

Criminologist Doubts Accuracy Of Sheppard Murder Confession

Berkeley, Calif. — Dr. Paul Kirk, key defense consultant in the Dr. Samuel Sheppard murder case, today dismissed a newly confessed "suspect" in the murder of Marilyn Sheppard as a "poor possibility."

Kirk said, however, that the fact that the "confessor," Florida convict Donald Wedler, 23, is a left-handed man "is interesting because I have known all along that the murderer was left-handed."



DONALD WEDLER
Mrs. Sheppard's Killer

French Premier Calls for Vote

Paris — Premier Maurice Bourges-Maunoury asked the National Assembly early today for a vote of confidence on his demand for special police powers to combat the Algerian rebellion.

The vote is set for Friday. It is regarded as crucial since it concerns the issue of civil rights.

At issue is the government's controversial bill for extending to metropolitan France the same special police powers it now has for fighting the rebellion in Algeria.

The Assembly early this morning voted, 362 to 173, to renew the special search and arrest powers granted the former government of Guy Mollet as far as Algeria itself is concerned.

The government had asked for special powers of search and arrest without warrant, the right of unlimited detention and enforced residence of suspected and convicted terrorists, and of round the clock house searches.

Both right wing and left wing groups attacked the bill on the grounds that it would destroy civil liberties in France. The Communists charged it would give Bourges-Maunoury police state powers.

Bessonet Submits Low Bid for KF Job

Klamath Falls — Bessonet Construction company, 613 East Jackson st., Medford, was apparent low bidder for a sewer project in Klamath Falls, according to the office of E. A. Thomas, city engineer.

Bessonet submitted a low combined bid of \$423,420 for the four unit job. Engineer's estimate was \$342,000.

Three units have been awarded to the firm with the fourth held for study. The project involves about 3 1/2 miles of trunk and interceptor sewer, including a tunnel under the railroad yards leading to the site of a proposed sewage plant. Bids for the plant are to be invited in about a month.

Adm. Byrd Successor Named by President

Washington — President Eisenhower has named retired Rear Adm. George Dufek, a veteran Polar explorer, to replace the late Adm. Richard E. Byrd as supervisor of the American South Polar programs.

Dufek, a veteran explorer of both the Arctic and Antarctic, has commanded operations of the Navy's Antarctic task forces for the past three years. The work was done in preparation for the present International Geophysical Year.

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Name Not Mentioned
Wedler has never actually mentioned the name of Sheppard, but has confessed only to bludgeoning a housewife to death about the same time Marilyn Sheppard was murdered in her bedroom July 4, 1954.

Kirk, a criminologist at the University of California, flatly believes Dr. Sheppard, who is now serving a life sentence for the crime, is innocent.

"I have no doubt that Sheppard is innocent," he said.

Kirk based his theory that the murderer was left-handed on the position of blood stains on the wall.

"The blows would have had to be struck by a left-handed man," he said.

Sheppard was right-handed, he added.

Oregonians Given Asia Flu Warning

Portland — The State Board of Health warned today that the new strain of influenza which has recently swept through Asia and Europe will "probably" appear in Oregon within the next few weeks.

Cases of the new type flu already have been reported in California, Ohio, Kentucky and Rhode Island, according to Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer.

Reports reaching Oregon indicated the Oriental flu is fairly mild but highly contagious, Dr. Erickson said. Deaths in other countries have been limited chiefly to infants or elderly persons, although it is also considered dangerous for people greatly weakened by some other illness.

Dr. Erickson said that influenza is normally most prevalent in the United States from late fall through early spring. American health experts have expressed hope the Asiatic strain will follow this pattern, which would allow scientists time to develop an effective vaccine for use in combatting any major epidemic.

Readers Digest Ad Agency Quits

New York — The advertising agency of Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn, Inc., has given up the account of the Reader's Digest, which it has held for 18 years, because of "an obvious conflict of interest" between it and another client, the American Tobacco Company.

The magazine published last month an article which questioned the effectiveness of filter tip cigarettes with an analysis showing how much tar and nicotine was present in the smoke of various brands of cigarettes.

Charles H. Brower, executive vice president and general manager of BBD&O emphatically denied a report that the tobacco company had ordered the agency to choose between it and the magazine. American Tobacco was estimated to have \$22 million annual advertising budget as compared to about a \$1,250,000 budget for the magazine.

