. I know we had moved him from one room to another. The facilities were --

Q Did you notice his condition?

A He was just very quiet, and as I recall, I don't think he said anything to me. I was there with one of the interns, I think, and we helped move him into his bed.

Q That is all you had to do with him was help move him from one bed to another?

A That's right. I said, "Take it easy," and he sort of held his neck there and didn't say a word.

MR. CORRIGAN: Cross examine.

MR. PARRINO: No questions.

(Witness excused.)

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