

6 San Francisco Chronicle

Mon., May 4, 1981

Six Killings Definitely Tied To Zodiac

Zodiac first surfaced in 1969 by sending brief notes and cryptograms to three Bay Area newspapers. The messages took credit for several unsolved murders and dared the police to catch him.

Although Zodiac ultimately claimed credit for more than 37 homicides, only six killings were definitely linked to him by handwriting analysis, physical evidence and the killer's taunting messages. His verified victims were:

• **Cheri Jo Bates**, a college student in 1969. Zodiac stalked Bates car while she studied in the library at Western Junior College, then lured her to a secluded spot with the offer of a lift and stabbed

and slashed her to death with a pocket knife.

• **Betty Lou Jensen and David Faraday**, two high school students from Vallejo. They were ambushed with a 22-caliber automatic pistol in December 1969, while they were parked on Lake Herman Road near Cordelia.

• **Darlene Ferrin**, a waitress from Vallejo. She was shot to death with a .38-caliber pistol on July 5, 1969, while sitting in her car at Blue Rock Canyon Golf Course in Vallejo with a companion, Michael Mageau. Although Mageau was severely wounded in the attack, he recovered and gave police their first description of the Zodiac killer.



• **Cecelia Ann Shepard**, a student at UC Riverside. She was tied up, then stabbed to death by an attacker near Lake Berryessa in September 1968. Shepard's companion, Bryan Hartnell, was critically wounded in the attack. He survived

and gave police an even more detailed description of the Zodiac.

• **Paul Stine**, a San Francisco taxi driver. He was shot to death with a .38-caliber pistol near the Presidio of San Francisco in October 1969.

Piles of Data

Detectives Still Hunting Zodiac

From Page 5

edged Zodiac murders to use in quizzing his suspect, however, the suspect failed to pass the test.

Deasy said his personal fantasy on the case is that someday, "An elderly woman will call us up and say, 'You know, my upstairs tenant just passed on, bless his soul, and he left behind a box full of strange things that I think you ought to look at, and we'll go down and take a look. The hood that the Zodiac wore at Lake Berryessa will be in there, and the 22 automatic that he used on the couple at Lake Herman Road, the missing piece of Paul Stine's shirt — all of it will be packed away in the box.'"

"Sometimes I think that's the only way this case will ever be

cleared."

Captain Ken Narlow of the Napa County Sheriff's Department has worked closely with Deasy in following up on Zodiac leads, and he counts himself as "the only one of the original investigators left on the case."

Narlow was chief of detectives for the Napa County Sheriff's Department from 1971 to 1979. He was on duty the day that Cecelia Shepard and Bryan Hartnell were attacked by the Zodiac.

"I was in the emergency room when they brought them in," he said, shaking his head slowly. "You don't forget something like that, it's real quick."

In 1979 when a new sheriff was elected, Narlow was transferred to the department's division of records and put in charge of security for the county's court house. Despite his transfer out of the active investigations department, he remained in charge of the Zodiac case.

"It's hard to work a criminal investigation part-time," Narlow said. "Many of the leads we were originally blessed with have become old and deteriorated to the point where they don't have much value any more. I don't have the contacts that I used to have, and there really isn't that much interest in the case now."

Nevertheless, Narlow says, "I still think he's out there somewhere. I don't have anything solid to go by. It's just a gut feeling I have, based on 21 years of law enforcement experience."

He said he keeps his own detectives briefed on the case "so they'll be primed to take over in the event something new breaks."

He pointed out that the best description of the Zodiac is a man 5-feet-4-inches to 5-feet-6-inches tall, and weighing close to 200 pounds. "This guy in Ascadero is only 5-feet-2-inches tall and weighs 125 pounds," Narlow said, shaking his head with disgust. "Now how am I supposed to get excited about going down to Santa Barbara to check out a lead like that?"

— Bill H. Wilson

One Killing Zodiac Might Have Planned Carefully

The psychotic murderer who called himself the Zodiac has long been portrayed by police as a deranged megalomaniac who picked his victims strictly at random.

