

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

DATE December 11, 1981 FILE NO. 081 00898 1873 496 (NEW)  
081 00898 1873 490 (OLD)

C. PERSON DEAD, ACCIDENTAL DROWNING Action Taken INACTIVE/INVESTIGATION  
MADE/CC #81-15167 ASSIGNED

V. WAGNER, Natalie Wood FW/43

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On 11-29-81 at 0830 hours, investigators were detailed to investigate the circumstances surrounding the death of Victim Natalie Wood Wagner.

Investigators responded to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Aero Bureau Headquarters, where investigators were advised that witnesses involved in this incident were being transported from the Isthmus of Catalina Island via Sheriff's helicopter to the Aero Bureau Headquarters.

At 0954 hours on 11-29-81, investigators interviewed ROBERT J. WAGNER, MW/51, husband of the abovenamed victim. This interview was conducted in the Captain's Office of the Aero Bureau. Mr. Wagner was asked to explain the circumstances up to the point his wife was missing. He stated they had been ashore at the Isthmus, had had a few drinks and dinner. There were four (4) people in his party, he, his wife, CHRIS WALKEN and the boat captain DENNIS DAVERN. They had all returned aboard their boat named The Splendour, in their Zodiac dinghy. He said they were in the salon, when Victim Wagner went below to her bedroom. Shortly thereafter they noticed she and the Zodiac missing. He first called to see if she had gone back to the restaurant, and the next thing he recalled they were unable to find her and people were searching.

Mr. Wagner was in an emotional state at the time of this interview, so it was terminated at this time.

At 1000 hours on 11-29-81, Mr. CHRISTOPHER WALKEN, MW/38, c/o Beverly Wilshire Hotel, Room 601, Los Angeles; home address, New York City, telephone (212) 582-6264, was interviewed. Mr. Walken is an actor and personal friend of both Robert Wagner and Victim Natalie Wood Wagner.

Mr. Walken stated he had been invited to go on a cruise by the Wagners. They left Marina Del Rey at approximately 11:30 a.m. on Friday, 11-27-81. He recalled they went into Avalon, spent some time ashore Friday night and they had dinner aboard the boat, then went to bed. Saturday morning they left for the Isthmus and

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and arrived in the evening. They went to the bar and had some drinks. He was questioned at this time did Victim Wagner have much to drink, and his response was no, she wasn't much of a drinker.

He recalled that after they were aboard the boat he and Robert Wagner got into a small "beef". He left the cabin and went outside on deck for a few minutes. When he returned, Victim Wagner was sitting there, and she seemed to be disturbed. He recalled she then went to her room, and he thought she had gone to bed. He next remembered the Captain, Dennis, make a remark, "the dinghy is gone", and about the same time they noticed Victim Wagner was missing from her bedroom. He stated he thought this was some time just after midnight. He added he did not hear a motor or a small boat. He next remembered a shore boat coming alongside and Mr. Wagner went ashore looking for the victim. He recalled Mr. Wagner returning and learning that neither she nor the dinghy had been found. This interview was terminated at this time.

Investigators then responded to the Isthmus on Catalina Island via Sheriff's helicopter. Upon arrival at the Isthmus investigators contacted Deputy R. W. KROLL, Employee #051114, who is assigned to Avalon Station Unit 187 Days. Deputy Kroll was the responding deputy to this incident.

Deputy Kroll advised investigators he had been dispatched due to information received from Sgt. J. DYER of Avalon Sheriff's Station. His information at this time was Bay Watch Isthmus Lifeguards and the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Point Camden were conducting a search for a missing woman, Victim Wagner, who was probably in a 13 ft. Zodiac boat. She had been last seen aboard the 60 ft. vessel Splendour, which was tied up to Mooring N-1 in the Isthmus Harbor.

He immediately responded to the Isthmus Harbor Master's Office and contacted the informant, Robert Wagner. He was later advised that the Zodiac boat involved in this incident had been found up against the rocks at an area called Blue Cavern Point. This area was approximately 1 1/4 miles northeast of the Isthmus pier. He had requested the assistance of Sheriff's helicopter, and upon arrival of the helicopter the body of the victim was found floating approximately 250 yards north of Blue Cavern Point. The body had been recovered, and was presently at the U.S.C. Marine Laboratory. At the time of recovery, Deputy Kroll stated, the victim was wearing a one-piece dress, blue socks and a red down jacket, as well as articles of jewelry. At 0830 hours Captain Dennis Davern of the Splendour had made a positive identification of the body as the above Victim, Natalie Wood Wagner.

For more complete details of Deputy Kroll's information and investigation refer to his Complaint Report, prepared by him under the above file number, a copy of which will be made a permanent part of this file.

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At 1120 hours on 11-29-81, in the Sheriff's Station in Isthmus Harbor, investigators interviewed DENNIS GERARD DAVERN, MW/33, of 4626 Via Marina, Marina Del Rey, telephone 821-5313. Mr. Davern stated he was, in fact, the captain of the vessel Splendour, and had been employed as such since 1974. Mr. Davern stated on 11-28-81 they had been ashore and had eaten dinner. He recalled he drank some wine, then they all went back aboard the boat Splendour. Sometime later he observed that the Zodiac, which was usually tied to the stern, was gone. He recalled they next called for the Harbor Patrol Bay Watch, and that he had remained aboard making other calls. Originally they had decided not to call the Coast Guard, however sometime later they did notify the Coast Guard Station at Long Beach.

Mr. Davern went on to relate he next remembered riding with some sheriff's deputy on the land, and they were making a ground search for the victim. He remembered hearing somewhere along the line that the Zodiac had been found, and sometime after that he was transported to the U.S.C. Marine Laboratory where he made a positive identification of the above victim.

Mr. Davern was again questioned by investigators to clarify some of the missing areas. He stated they had left the Marina Del Rey at about noon on Friday. They went to Avalon, and they took the Zodiac ashore, and he had remained aboard the Splendour. He thought Robert Wagner and the victim had gone shopping, he added. Some time later they (Robert Wagner, the victim and Chris Walkens) returned to the boat for the evening. He was questioned as to their position at Avalon Bay, and he said the Harbor Master would know as he did not know.

He stated all four of them spent the night on the boat, and they then left in the early afternoon on Saturday and sailed directly to the Isthmus, where they obtained a mooring. He recalled they had had a few drinks at the bar, and Mr. Wagner had then made reservations for dinner. He said they had dinner together, and then all returned to the Splendour together. He also added that when they returned to the boat after dinner, he thought the victim had gone down below to put on her pajamas for the night. It was after this that he noticed that the Zodiac was gone. He also stated that the trip over to the Island was very rough, and that during the course of the trip several wine bottles had been knocked over due to rough seas, and broken.

