

# Police Study Coast Slayings For Collins' Link

PLYMOUTH — Two Plymouth-based State Police detectives are seeking to tie together with science the seven area co-ed murders with the slayings of four other women in California.

Sgt. Kenneth Christensen, commander of the Plymouth Crime Laboratory, and Detective Thomas Nassar, have been assigned the job.

The key point at this time is the movement of John Norman Collins, 23-year-old Eastern Michigan University student, arrested in the murder of the latest Michigan victim, Karen Sue Belenken.

Police said Collins, the nephew of a State Police Corporal who turned up evidence implicating Collins, traveled to California in June with Andrew Manuel, 23, who has two other aliases, in a 17-foot trailer. It is the trailer, impounded by Salinas, Calif., police, that Christensen and Nassar are investigating.

THE FBI HAS ISSUED a warrant for larceny by conversion against Manuel. The trailer was rented in East Lansing and never returned, Manuel disappeared the day after the Belenken murder and is the subject of a massive manhunt. Information divulged by tight-lipped police over the past week indicates that Collins is most readily linked to the death of a Plymouth co-ed, Joan Schell, an EMU student in mid-1968. Collins' address in Ypsilanti was a rooming house a block away from the college quarters of Miss Schell.

COLLINS HAS BEEN charged only in the death of Miss Belenken, 18. Authorities are still investigating the other six Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti murders.

Three of the girls murdered in California were found in Monterey County, where police recovered the cream-colored, 17-foot trailer last week in an alley behind the home of Manuel's parents.

THE WARRANT for Manuel described him as 6-foot-1, 235 pounds, dark complexioned, with dark hair and eyes. He reportedly has a tattoo on his left forearm.

Manuel is a Mexican-American, as was one of the Monterey victims.

According to Monterey County Sheriff William A. Davidson, who held a press conference Monday, Manuel was seen in Salinas, the county seat, as recently as last Thursday.

The FBI in Salinas said Manuel is believed to be in the Santa Clara (Calif.) area, where his mother and a step-brother live.

Authorities said he and Collins rented the trailer in East Lansing from Virgil Hendrickson, and towed it to the West Coast in mid-June. The four involved California murders—three in Monterey County and one in Claremont near Los Angeles—took place between June 23 and July 15.

MISS BEINEMAN, a freshman at Eastern Michigan University, disappeared and was murdered July 23. Police believe the slender young brunette from Grand Rapids was lured to her death with the offer of a motorcycle ride.

Authorities say she was killed in the basement of the home of Collins' uncle, State Police Cpl. David Leik, who was away on vacation.

Police spent the day Monday tracing routes between Leik's home and the wooded ravine near Ann Arbor where Miss Belenken—raped, strangled and battered beyond recognition—was found July 26. The police were searching for her clothing and a wig she purchased just before riding off with a youth on a motorcycle.

Police said their search produced nothing.

Manuel, until about two weeks ago, lived with his wife at 765 N. Harris, Ypsilanti. According to one neighbor, when Manuel was at home, he was frequently visited by male friends who rode motorcycles.

Manuel, a native of Salinas, moved to Michigan around 1965, taking a job at a Ford Motor Co. plant. Last summer, he worked at the Bond Warehouse in Detroit.

In September, 1968, he took a job in the machine department of Motor Wheel Corp., in Ypsilanti, where Collins, a 22-year-old EMU senior, had held a part-time job since August, 1968. Manuel worked at 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., shift at Motor Wheel. Collins worked from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m., leaving his job last June, a month after Manuel left.

POLICE HAVE taken the employment records of both men, presumably to check their attendance at work. A company spokesman told newsmen he understood that Manuel had been disciplined for absences from work.

Motor Wheel is about a quarter of a mile from the fifth Ann Arbor-Ypsilanti killing, 13-year-old Dawn Basom, was last seen.

Meanwhile, Michigan State Police Director Col. Fredrick Davids endorsed EMU dormitory sign-out procedures designed to protect co-ed deaths. Davids' endorsement implied that there may be other suspects.

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## Fidgety Kids Soon Learn Poor Habits

If your child is unusually fidgety, restless, and hard to manage, he may become frustrated early in school and pick up poor learning habits, in the opinion of two social workers at the University of Michigan Hospital.

Early frustration and a sense of failure are commonly experienced by "hyperkinetic" children, said Jules Schaefer, director of the social work department at University Hospital, and Janet Lindy, a doctoral student, who studied 500 kindergarten children in the Ann Arbor area.

A hyperkinetic child is characterized by six behavioral traits, they said, "Fidgety and restless, inattentive, hard to manage, can't sit still, can't pay attention, and can't take frustration" — these characteristics are agreed on by certain pediatricians, psychologists, and social workers as signs of the "hyperkinetic syndrome."

The study, entitled "Hyperkinetic Children: Early indicators of Potential School Failures," will be presented at the second International Congress of Social Psychiatry in London August 12-15 by Schaefer.

THE HYPERKINETIC children studied showed both a high absentee rate and lower performance on school "readiness" tests than their calmer peers in kindergarten, the U-M researchers reported.

"It would be expected that the total school experience would soon become negatively loaded for him. This is reflected in the higher rate of absences, since no medical reason could be found to account for this."

If the school experience is full of failures and frustrations, the child will be less eager to attend, the U-M social workers pointed out that the child who can't sit still and focus attention has trouble with assigned tasks. This becomes increasingly difficult as school assignments become more demanding.

"A poor attitude towards school as well as difficulty in learning to read and write can result in future school failure," the U-M social workers said. "The high rate of school referrals to diagnostic and treatment centers attests to that."

THE SOCIAL WORKERS suggested that there are two kinds of programs that might help. First, the overly active child may be better understood as the parents realize there are others with similar problems and that these are manageable. By a "sensitization" program, parents may be taught to anticipate the unique problems their child is likely to face as he moves through the grades.

"Equally important is a program for sensitizing the teacher. Consultation with other teachers should help her develop techniques for coping with the needs of the hyperkinetic child in the classroom."

In addition to these kinds of activities, the U-M researchers conclude that earlier identification and the use of remedial resources might help the hyperkinetic child have a more profitable early school experience.

Surviving are his wife, Andrew, two sons, Patrick and Stacy; Ann; parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Schaefer of Birmingham; and a sister, Mrs. Jan Fraser of Baltimore.

Burial was in Rural Hill cemetery in Northville.

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