

Chicago Police Launch Great Manhunt For Murderer Of Two Young Girls

Editor's note: Robert T. Loughran is a veteran of 40 years with United Press and has spent most of that time covering Chicago's police beat. His past stories include coverage of the Chicago era's gang warfare, the post-World War II strong-arm and robbery gangs, and the Suzanne Degnan slaying, which led to the capture and conviction of the teen-aged William Heirens.

By ROBERT T. LOUGHRAN
United Press Correspondent

Chicago—(U.P.)—Police today launched Chicago's greatest manhunt for the killer of two teen-aged sisters in the second vicious slaying of teen-agers to shock this city's millions.

The unclad, frozen bodies of Barbara Grimes, 13, and her sister, Patricia, 12, were found in a muddy ditch Tuesday by a construction worker taking an afternoon drive.

It was the second time in 15 months that missing Chicago school children were found murdered under strikingly similar circumstances.

Police gave lie detector tests to three men Tuesday night and early today.

One of the men, Walter Krantz, a railroad steamfitter, first denied and then admitted he telephoned police with a report the sisters' bodies could be found in Santa Fe Park on the city's southwest outskirts. Their bodies were located only a short distance from the park.

Admits Making Call
Krantz admitted during the lie

detector test that he made the anonymous call to police last week, authorities said. He had been questioned last week, but released.

However, Krantz denied any knowledge of the crime.

Lt. James McMahon said when Krantz was asked how he happened to get the idea the girls' bodies were in Santa Fe Park, the steamfitter replied that he "dreamed it."

McMahon said he was "not

satisfied" with the outcome of Krantz' lie detector test.

The girls disappeared from their homes three days after Christmas when they went to see a movie starring their idol, singer Elvis Presley, for the 11th time.

Pending an autopsy today, authorities said preliminary indications were that the girls had been dead about two weeks. The autopsy had to be postponed until today because of the

sisters' crumpled bodies.

All Chicago and Cook county law enforcement agencies joined in a unified, all-out effort to solve the crime.

Clue Search Hampered
Snow, which apparently covered the girls' bodies and prevented their discovery until this week's thaw, again covered the area Tuesday afternoon and night, hampering the search for clues.

However, police laid a tarpaulin over the ground to preserve any possible clues prior to the resumption of their search today. The entire region was cordoned off and a nightlong guard posted.

The frustrating lack of clues was one of the points of similarity between the slayings of the sisters and the unsolved murder of three schoolboys in October, 1955.

The slaying of John Schuessler, 13, his brother, Anton, 11, and Robert Peterson, 13, touched off a continuing manhunt second only to the present investigation.

Only Monday, a group of wealthy Chicago men organized a crime detection institute and pledged a reward of \$100,000 for the solution to the Schuessler and Peterson slayings.

Leonard Prescott, 39, Hinsdale, Ill., who spotted the girls'

bodies, said at first he thought they were clothing store dummies.

Barbara's body was found lying face up on top of her sister's. There were three puncture wounds in Barbara's chest, which appeared to have been made by an ice pick. Patricia's face was battered and bruised.

Fear Mass Killer
Police threw some 9,000 men into the search, fearing that a mass killer of children may be loose in Chicago.

Sheriff Joseph Lohman said there were "marked similarities" between the murders of the sisters and the boys.

Undersheriff Tom Brennan said the two cases "could be the same thing or else it could be somebody following a pattern."

The girls' father, Joseph, identified their bodies as they lay in a ditch and then broke into hysterical sobs.

Their mother, Loretta, a divorcee, who also had insisted during the weeks of tense waiting that her girls had not run away, was near collapse.

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MISS SNOW FUN—Typist Joleabe Shaw, 22, of San Francisco, receives trophy from ski instructor Stein Eriksen after she was named Miss Snow Fun at the Heavenly Valley ski resort near Lake Tahoe, Calif. Eriksen was the 1952 Olympic Games double winner in ski events.

Keniston Transferred From Medford SS Office

R. K. Keniston, claims representative in the Medford Social Security office, has been promoted and transferred to Fresno, Calif. W. V. Nusbaum, district manager, has announced.

Keniston, who has been connected with the local office for about two years, will be field representative effective Feb. 1 in Fresno.

GOVERNOR'S MOUSE

Indianapolis—(U.P.)—Among souvenirs Gov. George N. Craig collected during four years in office was a toy mouse. He told newsmen one day that a mouse was living in his office, and quipped: "I feed him because I want to have one friend." Associates later gave him the toy mouse.

Dead line Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 10 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 3:30 previous day.

Open House Held at Loan Association

About 100 people attended an open house of the Southern Oregon Production Credit Association Saturday at its new office, 1212 Court St. Medford. Previous location of the association was in the Holland hotel building.

The new office building recently was completed.

Membership of the organization now totals 750 farmers from Coos, Curry, Douglas, Jackson and Josephine counties, he said. Association board directors from Jackson county are Melvin Lattie and Lawrence Luy.

The association moved to the new location Dec. 1.

Chest X-Rays Planned For Nursing Homes

Chest x-rays for residents of nursing homes in Jackson county are being provided by the Jackson County Public Health Association, according to Mrs. Robert Paris, director of x-ray for the association.

The Medford convalescent home, Rowell home, Gardiner home, Jackson county farm home and Mitchell sanitarium have participated in the program, and plans are underway to complete the program in the near future, she said. Arrangements were made through Miss Agnes White of the Jackson county welfare commission.

The chest x-ray clinic is open to the public every Thursday from 2 to 5 p.m. and the first Wednesday evening of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. The clinic is at Sacred Heart hospital.

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