

## **'GIRL'S STABBING WAS DUE TO JEALOUSY'**

### **Swords produced at murder charge hearing**

One of two curved Japanese-type swords inflicted the stab wound which killed Shirley Marguerite Allen, of Alpha Road, Birchington, a former pupil of the Thanet School of Art, said Dr R. E. Camps, the pathologist at Marylebone on Wednesday. Dr Camps was shown both swords, one of which appeared to be blood-stained or rusty.

Gunther Wiora (34) a slim, sharp-featured Polish dispatch clerk, of no fixed address, was making his third appearance on a charge of murdering Miss Allen on the 4<sup>th</sup> May at 21 Leinster Square, Bayswater. He was remanded in custody until next Thursday. The prosecution suggested jealousy was the motive for killing Miss Allen.

Mr A. G. Flavell, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, told the Magistrate (Mr Geoffrey Raphael) that Wiora and Miss Allen had been living together at 21 Leinster Square since last November. They occupied two rooms - a bed-sitting room and a kitchen - in the basement and the housekeeper, Mrs Doreen Dally, lived in the basement of the neighbouring house, No: 22. The basements of the two houses were connected by a passage.

Mr Flavell said that at 8 am on 4<sup>th</sup> May, Mrs Dally and a Frenchman, who occupied a room at No 21, were wakened by the sounds of a commotion coming from Wiora's room. They heard banging noises and the sounds of furniture being pushed around.

The Frenchman pulled the clothes over his head to try to sleep, but Mrs Dally heard Miss Allen shout, "No, Peter, No!" and then heard a scream. Mrs Dally opened her door and saw Miss Allen edging out of the doorway of Wiora's room.

#### **"Gone mad"**

"As Miss Allen edged out," said Mr Flavell, "She said to Mrs Dally, 'Please help me, Peter's gone mad.' She noticed blood running down Miss Allen's hair and neck.

"Mrs Dally took Miss Allen into her room. As she began to go upstairs, she saw Wiora standing outside his room. His hands were crossed in front of his chest and between his hands he held a sword, which would appear to be a Samurai sword, in the vertical position with the handle pointing upwards.

"He then turned to face Mrs Dally. She saw that his eyes were fixed and staring. She lost her power of movement and just stood there whilst the defendant quite slowly and deliberately lunged at her with it and the point of the sword entered her left breast."

Wiora returned the sword to its previous position and started to walk towards the door of Mrs Dally's room, Mr Flavell continued. Mrs Dally rushed upstairs and on the way up heard a woman screaming and sounds of fighting coming from the basement.

The police found Miss Allen lying behind the door of Mrs Dally's room, dead and with severe injuries. The room was in considerable disorder and an

electric lamp standard had been broken into pieces and was lying on the floor. Also on the floor was a blood-stained sword, the end of which was bent.

The police had to force open Wiora's room, where there was a strong smell of gas coming from a gas fire and an oven. Wiora was lying on the bed moaning, with injuries to his chest and cuts on his wrists. Lying on the floor close to the bed was a second sword and two scabbards.

Both Wiora and Mrs Dally were taken to hospital. Mrs Dally had three stitches in her wound and was in hospital for three days. Wiora had four stab wounds, which were close together in his chest. He also had cuts on both wrists and across the fingers of both hands, and scratch marks on his lips, mouth and chest.

"The stab wounds and cuts were, the Prosecution say, self-inflicted." said Mr Flavell. He said that a bread knife was found on the floor of the kitchen. This was stained with blood of Wiora's group and was probably used to cause the cuts on his wrists. The stab wounds had penetrated the lobe of Wiora's lung and an emergency operation was performed.

Miss Allen had received very severe injuries. The main ones were from stab wounds, one of which had penetrated the heart and caused death. She also had a fractured skull. The stab wounds were caused by the sword found on the floor of Mrs Dally's room and the lamp standard was probably used to cause the head injuries.

Wiora was seen by Det. Supt Vivian at St Mary's Hospital Paddington and made a statement which he declined to complete. In addition to the statement, some notes in Wiora's handwriting, written in the form of a diary, were subsequently found in the drawer of the desk at his place of work.

### **'Jealousy'**

"From these notes it would appear that the motive for killing Miss Allen was jealousy aroused by the defendant's belief that she had been associating with other men." Mr Flavell added. He asked for a committal on the charge of murder, for the attempted murder of Mrs Dally and of attempted suicide.

Dr Camps said death was due to shock and haemorrhage due to the stab wound which penetrated the heart. The injury to the heart undoubtedly killed Miss Allen, and either of the two swords could have caused the stab wounds.

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