



Criminologist John Williams matched cloth from letter to victim's shirt

Five Killings

Boastful Letter From 'Murderer'

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the wooded south boundary of the Presidio and Julius Kahn Playground.

Their unsuccessful efforts apparently amused the killer.

In the letter to The Chronicle, which was postmarked Monday, October 13, p.m., the writer said.

"The S.F. Police could have caught me last night if they had searched the park properly instead of holding road races with their motorcycles seeing who could make the most noise. The car drivers should have just parked their cars & sat there quietly waiting for me to come out of cover."

'ZODIAC'

The letter, on plain white paper and written in pale blue ink, began:

"This is the Zodiac speaking. I am the murderer of the taxi driver over by Washington St. & Maple St. last night & to prove this here is a blood stained piece of his shirt."

The Chronicle sent the letters and the cloth to the police who quickly established that the material was the same as that of Sline's torn shirt.

The cloth is undergoing exhaustive laboratory tests and the letter has been sent to handwriting analysts.

LINKS

Homicide Inspector Jack Armstrong, in charge of the San Francisco case, has contacted police in Vallejo and Napa to combine their investigations.

Even before the San Francisco killing, Vallejo and Napa police were investigating strong links between the fatal stabbing of a young woman near Lake Berryessa September 27 and the slayings of three persons on lovers' lanes in the Vallejo area in the past year.

Cecilia Ann Shepherd, 22, a pretty co-ed, was killed and her boyfriend, Brian Hartness, was critically stabbed by a hooded assailant at a

picnic site in the Lake Berryessa case.

Within an hour, a man with a "young voice" telephoned police in Napa to "report a murder — no, a double murder." Then he described the couple, their car and the scene.

Lawmen found that the killer had printed with a felt pen on Hartness's white sports car the dates of the three Vallejo murders he is believed to have committed.

The killer's signature was the crosshair symbol—the same one used in the cryptogram sent to newspapers a month earlier bragging of the killing of the Vallejo victims. The messages said killing people was "more fun" than killing game.

The phone call received in the Spherd case was similar to one received by police at Vallejo, 16 miles south, after the fatal shooting of 22-year-old Darlene Ferrin and the wounding of her boyfriend July 4.

There were resemblances in the Ferrin killing to the double murder in a Vallejo area lovers' lane last December 20 of Thomas Faraday, 17, and Bettilou Jensen, 16.

Dutch Concerned Over Royal Baby

The Hague

Prime Minister Piet de Jong told Parliament yesterday that there is "reason for concern" about the health of the 3-day-old third son of Dutch Crown Princess Beatrix and Prince Claus.

The baby was placed in an incubator shortly after birth Saturday because of respiratory difficulties but had been reported recovering satisfactorily.

Associated Press

Uganda Reform

Kampala, Uganda

The Uganda government announced yesterday it will reform the country's labor union movement.

Reuters