Investigators had received prior knowledge that the above victim had spent Friday night (11-27-81) at a hotel in Avalon. Mr. Davern was questioned about this, and he stated before answering he would rather talk to "R.J." (Mr. Robert Wagner) and possibly an attorney. This interview was terminated at this time, and as Mr. Davern was leaving he stated to investigators, "If you check the hotel you'll find that there were two rooms rented".

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At 1200 hours on 11-29-81, investigators interviewed Mr. DON WHITING, manager of the Doug's Harbor-Reef Restaurant at the Isthmus, and Mr. BILL COLEMAN, who is a cook at this restaurant. Both of these parties live aboard a boat which is anchored at Cat Harbor, which is directly across the Isthmus from the Isthmus Harbor; telephone number 510-0303.

Mr. Whiting stated he went to work sometime between 4:00 and 5:00 in the evening. Upon his arrival he observed the Wagner party in the bar; he had opened the restaurant at 6:00 p.m. and he remembered the Wagner party coming in a short time later and having dinner. He recalled they sat in one of the corners, and they had brought their own wine. He also stated while having dinner some people had purchased bottles of Champagne for the Wagner party. He thought at the time there were some possible problems between Robert Wagner and his wife, the above victim. He remembered some glass was broken, possibly thrown. He was of the impression that Robert Wagner was a little bit irritated with his wife.

He related as the Wagner party was leaving, he observed Mr. Wagner put a heavy coat over his wife's shoulders, and he thought he was telling her something privately. He felt they had been doing some heavy drinking, and due to this he contacted the Harbor Master, CURT CRAIG, who was working on the pier at this time, and advised Curt Craig that the party had been drinking and were en route to the pier, and suggested they be watched.

Mr. Whiting stated he closed the bar and went home to his boat at approximately midnight. While living aboard the boat he keeps his radio tuned to the emergency wavelength, and he thought it was approximately 1:30 a.m. on 11-29-81 when he heard the call come out, "This is the Splendour asking for help, needs help". He said the voice sounded as though the person had been drinking. He then recognized it was Robert Wagner's voice, and contacted Mr. Wagner via his radio. Mr. Wagner told him he thought his wife had gone ashore and could he (witness) check. Mr. Whiting advised investigators that a second person, PAUL WINTLER, had also monitored this call and Paul contacted Mr. Whiting and said he was at the Isthmus, could he help. Mr. Whiting stated he asked Paul Wintler to check the Isthmus area for the Zodiac. Mr. Whiting advised Paul did check around the pier area, could not locate the Zodiac, and Paul then took a harbor patrol boat and went out to the Splendour.

Mr. Wintler met with Mr. Wagner, and Mr. Wagner told him he thought his wife had gone into the bar. Paul checked throughout the area and could not find the victim, and Paul again advised himself (Don Whiting). Mr. Whiting said he and Bill Coleman then came over to the Isthmus, arriving at approximately 2:30 or 2:45 a.m. They also checked and found the Zodiac not around. They at this time contacted the Harbor Master and advised him of the incident.



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They all then boarded various boats and began conducting a search of the water area. He stated he then went back to the Spendour to get more information from Mr. Wagner. He talked to both Mr. Wagner and the captain, and they both at this time appeared a little dazed that she was gone and could give no reason why she would have left. Mr. Whiting added he overheard the captain say to Mr. Wagner, "Boss, do you think she could have gone to the mainland?", and Mr. Wagner reply "Yes, that's a possibility".

Mr. Whiting then continued searching the sea area, and stated he found the Zodiac up against the rocks at Blue Cavern Point just before dawn. He described the Zodiac and stated the oars were up in a locked position and the key in the ignition was in an off position with the gear in a neutral position, with the bowline hanging in the water. At this point Bill Coleman got into the Zodiac, started it without any problems, and used it in the search. They also at this time advised via radio that the Zodiac had been found. At day break when the helicopter arrived he observed it hovering, went to it's position and observed lifeguard boats taking a body aboard; he thought at this time she was wearing a red dress.

Mr. Whiting was questioned again about the condition of the party at the restaurant, and he stated he felt they were all under the influence of alcohol. He also added that they had found an unopened bottle of wine in the Zodiac when it was recovered. He further added at the time of the search the seas were a little heavy but not strong enough for a person to fall out of a boat such as the Zodiac. Mr. Whiting stated he has been a boatsman for years and it was his opinion that the Zodiac as they found it had never been started, it had just drifted to the position where it was found.

At 1245 hours on 11-29-81, investigators boarded the vessel Splendour. As investigators boarded the vessel they could observe the above described Zodiac tied up alongside the starboard side. Investigators boarded from the stern and stepped onto the stern deck area, which is an open area. Going forward you step through a small doorway which leads to a master stateroom. Stepping further forward you go up a small stairway to the main salon, which also contains a kitchen area. Going further forward you step down some more steps to a hallway which has two staterooms, one to the left and one to the right. Going further forward you go into the V-berth area.

A more thorough examination showed the master stateroom to have a large double bed which appeared to have been used, with the blankets in disarray. Clothing and other articles indicated occupancy by a woman. The main salon was in disarray and showed evidence of broken glass on the floor, however there was no real indication of any disturbance. Investigators further noted that the master stateroom where the victim did sleep had a direct exitway to the rear stern area leading to the rear of the boat. There was a gate type

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door from the stern deck leading to the swim step which allows entry for parties boarding the boat.

Investigators took possession of the Zodiac for safekeeping, and it was ultimately transported to the Isthmus and maintained by Deputy Croll.

At the conclusion of the investigation aboard the Splendour, investigators were transported via Harbor Patrol boat to the U.S.C. Marine Laboratory where the victim's body had been transported in order to maintain security. At the U.S.C. Marine Laboratory an examination of the body was conducted by Deputy Coroner PAM EAKER, who had accompanied Sheriff's Homicide Investigators to the Isthmus. A visual examination of the body revealed she was wearing a plaid blue and red nightgown, dark colored heavy socks and no under-clothing. The victim was observed to be wearing jewelry, which was removed by the coroner's investigator and a receipt was left with Deputy Croll.

Additional visual examination revealed no signs of heavy trauma other than light bruising on the lower portions of her legs. Deputy Coroner Eaker concluded her examination and the victim was then transported via Sheriff's helicopter to the mainland, where she was transported to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner/Coroner where a post-mortem examination will be conducted. A complete report of this examination will be contained in the coroner's protocol, a copy of which will be made a part of this file.

