

but before the trial began. Had the Act been in effect when they were recorded, the making of them without a warrant would have been illegal. One must assume, however, that if the Act had been in effect, Teggert would have applied for and probably been given a warrant.

Pomerant also argued that the Act should be made retroactive, but not all libertarians would have agreed, for retroactive laws of any kind are fraught with peril. Justice Campbell Grant ruled on November 14, admitting the tapes into evidence, but by then the whole substance of the Crown's case had changed.

The police had found two new key witnesses. One, Ferenc Stark, had been turned up earlier by Defence attorneys who kept him under wraps. Stark was a small-time contractor who occasionally did building jobs for Peter. When Peter's attorneys found him, he told them that once, in 1971 or 1972, Christine had tried to enlist him in what was apparently a plot against Peter's life. They met by appointment, and she asked him to sell her a rifle (he was a hunter) and to provide her accomplice with an alibi. The accomplice apparently was Csaba Szilagyi. Stark told the lawyers that Christine had said to him, "I want your rifle and for you to say that you were with Csaba. I do have the money, three thousand dollars." Stark said he turned down the proposition without asking any further questions.

The Defence lawyers considered Stark a substantial witness, but they didn't know that the police had also found him and that he had told them the story about Christine's plot against Peter

and another one as well. The second story was a stunner. Stark said that some time in 1972, after his meeting with Christine, Peter approached him and, "... he started to talk about his wife, how she is cheating on him and how miserable he is and he cannot stand it any longer." According to Stark, Peter asked him to arrange an accident and he finally agreed. He enlisted another Hungarian called Kasca or "the Duck." Peter was to send Christine to a vacant house he owned on Dawes Road to meet the Duck, who would pretend to be a prospective buyer. She would carry a roll of architectural plans which concealed the payoff money. The Duck was to take the plans and push Christine down the basement stairs, making sure she "didn't get up."

Instead, Stark said, the Duck met Christine, took the drawings and the money and left immediately. Christine returned to Peter, alive if slightly baffled. The Duck later phoned Stark and complained that the roll contained only \$1,800 instead of the promised \$3,000. He took the money and ran off to Hungary.

The Crown had also found Joseph "Foxy" Jones who said that he had driven the Duck to his rendezvous with Christine and that he'd later heard him reporting to someone named Frank (Stark's nickname) who was angry because "... he was supposed to do something he didn't do."

This new testimony was staggering to the Defence. As Peter read copies of Stark's statement, tears came into his eyes.

The Crown was changing its theory of the case in mid-stream. Defence lawyers argued that



Csaba Szilagyi



Marina Hundt