

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: MARILYN REESE
SHEPPARD

FILE: 62D-CV-2664

62D-2664-3

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| DEC 3 1982 | |
| FBI - CLEVELAND | |

b7c

62D-2664

3005 Federal Office Building
Cleveland, Ohio 44199

March 23, 1983

Mr. Pete Gray
Chief of Police
Bay Village Police Department
350 Dover Center Road
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

Dear Chief Gray:

In regards to the metal fireplace tongs submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory, the following is being submitted to more fully clarify examination conducted at the Laboratory:

Examination of two hairs found on the tongs and wrapping paper determined that the hairs [REDACTED] b7D

In a conversation between Special Agent (SA) [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the Metallurgy Section of the FBI Laboratory, [REDACTED] advised as follows: b7C

[REDACTED] advised that the submitted fireplace tongs are made of brass and brass is very resistant to corrosion. [REDACTED] was asked by SA [REDACTED] if said samples would be of value in determining metal wear and determination to formulate a hypothesis relative to the age of the tongs and the length of time they were imbedded in the ground. [REDACTED] b7C b7D

1 - Addressee
(1) Cleveland (62D-2664)

(2) [REDACTED]

Searched [REDACTED]

Serialized [REDACTED]

Indexed [REDACTED]

Filed [REDACTED]

62D-2664-6

[REDACTED] advised that he would be able to possibly refer Chief Gray to an expert in the field of metal corrosion and requested Chief Gray contact him at the FBI Laboratory, telephone number (202) 324-[REDACTED] for further information.

Very truly yours,

Joseph E. Griffin
Special Agent in Charge

b7c

By:

[REDACTED]
Supervisory Special Agent

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CLEVELAND

62D-2664

DATE:

4/7/87

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT:

*Unsub - Depled
Baylor - Depled
Victim - Depled
Minder - Baylor*

In review of this file, the following bulky evidence is still maintained by the Cleveland Division:

*Returned
- 12
Chief
Baylor
Depled
2/5/83*

I have reviewed all green sheets and the following bulky evidence may be returned or destroyed. (Please state action taken to return evidence).

b7c

Before returning evidence, I determined it necessary to discuss it with the USA or others. (Please inform results of talk).

1 - Case file



5010-110

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

62D-2664-7

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| APR 1983 | |
| FBI - CLEVELAND | |

CV

The following bukly evidence must be retained
for these reasons: (Be specific).

SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL

After discussing the matter with the Case Agent,
above evidence must be retained.

(Initials of Supervisor)

I disagree with the Case Agent for the following
reasons:

(Initials of Supervisor)

PLEASE BE SURE TO BLOCKSTAMP AND HAVE SUPERVISOR
INITIAL AND THEN ATTACH TO INVENTORY COPY

Thanks

Bulky Exhibit - Inventory of Property Acquired as Evidence
FD-192 (Rev. 5-23-80)

Date 11/23/82

Title and Character of Case

UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD
VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER;
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO 1954

Date Property Acquired

11/22/82

Source From Which Property Acquired

CUYAHOGA COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

BULKY ROOM

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

EVIDENCE

To Be Returned

☐ Yes ☒ No

See Serial

Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit

Agent Assigned Case

☐ Yes ☒ No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Description of Property or Exhibit

One set fireplace tongs

1 set newspapers

1 set brown wrapping paper

2 envelopes debris

*Turned over to PD
Bay Village 11/27/83
ENTERED AS 1A'* b7c

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
|----------|---------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

Field File # 62D-2664 16'

OO: CLEVELAND

A

62D-2664

b7c

Field File No. 62D-2664

OO and File No. CLEVELAND

Date Received 1/20/83

From _____
(NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(ADDRESS OF CONTRIBUTOR)

(CITY AND STATE)

By _____
(NAME OF SPECIAL AGENT)

To Be Returned ☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Yes

☐ No

Receipt Given ☐ Yes

☐ No

Grand Jury Material-
Disseminate Only
Pursuant to Rules
6(e), Federal Rules
of Criminal Procedure

