

Swiss Study Death of Doctor Involved in the Jordan Mystery

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GENEVA, Dec. 13—The authorities in Zurich have been investigating the death of Prof. Ernst Hardmeier, one of the two Swiss doctors who examined the body of Charles H. Jordan, the executive vice chairman of the American Joint Distribution Committee, whose body was found in the Vltava River in Prague last August.

Dr. Hardmeier, the 63-year-old head of Legal Medical Institute of Zurich, was found dead Sunday in a field about 500 yards from his locked car in the mountains overlooking the Lake of Zurich.

Because of the suspicion that Mr. Jordan was the victim of foul play, the absence of an immediate explanation for the death of Dr. Hardmeier has caused speculation that it may have been connected with his investigation into Mr. Jordan's death.

However, a Zurich police of-

ficial said tonight that the two deaths were unrelated. He declined to elaborate pending the publication of an official statement tomorrow.

Dr. Hardmeier and his Swiss colleague, Dr. Alexander Gornik, went to Prague at the request of the Joint Distribution Committee, a Jewish refugee relief organization.

They confirmed the official Czechoslovak finding that Mr. Jordan had died of drowning, but because of the advanced state of decomposition of the body they made no judgment on whether foul play had preceded the drowning.

At a memorial service for Mr. Jordan a month after his death, Mordechai Kidron, Israeli Ambassador to the international organizations in Geneva, said that Mr. Jordan had been the victim of a "crime that must not go unpunished."