

## Garcia Quizzed In Slaying, Held 'Not Much Of Suspect'

Albert Garcia was described as "not much of a suspect" yesterday after detectives questioned him for two hours in connection with the stabbing murder of Jerry M. (Mike) Bayles.

Police said Garcia has not been ruled out as a suspect in the murder, but said he gave them "a pretty good alibi" for his whereabouts when the boy was slain Oct. 3.

**GARCIA, 47,** was brought to Indianapolis Monday from Bowling Green, Ky., by detectives on warrants accusing him of sexually molesting two carriers of The Indianapolis Star last January.

He was questioned yesterday in connection with the slaying of 10-year-old Jerry, whose body was found in a field near Knightstown several hours after he was abducted while delivering The Star on the Westside.

State Police Sgt. Chester Enlow said investigators are awaiting a "written report" from Bowling Green and also will talk to two other persons Garcia said could corroborate his story.

**ENLOW SAID HE** could not divulge what Garcia had to say until investigators have checked out various elements of Garcia's story.

Enlow said Garcia, who was ques-

tioned at Indianapolis Police Headquarters, may be given a polygraph (lie detector) test later.

Capt. Edward W. Clouse of the Indianapolis Police Department said a 58-year-old convicted sex offender was questioned and released yesterday.

**CLOUSE SAID** other known sex offenders would be questioned to learn if they have any knowledge of Jerry's murder.

Capt. Robert K. Gray, head of the State Police Criminal Investigations Division, said he has assigned two more men to the case full-time, bringing to nine the number of investigators working full-time on the case. Six are state policemen and three are Indianapolis policemen.

Gray said investigators have failed to locate the murder weapon or any of the boy's clothing.

**MEANWHILE,** the Jerry Bayles Reward Fund increased to \$6,374.32.

The latest contributors and the amount are as follows: Janet E. Yosha, 511 Wellington Road, \$10; Mr. and Mrs. Max Bentley, 6632 East 43d Place, \$5; Thomas J. Vorhies, Beverly E. Vorhies, 543 North Gray Street, \$3, and employes of Indianapolis Newspapers Inc. Transportation Department, \$52.