

Appendix C
Emson's Autopsy
Report



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ST. PAUL'S HOSPITAL (Grey Nuns) OF SASKATOON

AUTOPSY REPORT

Name MILLER, Miss Gail Age 20 years Sex F Serial No. 111-7-69
 Service _____ Ward D.O.A. Pathologist Dr. H.E.Emson
 Date of Admission D.O.A. 31 January, 1969 Date of Death 31 January, 1969 Date of Autopsy 31 January, 1969
D. S. Fowl - Coroner Autopsy Approximately 7 hours after Death

ANATOMICAL DIAGNOSIS

STAB WOUNDS AND HEMOTHORAX

1. Stab Wounds of Chest:
 - (a) Left Clavicular Region.
 - (b) Lower Left Chest-Anterior.
 - (c) Right Chest - Lateral and Posterior.
2. Lacerations of Anterior Cervical Region.
3. Hemothorax - Right.
4. Positive for Spermatozoa - Vaginal Fluid.
5. Chronic Cervicitis - (Moderate).

NOTES:

This 20 year old girl, who was a nursing assistant at the City Hospital, Saskatoon, was alleged to have been found dead in a lane on the west side of Saskatoon at approximately 8:30 a.m., on the 31 January 1969. Autopsy showed:

- (a) Death was due to right sided hemothorax resulting from one of several stab wounds to the chest.
- (b) The stab wounds were inflicted by a narrow bladed weapon approximately 1.5 cms. in width penetrating to a depth of approximately 7.0 cms.
- (c) The vagina contained non-motile spermatozoa.

H.E. Emson M.A., M.D.
Pathologist

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Sent out February 13, 1969

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AUTOPSY REPORT—Continued

Name MILLER, Miss Gail Serial No. HL-7-69 Page 2IDENTIFICATION:

The body was first seen in the Emergency Department of St. Paul's Hospital at approximately 10:30 a.m. on 31st January, 1969. At this time the following points were noted:

1. The exposed portions of the body, consisting of the face, hands, anterior thorax, left thigh, and right leg, thigh, and foot, were frozen and firm to the touch.
2. The face was distorted and depressions were present in the frozen skin just lateral to each angle of the mouth. The skin was not broken or bruised in these regions, which each measured about 1.5 cm. in diameter and 1.5 cms. in depth.
3. The body was clothed as described below.

The body was identified to me in the morgue of St. Paul's Hospital at 2:40 p.m., on 31st January, 1969 by Identification Officer T.H. Kloiv of Saskatoon City Police, and an autopsy commenced forthwith on the order of Dr. S. Fogal, Coroner in and for the Province of Saskatchewan. Identification Officer T.H. Kloiv and Lieutenant J. Penkala of Saskatoon City Police were present throughout the autopsy.

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION:

Showed the body of a young white female appearing compatible with her stated age of 20 years. There was moderate hypostasis over dorsal surfaces and rigor mortis was commencing in the hands and neck. The pupils were round, equal and each measured 4 mm. in diameter. The body was well developed and well nourished. It was well kept and clean. External injuries were present as follows:

1. On the anterior surface of the neck and upper chest were a group of incisions totalling approximately 15. These ranged from superficial scratches on the skin to two incisions which divided the skin and subcutaneous tissues and exposed the superficial muscles of the neck. The incisions ran in general from above on the left to below on the right side, commencing superiorly in the left infra-auricular region and terminating inferiorly beneath the right clavicle. Some were vertical and a few were angled from above on the right to below on the left. They involved the entire anterior surface of the neck over the thyroid cartilage and the manubrium sterni. Little bleeding appeared to have resulted from these incisions.
2. In the region of the left clavicle were three stab wounds. Each of these was approximately 1.5 cms. in width. They lay over and just superior to the left clavicle at approximately its mid-point and penetrated downwards inferiorly and slightly laterally towards the left axilla.

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3. On the anterior lower chest was a group of four stab wounds similar in size to those detailed above. (1/2) One of these lay just to the right of the mid-line inferior to the right breast and approximately 2.0 cms. from the mid-sternal line. It ran in an approximately diagonal direction from above on the right to below on the left. The other three stab wounds were grouped beneath the left breast, the highest of them approximately 2.0 cms. from the lowest margin of the breast. These wounds were approximately 2.0, 4.0 and 6.0 cms. from the mid-sternal line respectively and ran transversely.

4. On the posterior right thorax were five stab wounds. The highest of these lay approximately 2.0 cms. from the mid-line and was 12.0 cms. below the shoulder line. The lowest of these lay 2.0 cms. from the mid-line and was 27 cms. from the shoulder line. The others lay respectively 4.0 cms. from the mid-line and 27 cms. from the shoulder line, 6.0 cms. from the mid-line and 23 cms. from the shoulder line, and 16 cms. from the mid-line and 18 cms. from the shoulder line. These stab wounds were approximately orientated each running from above on the right to below on the left. They were similar in size to the other stab wounds.

5. On the posterior surface of the lower right leg were superficial scratches running from above on the left to below on the right.

