

Case . . .

(Continued from A-1)

1968, in a dark alleyway on the RC campus.

A groundskeeper discovered her the next morning. Her body was punctured with stab wounds and her throat had been cut.

Her father, with whom she lived, had been away from home the day of her death and when he returned that evening he found a note that read "Dad — Went to RC library."

Her green Volkswagen was later discovered parked near the library. The condenser and coil had been torn from the engine and a distributor was pulled loose inside the car were books checked out from the library that night.

Police have always believed she knew her killer, because the area where her body was found was well away from the library and was poorly lit. They said they doubt that she would have gone there unless she was with someone she already knew.

Although Jones refused to release more details, a source connected with the case, who declined to be identified, said some of the

new points of evidence in the case include:

- A witness who can recall seeing a man matching the description of the suspect near the scene of the crime around the time the killing occurred. The official said police would like to have that witness hypnotized to bring back more details forgotten during the years, but have decided not to because of recent court decisions against evidence brought to light by hypnosis.
- A witness who says the suspect owned the same kind of wristwatch as one found at the scene of the homicide.
- Footprints at the scene of the crime that are the same size as the suspect's shoes.
- A new scientific method of analysis that has allowed evidence previously gathered to be re-analyzed for more details.

The source said the suspect has moved from the area, but that police know where he is.

Police believe that Cheri Jo's killer first disabled her car, then asked her whether she wanted help fixing it or wanted a ride home. Under some pretext he lured her to the alley and killed her.

A massive police investigation

began immediately. Police searched the area and discovered a man's watch with specks of paint on the band. Scrappings from under her fingernails revealed that the killer was a white male.

Two weeks later, still baffled, police asked everyone who had been in the library the evening of the homicide to attend a re-creation wearing the clothing they had that night. From that they inured a possible description of a suspect: A heavyset man with a beard.

Within the next few months, police received three more notes about the killing. In January 1969, a janitor at RC discovered a poem about the homicide carved on a desk. Later, when interest in the Zodiac case grew, the handwriting of the note was compared to notes the Zodiac had written to San Francisco police. An expert said they matched. Riverside police were skeptical then, about linking the cases only on the basis of a handwriting expert. Now say they're sure the two cases are not linked.

The Zodiac was active primarily in the San Francisco Bay area during the late sixties and early seventies. He claimed to solve police to have killed 37 persons. Police could find evidence in only six

killings, however, and one of those was the Cheri Jo Bates case.

The unnamed source in Riverside says the physical description of the Zodiac killer, who was never caught, does not match the suspect in the Bates case, also. Police know where their suspect was when two of the Zodiac killings took place.

The killing of Cheri Jo Bates had caught the public's interest and police were flooded with information — some useful, but most not. Police, searching for any kind of clue, went to great lengths. The ground around where Cheri Jo's body was found was dug up to a depth of 3 inches and sifted. Detectives searched the entire block with metal detectors, looking for the knife used to kill her. They found nothing. A county crew was called in to draw a detailed map of the area for police use. Today, after extensive changes, the area is part of a campus parking lot.

Paint from the watchband was

subjected to atomic analysis. Police even asked a physical anthropologist to give them an opinion about the bone structure of the killer based on the size of the watch band.

Cheri Jo's father gave police her diary, and detective tried to track down every name in it. The search led to people as far away as Maine. The file on case No. 82-441 was growing quickly. Today it takes several file cabinets to house it.

But after a while, most of the detectives were reassigned. Tips from the public continued to come in, but slowed to a trickle. Detective Bud Kelley took charge of the case, following up on what few pieces of information came to light.

That was the situation until last November, when the witness came forward.

Police found that going back into the case after such a time

lapse was often difficult. But the results were surprising.

"It's really kind of amazing, when you consider how many people were interviewed or talked to at the onset, to find the number of people who have emerged this long after," said Leroy Green, captain of the detective division.

He said he had been somewhat familiar with the case in its early days, but "I was astounded at the whole different outlook and the different people that had some connection with it that just wasn't realized back then."

Despite the advances police have made in the case, Jones said he sees a problem for prosecutors. "Our concern is getting a jury that will say, 'My God, this guy has lived with this for 15 years, he's gone through enough hell.' My feeling is the guy is just as dirty and despicable today as he was the day he committed the crime."

Punch . . .

(Continued from A-1)

force" is the survivability and endurance of the nation's 1,000 Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missiles. The study, one of several being produced by the panel on security issues.

It said a majority of analysts believe that only a small percentage of the U.S. Minuteman missiles would survive a calculated Soviet attack.

While the Soviets may not wish to risk all-out nuclear war by staging a limited attack on American intercontinental ballistic missiles, the report nonetheless concluded that "the technical case for ICBMs being vulnerable is strong."

It added the U.S. "must take this threat seriously and explore possible solutions, such as the MX missile and its various basing arrangements."

While existing land-based missiles are vulnerable, the report said U.S.

submarine-launched missiles are "highly survivable today." Nonetheless, potential Soviet emphasis on strengthening the nation's military capability and said it is "unrealistic" to expect arms control agreements can solve the nation's vulnerability problems.

It did say arms control can help ease the vulnerability of U.S. and Soviet defense systems by limiting the number of warheads. "Many of the potential threats depend ultimately on proliferation of attacking re-entry vehicles," it said.

While the nation should try to reduce the value of its strategic forces, the study nonetheless concluded that "in any conceivable scenario to the near future, large numbers of U.S. weapons would survive."

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