At 1450 hours on 11-29-81, investigators contacted Mr. CURT CRAIG, in the Harbor Patrol Office at the Isthmus Pier. Mr. Craig stated he lives at the Isthmus using the address P.O. Box 1556, Catalina Island, telephone 510-0303.

Mr. Craig was asked to relate the circumstances as he recalled them, and he stated just prior to going off duty on 11-28-81, he had received a telephone call from the manager of the restaurant, Don Whiting, who advised him Robert Wagner and friends were coming to the pier. Mr. Whiting further told him he thought they were drunk and that he wanted him (witness) to watch for their safety.

Mr. Craig stated he first observed them when they were beside his office. It was approximately at this point where the ramp leads down to the dinghy dock. He saw all four go down this ramp, and at about this time he heard what he described as a scream come from the female. He thought she may have been drunk and was unhappy at something that happened in the restaurant. As they went down the ramp and were out of sight, he then heard a male voice make a sound as if he had bumped his head or injured something.

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He then walked over to the ramp and looked down, and could see the four members of the party in the Zodiac. He thought Robert Wagner and the victim were in the center area of the boat, the captain was sitting on one pontoon driving the boat and the other male member of the party was sitting on the other pontoon.

He stated as the boat left the dock it was moving very slow and it appeared to him that all four people in the boat were laughing. He watched this group until they reached the immediate area of the vessel Splendour, and he lost sight of them at this time due to the lights surrounding the Splendour. He was of the opinion at this time that everything was calm and there were no problems.

Mr. Craig further advised investigators that a man by the name of WARREN ARCHER, who was aboard a 50 ft. vessel named Vantage, had attempted to make contact with the Wagner party aboard the Splendour. Mr. Archer had apparently invited the Wagner party over to the Vantage for some drinks. The shore boat operator had advised him of this and the shore boat operator stated to him the Zodiac belonging to the Splendour was tied up to the Splendour. He further advised he had received a report from another party aboard the vessel Capricorn, indicating these people had reported hearing a female screaming for help somewhere around midnight.

At 1515 hours on 11-29-81, investigators interviewed MICHELLE MILESKI, FW/22, of Freebird Trawler anchored at Cat Harbor, telephone 510-0303. Ms. Mileski is a waitress who works at Doug's Harbor-Reef Restaurant on the Isthmus, and assisted in the service of the Wagner party on the evening of 11-28-81.

Ms. Mileski stated she was not the actual waitress, she had only assisted the other waitress named TINA in serving the Wagner party. She stated when she came to work at 4:00 p.m., she observed Robert Wagner and the captain sitting in the bar. She further recalled that as she arrived to work she had observed the Zodiac arrive at the Isthmus Pier. She recalled observing this because she observed the actress Natalie Wood (Victim Wagner) driving the Zodiac and her passenger was a male actor, and upon arriving at the dinghy dock she observed the victim secure the Zodiac to the pier. She added she recalled that the victim and this male actor had gone into the restaurant and joined Robert Wagner and the captain. She also recalled that the victim was wearing designer blue jeans, a yellow top, a red jacket and leather or suede high heeled shoes, and was carrying a red, white and blue purse.

She related sometime later, as she was working, she was contacted by Robert Wagner, who wanted to make dinner reservations. She had told him the restaurant opened at 6:00 p.m., and he had asked her for a wine list. There was some explanation as to the lack of a wine selection on the Island, and she remembered Victim Wagner stating, "We can go shopping on the Splendour and get our own wine".

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She stated that due to other activities she did not pay too much attention to the party.

At 1530 hours on 11-29-81, investigators interviewed CHRISTINA MARIE QUINN, FW/23, of 233 Descanso, Avalon, telephone 510-0975. Ms. Quinn is employed as a waitress at Doug's Harbor-Reef and was the waitress who served the Wagner party during their dinner at that restaurant on 11-28-81.

She recalled she came to work at about 5:00 p.m. and did serve the table occupied by the Wagner party. She added that during this time one of the party indicated they were going out to the Splendour to get some wine. She recalled this party brought two bottles of wine back. She further recalled that during this dinner the party consumed the two bottles of wine, and that the male actor had been drinking Daqueries. Further, she remembered that other parties in the bar had bought two bottles of Champagne for the Wagner party. During the meal, she said, the victim did not eat much of her dinner and was doing a lot of complaining about small things such as there was too much light on the table, the table was too big, the fish was not fresh, and it appeared to the witness that the victim was not in the best of moods.

Ms. Quinn recalled an incident wherein she saw the victim throw a water glass to the floor. There was some discussion at one time while they were preparing to leave and another bottle of Champagne arrived at the table, and there were small complaints because they wanted to leave. When they were preparing to leave, it appeared to her that the victim was having trouble getting her jacket on; she recalled the victim was wearing a yellow turtle-neck top, blue jeans and a red jacket. As they were standing to leave, she recalled Robert Wagner lifting a large dark colored jacket, and she felt it was being used as a shield because the victim appeared to be stumbling slightly. She then recalled all of the Wagner party leaving together, and it was her opinion they were not in the best of moods. She clarified this statement by saying that throughout the evening the victim appeared to be in changing moods, sometimes laughing and sometimes solemn.

At 1550 hours on 11-29-81, investigators interviewed Mr. WILLIAM D. PETERSON, MW/33, Isthmus address of P.O. Box 1556, telephone 510-0303. Mr. Peterson was the shore boat operator during the evening of 11-28-81.

Mr. Peterson's only recollection of the Wagner party was that he had observed them in the bar earlier in the afternoon. Later in the evening, which he stated was approximately 10:00 p.m., he observed the Wagner party walking down the ramp to the dinghy dock which is alongside the Isthmus pier. He recalled the victim (Natalie Wood Wagner) as she was walking down the ramp made a



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slight stumble and made a little yell as if she had slipped. He then recalled seeing the captain of the Splendour assist her into the Zodiac.

Mr. Peterson recalled it was approximately 1 o'clock in the morning when he overheard a radio message from the vessel Vantage. This person asked if the bar was still open, and was advised that it was not. Approximately five minutes later he received a second call from the Vantage requesting he (Mr. Peterson) invite the Wagner party from the Splendour over to his vessel for a drink. Mr. Peterson advised this person on the Vantage that it was too late and that he was going off duty.