Rossellini Weak With Influenza

New Delhi — Italian film producer Roberto Rossellini was still bed-ridden and "very weak" today with influenza.

Rossellini, husband of Ingrid Bergman and romantically linked with a beautiful Indian script writer, told United Press today: "I am running a temperature and am very weak. I am ill and at the present I am allowing no visitors."

Close associates said it will be "some time" before he can leave New Delhi. He was reported scheduled to go to Bombay where Mrs. Sonali Das Gupta, the script writer, is living at the moment.

Construction Plans For 1,300-Mile Gas Line Announced

The possibility of natural gas being piped to southern Oregon was seen this week with the announcement of construction plans for a 1,300-mile pipeline from Canada to San Francisco.

The San Francisco Chronicle, in its July 13 issue, printed a map showing the route of the proposed pipeline, which indicated it would pass through the Klamath Falls area.

It is believed that if this route is used, the cost of a pipeline from Medford to Klamath Falls would not be prohibitive, considering the potentialities for natural gas sales in this area.

According to the announcement, made by Pacific Gas and Electric company, the \$330 million pipeline may be in operation by 1960, carrying some 400 million cubic feet per day.

Pacific Gas and Electric said it has already contracted with a newly organized Canadian subsidiary for delivery of 400 million cubic feet of gas in 1960.

Northern California now consumes about 1 billion cubic feet of natural gas a day. Two-thirds of this comes from Texas and New Mexico fields, and the balance from California wells.

The Canadian pipeline would be financed by public offering of securities "in substantial amounts" both in Canada and the United States, the Chronicle stated. The pipeline is expected to require approximately 550,000 tons of steel.

The starting point in Alberta was not disclosed. The pipe would terminate at PG&E's gas control station at Antioch, Calif.

Airline Passengers Describe Panic as Plane Dodges Light

El Paso, Tex. — A passenger on an American Airlines DC6 told today how panic broke loose briefly when the plane descended sharply from a 14,000-foot altitude hurling all 80 persons aboard from their seats.

Jesse Bibbs, supervisor of the Fresno, Calif., County Hospital, said from his hospital bed that he helped to calm the frightened passengers who were wandering in the plane's aisle and gave first aid to an injured woman.

Capt. Ed Bachner, a pilot with American for 15 years, said he veered right when he saw a green light ahead, presuming it was the left-wing running light of another aircraft.

The accident occurred on a New York to Los Angeles flight. Bibbs and Mrs. Mena Katz of Los Angeles suffered neck dislocations and eight others were treated for minor injuries.

The plane made an unscheduled stop at El Paso so that Bibbs and Mrs. Katz could be hospitalized.

Thrown Twice
"None of us had our safety belts buckled," Bibbs said. "We were all thrown from our seats. At the end of the dive, the plane turned again and threw me back in my seat."

"The passengers had been pretty well shaken up by the incident and everyone kind of panicked and was wandering around in the aisle," Bibbs said.

"I thank God we had a good pilot and we are still alive," Mrs. Katz said.

Bibbs said he was hurled from his seat when the plane veered and tossed back when the plane descended.

Change in Course
Bachner said he was forced to make the sharp change in course to avoid hitting what he thought was the other plane about 2 a.m. (P.S.T.) between checkpoints of the Salt Flat and Waco towers.

After getting the plane back on course, Bachner went back into the cabin to see whether any passengers were injured.

When he noted the condition of Bibbs and Mrs. Katz he decided to land at El Paso. X-rays showed no fractures had been sustained by Bibbs and Mrs. Katz.

The other 78 passengers got back on the plane and continued to Los Angeles. In addition five crewmen were aboard.

Portland Firm Plans Plant at Milwaukie

Portland — Mail-Well Envelope Company of Portland today announced plans to build a new \$500,000 plant and office structure at the Kellogg Industrial park near Milwaukie, Ore.

Mail-Well will be the first occupant of the new industrial site that was a former war housing area. The park is being developed by Hoffman Construction company.

Soil Nutrients for Douglas Firs Seen

Tacoma — Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. announced today it would be possible to boost the productivity of forestland by up to 10 per cent by applications of soil nutrients to Douglas fir trees.

Douglas fir seed cone production has been increased six times by such applications at an experimental area near Yacolt, the firm said.

Garth Diedrich



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