Description:

FD192 1B'

Bulky Exhibit - Inventory of Property Acquired as Evidence
FD-502 (Rev. 5-23-80)

Date 11/23/82

Title and Character of Case

UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD
VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER;
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO 1954

Date Property Acquired

11/22/82

Source From Which Property Acquired

CUYAHOGA COUNTY CORONER'S OFFICE

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit

BULKY ROOM

Reason for Retention of Property and Efforts Made to Dispose of Same

EVIDENCE

To Be Returned

See Serial

Agent Submitting Property or Exhibit

Agent Assigned Case

☐ Yes ☒ No

☐ Yes ☒ No Grand Jury Material - Disseminate Only Pursuant to Rule 6(e), Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Description of Property or Exhibit

One set fireplace tongs

1 set newspapers

1 set brown wrapping paper

2 envelopes debris

Sent to Lab 11/23/82 R024833673

RETURNED 1/1/83 R020532311

*Returned To
Bay Village Police
11/17/83*

b7c

SEMIANNUAL INVENTORY CERTIFICATION TO JUSTIFY RETENTION OF PROPERTY (Initial and Date)

Field File # 62D-2664 11/23/82

OO: CLEVELAND

KEEP ATTACHED TO EXHIBIT

CV 62D-2664 11/23/82

[illegible]

Remarks

672

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: MARILYN REESE
SHEPPARD

FILE: 163-18208

REPORT
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

December 2, 1982

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO. 21126071 S UK WM RU

Re: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD - VICTIM - DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

Examination requested by:

Cleveland

Reference:

Communication dated November 23, 1982

Examination requested:

Microscopic Analyses - Chemical Analyses -
Metallurgy - Fingerprint

Specimens received

November 26, 1982

Specimens:

- Q1 Fireplace tongs
Q2 Newspapers
Q3 Brown wrapping paper
Q4-Q5 Debris

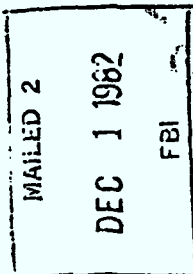
DE-62

N 63-18208-1

Page 1

(over)

(4)*

MAIL ROOM ☒

DEC 3 1982

Result of examination:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] These hairs are suitable for microscopic comparisons and have been mounted on glass microscope slides for possible future comparisons.

670

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
You are being advised of the other requested examinations and the disposition of the evidence by a subsequent report.

Dilation

21126071

Nov 20 P.M.

[REDACTED] These hairs are suitable for microscopic
comparisons and have been mounted on glass microscope
slides for possible future comparisons. **b7D**

+

b7C

[REDACTED]

You are being advised of the other requested
examinations and the disposition of the evidence by
a separate ~~and~~ subsequent report.

7-2 (5-12-82)

RECORDED
11/30/82

11/26/82

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

LATENT

To: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO.

21126071 S UK WM RU

YOUR NO.

Re: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

Examination by:

Examination requested by: Cleveland

Reference: Communication dated November 23, 1982

Examination requested: Microscopic Analyses - Chemical Analyses -
Metallurgy - Fingerprint

Specimens received: November 26, 1982

Specimens:

Q1 Fireplace tongs
Q2 Newspapers
Q3 Brown wrapping paper
Q4-Q5 Debris

Q1 to RU on 11/30

Q1-Q5 to WM on 11/29

Q1-Q5 Ret on 11/30

3 pO boxes
5 slides

21126071 S UK

WM

Q1 Fireplace tongs received in sealed
brown wrapping paper, gold color.

b7D

Initials. 1/2

Q2 Newspaper received in sealed brown
wrapping paper. "The Journal" Sunday
November 7, 1982, front page — p. 8 section
and Business Section of "The Plain
Dealer" Sunday November 7, 1982 E1-E4
Initials

