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Woman Painter Shot and Killed On Canal Towpath in Capital

Mrs. Mary Pinchot Meyer Was a Friend of Mrs. Kennedy —Suspect Is Arraigned

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 13 — Mrs. Mary Pinchot Meyer, a Washington artist and society woman, was shot and killed yesterday.

The police arrested Raymond Crump Jr., a 25-year-old laborer, and charged him with murder.

Mrs. Meyer, 43 years old, was shot twice in the left temple and in the chest as she walked alone on the Old Chesapeake and Ohio Canal towpath in Georgetown. She died at about 12:15 P.M.

The towpath, a pedestrian and bicycling route frequented by children and fishermen, parallels the Potomac River. Mrs. Meyer had sometimes taken a walk there with Mrs. John F. Kennedy, Mrs. Meyer's friend, said.

Mrs. Kennedy, who now lives in New York, was described as a good friend of Mrs. Meyer.

Mrs. Meyer's brother-in-law, Benjamin C. Bradlee, identified the body. He is the Washington bureau chief of Newsweek magazine. Mrs. Meyer was Mrs. Bradlee's sister. Mr. Bradlee was a close friend of President Kennedy.

The victim was the divorced wife of Cord Meyer Jr., a writer and founder of the United World Federalists, now employed here by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Niece of Conservationist

Mrs. Meyer's uncle, Gifford Pinchot, was widely regarded as the founder of conservation and of forestry in this country. He headed the United States Forest Service under President Theodore Roosevelt and was later Governor of Pennsylvania.

The driver of an automobile tow truck along Canal Road, which runs parallel to the towpath, enabled the Metropolitan Police to make a quick arrest of the suspect.

He was arraigned late yesterday before a United States Commissioner and held without bail on a charge of murder. He denied any knowledge of the crime.

The police said the motive



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Mrs. Mary Pinchot Meyer

apparently was robbery or assault.

The tow truck operator, Henry Wiggins, 21, told the police he had seen a woman, apparently Mrs. Meyer, struggling with a man.

He heard screams and two shots, and then saw a man bending over the body. He drove quickly a half mile to the nearest telephone.

The suspect was apprehended an hour later on the Potomac. He was seen shooting scene. He had fallen while trying to climb a utility pole.

Jacket Is Identified

The police said that Crump also identified a white jacket found near the scene as her husband's. The witness said the assailant was wearing a white jacket.

Divers were searching the canal and river bank for the murder weapon.

The Meyers were divorced five years ago following the death of a son in an automobile accident, acquaintances said.

They have two other sons, Quentin, 18, a student at the Salisbury School in Salisbury, Conn., and Mark, 11, at Milton Academy in Milton, Mass.

Mr. Meyer was a graduate of Vassar College. Her father, the late Amos R. Pinchot, was a liberal Republican and was Deputy Assistant to the Attorney General in New York City. She broke with the Republican Party in 1912 and joined the Democratic Party.