Wilson accuser found dead

United Press International

EDINBURG — The former CIA agent who informed on ex-agent Edwin Wilson and the CIA-Libyan connection mysteriously died in the doorway of his rural cottage, becoming the second potential witness in Wilson's trial to die, police say.

"It looked like he got out of the truck, went over and sat down on the porch and died," said Shenandoah County Deputy Sheriff Gary Dalton, who found the body of Kevin Mulcahy, the former agent, outside Cottage No. 1 at the Mountain View Motel Court Tuesday. His body was in a jackknifed position between the storm door and main door.

"There was no inkling whatsoever. No trauma to the body, no marks, no nothing that indicated foul play," Dalton said.

An autopsy was scheduled Wednesday.

Mulcahy was expected to be a key government witness in the case against former CIA agents Wilson and Frank Terpil, accused in a Libyan terrorist support scheme. He had worked with CBS as a consultant on the case but CBS officials said he was no longer employed there.

Shenandoah County Sheriff Marshall Robinson said Mulcahy's rent was paid, but he had been asked to leave by the motel owner for an undisclosed reason.

Robinson said his department got a call from a neighbor, who saw Mulcahy slumped in the doorway of his cottage.

Shenandoah County Commonwealth's Attorney William Logan Jr. said wine bottles were found in Mulcahy's personal belongings, but Robinson would not say if alcohol or drugs were involved in his death. He also declined comment on whether Mulcahy could have died of exposure. Temperatures dipped into the 40s Monday night.

Robinson said Mulcahy had moved everything out of his cottage and into his vehicle.

"Yes, he was moving out," he said.

Justice Department sources said Mulcahy was expected to testify next month at the trial of Wilson, who is charged with shipping arms to Libya. He is scheduled to stand trial in Alexandria, Va., on Nov. 15, in Washington on Nov. 22 and in Houston Nov. 29.

Rafael Villaverde was also expected to testify, but he disappeared from a boat accident near the Bahamas seven months ago. Survivors said Villaverde dropped overboard when the boat exploded and sank and they were unable to rescue him. The Coast Guard never found a trace of his body and the death was ruled an accident.

Mulcahy's father, who also worked for the CIA, told CBS News that he had not seen his son in several weeks, and said he had been depressed.

Reports published a year ago in the Washington Post said Mulcahy had worked with Wilson but broke with the operation after Wilson told him to buy a heat-seeking missile for the Libyans. Mulcahy reportedly said he was afraid the Libyans might use the missile for a terrorist attack on a commercial airliner.

The CIA investigation into Wilson's dealings with Libya began in 1976 when Mulcahy told officials that Wilson, Terpil and others were operating a massive terrorism support program for Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy.

Wilson is now being held in lieu of $60 million bond. Wilson, who worked as a covert agent for the CIA from 1955 to 1970, first was indicted in 1980 on charges of illegally shipping explosives to Libya as part of an operation to train Libyan terrorists.

Nationwide poisoning of drugs continues

United Press International

CHICAGO — City officials said they were "closer than we have ever been" to cracking the month-old cyanide-Tylenol case and the government announced the removal of Excedrin capsules from Colorado stores because of the mercury poisoning of a man.

At least two other people were hospitalized in what officials were calling a copy cat contamination case in Florida and the Food and Drug Administration issued a warning Tuesday asking consumers nationwide to inspect all purchased products for possible tampering.

Illinois Attorney General Tyrone Fahner refused to elaborate on developments in the killings of seven people in the Chicago area by cyanide-laced Extra-Strength Tylenol capsules.

He would not say if Roger Arnold, questioned earlier as a suspect and whose name resurfaced Monday, was still under suspicion.

He said the husband of one poisoning victim, Edwin Reiner, had passed a lie detector test and was not a suspect. Arnold works with the father of Mary Reiner, the victim.

Thomas J. Royce, Arnold's attorney, asked police to either charge Arnold or leave him alone. He accused police of harassing him and his client. Arnold has refused to take a lie detector test.

A court hearing for Arnold on unrelated charges of keeping unlicensed firearms was postponed until Nov. 22. Royce claimed the delay was a ploy to keep Arnold under surveillance while he is free on bond.

The nationwide search continued for James W. Lewis and his wife, Leann, also considered suspects in the case. Lewis is wanted on federal charges for writing an extortion letter demanding $1 million from the makers of Tylenol.

In Colorado, the state's three largest supermarket chains issued statewide removal orders for all Excedrin capsules and smaller retailers were expected to follow after the FDA's withdrawal announcement.

Authorities investigated to determine if there was a connection between the poisoning of William Sinkovic, who took Excedrin capsules, and the disappearance of a 4-ounce bottle of mercuric chloride from Staney Aviation Corp. in Denver.

Suburban Aurora police spokesman Mike Sellman said Sinkovic underwent surgery late Tuesday at Aurora Community Hospital and was in critical condition. An unknown quantity of mercury was removed from his stomach and turned over to detectives.

Sinkovic's poisoning followed two recent cases of product tampering in Colorado and at least two more cases were reported Tuesday in Florida.

Juno Beach police officer Harry Browning collapsed after he took a sip from a pint carton of Tropicana orange juice that apparently had been injected with insecticide or a similar toxin, police said.

Browning was hospitalized and is in stable condition.

Police Chief Robert DiSavino said Browning complained of a burning sensation in his throat immediately after he drank the orange juice.

"He (Browning) turned colors before my eyes," DiSavino said.

In Avon Park, Carlene Afflick was to undergo tests Wednesday in Walker Memorial Hospital. Afflick said she was burned on the lips and mouth when she drank from a 10-ounce bottle of Tropicana fruit punch.

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