Q3 Brown wrapping paper received in sealed
brown wrapping paper. Label on
wrapping paper. "Bay Village, Ohio Police
Department" in two sections. Initials

Q4-Q5 Debris received in two separate
sealed plastic envelopes inside
another white paper sealed envelope
Initials

2112007

P1-

[REDACTED]

P2

[REDACTED]

P3

[REDACTED]

P4

[REDACTED]

P5

[REDACTED]

b7c

b7d

Q-95
AIRTEL

11/23/82

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY
EVIDENCE CONTROL CENTER
ATTN: [REDACTED]
SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS UNIT

FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (62D-2664)

RE: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION
OO: CV

3a
4b
[REDACTED]

21126071

Re CV (telcall) to FBI Laboratory, 11/22/82.

Enclosed for the FBI Laboratory under separate cover are the following items:

- Q1
Q2
Q3
Q4-Q5
1. One set of fireplace tongs.
 2. One set newspapers.
 3. One set brown wrapping paper.
 4. Two envelopes containing debris.

For the information of the FBI Laboratory, instant fireplace tongs were unearthed from the backyard of Dr. Sam Sheppard on 11/19/82 by a neighbor who was putting in a new water line. This individual wrapped the tongs in newspapers which are enclosed. The Bay Village, Ohio Police Department subsequently wrapped the package in the brown wrapping paper which is also being submitted. The envelopes contain debris which was preserved from tongs and is also being submitted.

Chief of Police Peter Gray, Bay Village, Ohio Police Department and Dr. Samuel Gerber, Cuyahoga County, Ohio Coroner, have requested the submission of these items to the FBI Laboratory and requested the following examinations:

- 5 - Bureau
① - Package
1 - Cleveland
[REDACTED]

(7)

LC# C-17518

DEC 1982

07C

CV 62D-2664

1. Latent fingerprint examinations. *CFPS*
2. Presence of blood be determined. *4b*
3. Hairs and fibers identified. *3a, b*
4. Manufacturer and date of manufacture. *6*
5. Composition of metal and weight.

Blood and hair samples are available at the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office.

Dr. Gerber has had made a wax replica of the head of Marilyn Sheppard which has been reproduced in detail showing the wounds as they appeared on the victim. The FBI Laboratory is also requested to determine if tests may be conducted using submitted fireplace tongs to determine if this instrument could produce wounds identical to the victim's.

For the information of the FBI Laboratory, the find of this instrument has received publicity in Cleveland area newspapers, however, no specific details have been released by authorities.

It is requested that this matter receive expedite handling.

ALL EVIDENCE SUBMITTED TO BE PRESERVED AND RETURNED
TO FBI CLEVELAND.

7-2 (5-12-82)

RECORDED
11/30/82

11/26/82

LATENT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

To: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

FBI FILE NO.

63-15208-1

LAB. NO.

21126071 S UK WM RU

YOUR NO.

Re: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

Examination by:

Q1-5 from

11/29/82

Ret'd 11/30/82

Examination requested by:

Cleveland

Reference:

Communication dated November 23, 1982

Examination requested:

Microscopic Analyses - Chemical Analyses -
Metallurgy - Fingerprint

Specimens received:

November 26, 1982

Specimens:

- Q1 Fireplace tongs
- Q2 Newspapers
- Q3 Brown wrapping paper
- Q4-Q5 Debris

Dict.

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☒ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ UNCLAS E F T O
☒ UNCLAS

Date 11/23/82

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 ATTN: FBI LABORATORY
 EVIDENCE CONTROL CENTER
 ATTN: [REDACTED]
 SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS UNIT

FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (62D-2664)

RE: UNSUB;
 MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
 MURDER
 BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
 DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION
 OO: CV

Re CV telcall to FBI Laboratory, 11/22/82.

Enclosed for the FBI Laboratory under separate cover are the following items:

1. One set of fireplace tongs.
2. One set newspapers.
3. One set brown wrapping paper.
4. Two envelopes containing debris.

