

# Secret witness tip leads cops to loot

A "complete and sound case" for prosecution in the second Chicago murder mystery to be solved by The SUN-TIMES \$100,000 "Secret Witness" plan was announced by the state's attorney's office.

The announcement came after investigators found, in a pawn shop at 309 S. Clark St., two rings and a watch stolen by the slayers of John Onesto, 72, in his cobbler shop at 2103 Taylor St.

The jewelry had been pawned by John Groth, 21, one of four young men charged with the murder after being named in secret information supplied by SUN-TIMES readers.

## \$5,000 to be paid

A \$5,000 reward for the information will be paid by this newspaper, upon conviction of the killers.

Another reward of the same amount will be paid, on conviction, for tips that brought solution last

Related stories on pages 11, 12 and 13

week of the murder of Herman Engelhard.

Capt. Daniel Gilbert, chief investigator for the state's attorney, gave full credit to The SUN-TIMES "Secret Witness" plan for solving both the Onesto and Engelhard murders.

He said, in discussing recovery of the Onesto jewelry:

"That is the wrap-up in this one. The jewelry will be corroborative evidence for the two confessions we already have in the murder."

He added that relatives of two fugitives, Groth and Chris Lee, 27, had promised him the two youths would surrender soon. The confessions have been obtained from Vito Zaccagnini and John Barabaro, each 22, who testified before a grand jury.

## Pawned Jan. 15

The Clark St. pawn shop owner, Julius Gunther, turned the Onesto jewelry over to Sgt. Nick Disteldorf and Det. Walter Rusing. It consisted of a 17-jewel wrist watch, an onyx ring with the initials "J" and a yellow gold ring with a diamond and onyx setting.

Gunther's records showed Groth pledged the valuables, claiming them for his own, last Jan. 15, and obtained \$14.

He came in two weeks ago and tried to sell me the stuff outright for another \$5. Gunther recalled he turned him down because he was overstocked.

Capt. Gilbert said his men recovered the jewelry after

(Continued on Page 22)





