

Calkins Murder Story in Pictures

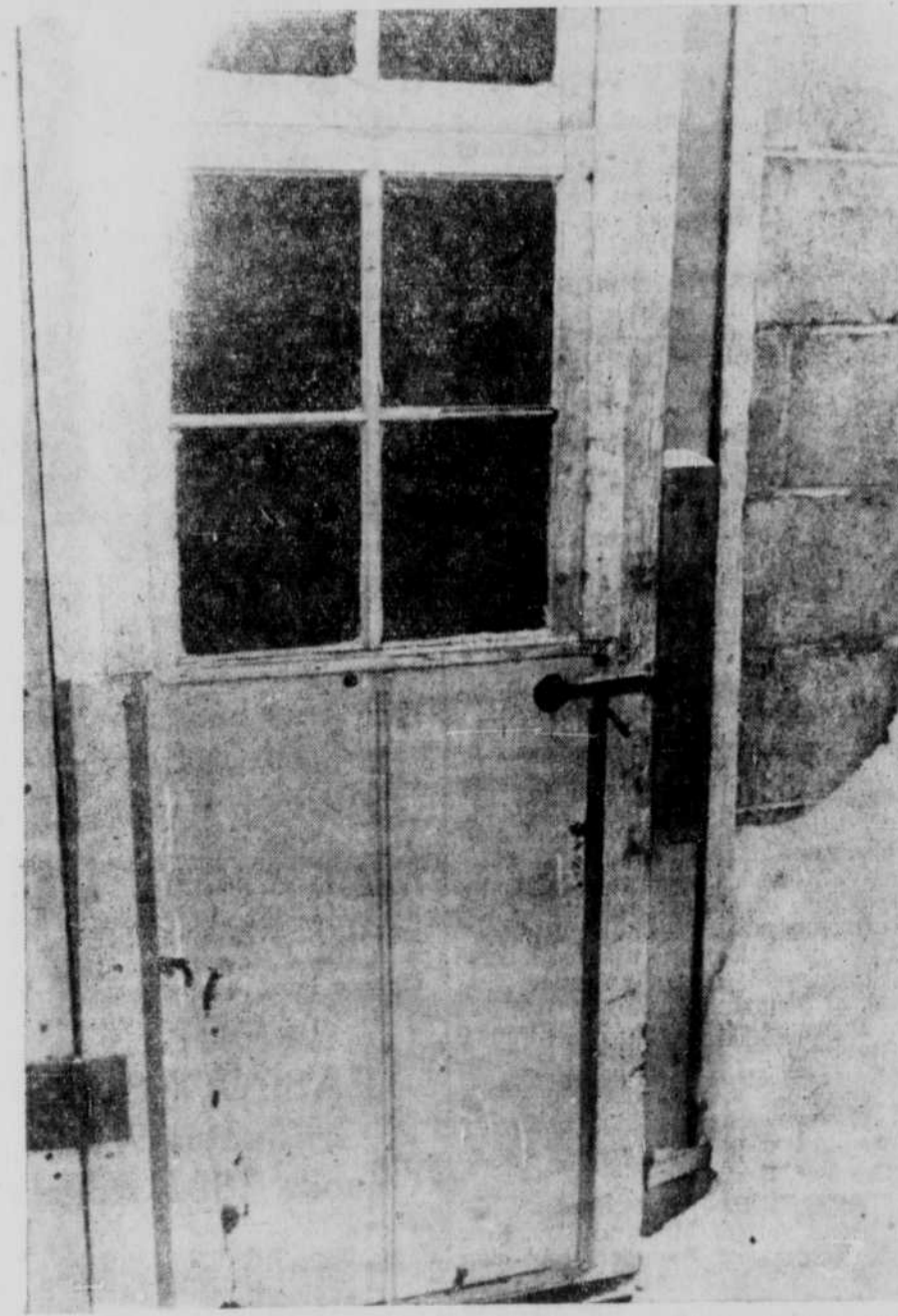
Some of the highlights of the Chet Calkins murder story appear on this special picture page. Impact of the sadistic murder angered the residents of this little city of 3,050 persons, whose police chief was ruthlessly slain in line of duty while the city slept—the city he loved so well. Calkins' body was riddled with six shots while in his parked cruiser car. The gunman fired at point-blank range. All shots pierced the general area of the upper right chest. Calkins died instantly.



Walt Calkins (above), brother of the slain chief, discovered the lifeless body in the front seat of a darkened car on Everett street. Walt initially thought his brother had suffered a heart attack. Later, at the mortuary it was discovered the body had been riddled with bullets.



This view of the front seat of the Calkins car shows where O'Neill's veteran police officer died when five or six bullets were fired into his body at close range. There was a splotch of blood on the steering wheel, undetected until several hours after the early morning murder.



The night of the murder the Shelhamer implement store was robbed, gaining entrance by breaking a small pane (above) and moving the bolt lock. Ten dollars in small change was taken from two cash registers. Photo shows view of rear entrance.



Dr. L. A. Carter points to spot where the murder took place in front of his garage, a half-block west of the doctor's combination office-apartment. Doctor Carter was summoned, felt the chief's pulse, pronounced him dead. The killing took place near the alley, little over 300 feet from O'Neill's principal street intersection.



Among five persons who reported seeing Chief Calkins examining the rear trunk compartment of a 1951 Kaiser sometime between 1 and 1:15 a.m. Friday were Richard Spittler (seated) and LeRoy Boies, two Ewing youths.