For the information of the FBI Laboratory, instant fireplace tongs were unearthed from the backyard of Dr. Sam Sheppard on 11/19/82 by a neighbor who was putting in a new water line. This individual wrapped the tongs in newspapers which are enclosed. The Bay Village, Ohio Police Department subsequently wrapped the package in the brown wrapping paper which is also being submitted. The envelopes contain debris which was preserved from tongs and is also being submitted.

Chief of Police Peter Gray, Bay Village, Ohio Police Department and Dr. Samuel Gerber, Cuyahoga County, Ohio Coroner, have requested the submission of these items to the FBI Laboratory and requested the following examinations:

- 5 - Bureau
 1 - Package
 1 - Cleveland

(7)

Approved: _____

63-18208-2
12-1 1982



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Washington, D. C. 20537

REPORT

of the

LATENT FINGERPRINT SECTION IDENTIFICATION DIVISION

YOUR FILE NO. 62D-2664
FBI FILE NO.
LATENT CASE NO. C-17518

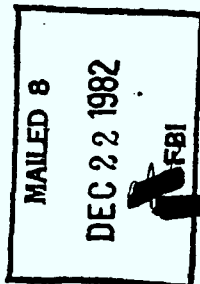
December 22, 1982

TO: SAC, Cleveland

RE: UNSUB.:
MARILYN CHAPMAN - VICTIM - DECEASED
MURDER
DAY VILLAGE, OHIO
1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

REFERENCE: Airtel 11/23/82
EXAMINATION REQUESTED BY: Cleveland
SPECIMENS: 01, fireplace tongs

The results of the laboratory examinations and the disposition of the specimen are the subjects of a separate report.



(4)

59 JAN 18 1983

MAIL ROOM

THIS REPORT IS FURNISHED FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

DEC 22 1982

3931-4

72 (5-12-82)

RECORDED
11/30/82

11/16/82

[REDACTED]

LATENT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Recorded: 11-16-82

Laboratory Work Sheet

Received: 12-16-82

To: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

Note: Expedite

FBI FILE NO. 63-18208-

LAB. NO. 21126071 & UK WH 80

YOUR NO. LC #C-17518

Re: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
RAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1984
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

Examination by: [REDACTED]

Noted By:

Examination requested by: Cleveland

Reference: Airtel dated November 23, 1982

Examination requested: Microscopic Analyses - Chemical Analyses -
Metallurgy - Fingerprint

Specimens received: November 26, 1982

Q1 to Q5 for exam & not to Lab for dupes - Report rec'd 12/16/82 [REDACTED]

Specimens:

- Q1 Fireplace tongs
- Q2 Newspapers
- Q3 Brown wrapping paper
- Q4-Q5 Debris

b7c

12/16 [REDACTED] b7D

Rel'd to Lab 2:30 pm, Rec'd by [REDACTED]

Examination Completed 2:30 pm 11/16/82 Dictated 11/16/82
Time Date Date

11/22/82 [REDACTED]

Q-95
AIRTEL

11/23/82

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY
EVIDENCE CONTROL CENTER
ATTN: [REDACTED]
SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS UNIT

FROM: SAC, CLEVELAND (62D-2664)

RE: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION
OO: CV

3a
4b
6
[REDACTED]

21126071

Re CV telcall to FBI Laboratory, 11/22/82.

Enclosed for the FBI Laboratory under separate cover are the following items:

- Q1 - 1. One set of fireplace tongs.
Q2 - 2. One set newspapers.
Q3 - 3. One set brown wrapping paper.
Q4-Q5 - 4. Two envelopes containing debris.
- b7c

For the information of the FBI Laboratory, instant fire-place tongs were unearthed from the backyard of Dr. Sam Sheppard on 11/19/82 by a neighbor who was putting in a new water line. This individual wrapped the tongs in newspapers which are enclosed. The Bay Village, Ohio Police Department subsequently wrapped the package in the brown wrapping paper which is also being submitted. The envelopes contain debris which was preserved from tongs and is also being submitted.

