11-22-1954

54/11/23 Admits 'Killer' Hoax

Cleveland Press

Admits 'Killer' Hoax

Henry Fuehrer, 52, Cincinnati ex-convict, today broke down and confessed that he had attempted to hoax police with a claim that he had knowledge about "the real killer" of Marilyn Sheppard.

Fuehrer admitted to Homicide Captain David E. Kerr that he cooked up his story "to get publicity in the hope of arousing sympathy in someone who might offer me a job."

He made his admission as William J. Corrigan, chief defense counsel for Dr. Samuel H. Sheppard, was issuing a subpena and preparing a request that Fuehrer be held as a "material witness" in the case.

Fuehrer was brought here from Cincinnati after he told police of a suburb there that he had accompanied a man named "Pal" on a burglary mission to Bay Village early last July 4.

He fled, Fuehrer said, when he heard "Pal" get into a fight with someone in the house. The house, he said, was the Sheppard home at 28924 Lake Rd.

But Fuehrer actually spent the entire month of July in the Knox County (Tennessee) jail. He was arrested June 30 for loitering.

Previously, Fuehrer had attempted to "confess" a Chicago murder of which the FBI could find no trace.

Kerr said police would decide what charge, if any, to file against Fuehrer after taking a statement from him.

Fuehrer explained to Capt. Kerr how he was able to point out the Sheppard home to Bay Village police.

"There was no policeman on duty in the jail when the Bay police brought me back from Cincinnati," he explained. "A fireman kept guard over me. There was a newspaper in the jail so I was able to get the address of the Sheppard home from the trial story. Then I studied a large wall map and I knew exactly where the place was."

HOAXER HENRY FUEHRER was exposed this afternoon.