

DR. GERBER: Now, I would like to caution the audience, please. We have had decorum here. It is very difficult and I wish you would show everyone respect. I don't want to have to clear the room.

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BETTY SHEPPARD, having been first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION OF BETTY SHEPPARD

By Dr. Gerber:

- Q What is your name, please?
- A Betty Sheppard.
- Q You are married?
- A Yes.
- Q Who is your husband?
- A Dr. Stephen A. Sheppard.
- Q Where do you live?
- A 19027 Inglewood Drive, Rocky River.
- Q How long have you been married to Dr. Stephen Sheppard?
- A Ten and a half years.
- Q How long have you lived at this address?
- A Four and a half years.

Q Where did you live previously?

A Harvey Road, Cleveland Heights.

Q Directing your attention to Sunday, July 4, 1954, in the morning, will you relate what happened?

A Approximately about 6:00 o'clock our telephone rang. I answered the phone. It was my sister-in-law, Dorothy. She said, "Betty, is Steve there, I want to talk to him." I could tell by her voice that something had happened because she was quite nervous. So I awakened Steve and told him he was wanted on the telephone. He answered, spoke to her, and said, "Call me back if you hear any more," and with that he got out of bed. I asked what happened and he told me that the house had been ransacked and that they thought Marilyn had been killed. I said, "What are you going to do?" He said, "I guess I will go down there and see what is going on." So I asked if I could go along. He said yes, but hurry about it and don't take time to powder your nose.

So we did. We dressed very hurriedly and left the house and used the siren in the car so that we got there within five minutes or so. We got out of the car and as we got there I noticed the ambulance still in the yard and I remember thinking that something must have happened because I had been hoping that we would pass it on the way to the hospital. So I went in the house

and I noticed that Sam's bag was spilled on the floor of the hallway, and I looked into the den and saw Sam lying on the floor very motionless, and my first thought is that he, too, was dead. And I just nodded my head to my husband and he went in and touched Sam's head to see if he was all right, and with that I saw Sam move his leg, and I too realized that he was alive.

Then I stepped into the dining room. I noticed that the screen door on the porch was open. So I automatically went out and closed it, and just stood in the room. I don't know how long I was standing there. I remember seeing a man come in in his shirtsleeves, which I later found out to be Chief Eaton, and I recall seeing a policeman in the den on the telephone, and I could hear him say, "It is homicide, we need your help." I believe my husband went upstairs at that point and I remained downstairs. Then I remember seeing Dr. Dozier and Dr. Carver coming in the door, and they examined Sam. At that point I believe Dr. Richard brought Chip down through the kitchen and was taking him outside, and Dr. Carver and my husband had helped Sam to his feet, after asking if he wanted a stretcher, and he said no, he could get up with their help. Then we noticed that he didn't have anything over his shoulders, so we grabbed a coat out of the hall closet and threw that over

Sam and I went out the door. Going to the hospital I was sitting in the middle next to my husband and Sam was on my right. Dr. Carver climbed in the back of the station wagon, and we used the siren and went to the hospital. When we got there they met Sam with a stretcher and he with very great difficulty got out of the car and was put on the stretcher and taken into the hospital, and I stayed in the waiting room of the hospital. Sam was shaking and moaning and just holding his head all the way down from the house to the hospital. And I noticed, I was quite frightened because he was shaking so much. I didn't know what was wrong, and I didn't look at him or examine him or anything. His pants were wet, I recall that. Then I waited in the waiting room while my husband went down to take care of Sam, and when he came back and said, "I will take you to Dorothy's house," I got in the car and went to Dorothy's home. Do you want to know what I did the rest of the day?

Q No, I don't want to know what you did the rest of the day, but I would like to know, will you elaborate on what happened at the house?

A That is all that I did, and that's all that I remember doing. I don't know how long I was standing in the dining room, but I stayed in one spot until I was told to do something else, and when they got Sam

ready to go to the hospital I moved. Until then I didn't.

Q Did you handle anything?

A I did not touch anything.

Q What did you see in the dining room?

A I did notice that Marilyn's desk drawers were open, that things were on the floor, that it was disarrayed. It was not neat like they usually kept it. However, there are not pieces of furniture in the house that could be upset, other than the desk, because it was furnished very simply. There was nothing else to be touched.

Q Did you go in the den?

A I did not.

Q Could you see in the den?

A All I recall seeing in the den was that Sam was lying on the floor and there was a policeman at the telephone.

Q Can you describe the doctor's bag that was --

A I noticed that it was on its side. It was on the end of the bag, tipped, and a lot of things were spilled out. Other than that, I don't know anything else about it.

Q Did you see Marilyn?

A No, I didn't.

Q Frequently?

A Oh, you mean, yes, not frequently. We were in different parts of the city. She had her activities and I had mine. They were at our home for dinner the Friday before this happened.

Q Did you see her on other occasions?

A Family gatherings.

Q When did you learn that she was pregnant?

A I learned when I was at her house after a sail one night. My husband and I and another couple sailed to Sam and Marilyn's home, and we beached the boat and went upstairs to visit with Sam and Marilyn. Marilyn and I were in the kitchen and she told me then of her approaching baby.

Q When was that?

A That was the week before the Fourth. I cannot tell you the exact night.

Q It was the previous week?

A Yes.

Q Or during that week of the Fourth?

A I don't remember exactly. It was either the week before or the previous week. I can't tell you exactly.

Q Did Marilyn ever discuss with you any difficulties that she was encountering with her husband?

A She discussed minor marital problems with me, but none any other than what my family or your family or any

other family would have.

Q Did she discuss anything with you about Dr. Sam's attention to other women?

A No.

Q What were the minor marital problems that she discussed?

A Marilyn and I discussed our children quite often. Marilyn did not at first like being tied down with the baby, and quite often we would get into discussions about when you are married and have children you do have to give up certain things, you have to stay home and take care of your children or make arrangements that they are taken care of. And this was very hard for Marilyn to do.

Q Do you remember what time you retired on the night of July 3?

A It was quite late. It was either 2:00 or 2:30.

Q Did you receive any telephone calls, were there any telephone calls to the house that night?

A Not until the one at 6:00 o'clock.

Q Do you know of anyone leaving your house before that time, 6:00 o'clock?

A I don't understand what you mean.

Q Did anyone leave your house between 2:00 o'clock and 6:00 o'clock?

A No. After our guests went home, there was no one else to leave the house.

Q Did all the guests go out at one time?

A All of them.

Q How many cars were there?

A There were two cars.

Q Did one linger a little bit longer than the other?

A No, they went at the same time.

DR. GERBER: That is all.

Thank you.

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