Chief of Police Peter Gray, Bay Village, Ohio Police Department and Dr. Samuel Garber, Cuyahoga County, Ohio Coroner, have requested the submission of these items to the FBI Laboratory and requested the following examinations:

- 5 - Bureau
① - Package
1 - Cleveland
[REDACTED]

(7)

INDEXED
[REDACTED]

248.
11/23/82
[REDACTED]

REPORT
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

To: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

December 22, 1982

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO. 21126071 S UK WM RU

UNSUB; ⁽¹⁾
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
Re: MURDER-
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

Examination requested by: Cleveland
Reference: Communication dated November 23, 1982
Examination requested: Microscopic Analyses - Chemical Analyses -
Metallurgy
Specimens received: November 26, 1982

Result of examination:

This report supplements the FBI Laboratory report in this case dated December 2, 1982. All of the requested examinations are now completed. For a detailed listing of the evidence please refer to that report.

You are being advised of the results of the fingerprint examination by a separate report. The submitted items are being returned under separate cover by registered mail.

DEC 23 1982

DICTATION

21126071

This report supplements the FBI Laboratory report in this case dated Dec 2, 1962. All of the requested examinations are now completed. For a detailed listing of the evidence please refer to that report.

+

[REDACTED]

b7c

You are being advised of the results of the fingerprint examinations by a separate report.

The submitted items are being returned under separate cover by registered mail.

RECORDED
11/30/82

11/26/82

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LATENT

Laboratory Work Sheet

To: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO.

YOUR NO.

Examination by:

Re: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

Examination requested by:

Cleveland

Reference:

Communication dated November 23, 1982

Examination requested:

Microscopic Analyses - Chemical Analyses -
Metallurgy - Fingerprint
November 26, 1982

Specimens received:

Specimens:

| | |
|-------|----------------------|
| Q1 | Fireplace tongs |
| Q2 | Newspapers |
| Q3 | Brown wrapping paper |
| Q4-Q5 | Debris |

G1 rec'd 11-30-82
E - ret'd 12-16-82
D - 12-17-82

b7c

7-16
12/22/82

21126071 UK

Metallurgy Dictation

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

12-17-82

b7C

21126071 UK

Q1 fireplace tongs; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7D

Q1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sample in pillow.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

0-4a (Rev. 8-6-82)
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

DATE: 12/22/82
TO: SAC, Cleveland (62D-2664)

Re: UNSUB;
MARILYN SHEPPARD-VICTIM-DECEASED;
MURDER
BAY VILLAGE, OHIO, 1954
DOMESTIC POLICE COOPERATION

b7c

Invoice of Contents

Q1 - Q5

MAILED 13
DEC 29 1982
FBI

DEC 27 1982

☐ Return to
Room 3931 TL 241
FBI File # 63-10208
Case # 21126071 S UK WM RU
Your # _____
Ext. _____

☐ Mail Room: 1B327, TL 152
(registered mail)

☐ PSM - Supply Unit, 1B353
(not registered)

Shipping #

Shipping Method

7020532 3

12/2/82

Q1-Q5 JAN 1 1983

FBI/DOJ

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: MARILYN REESE
SHEPPARD

CROSS REFERENCE

memorandum

DATE: 11/22/82

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: ASAC-C RICHARD D. SCHWEIN

SUBJECT: DR. SAMUEL SHEPPARD (DECEASED);
MARILYN SHEPPARD (DECEASED) - VICTIM;
MURDER; LABORATORY MATTERS

TO: SAC, CLEVELAND (92-718)

On 11/22/82, Chief of Police (COP) Pete Gray, Bay Village PD, telephonically advised that he believed the murder weapon in the Sheppard murder case had just been found. Chief Gray said that the current owner of the house where Samuel and Marilyn lived had been digging a trench to lay a new water line. Approximately five inches into the ground he found a brass fire tong. Chief Gray said the fire tongs had been buried in sandy soil and appeared to be remarkably preserved. Initial examination indicates that there may be hair adhering to the surface of the tongs. The tongs are being taken to the Cuyahoga County coroner for comparison of the deceased Marilyn Sheppard and to see if a determination can be made by the coroner as to whether, in fact, this may be the murder weapon. Chief Gray would like to submit the fire tongs to the FBI Laboratory for appropriate forensic examination. He pointed out that this examination could have great historical significance but reminded me that all of the principals in this case are now dead.