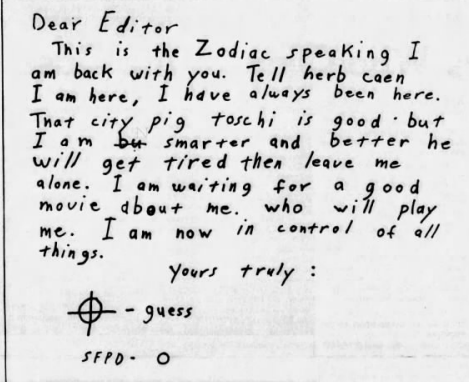
In at least one Zodiac murder case, however, The Chronicle has pieced evidence indicating that the Zodiac not only knew his victim for several months before he shot her to death, but might have actually stalked her and lured her to her death with a late-night telephone call.

The case that casts doubt on the official police theory is the July 5, 1969, murder of Darlene Ferrin, a vivacious 22-year-old waitress from Vallejo who was shot to death while sitting in her car with a companion, Michael Mageau, in a parking lot near Vallejo's Blue Rock Canyon Golf Course.

The Zodiac took credit for Ferrin's murder in letters he sent to three Bay Area newspapers in August 1969. In those letters and subsequent notes, the Zodiac revealed details of the crime that could have been known only by the killer. Investigators from the Vallejo Police Department and the California Department of Justice have consistently listed the Ferrin murder among the six that have definitely been linked to the Zodiac slayer.

From interviews with a variety of sources, including law enforcement officials and witnesses, The Chronicle has learned:

• A man matching the Zodiac's description was seen watching Ferrin's apartment house in Vallejo several hours one evening shortly



The Zodiac's last note came to The Chronicle; it taunted the police and showed his megalomania

before she was killed — a man some investigators believe was her murderer.

• There is evidence which strongly suggests that Ferrin might have received a telephone call from

the Zodiac only minutes before her death.

• A man answering the Zodiac's description talked with Ferrin numerous times at the place where she worked, and he was

present at a party in her apartment several months before her death.

• An unidentified caller made anonymous harassing calls to a number of Ferrin's friends and relatives only minutes after she was

murdered.

Detectives investigating the Zodiac case have downplayed the significance of some of the information The Chronicle has uncovered. They stress their belief that the Zodiac picked his victims at random, and that there was no apparent connection between the people the murderer attacked.

However, almost 10 years after the crime, police did follow up testimony from one witness that an older man sat in a large, light-colored, U.S.-made car watching Ferrin's apartment for a number of hours several months before her murder.

According to that witness, when Ferrin was told about the man in the car, she indicated that she knew who he was, and said, "I once saw him do something, he didn't want anyone to know about."

Police obtained a detailed description of the man from the witness. If he ever surfaces again, investigators say, they will be able to identify him.

— Bill H. Wilson

Slaying Suspect Turns Self In

Palm Springs

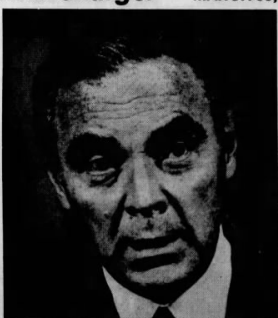
Ron Junker, 34, of Thousand Palms, surrendered to police Saturday in connection with the murder April 23 of an Apple Valley roof.

Police said Junker had been sought on a warrant in the death of William Anthony, 41, Anthony had been shot through the head.

— United Press

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"I am in charge." MARCH 30, 1981



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Problems such as:

- unemployment is upwards of 40%
- the average daily wage of \$1.50 for those lucky enough to work
- an oppressive military runs the country with bullets and bayonets
- some 17,000 persons have been killed in the past 18 months

WE URGE YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, TO STOP ALL MILITARY AID TO EL SALVADOR AND END OUR MILITARY INTERVENTION

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The White House reports that its mail is running 25 to 1 against Administration policy in El Salvador. (UPI, Washington)

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