

Cleared in murder

Douglas Moore chronicles his ordeal

Former Whitchurch-Stouffville resident Douglas Moore, officially cleared May 11 of the murder of his wife, prepared his own chronological account of his 2½-year ordeal. The text follows:

Nov. 4, 1984 — Motor vehicle accident occurs on family property in Lemonville; Mr. Moore's wife dies.

Nov. 5, '84 — An autopsy is performed by Dr. C.N. Iland of York Central Hospital; cause of death is determined to be drowning.

Dec. 10, '84 — Mr. Moore is arrested for second-degree murder; arresting officers are Peter Thompson and Randy Horne of York Regional Police. Dave Humphrey and Phil Pat-

erson are retained as defense counsel.

Dec. 17, '84 — Bail hearing is held; the charge is upped to first-degree murder. Bail is granted, \$150,000 promissory note with surety and sign-in weekly.

Feb. 1, 1985 — Mr. Moore, an IMB Canada senior manager, is dismissed from the company.

Mar. 11, '85 — Dave Humphrey is appointed judgeship and resigns the case.

Mar. 21, '85 — Mr. Moore is informed that police have discovered bullet fragments allegedly taken from Barbara Moore's body.

May 22, '85 — Out of court settlement of a wrongful dismissal lawsuit is made by IBM.

June 30-July 3, '85 — Preliminary inquiry is conducted with major focus on bullet fragments. The prosecutor is Larry Owen. Judge V.A. Lampkin adjourns hearing to Nov. 27, 1985.

Nov. 22, '85 — Dr. Fred Jaffe, a pathologist expert in gunshot wounds, is called by the defence and offers an expert opinion that the bullet fragments did not come from Mrs. Moore's head, that a major error on the part of the hospital had occurred.

Nov. 27, '85 — Final arguments are made to Judge Lampkin and the preliminary inquiry is adjourned to Dec. 20, 1985, for a decision.

Dec. 20, '85 — Mr. Moore is committed to trial, again with major focus in the judgement on bullet fragments; date for trial

would be subsequently set for Sept. 2, 1986.

Feb., 1986 — Bill Parker is retained as defence counsel; Phil Patterson remains on the case.

July/Aug., '86 — Police investigate at the hospital to determine if mix-up of bullet sample was possible. The Crown solicits further expert medical opinions.

Sept. 2, '86 — Trial is adjourned to Jan. 5, 1987, to allow Crown further time to complete investigation. Bail is reduced by Justice J.D. Watt to \$75,000 promissory note on Mr. Moore's own recognizance with sign-in monthly.

Dec. 19, '86 — Defence requests indictment be quashed, conditional on the return of the case to preliminary hearing. Justice Watt takes the position

that the decision lies with the Crown, who are in a position to stay the charge. Mr. Owen indicates bullet is no longer part of the Crown's case.

Jan. 5, '87 — Trial is adjourned to May 11, 1987. A meeting is held between Mr. Patterson, Mr. Owen and Judge Lampkin. Agreement is reached to reopen preliminary inquiry, with a date subsequently set for April 14, 1987.

Mar. 28, '87 — Submission made to Attorney-General Ian Scott by defence counsel to stay the first-degree murder charge.

Apr. 3, '87 — Formal notification from Mr. Owen that the charge would be withdrawn at the next assize, May 11, 1987.

May 11, '87 — Charge withdrawn.

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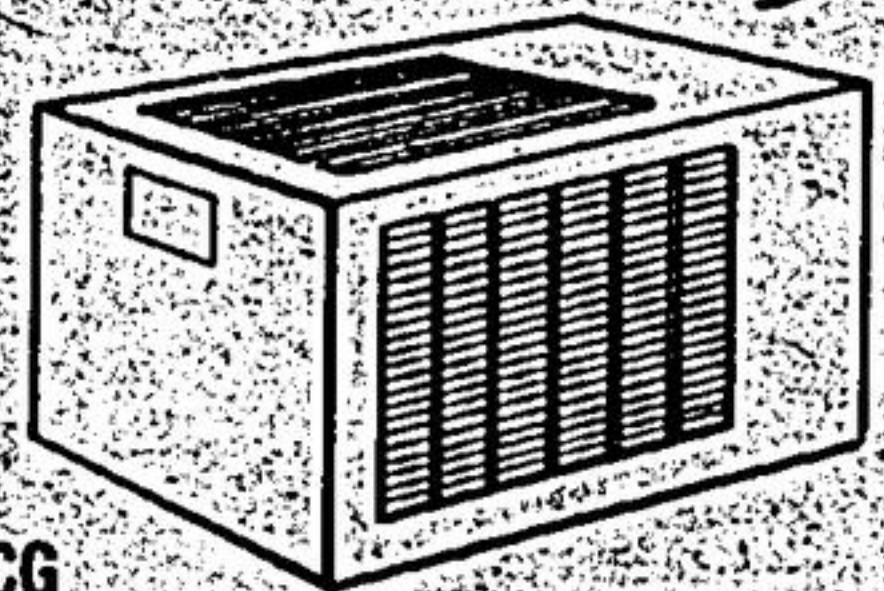
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