On 11/22/82, I discussed this matter with Deputy Assistant Director William Doran, FBI Laboratory, who stated that the laboratory would conduct the required examinations. Doran will have Section Chief Bill Cronin contact us to furnish details of procuring and shipping the evidentiary item.

- 1 - SA Dunn (Media Coordinator) (Info)
- 1 - 80-763 (Media Control File)

(3)

67C

75AC-C Rm
SAC-11

92-718-3227

| | |
|-----------------|---------|
| SEARCHED | INDEXED |
| SERIALIZED | FILED |
| NOV 22 1982 | |
| FBI - CLEVELAND | |



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
(REV. 7-76)
GSA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.6
5010-112

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) E1

The Plain Dealer
Cleveland, OhDate: 11/23/82
Edition:

Title:

Character:

or

Classification: 62D-2664

Submitting Office:

CV

Indexing:

Tool may be Sheppard weapon

By John P. Coyne

More than 28 years after Marilyn R. Sheppard was bludgeoned to death in her Bay Village home, law enforcement officials said they might have uncovered the long-missing murder weapon.

Bay Village Police Chief Peter J. Gray yesterday confirmed a tool was found, buried five inches deep in a yard near the Sheppards' former lakefront home, 28924 Lake Rd.

The neighbor who unearthed the find gave it to Gray Friday, setting off new inquiries into Greater Cleveland's most publicized slaying, which led to the conviction and later acquittal of the victim's husband, Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard.

"I don't know if it has anything to do with the Marilyn Sheppard case," Gray said. "Over the years, there have been many, many things turned in that could have been potential weapons.

"This may or may not be the

right one. It's too early to tell," he said. Gray would not describe the find except to call it a "tool of sorts." He also would not identify who found it.

However, a preliminary examination by the Cuyahoga County coroner's office matched the tool to some of the 35 blows to the head and body which killed Marilyn Sheppard near daybreak July 4, 1954, Gray said.

"Some of the blows would be consistent with the object we found, while some others would not be," Gray said, speculating that two weapons could have been used.

He cautioned that officials have not yet determined if the tool had been manufactured at the time Marilyn Sheppard, 31 and four months pregnant, was killed.

"We have to get positive identification on it and go from there," Gray said.

Two FBI agents took the instrument to the FBI laboratory in Quantico, Va., where agents will

checked for fingerprints, he said.

It was not known how long the tool had been buried, but Gray said the coroner's office found root fibers attached to it, indicating it had been underground for at least several years.

"It could have been put there 28 years ago or it might have been there only a few years," he said, adding it could have been planted in the yard by a publicity seeker.

The find came just days after a movie, "Guilty or Innocent: The Sam Sheppard Murder Case," was re-run on television here depicting the life of the man known as Dr. Sam, who was convicted of the murder in a dramatic trial five months after his wife's death.

He was freed 10 years later in a complicated round of appeals. Two years later, in 1966, the U.S. Supreme Court, citing extensive, prejudicial publicity, reversed his conviction. A new trial found him not guilty. Sheppard died in 1970 at age 46.

Gray said the weapon always had been a loose end in the investigation. He said police got phone calls offering tips whenever the movie was shown. None has turned up any new evidence, he said.

Coroner Samuel R. Gerber, who offered key testimony in both of Sheppard's trials, declined to discuss the latest findings. Mary E. Cowan, senior medical technologist, who worked on the original case, examined the tool but would not comment about it.