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Cleveland Police Report, November 10, 1954, describing Lester Hoverstein’s recollection of his visit with Sam in Bay View Hospital on July 5th, 1954

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Sir:

This date, while assigned to the Homicide Unit, further investigated the above report.

Went to the Schuman-Jones Co. of 2134 West 9th St as requested by Det. Sgt. Lockwood and procured from them a neurosurgical instrument mentioned in the letter from Chief Story. With the above mentioned instrument, I procured two other of similar design, together with a catalogue showing photos of other instruments. These articles were given to Det. Sgt. Lockwood for comparison.

At 10:30 A.M., was sent by the County Prosecutor's Office to the Cleveland Airport, to meet flight #614, United Airlines, from Chicago, in order to convey Dr. Lester Hoverston, who is to be a witness in the above case to the Hotel Carter. Dr. Hoverston, while discussing various aspects of the case and while on the subject of Dr. Steve Sheppard, made the following remarks: Late in the afternoon, July 5, 1954, Dr. Hoverston went to Bay View Hospital in order to see Dr. Sam. When he arrived at the hospital, he sent a nurse that was on duty into Dr. Sam's room in order to ask him(Sam) if he could visit with Dr. Sam for awhile. The nurse came out and told Dr. Hoverston that it was alright and Dr. Hoverston went into his room. Dr. Hoverston stated that he was in the room talking to Dr. Sam for about 15 minutes and suddenly, Dr. Steve Sheppard entered the room and seeing Dr. Hoverston, said to him, 'What the hell are you doing in here, get out right now', and Dr. Hoverston stated that he was about to get up to leave when Dr. Sam interposed and said that he had told Dr. Hoverston to come in. Dr. Hoverston further stated that Dr. Steve left the room for about five minutes and when he returned he was no longer angry, and that he apologized. Dr. Hoverston further stated that he sat on the left side of the bed in a chair and Dr. Steve sat at the foot of the bed on a chair, and that during this visit, Dr. Steve Sheppard, told the story of the Homicide, i.e. the sequence of events as they had happened as later told by Dr. Sam, from the time that Dr. Sam had reclined on the sofa until he was taken to the hospital, and this included all specific details. Dr. Hoverston stated that he was not addressing him, but Dr. Sam and that after Dr. Steve related all these details to Dr. Sam, Dr. Steve stated, 'YOU SHOULD review in your mind several times during the day, the sequence of events as they happen so that when you will be questioned, you will have your story straight!', and that Dr. Steve said this emphatically, while pointing his finger at him.

Dr. Hoverston stated that he had visited Dr. Sam, at the hospital on two occasions, once of July 5th and the other time on July 6th and that on both of these occasions he reacted in the same manner, initially, he cried profusely, and then repeated himself, word for word, Chip could have gotten along a lot better having a Mother alive or a Father.
I was relieved at about 2100 P.M. at the Hotel Carter by Detective Patrick Gerrity.

At the request of Sgt. Lockwood I went to the vicinity of the Steve Sheppard residence and looked at the home on both sides but could not see any signs advertising either home for sale.

Interviewed Mrs. D. J. BROOKS, 21114 Center Ridge Rd., at the Brook's Bar-b-que at West 210th & Center Ridge Road and she stated that she had been informed by one of her customers, a Mrs. JOHNSON, who lived the second house East of Wooster Rd., on Englewood Rd., Rocky River Ohio, that Mrs. Johnson lives on the same street as Dr. STEVE SHEPPARD and that early in the morning on July 4th, 1954 Mrs. Johnson had heard an automobile travel on her street at a high rate of speed and that it sounded like a "Jet Airplane".

It may be noted that in an interview with Mrs. Johnson who resides at 19119 Englewood Rd., Rocky River, told us yesterday that Mrs. Brooks had told her of the same information, that some one living near Dr. Steve Sheppard had seen him leave his home in the early morning of July 4th-54. Questioned Mrs. Brooks with respect to this information and she denied it.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Patrick Careau, Detective #1099