He stated early this morning (11-29-81), while in the shore boat he was contacted by the owner of the Vantage, who questioned him on what was happening and stated that during the evening before he had observed the dinghy tied to the rear of the Splendour. Mr. Peterson further added at approximately 12:45 a.m. he had been requested by members of the Long Beach Coast Guard to make a harbor check looking for a boat which was overdue. During this check he had observed nothing unusual.

At 1627 hours on 11-29-81, investigators interviewed Mr. PAUL WINTLER, MW/25, home address, Isthmus, P.O. Box 1566, telephone 510-0303. Mr. Wintler is employed in the maintenance of the Isthmus camp grounds. Mr. Wintler was the party who assisted Don Whiting in the original search for the victim.

Mr. Wintler stated at approximately 1:00 a.m. on 11-29-81, he was awakened by some loud music. As he was awake he turned on a radio monitor which monitors emergency air waves. He heard a voice speaking, which he thought was drunk, and to him it sounded like an emergency. He then went to another shore boat and contacted Don Whiting via the radio. Don Whiting advised him of a conversation he had had with Mr. Robert Wagner, wherein Mr. Wagner had told him he thought his wife (the victim) had gone ashore and she was overdue or they could not locate her.

Mr. Wintler then boarded Harbor Patrol Boat Unit #10 and went to the Splendour. He talked to Mr. Wagner and Mr. Wagner told him that his wife was missing and he thought she may be in their dinghy, which was a Zodiac with a Mercury motor. He began searching the immediate harbor area, which he continued to do for approximately 45 minutes. He then again contacted Don Whiting and advised him to get more people to assist in the search and to contact the Harbor Master.

Mr. Wintler stated his first impression of his conversation with Robert Wagner was that he appeared to be drunk and not real shook up but a bit nervous. He thought Mr. Wagner had possibly made a statement that he and his wife had had a fight and thought she had

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gone back to the bar. He then took Mr. Wagner ashore as he wanted to look for his wife (Victim Wagner), and Mr. Wintler continued to search the harbor area. A little while later Mr. Wagner had hailed him down and he had picked him up at the pier, took him out for a search and then returned him to the Splendour. Mr. Wintler added Mr. Wagner was very worried about his wife at this time.

Mr. Wintler then met with Don Whiting, where they discussed calling the Coast Guard. After a conversation with DOUG OUDIN, Harbor Master of the Isthmus, they again discussed calling the Coast Guard and shortly thereafter did. He again took the patrol boat, accompanied by Bill Coleman, and they continued searching until the Zodiac and the body were located.

Investigators were then transported to the City of Avalon for further investigation.

At 1750 hours on 12-29-81, investigators contacted ANN LAUGHTON, P.O. Box 278, telephone 510-2606. This interview was conducted at the Pavillion Lodge, 513 Crescent Avenue, Avalon, telephone 510-1788. Ms. Laughton was the night receptionist at the Pavillion Lodge, which is a hotel, on 12-27-81.

Ms. Laughton recalled at approximately 11:15 p.m. on 11-27-81, Natalie Wood (Wagner) and a slim man wearing a beard came into the lodge to register for two rooms. She added she had received a call from the bartender at the Galleon Restaurant in Avalon, who had questioned her if she had two rooms available. When she stated yes, he advised her that Natalie Wood would be there shortly and had requested two single rooms.

She recalled when Ms. Wood and the man with the beard came in, Ms. Wood had registered and paid for two rooms in advance using an American Express card. She stated rooms #126 and #219 were designated at this time. She then escorted both parties to room #126 and showed them the room. She recalled they were carrying one bag, which she described as a duffel bag. She asked if they wished to see the second room, and received the answer, "Not at this time, we'll see it later". She further recalled that during registration they had asked her for some ice and she had shown them how to get it from the ice machine. She further added that they both appeared very intoxicated.

Ms. Laughton advised investigators that an examination of the records maintained by the maid service revealed that during routine cleaning of the rooms on the morning of 11-28-81, records reflected room #219 was undisturbed and considered vacant. These records further reflected room #126 had been disturbed and cleaned routinely. She further advised these records were maintained by the hotel and would remain in their custody.

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At 1815 hours on 11-29-81, Mr. PAUL REYNOLDS, manager of the Galleon Restaurant, was interviewed. He stated Robert Wagner, the victim and another man had been at the restaurant on the patio drinking earlier in the evening of 11-27-81, and that all three of them had left the restaurant at approximately 10:00 p.m. that evening. Ms. Wood (Victim Wagner) and another man, who was described as having dark hair and a beard, returned to the restaurant and requested to use the telephone to see if they could locate rooms for the night. He stated he asked the victim if she had a boat and she replied "No, is there a boat going back?". He advised her that the next boat returning to the mainland would be at 10:00 a.m. the following morning.

Mr. Reynolds then made a telephone call to the Pavillion Lodge and reserved two rooms for Ms. Wood. He further said that Ms. Wood and this other man were sitting at the bar having a couple of drinks prior to leaving for the hotel. He added that all his conversations were carried on in the bar within earshot of numerous other patrons.

During this investigation, investigators contacted numerous employees of restaurant and cocktail establishments, and it was determined that Robert Wood, the victim Natalie Wood Wagner, and actor Christopher Walken had been ashore Friday, 11-27-81, in the afternoon hours. They had spent a short time in a restaurant called Solomon's, where they were observed, and they had also spent sometime on the patio or veranda area of the Galleon Restaurant before returning to their vessel, the Splendour.

On 11-30-81 at 1100 hours, investigators were advised that a Mr. JOHN PAYNE had called and wanted to talk to investigators as he had important information regarding this case.

At 1115 hours on 11-30-81 Mr. Payne, of 16401 Royal Hills Drive, Encino, telephone 986-9639, was contacted via telephone. Mr. Payne related on 11-28-81 his boat, the Capricorn, was moored near the Wagner's boat and at approximately midnight he heard a woman yelling, "Help me, someone please help me". He said this voice was coming from the direction near the stern of the Splendour, and he thought that it was someone in a dinghy which was from another boat which was moored on another side of him. The reason he felt that was that this other boat was having a loud drunk party on it and he thought someone was playing around.

He stated he woke his girlfriend, Ms. MARILYN WAYNE, up and she also heard it. He further stated that as he heard this he heard a man's voice coming from the direction of the boat which was having the loud party, yelling in a mocking voice, "Okay, honey, we'll get you". He added that this voice sounded very drunk. He said at no time did he hear any noise coming from the boat Splendour.

At 1121 hours on 11-30-81, investigators contacted Ms. LINDA WINKLER, of 24 Pebbley Beach Road, Avalon, telephone 510-1480.

