



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Inky toes

Six-month-old Colin Tufts had his footprints checked by McGruff, the Crime Prevention Dog who's out to "Take a bite out of crime" as Colin's mom, Dasa, looked on. Saturday was Child Find Day at Milton Mall, sponsored by National Trust. Activities included face painting, free balloons and other costumed characters.

## Thousands sign petition about violent offenders

By KAREN SMITH  
The Champion

Thousands of Miltonians supported a 12,000-signature petition calling on the government to inform the public when violent crime offenders are released from prison.

The petition was circulated in Milton and several other municipalities following the slaying of 16-year-old Pamela Cameron.

The former E.C. Drury High School student's sister Deanna Cameron, 23, of Milton said she believes the public has a right to know when such offenders are released back into society so citizens can better prepare themselves.

She said such a law could have prevented the death of her sister. "I think people could have watched their kids more closely."

Pamela, who had recently moved from Milton to South Surrey, British Columbia with her family, was found suffocated to death in a wooded area near her new home October 5.

She disappeared the day before while walking to a service station to

visit her boyfriend.

South Surrey RCMP allege her killer was a man released last November from Ontario's Kingston Penitentiary, where he had served time for sexual assault. The man has been charged with first-degree murder.

The petition, signed by residents of Milton, Mississauga and major cities such as Ottawa and Montreal, has been sent to the federal government through MP Bonnie Brown.

Ms Cameron said the support received by volunteers who collected signatures, and those who signed it, was tremendous.

A grade 11 E.C. Drury High School law class looked after collecting the majority of signatures in Milton. Volunteers approached students and knocked on local doors.

Pam's longtime boyfriend, Mark Dunlop, 19, sought signatures at Milton Mall. Another friend of the family, Andrea Carr, 23, of Milton was also instrumental in the project, Ms Cameron said.

"Most people believed highly in it and if they could, they would have signed it 100 times," she said.