6. On the posterior surface of the left leg just below the popliteal fossa was an ill-defined superficial abrasion.

7. The face showed numerous superficial abrasions of recent appearance on both cheeks, the chin and the nose.

8. The lips appeared excoriated.

9. There was a small superficial abrasion on the upper left eyelid.

The finger and toenails were short and clean. No foreign matter could be identified beneath the finger nails and there were no lesions on the palms of the hands.

CLOTHING

When received for examination the body was clothed as follows:

- 1. A black coat into which both arms were fitted, into the sleeves.
2. A brassiere, the right strap of which was broken.
3. A white uniform of nurses type which was rolled down around the waist, the arms of the body being out of the sleeves of the uniform, which were intact.
4. A light girdle.

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5. A pair of white stockings pulled down around the ankles.
6. A pair of panties which was around one ankle.
7. A single boot on the left leg.

The arms, right leg and right thigh were discolored and of dark reddish tinge. The left thigh was similarly discolored but the left leg which had been protected by the boot, and the abdomen and thorax, were white.

INTERNAL EXAMINATION:**HEAD:**

A small and very ill-defined abrasion was found in the scalp in the right temporal region and measured approximately 2.0 cms. in diameter. The skull was intact. The meninges and brain did not appear remarkable, and the brain weighed 1370 g.

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The heart weighed 270 g. and lay free in the pericardial cavity in a small amount of clear fluid. The myocardium was firm and pink and showed no lesion; it averaged 1.2 cms. in thickness in the left ventricle and 0.3 cms. in the right ventricle. The chambers and valves of the heart were unremarkable and the coronary arteries were soft, patent and free from arteriosclerosis. The aorta appeared unremarkable.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

The left pleural cavity was unremarkable. The right pleural cavity contained an estimated 1000 ml. of bright red blood which was partially clotted. On aspiration the stab wounds noted in the right posterior chest were seen to penetrate the pleural cavity and there were two small lacerations in the lower lobe of the right lung. The right lung weighed 180 g. and appeared unremarkable apart from these stab wounds. The left pleural cavity had been penetrated by two of the stab wounds of the left anterior chest but there was no hemothorax and the lung was not injured. The left lung weighed 220 g. The larynx, trachea and great bronchi contained moderate amounts of aspirated gastric content but appeared otherwise unremarkable.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:

The esophagus was unremarkable. The stomach contained semi-fluid and partly digested food which was preserved. The mucosa appeared unremarkable. The duodenum and small and large intestines appeared unremarkable. The liver

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weighed 1000 g. Two small stab wounds were present in the anterior surface slightly to the right of the mid-line, and each penetrated to a depth of about 1.0 cms. These appeared to have bled relatively little. The gall bladder contained a small amount of bile which could be expressed with difficulty through the ampulla of Vater. The pancreas appeared unremarkable.

GENITOURINARY SYSTEM:

The left kidney weighed 80 g. and the right kidney weighed 50 g. Their capsules stripped easily leaving smooth surfaces and sections showed corticomedullary demarcation to be well maintained with normal width of cortices. The ureters were unremarkable and the urinary bladder was empty. The ovaries, fallopian tubes and uterus appeared unremarkable. The cervix showed a small erosion running circumferentially around the external os. The vagina appeared unremarkable. A small amount of reddish fluid was aspirated from the posterior fornix of the vagina and on microscopic examination showed numerous non-motile spermatozoa. The external genitalia showed absence of the hymen and the presence of carunculae hymenales. There was no evidence of injury to the vulva, vagina, anal or rectal regions.

OTHER ORGANS:

The pituitary, adrenals and thyroid appeared unremarkable.

The spleen weighed 50 g. and showed two or three small ill-defined white nodules.

The stab wounds noted in the external examination in relation to the left clavicle penetrated the soft tissues of the infraclavicular region extending downwards and laterally towards the superior margin of the left axilla.

SPECIMENS TAKEN:

The following specimens were taken and handed to Lieutenant Penkala, Saskatoon City Police:

1. Scalp hair.
2. Pubic hair.
3. Blood obtained from the right-sided hemothorax.
4. The clothing removed from the body.

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MICROSCOPIC DESCRIPTION:

CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:

The myocardium was unremarkable and the coronary arteries appeared free from arteriosclerosis.

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:

The presence of lacerations in the lower lobe of the right lung was confirmed. These were fresh and there was no vital reaction. A small amount of fibrillar material had been carried into the depth of one of these wounds. This material resembled clothing fibres.

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT:

The kidneys and urinary bladder were unremarkable. Sections of the uterus showed an endometrium in the late luteal phase with considerable infiltration of inflammatory cells into its superficial portions suggesting that menstruation was imminent or commencing. The presence of chronic cervicitis, with endocervical epithelium present on the anatomical ectocervix was confirmed. There was a slight degree of dysplasia of the bordering stratified squamous epithelium.

OTHER ORGANS:

The thyroid, adrenals and spleen appeared unremarkable.

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