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## 54/07/27 Doctor Asked Advice on Incompatibility

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# Doctor Asked Advice on Incompatibility

By JIM VAIL, Press Staff Writer

540727

LOS ANGELES, July 27—Dr. Randall Chapman, socialite psychiatrist, neuro-surgeon and osteopath, today bared some of the difficulties of Marilyn and Sam Sheppard which became evident on their California trip last March.

Dr. Sam, Dr. Chapman disclosed, sought advice from him—"as a friend," not in a professional capacity—on how to overcome what Dr. Sheppard termed "incompatibility" with his wife, Marilyn.

Dr. Chapman said he gave his friend "the best advice I could," and thought his suggestions may have helped Sam and Marilyn to make a satisfactory adjustment.

Dr. Chapman gave a full statement on the once confidential chat to Assistant Prosecutor Thomas Parrino and Cleveland Homicide Detective Robert Schottke, and then to this reporter.

"I've known Sam Sheppard since 1945, when he was one of my students at the Los Angeles College of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons," Dr. Chapman, 46, related. "I probably know him as well professionally as anyone else.

"I considered myself a good friend of both Sam and Mar-

ilyn. My wife, Joan, was very close to Marilyn, and they wrote each other frequently after the Sheppards moved back to Cleveland."

Last September, Dr. Chapman said, Dr. Sheppard wrote him that he planned to return to Los Angeles to take a post-graduate course on some aspects of his profession.

"When they came," he continued, "Marilyn said she'd like to go to my ranch near Monterey with Joan because she didn't know anyone in Los Angeles and didn't want to be stuck in a hot motel all day while Sam was studying.

"I didn't know where Sam was staying, but saw him occasionally. We played tennis several times, and worked on some cases together.

## Girl Was With Him

"I also met him at the home of Dr. Arthur Miller during a poker game. I was introduced there to a girl who was with him. It might have been Sue Hayes—I'm not sure.

"Sam didn't play. Later, he and the girl disappeared. I thought they went out."

Later, Dr. Chapman drove Dr. Sheppard to his \$80,000 mountaintop Rancho Claro home in Salinas County. It was during this 400-mile drive that "Sam discussed a personal problem—he admitted they were having difficulties over physical incompatibility."

Dr. Sheppard's attitude was that he was anxious to overcome the difficulty. "At no time did he mention divorce," Dr. Chapman said.

(Mrs. Nancy Ahern, a Bay Village neighbor, testified at the inquest yesterday that Marilyn had told her three months before the murder that Dr. Sam had discussed with Dr. Chapman the possibility of seeking a divorce—but had decided against it.)

## Tells of Argument

"After we got to the ranch," Dr. Chapman continued, "they seemed to get along very well. When they left, both seemed happy and pleased. The only dim part about their visit was a slight argument that marred it."

This, Dr. Chapman related, was touched off by Dr. Sam's suggestion that Chapman move from Southern California to Cleveland.

"My wife was quite happy on her mountaintop," the osteopath recalled, "and very resentful of the suggestion that we move to Cleveland."