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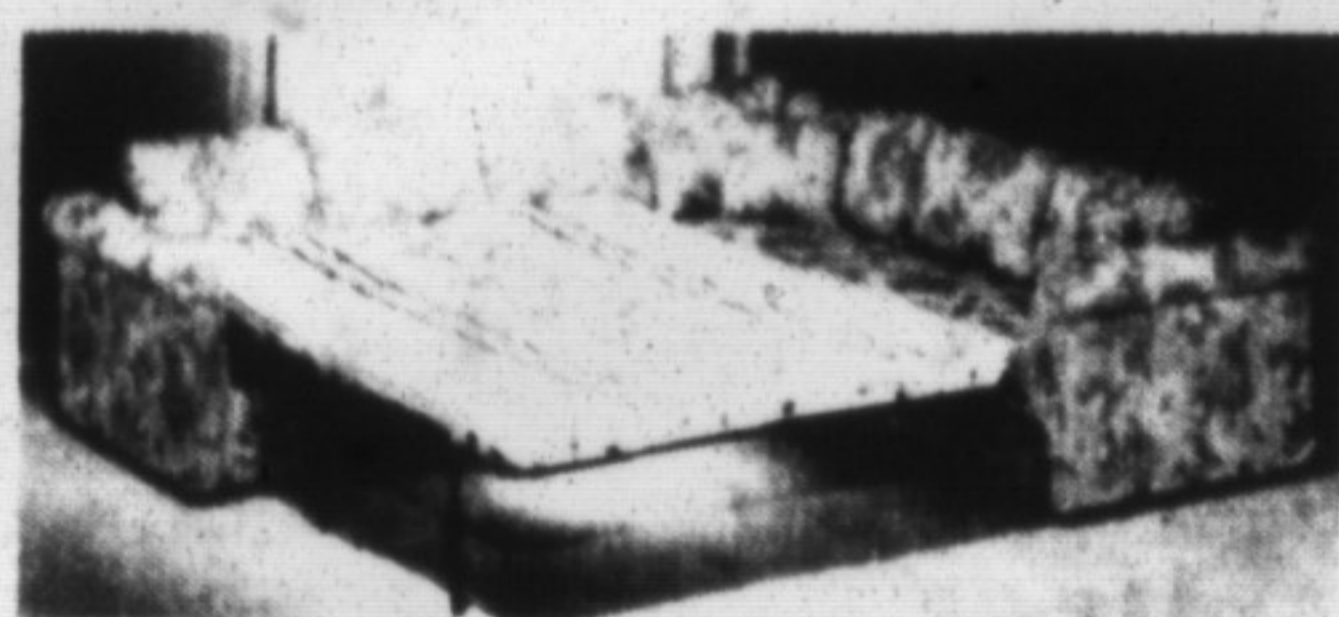
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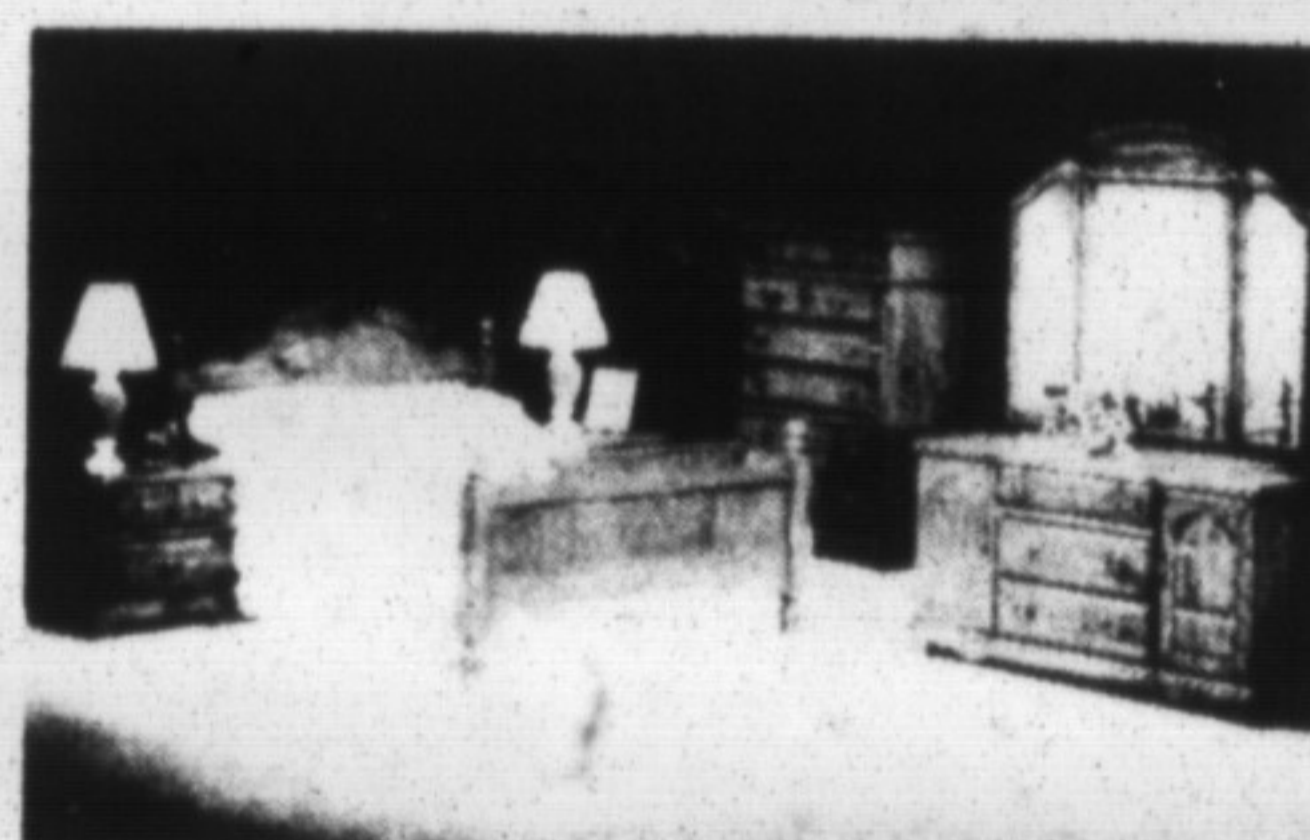
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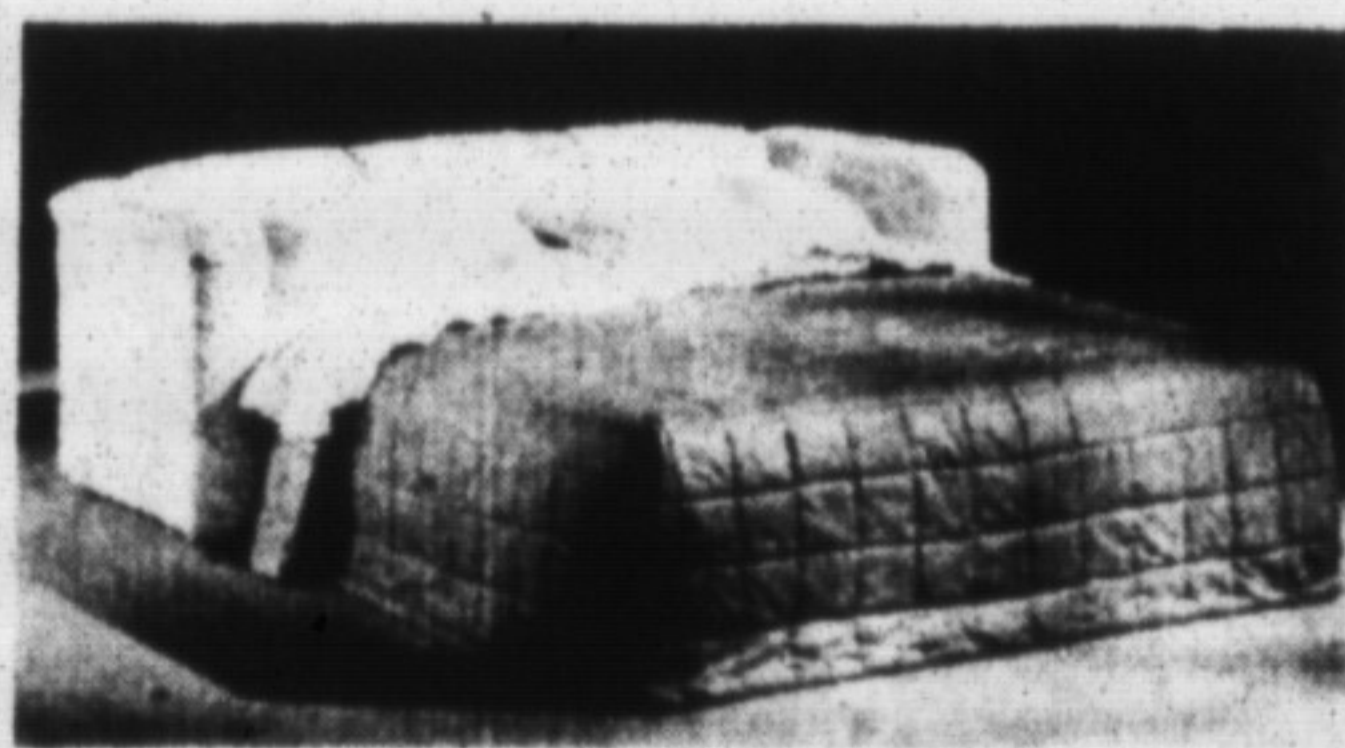
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