

Blood Patch Clue In Carrier's Death?

Discovered Where Boy Vanished

By WILLIAM E. ANDERSON
And JOHN M. BOOTH

A dried patch of blood discovered last night by two brothers of a slain newspaper carrier, a reporter from The Indianapolis Star and a family friend, appeared to be the first clue in the vicious, early Saturday murder.

The blood was found about a foot from the curb in front of 12 Harris Avenue, the site from which 10-year-old Jerry M. (Mike) Bayles disappeared about 6 a.m. Saturday.

THE INDIANAPOLIS Police Department identification crew is testing the blood sample, which was about 12 inches long and 3 inches wide.

Lt. Jack Palmer, who responded to a call from the brothers, Gordon (Bud) 15, and John, 13, and the reporter, said it would definitely

pinpoint the location of the stabbing which resulted in the boy's death.

Meanwhile, Indianapolis police began officially to investigate the murder at 4:30 p.m. yesterday, on orders of Alan B. Kimbell, director of public safety.

This was almost 24 hours after the victim's body was identified by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry B. Bayles, 3028 West Jackson Street.

THE BLOOD DISCOVERY occurred as the brothers, the reporter and Charles R. Johns, 23, 309 South Polk Avenue, were retracing the route the boy was believed to have followed prior to his disappearance.

It was determined the youth was missing when his bicycle and all but two of his newspapers were found in front of the home of William H. Johnson of the Harris Avenue address, one of Mike's customers.

The boy's body, stabbed several times in the abdomen and back, was found about 9 a.m. Saturday on a country road near Knightstown, 40 miles from his residence.

HE DISAPPEARED early Saturday while delivering The Indianapolis Star near his home.

He was identified by his parents about 7 p.m. Saturday.

But Indianapolis homicide detectives said they did not start an immediate investigation because they had no evidence the boy was slain in Indianapolis.

Kimbell told police to "do anything possible" when he conferred with acting Captain of the Homicide Division Lt. Patrick E. Uberta, after Kimbell was reached by reporters.

A \$5,000 REWARD for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the slayer was offered Saturday by Eugene C. Pulliam, publisher of The Star and The Indianapolis News.

An additional \$50 reward was offered yesterday by employees of the Indianapolis Transit System Inc., according to

Turn to Page 12, Column 3



Gordon Bayles