

FBI assisting investigation of Waverly deaths

By JACK HOVELSON
Register Staff Writer

WAVERLY, IA. — Criminologists from the FBI are being consulted to determine if the same person murdered two young women here within the past 10 months.

Bremer County Attorney Paul Riffel said Friday that information and evidence collected in the Julie Benning and Lisa Peak murder cases have been taken to Washington, D. C., for examination by the FBI.

He said the objective of the FBI study is to come up with a psychological criminal profile of the person or persons who may have committed the crimes.

Benning, 19, disappeared here last Nov. 28, and her nude and decomposed body was found in March in a roadside ditch near Shell Rock.

Peak, a 20-year-old Wartburg College sophomore from Knoxville, was slain here last Monday and her body was found the next morning in a ditch north of Waverly.

More than 200 Wartburg College students have been questioned by investigators in the Peak case.

Riffel said Friday that agents are examining clothing taken from a Goodwill Industries receptacle near a Waverly shopping center to determine if it had been worn by Peak the day she was murdered. He said they also are examining clothing found in "other places."

Peak's body was found nude about one-fourth mile north of the Waverly city limits, and no clothes were found in the area.

Investigators have said there are many similarities in the two slayings. Also under investigation is a possibility of a link between the murder and the fact that Peak provided information that broke up a bizarre sex and extortion scheme by a Mason City used car salesman, John Joseph Carmody, jr. He currently is serving a 40-year prison term after pleading guilty to rape and extortion charges.

Rattlesnakes frighten warehouse employees

TALLAHASSEE, FLA. (AP) — Frightened employees of a Florida Department of Commerce warehouse were armed with sticks Friday to do battle with pygmy rattlesnakes. Four of the venomous creatures were killed inside the building earlier this week after they apparently crawled out of nearby swamps and woods following recent heavy rains.



Susan Ford fixes furniture

Susan Ford, daughter of President and Mrs. Ford, sands a chair in her newly rented townhouse at Arlington, Va., Friday. She moved out of the White House and into the townhouse, which she shares with three female college friends. Her right ankle is bandaged after being injured while moving in Thursday.

WOMAN JAILED FOR CONTEMPT

By DAVID YEPESEN
Register Staff Writer

A Des Moines woman was held in contempt of court Friday after she refused to answer a question for the Polk County Grand Jury.

Elizabeth Render, 34, of 711 Fortieth St. was subpoenaed to produce some checks for a grand jury investigation. Authorities said the probe involved the possibility of conspiracy to receive stolen property and tax fraud.

Render, who was being held in Polk County Jail Friday night, "refused to answer questions on the grounds that it may incriminate her," District Judge Harry Perkins, jr., said.

The judge said, "The question she refused to answer was if she had

brought the checks subpoenaed." He ruled her answer had "no merited grounds for incrimination" and ordered her jailed until Monday when another hearing is scheduled.

Asst. Polk County Atty. Mike Hanson, who is handling the case before the grand jury, said it involves an investigation of an alleged shoplifting ring and about \$24,000 worth of stolen property.

Hanson said the prosecutors were investigating others and were not interested in pressing any charges against Render.

Named mediator

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The foreign ministers of Honduras and El Salvador Friday agreed to name a distinguished Latin American jurist, Argentine Eduardo Roca, to act as mediator in their countries' long standing dispute.

GAO REPORTS NIXON STAFF MISUSED MONEY

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — Former President Richard Nixon's White House staff used Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) money to answer letters and spent money without proper receipts, according to an audit report released Friday.

The General Accounting Office (GAO) audit was requested by President Ford's counsel, Philip W. Buchen, and was publicly released by Chairman Jack Brooks (Dem., Tex.) of the House Government Operations Committee.

It said the White House transferred \$33,656 from the CIA to pay costs of answering letters after the 1970 Cambodia invasion, without getting required congressional approval for the fund transfer.

The GAO said no annual office equipment inventories were made during Nixon's five years in the White House and said its own inventory showed 58 typewriters worth \$18,000 missing or unaccounted for.

The auditors said many payments were made without proper documentation, such as a \$2,739 check for a dinner party paid only on the basis of a handwritten note.

A sampling of payments the first year found 19 per cent did not have proper authorization or receipts, the GAO audit said. It said by 1974 that had risen to 61 per cent.

In releasing the report, Brooks said Buchen has reported taking a number of corrective actions to assure proper accounting of White House funds.

Brooks said "the total lack of accountability of public funds documented by this GAO report is further evidence of the arrogance of Nixon and his White House henchmen and their contempt for the American people."

Judge orders Mumford mistrial

Polk County District Judge Robert Allbee ruled a mistrial Friday in the manslaughter case against Gary Dean Mumford, 25, of Greeley, Colo., after the jury was unable to reach a unanimous verdict.

Mumford, formerly of Des Moines, was arrested here last June in connection with the Feb. 27 death of Richard R. Anderson, 26, of 1134 E. Ninth St. Anderson died after a beating in his apartment Feb. 18.

The jury deliberated for about seven hours. Allbee said Mumford could post either a \$30,000 surety bond or a \$3,000 cash bond.

Asst. Polk County Atty. Richard G. Blaine, who prosecuted the case, said it would be retried.

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