

16 Nov 1986 p1

Link: <https://www.okctalk.com/images/okjournal/1968-11-16.pdf>

City Woman Found Slashed to Death

A 67-year-old Oklahoma city Cleaning woman was found dead with her throat slashed Friday in her home at 1629 NE 3rd. and police detectives were questioning three persons Friday night in the slaying.

The victim was identified as Mrs. Geneva Mary Jones, who was retired except for housework jobs, she lived alone.

Her body was found about 5:45 p.m. sprawled in the bathroom of the home by her son, police said.

The woman's throat had been deeply cut, her body had been slashed across her breasts, police said.

Shortly before midnight, detectives appeared at the city police department with a hunting knife and leather scabbard from a 28-in long machete.

They said the two weapons were shown to the three being questioned but would not comment on the possibility that one or both of the knives was used in the slaying.

Police were questioning the son, William Thomas Jones, (24) of 720 NW 4th, Jones wife Evelyn Sue (20) and Johnny Doyle Owens, (19) of 1624 NE 3rd, Police said Owens was AWOL from the armed forces. Police said they were interviewing the three in an attempt to learn further details of the savage slaying, but Owens was ordered held for being AWOL and further questioning.

It appeared that detectives were concentrating their questions on Jones. Jones' wife was released shortly after midnight and Owens was placed in the city jail on the AWOL charge, police said they had no other suspects in mind in the case.

Authorities at first believed the woman had committed suicide but ruled the death a homicide after examining the body.

Dr. James Luke, state medical examiner who was called to the scene by police, said an autopsy would be performed Saturday morning to determine how long the woman had been dead.

He said the victim apparently bled to death from the gash on her throat.

Officers said they found the bathroom in a state of disarray, apparently from a struggle, and that no motive had been determined by late Friday.

The body was found fully clothed and apparently had not been sexually molested, police said.

Jones told police he and his wife went to the home at 5:45 p.m. and knocked. When no one answered, he said he and his wife entered the home and found it to be apparently empty

He said he went to the kitchen for a drink and his wife went to the bathroom. She found the body, screamed for him and, after he saw the body, went to call police.

Mrs. Jones said she ran across the street to the Owens residence and asked Johnn Ownes mother to come and watch her children, who were waiting in a car in front of the victim's house.

Owens said he went with Mrs. Jones to the house and accompanied her into the bathroom explaining to police he had touched the lavatory and bathtub while in the room.

Jones told police he went to the house first at 5:15 p.m. Thursday to call his wife in Long Beach, Calif. He said he had spent most of Friday looking for a car to purchase and was in the company of his mother until approximately 4 p.m.

While investigating the house for clues, officers said the telephone rang and they answered and talked with a woman asking for Mrs. Jones.

The caller said the victim was suppose to clean her house Friday but had not shown up for the appointment. Police then speculated that it was possible that Mrs. Jones had been dead for several hours before she was found.

A later article dated 19 Nov 1968 Entitled AWOL GI Charged In City Razor Death indicated that 19 year old Johnny Doyle Owens was charged with the woman's murder.