

PHILA. NAVY MAN AIDS IN GEM HUNT

Lieut. Com. W. B. Phillips Helps New York Police Seeking Divorcee's \$500,000 in Jewels

COTTAGE WAS ALSO ROBBED

Lieutenant Commander W. B. Phillips, of the Philadelphia Navy Yard, is aiding the New York police in their efforts to solve the mysterious \$500,000 jewel robbery committed early this week at the home of Mrs. Charlotte King Palmer.

The lieutenant commander is a friend of the beautiful divorcee and former show girl, and with others is said to have called on Mrs. Palmer at her home, 59 East Ninetieth street, New York city, and her Long Beach summer home.

Commander Phillips today refused to comment in any way on the mysterious robbery early last Tuesday morning, when three men bound and gagged Mrs. Palmer's maid and butler, then trussed up Mrs. Palmer in her bathroom and took all her jewels.

SECOND SUICIDE IN HOUSE

Man Dies in Same Way as Former Tenant

Marshall G. Watis, thirty-seven years old, an insurance agent, of Ontario street, near Seventh, committed suicide last night in his bedroom by taking gas.

His wife found him in bed, with one end of a rubber tube in his mouth, and the other attached to the jet. He was pronounced dead in Samaritan Hospital.

The police said the man who previously occupied the house ended his life in the same room in the same way. Watis had been in ill health over a year.

War Veteran's Funeral Tomorrow

The funeral of John Stoffel, twenty-two years old, a war veteran, who was crushed to death between two cars Wednesday night on the Atlantic City Railroad while employed as a brakeman, will be held tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock at his home, 2973 Congress street, Fairview, N. J.

Frederick Kuhne, connected with a private detective agency at 305 Broadway, New York city, said that on the morning of November 9 he received a telephone call.

"Are you a fingerprint expert? I have been given to understand so," a man's voice asked.

"Yes, sir," said Kuhne. "I was formerly with Inspector Panout at police headquarters, and fingerprint work is my specialty. Who is this?"

"This is Lieutenant-Commander Phillips, U. S. N.," Kuhne says the other told him. "A friend of mine down here at Long Beach has been robbed, and we want to see if the three left any marks behind."

Mr. Kuhne said he made an appointment to go to Long Beach the following day. He said he met Commander Phillips at the station.

"I was presented to Mrs. Palmer, a handsome, charming woman, who was sitting in a luxurious sedan automobile," continued Kuhne. "She drove me to her home, 52 Beach street."

The private detective said he was shown a closet where the liquor had been stored. It also contained fur and lingerie which had not been distributed. Kuhne said he dusted black powder over the white surface of the closet and found three fingerprints.

Service Man Suspected

Replying to a question from Commander Phillips, according to Kuhne Mrs. Palmer said the man she suspected of the liquor theft had been in the service, one in the army the other in the navy. Commander Phillips replied it would be easy for him to get the fingerprints of the two men from the government records at Washington.

Detectives believe there may be a connection between the liquor theft early this month and the mysterious jewel robbery last Tuesday.

The pearl necklace which Mrs. Palmer says was pulled from her neck had 216 pearls strung from a large pearl-shaped pearl chain and had been bought in Paris for \$200,000.

Other jewels stolen included two hairpins, set with diamonds; a platinum bracelet set with diamonds and sapphires; platinum hosiery brooch, set with diamonds; gold mesh bag, set with diamonds; gold purse and gold pencil.

Five double fur pieces also were taken by the robbers.

Lieutenant Commander Phillips is assigned to the machinery division at the navy yard. He graduated from Annapolis in 1911 and served on destroyers overseas during the war.

Fire DO LITTLE DAMAGE

Unoccupied Homes Burn — Cigar Causes Another Blaze

Fire of an unknown origin was discovered shortly after midnight in the unoccupied two and one-half story frame dwelling at 359 North Sixteenth street. Firemen from the Sixty-first and Thompson streets engine house responded. The damage is estimated at less than \$50. Sparks from a cigar on a cigarette are believed to have caused the fire which was discovered in the two-story frame stable near Fifty-ninth and Gibson streets early last evening. The damage is estimated at about \$200. The building was owned by a Frank Rockwood.

Never seen before. The man drew a revolver from his pocket. "You're a fine fellow, and I want to reward you," the intruder said, according to Kelly, and then shot. The bullet entered Kelly's mouth and penetrated his head.

Despite the wound, the bartender made an effort to reach his assailant and grapple with him. The man calmly snatched a Kelly's staggering gun and, returning the weapon to his pocket, left through a door leading to the street.

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