

Star Gets 'Promising' Tip In Bayles Slaying

By R. JOSEPH GELARDEN

Investigators yesterday described as "promising" a report that a frightened child resembling murdered newspaper carrier Jerry M. (Mike) Bayles was seen being driven on a country road near Greenfield the day Mike was abducted.

The tip was contained in one of many letters that continued to come into The Indianapolis Star yesterday in connection with the Bayles case.

THE BOY, being driven in a late 1950s model car, was peering through the window with a "terrible, wild-like, frightened expression on his face," the writer said.

The writer, who asked to remain anonymous to the public, reported realizing the child was 10-year-old Mike after seeing his picture in The Star Oct. 4—the day after the kidnap-murder.

"I have been sick ever since," the tipster wrote.

Investigators attached significance to

the tip both because the writer believes to have recognized the victim and because of the description of the car in which he was riding.

A WITNESS at the abduction scene — near West Washington Street and Harris Avenue — reported seeing the child struggling to get away from a man driving a dusty car. It was described as model of the 1950s.

Meanwhile, the number of letters received by The Star—from several parts of Indiana — reached 36 yesterday.

Some of the writers suggested the carrier may have been abducted and murdered because he had witnessed a crime.

DETECTIVE Sgt. Robert J. Tirmenstein said investigators have considered since early in the Bayles probe the theory the child may have witnessed a crime.

In another development, Capt. Raymond A. Koers, head of the police hom-

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