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Ms. Winkler is employed at the Pavillion Lodge on the dayshift at the reception desk.

Ms. Winkler stated it was approximately 8 o'clock in the morning on Saturday (11-28-81), when she observed Natalie Wood walk into the office and state to her, "Excuse me, I can't find my room". She at this time showed Ms. Winkler a key to room #219. She said she then directed Ms. Wood toward room #219. She recalled that Ms. Wood looked fine but seemed somewhat disoriented. It was approximately 20 minutes later that Ms. Wood returned, gave her an American Express card and wished to pay for the rented rooms. She stated Ms. Wood seemed surprised when she was told the rooms had been paid for when she had checked in. Ms. Wood then stated to her, "If the Captain comes in tell him I've gone out to the boat dock".

Ms. Winkler further advised investigators that during this conversation Ms. Wood had asked where she could catch boat transportation back to the mainland, and she had directed Ms. Wood to the proper location. Ms. Winkler further told investigators she had been amazed at the fact that a movie star like Ms. Wood would be taking public transportation back to the mainland. Approximately 15 to 20 minutes later the Skipper came in and asked where Ms. Wood was. She advised him Ms. Wood had walked toward the area of the boat dock, and she was looking in that direction where she saw Ms. Wood and advised the Skipper. She then observed the Skipper walk to and join Ms. Wood, and then they both walked past the Pavillion Lodge in the direction of the main pier.

Due to information received from Ms. Laughton regarding the room being unused, investigators contacted Ms. SOCORRO MEZA, of B-1 Tremont Street, Avalon, telephone 510-0473. Ms. Meza stated it was her responsibility to check the rooms for their records purposes. She had, in fact, at approximately 10:00 a.m. observed room #219 had the appearance of being unused. She recalled that almost all of the employees at the Pavillion Lodge were familiar with the fact Natalie Wood (Victim Wagner) had spent the night in that hotel and they were talking about it. Ms. Meza advised investigators that it was the policy of their hotel to keep any information regarding their patrons as confidential.

At 1143 hours on 11-30-81, investigators contacted Mr. ALECK TRAPP, Harbor Patrol working the Harbor Masters Office on the main pier in Avalon. He recalled the vessel Splendour being in Avalon. He stated no record or log was kept of the mooring due to the fact it was outside the general mooring area and was anchored in the Bay. He did recall that the Splendour had left Avalon at approximately 11:00 a.m. on 11-28-81.

During this investigation photographs of the Splendour and of the victim were taken as directed by investigators, by Deputy FRANKLIN

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N. GARRISON, #031920, of the Sheriff's Scientific Services Bureau Latent Prints Detail.

On Monday, 11-30-81, a post-mortem examination was conducted on Victim Natalie Wood Wagner in the Office of the Los Angeles County Chief Medical Examiner/Coroner. This examination was conducted by Dr. CHOI with the assistance of Chief Medical Examiner/Coroner Dr. THOMAS NOGUCHI.

Dr. Choi made a thorough examination of all contusions and abrasions, and indicated to investigators that the majority of the abrasions appeared to be 12 to 24 hours old. He stated there was a scraping type abrasion on her left cheek, and this abrasion appeared to have an upward direction to the scrape. When questioned exactly what Dr. Choi meant, he demonstrated this indicating that as one would fall down, one's head striking an object and the person going down over the object would create this upward scraping abrasion.

During the examination of the victim's lungs there was an obvious large amount of frothy water emitting from the lungs. Dr. Choi stated that the cause of death was, in fact, drowning and a full and detailed report will be contained in his protocol, a copy of which will be made a permanent part of this file.

During the entire examination from beginning to end, numerous color photographs were taken of all abrasions, contusions and concerned vital organs by the Medical Examiner/Coroner's photographer. These photographs will also be obtained and made a part of this file.

It should be noted that upon completion of the original investigation aboard the vessel Splendour, it was secured under the control of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, to be released pending information received from the post-mortem examination. This vessel was released through Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department authorization, and investigators were contacted by Mr. FRANK WESTMORE, telephone 762-8832, on 12-1-81. Mr. Westmore stated that he and Dennis Davern, captain of the Splendour, were in the process of returning the boat from the Isthmus to the Marina Del Rey.

On 12-3-81 at 1330 hours, according to a meeting established by Mr. BOB TALCOTT, who is acting as attorney for Mr. Christopher Walken, investigators met with Mr. Walken in his room, #601 at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Present during this interview was the attorney, Mr. Talcott.

Mr. Walken was asked by investigators to relate the travels as best he could recall them, from the time he joined the Wagner party on the cruise to Catalina Island. He recalled they left



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the Marina Del Rey, that being Robert Wagner, Natalie Wood Wagner and the captain of the ship, Dennis Davern, at approximately 11:30 am. on 11-27-81. Shortly out to sea he became ill and spent most of his time sleeping during the cruise.

He recalled when he woke up the boat was anchored just in the bay at Avalon, and he thought it was approximately 5:00 p.m. when they went ashore. They went to a Mexican restaurant, and just before going into a restaurant they had stopped at a jewelry store where Robert Wagner was going to, or did, purchase some jewelry. They then went into the restaurant, had a few beers and discussed how to get the price of the jewelry down. They returned to the jewelry store, where Mr. Wagner did purchase the jewelry and he (Mr. Walken) in turn bought a painting from a gallery near the jewelry store. They then walked to a second restaurant where they sat outside on the veranda and had a few more drinks. He recalled that the weather was bad and it was drizzling all the time.

When they decided to return to the Splendour, Natalie wished to take the shore boat as she felt she would get too wet aboard the Zodiac. They finally talked her into going back aboard the Zodiac, and it was getting dark at this time. When they boarded the Splendour, the captain had been preparing a barbeque for dinner. He recalled once aboard he was still ill, and when they actually ate dinner he was lying down. He further recalled there was some more drinking; he was feeling bad and Natalie kept trying to explain to him "just learn to live with the motions, just go with it". Being very ill, he returned to his bunk.

He stated he thought he was aware of some kind of hubbub upstairs, but there was no yelling. Approximately 20 minutes later he thought he heard the sound of an anchor chain. He then recalled Natalie coming to the door of his cabin and telling him, "He wants to cross during the night". He then recalled she left. He next remembered the captain contacting him, and he wanted him to come up to get involved. He stated he told the captain "never get involved in an argument between a man and wife".

He thought he then fell back asleep and does remember the boat moving. He looked out the porthole near his bunk and noticed they had moved in closer to Avalon, and he then went back to sleep. He was awakened the next morning by Natalie, and she made some remark about she was going to take the sea plane back and wanted to know if he was staying. He recalled making the statement to her, "I'm not in this".

