

One-way LIFTS

For a few months, Ed Kemper's deadly urges lay dormant; then, in late 1972, the lust to kill women possessed him again and he found two more students.

Four months went by in which Kemper did not go out searching for victims. When he felt his sadistic urges rising, he contented himself by rerunning moment by moment in his memory the killings of Pesce and Luchessa and by gazing at photographs he had kept of their dismembered bodies.

He was not even unduly concerned when Mary Ann Pesce's head was found by walkers and identified from dental records. The trail had long gone cold.

Kemper had meanwhile broken his left arm in a motorcycle accident, and had had a plate inserted. The accident meant he had plenty of time off work, time which he devoted to an attempt to get his juvenile record declared sealed. Having to admit to a double murder and five years in a mental hospital was not improving his

job prospects – and it was preventing him from buying a gun.

As the summer of 1972 ended, however, he went back on the prowl. At dusk on 14 September, he was again cruising University Avenue in Berkeley, looking

▼ Aiko Koo, seen here in a reflective pose, studied dance at a Berkeley dance studio. On the night she accepted the fatal lift from Ed Kemper, she was on her way to an advanced dance class in San Francisco, for which she had received a special invitation.



Courtesy of Santa Cruz DA's Office

14.9.72 Ed Kemper abducts, rapes and kills Aiko Koo, aged 15

16.9.72 Kemper is given a clean bill of mental health by the two court psychiatrists in Fresno, California

8.1.73 Kemper buys an automatic pistol; he abducts Cindy Schall, 18, in Santa Cruz, then shoots her

9.1.73 Kemper dissects Schall's body and throws the pieces – except the head – off a cliff south of Carmel

10.1.73 Parts of Schall's body found by the police

24.1.73 Body is identified by the pathologists as Cindy Schall

for the right student, when he spotted a petite oriental girl thumbing a lift by a bus stop.

Aiko Koo was on her way to a dance class in San Francisco. She was just 15 years old, but looked older; in the half-

assured her that he would not hurt her, that he was, in fact, planning suicide, and just wanted to talk to someone.

He drove up into the Santa Cruz mountains and pulled the car over. Somehow, he persuaded her that he would have to tie her up and gag her. She did not resist until he rolled over on top of her, bearing his weight down hard, and covered her nose and mouth with his hand.

Fight for life

The tiny girl fought hard, grabbing at his testicles, but she was no match for the giant, and she soon went limp. He relaxed his grip, and she began to fight again. This time, Kemper did not let go until he was sure she was unconscious. Then he dragged her out of the car and raped her. 'I achieved orgasm,' he recalled. 'I guess it was only 15 or 20 seconds.' He then strangled her with her scarf.

Wrapping her body in a blanket, he

half an hour about non-essential things, just passing the time, telling her why I was down from the Bay Area, which was a lie, a fabrication, testing on her whether or not anything would show on my face or my mannerisms or speech as to what I was doing and why, and it didn't. She absolutely took no alarm or asked any undue questions.'

When Kemper left the house, he could

“ I didn't come across any of the normal problems I had with girls and their curiosity as to where I was going, what I was doing... ”

Ed Kemper on abducting Aiko Koo

light Kemper took her for a student. Aiko was not a regular hitchhiker. She had waited in vain for a bus and was worried about being late for her class. She did not think twice about getting in the car.

Cat and mouse

Adopting the same method he had used with Mary Ann Pesce and Anita Luchessa, Kemper went on a confusing tour of the freeway system to disorientate his passenger, then set off south down the coast highway.

When she realized that he was not taking her where she wanted to go, Aiko began to scream and plead. Kemper then pulled out another borrowed gun, a .357 Magnum, and held it to her ribs with his right hand as he drove with his left. He

put it in the boot. Just down the road, he stopped at a bar for a beer. Then he dropped in on his mother, just to see if he could carry off the visit, enjoying the powerful feeling his secret gave him: 'I talked to my mother for approximately

PERILS OF THUMBING

Hitchhiking has been part of the American way of life for almost as long as the automobile, but the pattern of its use has changed over the years. In the 1930s and '40s, hitchhikers in America tended to be men looking for work or servicemen on leave attempting to get home to their families.

By the late 1960s, however, hitchhiking was an integral part of the counter-culture. However, it had also become less an adventure and more a necessity for many students in rural colleges, where there was little or no public transport between the town and the campus.

