

Hunt Clues in Paper Carrier's Death Near City

The search for clues in the murder of Indianapolis newspaper carrier Mike Bayles shifted to Greenfield today with word that officials had received a tip from a Hancock County woman claiming she saw the boy in a car with two men on the southside the morning he was murdered.

State Police Capt. Robert K. Gray, in charge of the investigation, said the unidentified woman may be able to identify the men.

Lt. R. Wayne Hall, also of the state police, confirmed that investigators are combing the area south of Greenfield along Ind. 9 for possible clues in the Oct. 3 abduction and subsequent murder of the 10-year-old boy.

The boy's nude body was near Ind. 109 in Henry County leading police to now believe that he possibly passed through Greenfield with his abductors prior to the murder.

Hall said the state police have received numerous tips from the Hancock County area and are in the process of canvassing the area to determine if they can be linked together.

State police officials will be talking to area residents throughout the day, Hall added.

A farmer turned in a butcher knife yesterday to Hancock County Sheriff Robert E. Sebastian that the sheriff then turned over to state police for analysis, Hall said.

The knife was reportedly

found near McCordsville and appeared to have some type of stain on the blade, possibly blood.

Hall noted that since the intensive investigation began over 10 knives have been turned in, all found not to be linked with the crime.

The female tipster reportedly told police she was driving north on Ind. 9 near Park Cemetery on the southside the morning of the murder and spotted a late 1950 model car parked on the east side of the road facing south.

She described the man as wearing a dark blue or denim jacket and pants. She wrote in her letter that he was in his 20's or 30's and that she had to stop to avoid hitting him as he crossed the road.

The man walked toward the passenger side of the car, she explained, and appeared to be mumbling while searching for his car keys.

She then spotted another man coming across the road dressed like the first weighing not more than 145 and about the same height as the first, 5 foot 7 or 8.

She claimed the boy was seated in the front of the car with a frightened expression on his face.

The woman said she knew the incident should have been reported earlier and she was sorry she hadn't.

Hall declined to comment on the worth of the woman's tip but indicated the canvassing and searching of the Greenfield area is "intense."