

3-year wait

Murder puzzle pieced together

By CARL STODDARD
Shortly before 1 p.m. April 3, 1971, a

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construction worker in Southfield noticed something unusual in a discarded garbage can.

The can had been lying in the construction site at Morrison and Brentwood for two or three days, but none of the workers had shown much interest in it.

The construction worker went closer and looked in the garbage can. Inside was a nude human torso.

The police, at first, were baffled. Both hands, legs and the head were missing from the torso. The only identifying mark was a purple, tattooed heart on one of the arms.

A SEARCH turned up a cement cap that apparently had been poured over the body to seal it into the garbage can. But the cap broke and fell out when the can was dumped into the construction site.

The medical examiner in Pontiac found a bullet hole in the chest and identified the torso's blood type.

The police had no other clues. Then, on June 10, 1971, the Southfield police were contacted by a Detroit police homicide detective. The detective said he had the description of a missing person and wanted to see if it matched.

That afternoon the detective sent Mr. and Mrs. Linwood Love to the Southfield police station. They described their son's physical appearance and looked at pictures of the torso.

THE LOVES tentatively identified the torso as their son, Elbert Love. They told police he had spent time at Jackson State Prison.

Prison officials gave the Southfield police a description of the tattoo, the

blood type and dental work for Elbert Love. The description matched those from the Oakland County medical examiner and Love's parents.

Armed with an identification, the Southfield police were able to investigate Love's murder, and two men were arrested.

But while all this was going on, another series of events were taking place in Detroit. But the two didn't come together until last week.

On Aug. 18, 1972, Detroit sanitation workers discovered two plastic bags in a sewer at E. Forest and Mack. In one sack they found a human head; in the other, two legs.

DR. MILLARD BASS, a medical examiner in Wayne County, sent one leg to the Smithsonian Institution to be frozen until identification might be made later. He kept the skull on his desk for two years.

It wasn't until last week that he was able to make an identification. His search to identify the skull came to an end following an article in the Detroit Free Press about Dr. Bass and the skull.

A Southfield detective saw the article and contacted Bass.

Bass said he was not aware that a torso had been found in Southfield until the officer's call.

After receiving the call, Bass checked X-rays of the torso against one of the legs. The two severed ends matched.

ALSO, BASS found that the blood types were the same and a photo of the dead man indicated a bone structure similar to the skull.

Love's remains are buried in a pauper's grave near Pontiac.

When Love's body was first identified, Detroit police sought warrants for William "The Sewer Man" Witcher and Bobbie Jean Bomar, both of Detroit.

The two were charged with improper disposal and mutilation of a body.

Police were unable to determine who shot Love. They said Witcher, for one reason or another, felt he had to dispose of Love's body.

BRIDGE

A favorable opening lead, made because East overcalled in diamonds, was all the declarer needed to bring home an optimistic six spade contract.

If West had led a club, there would be no story. Shahan Kavafian of Royal Oak, sitting South, decided to pass in first position. He and his partner, Leo Lee, of Birmingham, were playing the Kaplan Sheinwold bidding system. If Shahan opened the bidding with two spades, a weak bid, he would have been deceiving his partner.

ACCORDING to the K-S system, a bid of two diamonds, two hearts, or two spades promises a six card suit, which he had, but the suit must be semi-solid. He had the right number of cards, but his suit was not good enough. A weak two bid, according to their partnership, promises a light opening bid with a strong suit.

After North jump-raised to three, showing 18 or 19 points, Shahan checked for aces. When the partnership lacked an ace, he placed the contract at six.

Prospects were dim, but there was a slight chance to make the contract if West had the king of spades, or if East held the singleton king.

SHAHAN WON the first dia-



By ERNEST AND KAY CLINTON

mond and led the jack of spades, and after considerable thought, played the ace in dummy, dropping the unguarded king.

He then played a small heart from partner's losing to West's eight. He won the diamond return, and trumped a diamond. Ruffed a heart in his hand, drew the outstanding spade and led another heart; when the ace appeared, he ruffed. He was now home free; he discarded his losing club on the king of hearts.

NORTH
▲ A Q 9 7
♦ K 9 4 2
♥ 2
♠ A Q J 8

WEST
♠ 6 J 8 6 3
♦ 10 8 3
♥ 10 7 5

EAST
♠ A
♦ K J 10 5
♥ K J 9 7 6
♠ K 9 4 3

SOUTH
♠ J 10 8 5 4 3
♦ A Q 5 4
♥ 6 2

South Deals
No One Vulnerable

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
pass pass 1 ♠ 10
1 ♠ pass 3 ♠ pass
4 NT pass 5 ♣ pass
4 ♠ pass pass pass
West led the ten of diamonds.

RECENT WINNERS:
Highland Lakes Campus, Aug. 24, N-S (1) Marge Kelly, Henry Georgia (2) Mr. and Mrs. Robert Newman; E-W (1) Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Hopkins (2) Mr. and Mrs. Mel Chrysler.

Community House, Aug. 26, N-S (1) Pat Beyer, Henry Georgia (2) Mr. and Mrs. Paul Van Roekel; E-W (1) Ron Rogalski, Bernard Weinstock (2) Mike Murphy, Richard Oddy.



To be honored

John J. Riccardo of Birmingham, president of Chrysler Corp., will receive the 1974 National B'nai B'rith Humanitarian Award Nov. 10 at Cobo Hall.

Riccardo was selected because of his "distinguished and enduring contributions of a humanitarian nature."

Proceeds from the \$100-a-plate banquet will help carry on one of the largest youth programs in the United States, including B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations at universities, B'nai B'rith Youth Organizations and B'nai B'rith Vocational Services helping teenagers on college campuses and in high schools.

WSU degree

Arlene Margolis, 18155 Altavista, received a master of education degree, at the end of Wayne State University's spring term.

Insurance FACTS

by Robert H. Bergstrom, CPCU

In the United States the principal types of insurance are: Life insurance, fire insurance, marine insurance, workmen's compensation, health, automobile, accident, burglary, and general liability insurance. Among other types available are earthquake, rain, flood, hail, tornado, plate-glass, fire, and credit insurance. Insurance in the United States is underwritten, and policies issued by various types of enterprise. Mutual insurance companies, one of the largest types, are owned by their policyholders.

Have you a question about any type of insurance? Call BERGSTROM INSURANCE AGENCY, 29700 Orchard Lake Rd., Farmington Hills, 636-4400, and one of our highly trained specialists will come to your place of business or home to analyze your needs. We are specialists in personal protection and after life insurance, estate analysis and programming, retirement plans, mortgage redemption plans, educational savings plans, auto, homeowners, and recreational vehicle insurance, and the knowledge that we have been serving the community with the finest in insurance since 1855. Open: Mon-Fri 9-5; other times by appointment.

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