Friends of the police chief, anxious to make a gesture in behalf of the family, began pouring money into the Chet Calkins memorial fund. The move was sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Receptacles were placed in stores and offices. At the J. M. McDonald company store, while Assistant Manager Bill Moriarity and Manager Joe Stutz look on, Tommy Etherton, Marjorie Norman and Gary Hoffman make their contributions.—World-Herald Photo.



These were happier days for the Calkins family. Harold (left) was home on leave from the navy during World War II and Donald, now 18, was an O'Neill grade school pupil when they posed with their father.



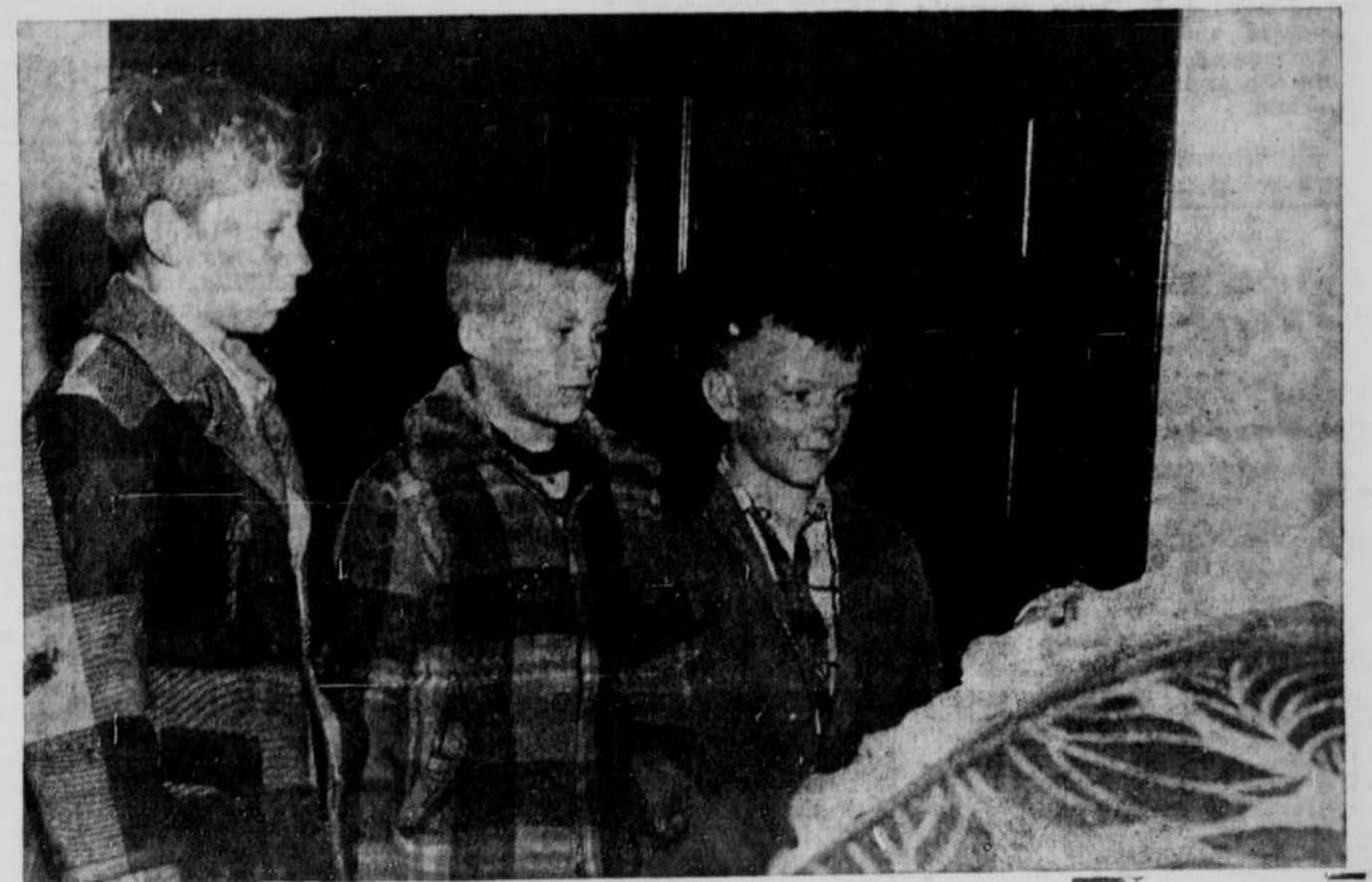
Police Chief Calkins' survivors include the widow, two sons and one daughter. They are pictured inside the small stucco Calkins home in the southeast section of the city looking at the family photo album late Friday afternoon. Left-to-right: Donald, Harold, Mrs. Calkins and Mrs. Walter (Jean) Lyons.— World-Herald Photo.



Holt County Sheriff Leo S. Tomjack (left) and Capt. Harold Smith (with telephone) began gruelling investigation into the slaying from the sheriff's office in the courthouse. Officers pressed the investigation for over 40 hours without rest. In background is Holt Deputy Sheriff James Mullen.



Dotted line and arrows show probable path of cruiser car, turning west at corner of Fourth and Everett streets. Authorities believe Calkins did a "U" turn in middle of the street after spotting 1951 Kaiser parked on an angle, pointing northwest. When Calkins turned around he stopped his car on the north side of the road. This occurred sometime after 1 a.m. Friday. The chief's dead body was discovered about 2 a.m.—World-Herald Photo.



Chet Calkins' friends are legion. Among the many hundreds who paid respects to their beloved police chief were these schoolboys: Jimmy Rockford, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Rockford; Larry Wanser, 11, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Wanser, and Dennis Tomlinson, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Tomlinson. Jimmy is a public school fifth grader; Larry and Dennis attend St. Mary's academy, fifth and fourth grades, respectively.