

EB19DN

(TEX.OUT) (310)

HOUSTON, TEX., JAN. 26 (AP)-A SHAPELY HOUSEWIFE WHO WAS TO HAVE BEEN A KEY WITNESS IN A CALL GIRL INQUIRY DIED MYSTERIOUSLY AND WAS BURIED ON THE EVE OF A SPECIAL GRAND JURY PROBE.

WORD OF THE 27-YEAR-OLD WOMAN'S DEATH--SUSPECTED BY POLICE TO INVOLVE FOUL PLAY--WAS FIRST REPORTED TODAY BY THE HOUSTON POST.

MRS. SANDRA TURNER WINDHAM, WHO DIED IN A HOSPITAL JAN. 17, HAD BEEN GIVING INFORMATION TO SGT. C. W. MUNRO OF THE POLICE VICE SQUAD FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, THE OFFICER TOLD THE POST.

"I REGRET HER DEATH IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS," MUNRO SAID. "FOR ONE THING, I HOPE THE INVESTIGATION DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO IT, AND FOR ANOTHER THING, I HOPE SHE WASN'T MURDERED BECAUSE SHE TALKED TO ME."

THE DEATH OF MRS. WINDHAM, ALSO KNOWN AS SANDRA MORVANT AND AS SANDRA HAIRELL, WAS LISTED IN THE POLICE HOMICIDE OFFICE AS "DEAD WOMAN--SUICIDE ATTEMPT."

DR. JOSEPH A. JACHIMCZYK, COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER, SAID, HOWEVER, HE WAS CONTINUING TO INVESTIGATE THE CAUSE OF DEATH.

NUMEROUS WITNESSES WERE CALLED BEFORE THE GRAND JURY AND QUESTIONED LAST WEDNESDAY ABOUT CALL GIRL OPERATIONS HERE.

"I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THIS INVESTIGATION FOR THREE YEARS AND MRS. WINDHAM FURNISHED ME A LOT OF INFORMATION," MUNRO SAID.

"I SUSPECT FOUL PLAY. HER DEATH WAS CONVENIENT FOR A LOT OF PEOPLE."

THE POST ALSO REPORTED THAT "MANY PROMINENT HOUSTONIANS, ALLEGED TO BE CUSTOMERS OF CALL GIRLS HERE, ARE BEING QUESTIONED PRIVATELY BY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATORS." ITS NEWS STORY ADDED:

EB20DN

"THE NAMES OF SOME WELL KNOWN HOUSTON MEN WERE FOUND IN A THICK BOOK WHICH LISTED THEIR ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THEY WOULD PAY FOR A DATE."

THE GRAND JURY WAS EXPECTED TO HEAR MORE TESTIMONY TODAY.

MUNRO SAID HE WAS LOOKING FOR ANOTHER YOUNG WOMAN WHO HAS BEEN MISSING FROM HOUSTON FOR ABOUT A WEEK.

"I HAVE A GRAND JURY SUBPOENA FOR MYRTLE RAYE GRUBBS, WHO ALSO IS KNOWN AS JILL THOMPSON," HE SAID. "SHE MAY BE IN CORPUS CHRISTI, BUT WHEREVER SHE IS, I NEED HER TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE GRAND JURY IN THIS INVESTIGATION."

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EB73 (LA FW)

NIGHT LEAD CALL GIRLS (190)

HOUSTON, TEX., JAN. 26 (AP)-A SECOND HOUSEWIFE WHO DIED OF AN APPARENT OVERDOSE OF PILLS ALSO HAD BEEN GIVING INFORMATION TO THE HOUSTON POLICE VICE SQUAD, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY.

HER DEATH CAME BEFORE THE CURRENT GRAND JURY INVESTIGATION OF HOUSTON CALL GIRL ACTIVITIES, THE HOUSTON POST REPORTED.

THE GIRL WAS MRS. IVEY PEARL DAVIS, A 23-YEAR-OLD BROWN-EYED MODEL. DR. JOSEPH A. JACHIMCZYK, THE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER, RULED HER DEATH A SUICIDE, CAUSED BY "BARBITURATE POISONING."

THE FIRST HOUSEWIFE POISONING WAS THAT OF MRS. SANDRA TURNER WINDHAM, WHO DIED OF AN APPARENT OVERDOSE OF PILLS JAN. 17.

HER DEATH REMAINED UNEXPLAINED TODAY, AND DR. JACHIMCZYK SAID HE WAS WITHHOLDING A VERDICT PENDING FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

THE TWO WOMEN HAD SEVERAL THINGS IN COMMON. BOTH WERE THE MOTHERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN, BOTH WERE HOUSEWIVES WHO WORKED OUTSIDE THE HOME AND BOTH HAD FURNISHED INFORMATION TO THE VICE SQUAD AT VARIOUS TIMES.

MRS. WINDHAM, 27, WAS TO HAVE BEEN A KEY WITNESS IN LAST WEEK'S SPECIAL GRAND JURY INVESTIGATION OF CALL GIRL OPERATIONS HERE, SAID SGT. C. W. MUNRO OF THE VICE SQUAD.

MRS. DAVIS DIED TOO LONG AGO TO HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED A POTENTIAL GRAND JURY WITNESS, BUT WAS DEFINITELY GIVING INFORMATION TO VICE SQUAD OFFICERS, SAID POLICE LT. W. T. HIGGINS.

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