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Tuesday Morning Session, November 23, 1954.

(9:15 o'clock a.m.)

Thereupon the State of Ohio, further to maintain the issues on its part to be maintained, called as a witness EARL JOHNSTON, who, being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

By Mr. Danaceau:

Q May we have your name, please?

A Earl Johnston.

Q And where do you live?

A 511 Broadway, Bedford, Ohio.

Q And you work for the Coroner of this County?

A I do.

Q In what capacity?

A Assistant custodian.

Q And how long have you been assistant custodian?

A Approximately nine months.

Q Were you on duty on July the 4th of this year?

A I was.

Q And were you on duty when the body of Marilyn Sheppard arrived at the Coroner's office and morgue?

A I was.

Q Were you the one that took the clothing off Marilyn Sheppard's body?

A Yes, sir.

MR. DANACEAU: Mark this 50-A  
and 50-B.

(State's Exhibit 50-A  
and 50-B, being pajamas,  
was marked for identification.)

Q I will show you what has been marked as State's Exhibit 50-A and 50-B, and ask you to state whether or not these are the pajamas that you removed from the body of Marilyn Sheppard?

A They are.

MR. DANACEAU: We offer in  
evidence State's Exhibit 50-A and 50-B.

THE COURT: Weren't they marked  
before?

MR. DANACEAU: I thought they  
were marked, but they say no. I thought they  
were marked when we tried to introduce --

THE COURT: Well, they will be  
received.

(State's Exhibit 50-A and  
50-B was offered and  
received in evidence.)

- Q Did you examine these pajamas, sir, after you removed them?
- A Yes. The pajamas were examined.
- Q Were they torn at any time?
- A Not that I know, sir.
- Q To whom did you deliver the pajamas after you took them off?
- A The property room.
- Q The property room of the County Coroner's office?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Did you also remove any rings from the fingers of Marilyn Sheppard?
- A Yes, I did.
- Q From which finger or fingers?
- A From the left ring finger of the left hand.
- Q Will you point out --
- A This finger here (indicating).
- Q The same finger that you have a ring on?
- A Yes.
- Q And how many rings were there?
- A Three.
- Q And where were they on the finger with respect to the knuckle?
- A They were behind the knuckle.
- Q Just where your ring is there now?
- A Yes.
- Q Did you notice anything about the fingernail when you

removed those rings?

A Yes. The fingernail was torn.

Q And you removed the rings over the -- that is, off the finger and over the fingernail?

A Yes.

MR. DANACEAU:

Mark these 51-A,

51-B and 51-C.

(State's Exhibit 51-A, B and C, being rings, was marked for identification.)

Q I will hand you what has been marked State's Exhibits 51-A, B and C, and ask you whether those are the rings which you removed from the finger of Marilyn Sheppard's body?

A Yes, they are.

MR. DANACEAU:

We offer in evidence

State's Exhibits 51-A, B and C.

THE COURT:

They will be received.

(State's Exhibit 51-A, B and C was offered and received in evidence.)

Q Now, when you took the rings off the finger did you put them in an envelope?

A Yes, sir, I did.

Q Is this the envelope?

A Yes.

Q Is that your handwriting on it?

A It is.

Q And to whom did you turn them over?

A That also was turned over to the property room.

MR. DANACEAU: Will you mark this  
State's Exhibit 51-D?

(State's Exhibit 51-D,  
being an envelope which  
contained rings, was  
marked for identification.)

MR. DANACEAU: We offer in evidence  
State's Exhibit 51-D.

THE COURT: It will be received.

(State's Exhibit 51-D  
was offered and received  
in evidence.)

Q Were there any other articles that you removed from the  
body of Marilyn Sheppard?

A No, sir.

MR. DANACEAU: You may inquire.

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CROSS-EXAMINATION OF EARL JOHNSTON (9:30 o'clock, a.m.)

By Mr. Corrigan:

Q Mr. Johnston, when property is received in the Morgue, you put a slip on it. This slip shows that the top of the pajamas were brought in by F. H. Pease?

A Yes, sir. That's the funeral home that brought the body in.

MR. DANACEAU: I didn't hear what he said.

MR. GARMONE: He said, yes, that's the F. H. Pease Funeral Home.

Q It says "Pease, F. H."

A Pease Funeral Home.

MR. DANACEAU: Speak up, please. I can't hear you.

THE WITNESS: Pease Funeral Home.

Q Well, it says "Pease, F. H." doesn't it?

A Yes, sir, it does.

Q It doesn't say funeral home at all.

And the name that appears there signed is Gallagher, isn't it? That's not Johnston?

A No, sir.

Q Now, the lower part of the pajamas has no card on it at all, has it?

A No, sir, it hasn't.

Q When an article is received in the Morgue, somebody accounts for it, and then is it entered in a book?

A Yes, sir. It is entered into a property book.

Q Entered into a property book. And that book is out there in the County Building?

A Coroner's Office.

Q Do you have a book there, also, that registers the people who visit that building?

A That, I wouldn't know, sir, whether they do or not.

Q Well, you have been there since --

MR. DANACEAU: I object.

A I haven't any at my desk.

Q What?

A I haven't any at my desk. They may have one upstairs.

Q Aren't there groups of people that come there and tour the building?

A Yes, sir.

Q You have seen that?

A Yes, sir.

Q And do not those people, are they not asked to register?

A I don't conduct the tours. I don't know.

Q Who conducts the tours?

A One of the office personnel upstairs.

Q What is the name of the person?

A Well, there are several who do it.

Q Give me their names, please?

A Well, Mrs. Falsgraf.

Q Mrs. Falsgraf.

A Mr. Keefe.

Q Mr. Keefe.

A Mr. Blocker.

Q How do you spell that?

A B-l-o-c-k-e-r.

Q And when these tours are conducted of the building, the visitors are brought all through the building, aren't they?

A Yes, they are taken through the building.

Q And you have been there at times when people have been conducted through the building, have you not?

A Yes, sir.

Q And you have been there at times when the bed sheets and the various articles connected with the murder of Marilyn Sheppard had been shown to people who have gone through the building?

A No, sir, I have not.

Q Never saw that, did you?

A No, sir, I have not.

MR. CORRIGAN: All right. That  
is all.

MR. DANACEAU: That is all, sir.

MR. GARMONE: Just a minute.



MR. CORRIGAN:

Wait a minute.

That is all.

(Witness excused.)

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