Later on he came up, Natalie made breakfast and everybody seemed happy. Shortly thereafter they left for the Isthmus, and "R.J." (Robert Wagner) was trying to talk him into doing some fishing and was setting up some fishing poles. He recalled "R.J." thanking him for smoothing everything over, and from Avalon to the

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Isthmus they had a fine trip. He then remembered they moored their boat at the Isthmus and then later they all went ashore for dinner.

He was questioned regarding any glasses being broken during the dinner time, and he seemed to recall the incident very clearly and advised investigators that "It was my fault. I recall we were making a toast while drinking. At the conclusion of this toast I threw my glass to the floor as I always do and I remember Natalie, and I think everybody else, did the same, she making the remark she was Russian and they did this".

He further recalled when they returned to the Splendour they were in the salon, talking. He stated they had all been drinking and they had one of those conversations going, and he used the reference "where you kind of put your cards on the table. R.J. was making statements and complaining that she was away from home too much and she was away from the kids and it was hurting their home life". Mr. Walken stated he also got involved in this discussion, supporting the victim's views; she was an actress, she was an important person, this was her life. He suddenly realized he was violating his own view about getting involved in an argument between a man and wife. He stepped outside for some air, and when he returned everybody was apologizing, particularly he and Robert Wagner, and everything seemed fine.

He further recalled that it was about this time when she (Natalie) left the salon and walked down to her bedroom. He thought she was tired over listening to them at this time. The next thing he recalled was that within a short time the captain, Dennis Davern, made mention that the dinghy was missing. At about the same time Robert Wagner checked the bedroom and observed that Natalie was missing. At this time, he said, they all felt she had gone ashore in the Zodiac, probably back to the restaurant. He recalled this did not mean too much for him because he knew she had gone ashore the night before and stayed in Avalon, so he just went on to his stateroom and went to sleep.

He recalled when he woke up in the morning Robert Wagner and the captain were still aboard, and Robert Wagner made the statement "She may have drowned", and he appeared to be very worried. During this time he was in the wheelhouse monitoring the radio, when he overheard where someone had found somebody in red, and he felt they had recovered the victim's body. He then went and joined Robert Wagner, and he was afraid to tell him this information. Approximately 10 minutes later a boat came alongside, he recalled the person in the boat stating to Mr. Wagner, "It's not good". Shortly thereafter he was taken ashore and transported via Sheriff's helicopter to the mainland.

As Mr. Walken could add no further information, the interview was terminated at this time.

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At 1300 hours on 12-4-81, investigators conducted a second interview with Mr. Robert J. Wagner, in his residence at 603 N. Canon Drive, Beverly Hills. This interview was conducted in the bedroom of Mr. Wagner's home, and he was in bed during the interview. Also present at this time was Mr. PAUL ZIFFREN. This interview was conducted by use of questions and answers, and most of Mr. Wagner's answers were in response to questions initiated by investigators.

Mr. Wagner stated that they had arrived in Avalon on Friday afternoon and there were no tie-ups available so they had to anchor out by the Pavillion. He recalled that Christopher Walken was sea sick. That afternoon he, Natalie and Christopher Walken went ashore. The captain, Dennis Davern, stayed aboard the Splendour. He said the three of them walked around and did some shopping. He bought some jewelry for Natalie, and he remembered Chris bought a painting. They had a beer in a restaurant called Solomon's, which is just upstairs over the area where they had purchased the jewelry. He recalled they walked back through Avalon, and they stopped at a restaurant where they sat outside on a veranda and had a few drinks. He stated this place had memories for he and Natalie as they had had an anniversary there. He recalled that during this afternoon the weather was cold and it was drizzling.

When they prepared to return to the Splendour, Natalie wanted to take the shore boat. They talked her into riding with them on the Zodiac, which in turn they used and all went back. Upon arrival and boarding the Splendour, the captain had a barbeque going and was preparing dinner.

During the evening he had talked of crossing back to the mainland at night. They all had discussed this and did note that the sea was pretty rough. He recalled he did move the Splendour closer to shore to get out of the heavy sea. There had been some disagreement as to this move, by Natalie and he told her to take Dennis (the captain), go ashore and stay in a hotel for the night. He and Chris Walken stayed aboard throughout the night.

Natalie and Dennis returned Saturday morning, and she prepared breakfast. The Harbor Master came by and advised them there was a buoy open which they could moor to, however they declined stating they were leaving for the Isthmus. He stated it was a nice run to the Isthmus, and everything was peaceful. Upon their arrival and after mooring at the Isthmus he thought Natalie was sitting in the salon reading some plays, and he, the captain and Chris Walken all took a nap.

When he awoke, Natalie and Chris Walken had gone ashore to the Isthmus in the Zodiac, and he said Natalie had left a note telling him this. Shortly thereafter he and the captain went ashore via the shore boat. He and the captain then joined Natalie and Chris in the bar at the restaurant, and they had a

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few drinks. They had an early dinner, which was somewhere around 7:00 or 7:30. During this time Dennis and Chris went back to the Splendour to get some wine because the restaurant did not have any wine they wanted. After dinner they all went back to the Splendour in the Zodiac. He recalled he and Natalie were sitting inside the Zodiac, the captain was driving and Chris was riding sitting on a pontoon.

After they were aboard for a while Natalie went down to bed, and at this point in time he recalled Chris Walken stepping outside on deck for a while. When Chris returned inside the salon, they continued talking. He estimated approximately 15 minutes passed, when he went to check on Natalie and noticed that she was gone, and at this time they also noticed the dinghy missing. Their first thought was that she had gone back ashore. He contacted some people ashore by way of his radio to seek help in locating her, and he then went ashore in the shore boat himself to see if he could find her.

He stated when they had been ashore and returned to the Splendour, the victim had been wearing blue jeans, a yellow turtleneck sweater and a jacket of some sort. He stated to investigators that he was sure they would have heard the boat (the Zodiac) if she would have started it up because both the stateroom and the stern door were open. Having knowledge of what she was wearing when she was recovered from the sea, he added "She would not have gone out in the dinghy dressed that way". He continued by stating "She was familiar with boats and their operation", they had had the Splendour built together. She was very familiar with the entire operation and quite often the two of them had taken it out alone.

