

Linda & Kiyo Shimizu Murders

Friday, June 30, 1989

In the early morning hours of June 30th, 1989, police responded to a 911 hang-up call from 574 Langside Street. Upon arrival, police discovered the bodies of an 86-year-old Kiyo Shimizu, and her 59-year-old daughter, Chieko (Linda) Shimizu. Both had been badly beaten and stabbed several times. Linda succumbed to her injuries at the scene, while Kiyo lived for a few days before she died at the HSC.

Police discovered a 12-year-old youth still inside the house when they arrived. The youth was found to have *some* blood on his shoes and clothing, which was later found to be consistent with the victims. Some of the victim's jewellery was also found in the youth's possession after his arrest. Subsequent evidence gathered from the home supported the belief that the youth was involved in the murders, including bloody shoe prints found in both bedrooms and a palm print in blood in the dining room. When interviewed by police as to the extent of his involvement, the youth offered several different versions of the events, including the involvement of another person he had let into the home that stabbed at least one of the victims.

The youth was eventually convicted in Youth Court of both murders. However, in 1990, the Manitoba Court of Appeal overturned the conviction and acquitted the youth. The Supreme Court refused to hear the Crown's appeal.

Boy, 12, charged in fatal stabbing

By Maria Bohuslawsky

A 12-year-old boy has been charged with murder after a stabbing attack on a quiet Langside Street mother and daughter.

Linda Shimizu, 59, was pronounced dead on arrival at Health Sciences Centre Friday shortly after 1 a.m., police said yesterday.

Her mother, Kiyo Shimizu, 86, also of 574 Langside, was in critical condition at Health Sciences Centre.

Police said both women were stabbed and beaten.

The boy, who is in custody, is charged with second-degree murder, attempted murder and break, enter and theft.

A police spokesman said the boy is among the youngest to be charged with murder in the province.

Friends and neighbors yesterday described the two women as pleasant, quiet, tidy and generous.

"They were nice," homemaker Arlene Mowatt, 34, said. "They gave cookies to the kids."

Mowatt said the older woman

shovelled snow each winter day and worked in her lush garden in the summer.

"I feel physical hurt," she said, looking sadly at the neat, white two-storey house.

None of the neighbors interviewed heard a sound from the house until the ambulance arrived.

Mowatt, who lives across from the Shimizu home, said she gave notice after the slaying that she intends to move because she's afraid of the area.

Two weeks ago, her rented house was broken into in broad daylight. The back door was kicked in. See NEIGHBORS page 4

In their decision, [R. v. C.S. \(1990\) 65 Man R. \(2d\) 16](#), the Court of Appeal stated that there was a possibility another person or persons were responsible for the murders. In part, the Court of Appeal found that the blood on the youth's clothing, save in the area of his feet was minuscular in comparison to the amount of blood likely splattered during the assaults. The court concluded:

[24] It is my respectful view that, in the circumstances of this case, no trier of fact could reasonably have been satisfied of the young offender's guilt of murder to the extent required. Simply put, the facts are consistent with the conclusion that there was another person with the young offender, as he suggested to the police on their arrival. That other person may well have been the only person responsible for the killings.

After further investigation, police arrested and charged three other males in 1990 for their involvement in the murders. Two of these males were charged with the actual killings, while the third was charged with Break and Enter. Two of the three males gave statements admitting their involvement, while one refused but was implicated by the others. The case, however, collapsed in 1991 and the murder charges dropped when it was established that one of the accused who had confessed had been in jail at the time of the murders.

Since all the murder charges laid in this investigation were either stayed or dismissed, this file remains open. Anyone who may possess further information regarding this case is still encouraged to contact the police.