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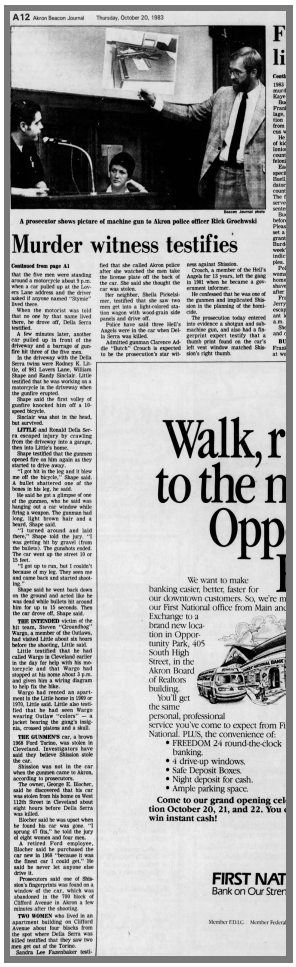

A12 Akron Beacon Journal Thursday, October 20, 1983

A prosecutor shows picture of machine gun to Akron police officer Rick Groelewski

Murder witness testifies

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that the first men were standing around a motorcycle about 5 p.m. when a car pulled up at the Lovers Lane address and the driver asked if anyone named "Tyrone" lived there.

When the motorist was told that no one by that name lived there, he drove off, Della Serra testified.

A few minutes later, another car pulled up in front of the house and a barrage of gunfire hit three of the men.

In the driveway with the Della Serra twins were Rodney K. Little, of 901 Lovers Lane, William Shape and Randy Sinclair. Little was standing on the ground next to a motorcycle in the driveway when the gunfire erupted.

Shape said the first volley of gunfire knocked him off a 10-speed bicycle.

Sinclair was shot in the head, Shape said.

LITTLE and Donald Della Serra escaped injury by crawling from the driveway into a garage, then into Little's home.

Shape testified that the gunmen opened fire on him again as they were leaving the area.

"I got hit in the leg and it blew me off the bicycle," Shape said. A bullet shattered one of the bones in his leg, he said.

He said he got a glimpse of one of the gunmen, who he said was holding a "long gun" instead of firing a weapon. The gunman had long, light brown hair and a beard, Shape said.

"I turned around and laid there," Shape told the jury. "I was getting hit by gravel (from the bullets) and I thought I'd die. The car went up the street 10 or 15 feet.

"I got up to run, but I couldn't because of my leg. They seen me and came back and started shooting."

Shape said he went back down on the ground and acted like he was dead while bullets hit around him for up to 15 seconds. Then the car drove off, Shape said.

THE INTENDED victim of the hit team, Steven "Greenfrog" Wargo, testified that police officers had visited Little about six hours before the shooting, Little said.

Little testified that he had called Wargo in Cleveland earlier in the day for help with his motorcycle and that Wargo had brought the bicycle to Akron and given him a wiring diagram to help fix the bike.

Wargo had rented an apartment in the Little home in 1980 or 1981, Little said. Little also testified that he had seen Wargo with a .357 Magnum in a shoulder holster bearing the gang's initials, crossed pistons and a skull.

THE GUNMEN'S car, a brown 1968 Ford Torino, was stolen in Cleveland. Investigators have said they believe Shinkin stole the car.

Shinkin was not in the car when it was recovered in Akron, according to prosecutors.

The owner, George E. Blocher, said he discovered that his car was stolen from his home on West 112th Street in Cleveland about eight hours before Della Serra was killed.

Blocher said he was upset when he found his car was gone. "I sprung 47 fins," he told the jury of eight women and four men.

Under questioning by prosecutor, Blocher said he purchased the car new in 1968 "because it was the finest car I could get." He said he never let anyone else drive it.

Prosecutors said one of Shinkin's fingerprints was found on the window of the car, which was abandoned in the 700 block of Clifford Avenue in Akron a few minutes after the shooting.

TWO WOMEN who lived in an apartment building on Clifford Avenue about four blocks from the spot where Della Serra was killed testified that the two men got out of the Torino.

Sandra Lee Fauerbaker testified that she called Akron police after she watched the men take the license plate off the back of the car. She said she thought the car was stolen.

Her neighbor, Sheila Pickelsimer, testified that she saw two men get into a light-colored station wagon with wood-grain side panels and drive off.

Della Serra and three Hell's Angels were in the car when Della Serra was killed.

Admitted gunman Clarence Addie "Butch" Crouch is expected to be the prosecution's star witness against Shinkin.

Crouch, a member of the Hell's Angels for 13 years, left the gang after he became a government informer.

He confessed that he was one of the gunmen and implicated Shinkin in the planning of the homicide.

The prosecution today entered into evidence a shotgun and submachine gun, and also had a fingerprint expert testify that a thumb print found on the car's left vent window matched Shinkin's right thumb.

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