Mr. Wagner was questioned as to the discussion they had had prior to her going to bed, and he stated it was about her being away from home and the kids so much. He stated he had been filming in Hawaii and she was in North Carolina on location for quite a while, and this separated them too much and he missed her being around. Mr. Wagner was questioned about the bottles of wine, and he recalled when the captain (Dennis Davern) and Chris Walken had returned from the Splendour they had actually brought three (3) bottles but they decided two were enough and they had left one aboard the Zodiac. When asked about broken glass aboard the Splendour, he stated it was probably from the rough seas, that quite often bottles were broken when they were traveling. Mr. Wagner concluded by saying he was familiar with boat safety, that he had been around boats all of his life and was a spokesman for the Coast Guard. The interview was terminated at this time.

On 12-10-81 at 1100 hours, investigators met with Mr. Dennis Davern in the law office of STEPHEN D. MILLER, Inc., 8912 W. Olympic Blvd., Beverly Hills, telephone 858-8282. Prior to the interview of Mr. Davern investigators met with Attorney Steven



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Miller and Attorney MARK BECK, where investigators advised both attorneys and gave them a review of the original interview conducted on Catalina Island. Both attorneys agreed to all questions posed by investigators. An interview was then conducted in the law offices, with both attorneys present.

Investigators asked Mr. Davern to relate the incidents which occurred from the time starting when they left Marina Del Rey. Mr. Davern stated they left Marina Del Rey somewhere between 11:00 and 12:00 on Friday, and went directly to Avalon. There were no moorings available there, so he had to anchor approximately 1/4 mile off the Casino at Avalon. The three of them, Mr. and Mrs. Wagner and Mr. Walken, went ashore, and he stayed aboard the Splendour to prepare dinner. He recalled it was getting dark when they returned, and he stated it was a cold night, and used the expression "It was a grumpy sea". He said they had dinner, and then they just sat around in the main salon. Later in the evening "R.J." (Robert Wagner) wanted to reposition the boat, and Natalie said it wouldn't do any good. Mr. Davern was questioned if she had this much knowledge of the boat, and he stated, "Yes, she knew what she was doing".

He related she said she would rather spend the night ashore, and he recalled "R.J." telling him to take her ashore and get her a hotel room. He recalled they took the Zodiac and tied it up to the main pier in Avalon Bay. After being ashore they tried a couple of hotels and there were no rooms available. They then went to the Galleon Restaurant, where Natalie made arrangements for two rooms at the Pavillion Lodge. The next morning (Saturday) they returned to the Splendour on the Zodiac and there were no problems upon their return. Mr. Davern further stated that whenever Ms. Wood (Victim) went ashore alone he was usually directed to go with her to act as her bodyguard.

After they returned to the Splendour she made breakfast, then they left for the Isthmus. When they arrived at the Isthmus, they tied up to a mooring. He recalled after the Splendour being secured, Natalie was reading and Chris and "R.J." were taking a nap. He then took a little ride in the Zodiac, then returned to the Splendour and also took a nap. He recalled when he awoke only he and "R.J." were aboard, and there was a note on board left by Natalie wherein she stated she was bored, they were all a bunch of sleepyheads, and that she and Chris had gone ashore in the Zodiac. He added Natalie could handle the Zodiac.

He stated a short time later he and "R.J." went ashore in the shore boat. He and "R.J." arrived at the Isthmus, went to the restaurant and joined Natalie and Chris Walken in the bar, where they had a few drinks. He recalled "R.J." made reservations for dinner there. They weren't satisfied with the restaurant's wine list, so he (Mr. Davern) and Chris (Walken) went back to the Splendour and got three bottles of wine, however they decided to take only two bottles into



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the restaurant and left the third bottle in the Zodiac. During the course of dinner, he recalled, people purchased two bottles of Champagne for them. He recalled at one point "R.J." had asked him who bought it, and he pointed to a party. "R.J." thanked them and they found out it was the wrong party, however this wrong party in turn had sent them the second bottle.

When they returned to the Splendour aboard the Zodiac, he stated he drove the boat, "R.J." and Natalie were in the inside, and Chris was on the opposite pontoon. He did not recall anybody stumbling or any injuries while boarding the Zodiac. They pulled to the rear of the Splendour and "R.J." secured the Zodiac to the stern, further indicating there were three areas a person could tie to, one on each side and one directly in the middle and "R.J." had secured the Zodiac to the tie-down in the middle.

He said they all went into the main salon, where he put some water on to make some tea, and recalled that he never did have any. He stated he did not have any more to drink that evening, either. He recalled that "R.J." and Natalie got into a discussion about her being gone and how he ("R.J.") had missed her. During this discussion between them Chris Walken entered into it and was supporting Natalie's views. He felt "R.J." became upset over this, and he recalled Chris getting up and going outside for a while. At about this time Natalie went to the master stateroom to go to bed. Chris Walken came back into the main salon, and he was going to bed. He added this was normal procedure for Natalie, in the evening she would just leave, prepare herself for bed and usually return after 10 or 15 minutes to say goodnight. It was also normal for her to wear socks only on her feet after changing clothing. After sometime passed, he stated "R.J." went to see where Natalie was, when they noticed she was gone and about the same time they noticed that the Zodiac was gone.

He was questioned about the door entry from the stern deck to the swim step, and he stated it was usually in an open position except when they had the children aboard. All of them assumed that she had taken the Zodiac back to the Isthmus. He recalled "R.J." going ashore in the shore boat to look for her. Sometime later he came back and appeared to be alarmed. He stated he used the radio and on his first try, due to a mistake he contacted Avalon Harbor Master. He then contacted the Coast Guard and the Isthmus Bay Watch and requested a helicopter. He recalled they prepared the Splendour to move and had turned the radar on. They stayed on board most of the night, and in the early morning hours he and "R.J." again went ashore and he went with a sheriff's deputy in a vehicle to make a ground search. He stated she could swim, but she really didn't care to because the water was usually too cold.

He recalled when they were advised that the dinghy had been found he was then assisting in a ground search in case she had swum

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ashore. After the body had been recovered, he was transported to the U.S.C. Marine Laboratory to make identification. The interview was terminated at this time.

When investigators from the Homicide Bureau had made contact with Mr. Curt Craig, Harbor Master, they had requested he give a list of known boats moored in the Isthmus Bay area during the time of this incident. Working from this list investigators contacted numerous boat owners regarding possible information.