Even in urban areas, transport could be a problem. Then, in 1972, as rapes and assaults in the Santa Cruz



AP/Wide World

area grew, the University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC) and Cabrillo College tried several schemes to minimize attacks, such as subsidizing a bus service into town.

The rape and murder of dozens of young women hitchhikers across the country also led to several campaigns to persuade women to stop accepting lifts. Many female students preferred to hitchhike in pairs, in the belief that there was safety in numbers – this was a strategy that turned out to be tragically misguided for Mary Ann Pesce and Anita Luchessa.

not resist looking into the boot of his car, 'knowing already she was dead, feeling her body to see which parts were still warm, partially out of curiosity'. He felt, he said later, like a fisherman with a prize catch.

Kemper arrived back at his flat in Alameda with his booty at around 11pm. He placed the body on his bed while he pored over Aiko's few personal possessions, trying to gain some impression of the life he had just ended. Later, he dissected the body and disposed of the pieces in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Grisly luggage

Aiko's severed head was still in the boot of his car when, two days later, he travelled to Fresno to see a couple of court psychiatrists. At the interview, they

► In September 1972 Kemper visited the city of Fresno (right), in California's Central Valley, where two psychiatrists gave him a clean bill of mental health. This meant his previous record of violence would be wiped away; he could even go out and buy a gun.



Corbis Bettmann/UPi

THE DANCER

AIKO KOO was just 15 years and four months old when she died. Her Korean father had deserted her Latvian mother before she was born, and young Aiko lived in relatively frugal circumstances in Berkeley, where her mother worked as a cataloguer in the University of California library. From an early age, the slight and slender Aiko had proved a talented dancer in both ballet and classical Korean styles. She had made several professional appearances, and had won scholarships to study dance.

declared he had made so much progress, that they would recommend that his juvenile record be sealed.

In November 1972, a court ruling confirmed their judgement. So far as the authorities were concerned, the slate had

sponge off his friend. Defeated, he moved back to his mother's house at 609A Ord Drive in Aptos. The arguments began again almost immediately. He spent much of his time hanging around Santa Cruz, drinking in

“ I see no psychiatric reason to consider him to be a danger to himself or any other member of society. ”

Psychiatrist giving the all-clear to Kemper

been wiped clean. Now Kemper could walk into a shop, fill out a form, wait five days, and buy a gun, just like any other citizen.

However, money was proving a problem. He was still off work – his broken arm was taking an age to heal – and he could no longer afford to pay the rent in Alameda. He was reluctant to

the Jury Room bar.

He could feel the urge to kill resurfacing. On 8 January 1973, he brought a .22 Rutgers automatic with a 152mm (6-inch) barrel. He had waited so long for the day he could buy a gun of his own that he could barely contain himself. At dusk, he went hunting for girls on the University of California



campus at Santa Cruz. He thus broke one of his most important rules, for he had resolved to keep his crimes away from the area immediately around his home.

It was a rainy evening, and there was no shortage of possible female victims eagerly thumbing lifts: 'I was cruising around, close on five o'clock or so. I had been cruising around the campus and I'd picked up three different girls, two of them together, that were possibilities, but I cancelled those out because there were too many people standing around that possibly knew them when they got in. But all the other conditions were perfect ... it had been raining real hard, and people were getting any ride they could get.'

He had just about decided to give up, and was driving home down Santa Cruz's Mission Avenue, when he spotted a short, buxom blonde woman

attempting to thumb a lift. Cynthia Schall, known to her family and friends as Cindy, was on her way from a babysitting job to Santa Cruz's Cabrillo Community College, where she was a student.

As soon as she got in the car, he showed her the gun. To calm her down, he stowed it away under his leg and told her the same tale he had spun to Aiko Koo, that he was suicidal and just needed to talk to somebody: 'I was playing a

Popperfoto

In focus

A RIVAL KILLER

Cindy Schall was the second female student from Cabrillo College to go missing in little more than three months. Mary Guilfoyle, a 23-year-old would-be English teacher, had hitched a ride in a blue station wagon on 24 October 1972. Mary's skeleton was discovered in the mountains at the end of January 1973, at about the same time as Cindy Schall's remains

were identified. The skeleton was lying very close to a shallow grave where parts of Aiko Koo's body were later found. Mary had been stabbed to death.

