

INDIANAPOLIS STAR

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Missing Molester Sought In Bayles Quiz

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ful" in failing to report Schmidt's disappearance to police until five days after it had occurred—despite the fact that Schmidt was an accused molester of young boys.

SCHMIDT WAS committed in August, 1969, to Norman W. Beatty Hospital at Westville as a criminal sexual psychopath.

The commitment order came in Marion Criminal Court, Division 1, after Schmidt was indicted on charges of sodomy in a case involving dozens of young boys on the Eastside.

Later he was transferred to Central State.

The Indiana Department of Mental Health told the court that tests on Schmidt over a 60-day period indicated he was incompetent to stand trial.

Schmidt, formerly of 1349 North LaSalle Street, and Donald L. Strange, then 30, 4619 East 10th Street, were arrested in February, 1969, after police reported finding a cache of indecently posed pictures of young boys in Strange's Eastside sign shop.

STRANGE WAS sentenced to serve a prison term of 2-14 years in connection with the case.

In seeking to trace Schmidt, Indiana authorities said yesterday, the Florida

State Highway Patrol was asked to question his relatives in Florida, but that request has failed to turn up any clues to his whereabouts.

"We definitely want to talk to Schmidt about the Bayles case," said Gray.

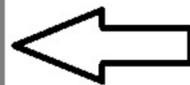
Authorities said they also wanted to question hospital aides to learn as much as possible about Schmidt's activities on the weekend of the Bayles kidnap and murder.

Dr. Keating confirmed that investi-

gators assigned to the Bayles case had gone over Schmidt's hospital file as late as last Friday.

The reward fund established in the Bayles case by Eugene C. Pulliam, publisher of The Indianapolis Star and The Indianapolis News with a \$5,000 pledge, has reached more than \$7,000.

The reward money will go to anyone supplying information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who killed young Bayles.



NOTE: The hand written address correction is in both the Indiana State Library micro film files and on Newspapers.com archives.