Investigators contacted Mr WARREN ARCHER, of 595 Monterey Pass Road, Monterey Park, telephone 283-4793. Mr. Archer is the owner of the vessel Vantage. Mr. Archer stated he has known the Wagners since last summer, when his son met their daughter and they in turn met them. He and his wife were in the bar and restaurant at the same time as the Wagner party. He and his wife had had dinner and left the restaurant at approximately 11:00 p.m., and returned to their boat. He thought the Wagner party had returned to their boat, the Splendour, at approximately 1:00 a.m. He further recalled that while in the restaurant he had talked to the Wagner party and had mentioned having a drink together aboard his boat the Vantage. He stated he contacted the Splendour via his radio and invited Robert Wagner over. He recalled Mr. Wagner saying no, and he stated due to the noise in the background he was of the opinion somebody was arguing. He recalled his boat was moored approximately 30 yards away from the Wagner boat.

He was questioned about the activities during dinner time, and his recollection was the entire Wagner party appeared happy both earlier in the bar and while in the restaurant. He stated they were all drinking but in his opinion not excessively. He stated he was one of the parties who had bought a bottle of Champagne for the Wagner party. Later on when aboard his boat it was very cold and most of his hatches would have been closed, making outside sounds difficult to hear. He could recall hearing no strange or unusual noises from the Splendour. He added the sea was heavy to a point where he moved into a stronger mooring, which he referred to as a storm mooring.

Mr. Archer did remember that night when he had asked the shore boat driver to invite the Wagner party over to his boat, but the shore boat driver refused stating it was too late. At this time he again stated the Wagner party at the restaurant were all having a good time, and he mentioned an incident wherein Natalie Wood (Victim Wagner) was braiding a little girl's hair.

Investigators then interviewed GAIL ARCHER. She recalled hearing from her 15 year old son that he had been aboard the shore boat with Robert Wagner. She further recalled he stated he had gone ashore at approximately three o'clock in the afternoon. She and her husband Warren went to the restaurant at approximately 6:00

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p.m. and sat at a table just across from the Wagner party. It was her impression that they were all very happy, nobody was loud or boisterous and there were no problems. During this dinner time she and Warren did send a bottle of Champagne to the Wagner party. She also related an incident wherein she saw Natalie Wood (Victim Wagner) braiding a young girl's hair, and she was laughing and talking to the young girl.

On 12-3-81 at 1030 hours, investigators interviewed MARILYN WAYNE, of 1315 8th Street, Los Angeles, telephone 372-9675. Ms. Wayne related she was on the vessel the Capricorn, with her boyfriend John Payne. She stated at approximately midnight she was asleep when John Payne woke her up and asked her if she could hear something. She opened her hatch and she thought she could hear something like a woman yelling, "Someone please help me, please help me", and added that this sound was coming from the direction of the 9 o'clock position from her boat. John asked her what she thought they ought to do, and she advised John that they should call the Coast Guard, however he did not want to go out there because they thought the woman was from a drunken party which was on a boat that was at their 1 o'clock position. She said she also heard someone from the vessel Vantage yelling back that they were going to get her. She said that John made the statement that the woman sounded drunk, but she (Miss Wayne) said the woman sounded more hysterical.

She stated the yelling continued for approximately five minutes and stopped, and she thought that someone from the Vantage had picked the woman up. She also stated that she did not see the dinghy in the water, and she did not hear any noise coming from the vessel the Splendour, nor did she see whether any lights were on on the Splendour. Miss Wayne stated it was very cold that night at about midnight, and it was "calm before the storm". She said at about 1:45 a.m. it got very rough out there, with thunder and lightning. She could add no further information, and the interview was then terminated.

On 12-3-81 at 1210 hours, Ms. LAUREL PAGE, of 11216 Hortense Street, Studio City, telephone 760-7060, was interviewed by investigators. Ms. Page related she had spent the week-end at the Isthmus on the vessel Kestral, with her boyfriend DENNIS BOWEN and his family. On Saturday, 11-28-81, she was in Doug's Harbor-Reef Restaurant, and at approximately 10:30 p.m. she went to the restroom where she noticed Natalie Wood (Victim Wagner) in there. She further stated that while she was in the restroom there were two little girls in there also, and Ms. Wood had invited them to join her at her table. She said at the time she saw Ms. Wood, Ms. Wood seemed to be fine but that she did not see her after that and she did not know where her table was.

She further related at approximately 11:30 p.m. she had returned to their boat and went to bed. At this time she had heard a loud

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party and rock and roll music coming from a cabin which was on the shore. She did not hear or see anything after that time.

On 12-3-81 at 1630 hours, investigators contacted Mr. DENNIS BOWEN, JR., of 11216 Hortense Street, Studio City, telephone 760-7060. Mr. Bowen related substantially the same as his girlfriend Laurel Page, adding that his boat was tied up to a mooring approximately 85 to 95 yards from the Splendour. He said he went to bed at approximately 11:30 p.m. and he had his porthole open, which faced the vessel Splendour. He stated approximately one hour later he heard rock and roll music coming from the shore, and he heard a male voice yell, "Shut up", which was apparently coming from another boat and directed toward the music. He stated he is a light sleeper and if someone had been yelling for help he would have heard it. He also contacted the other members of his family who were on his boat that evening, and ascertained that none of them had heard anyone yelling for help.

Investigators contacted Mr. BURT SPIRA, of 26006 Crenshaw, #304, Redondo Beach, telephone 541-4930. Mr. Spira is the owner of the vessel Sweet Bippy, which was moored three boats away from the Splendour, toward the beach. Mr. Spira recalled hearing some loud music during the early morning hours. He described this sound as "blasting from a powerful set". Later in the morning, while in a restaurant he overheard other people complaining about this noise, and he heard them estimate the time as approximately 1:30 a.m. He further added that it was a very cold night and most of his doors and ports were closed.

The only thing he knew of this incident was that just after daylight he had bailed some water out of his dinghy, took it for a little run around the harbor and at one point a sailboat owner had called to him and asked him if he was looking for Natalie Wood.

Investigators also contacted JANET MAY, of 4201 Ocean Drive, Manhattan Beach, telephone 545-5566. Mrs. May stated she and her husband LAWRENCE were aboard the vessel Jan Cat, which was moored at the Isthmus at the time of this incident. Neither she nor her husband had heard or observed anything unusual. The only thing she recalled was sometime Sunday morning they had observed a dinghy being towed back to the Splendour. She could add nothing further.

This file is to be made inactive as to any further action by the Sheriff's Homicide Bureau, pending receipt of any further workable information.

DUANE P. RASURE, SERGEANT #074379  
ROY D. HAMILTON, INVESTIGATOR #036940  
ROBERT H. MORCK, INVESTIGATOR #064024  
APPROVED: CLARENCE C. CARAWAY, LIEUTENANT  
HOMICIDE BUREAU, DETECTIVE DIVISION

Vasquez/Steno.