Mary Guilfoyle's killer turned out to be Herbert Mullin, a 25-year-old with a history of severe mental disturbance who had embarked on his own campaign of mass murder within a few months of Ed Kemper's.

THE BABYSITTER



Courtesy of Santa Cruz DA's Office

CINDY SCHALL was 18 when Kemper picked her up. A native of Marin County near San Francisco, she was in her second year at Cabrillo College – situated on the outskirts of Santa Cruz – and had ambitions to become a teacher. Cindy lived with a family in the town, earning her keep by working as a babysitter and sharing both her lodgings and her job with a friend. She was on her way to the college for an evening class when she was abducted by Kemper.

▼ When the remains of Cindy Schall were found on 10 January 1973, her identity was unknown, so she was called Jane Doe – the standard name for unidentified women – on the autopsy report (shown here).

little game... I convinced her that I didn't like guns and all that.' He drove around for two or three hours, then headed east along the highway to Watsonville, turning off into the hills at the small town of Freedom.

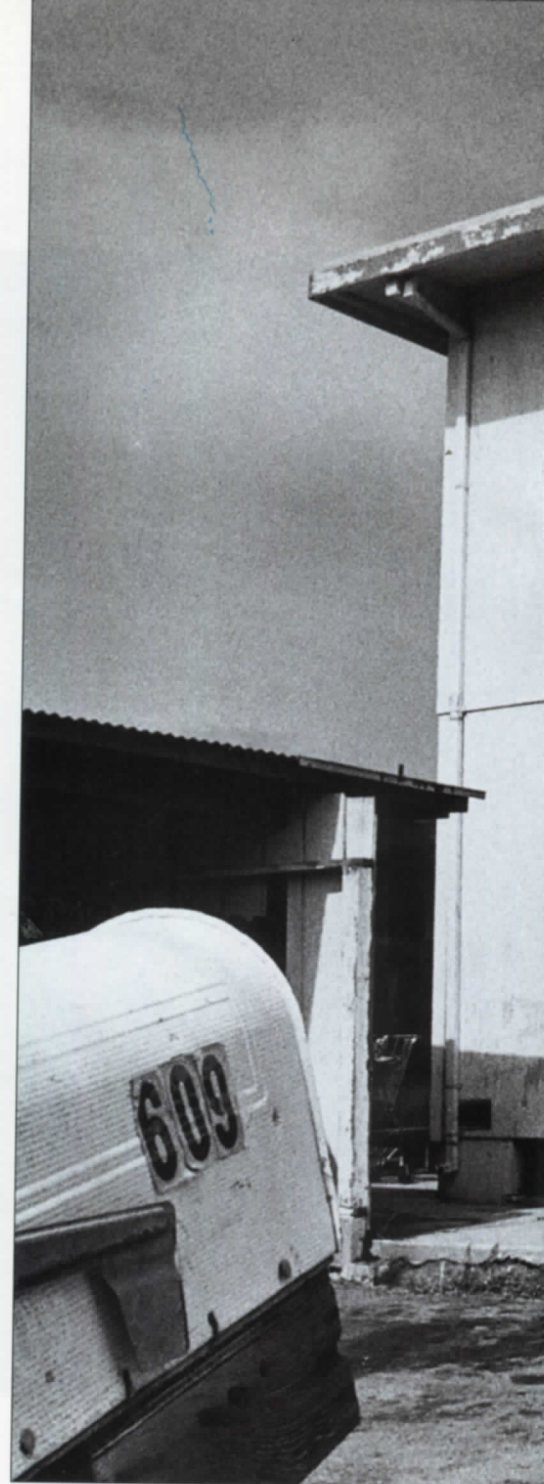
Once he had found a deserted side road, he pulled up. He told Cindy that he was going to take her to his mother's house to talk some more, and that she had to get in the boot of the car. His feeble justification for this was that he did not want his mother's neighbours to see him drive up with a girl. After much persuasion to get his passenger to comply, he folded a blanket to make her a pillow and, reluctantly, she climbed in.

As she curled up on her side, he raised the gun. Catching the movement out of the corner of her eye, she turned to face him as he squeezed the trigger. A single shot to the head killed her instantly.

Instant death

He was amazed how quickly she died: 'Every other case there has always been at least, you know, a little reflex. There was absolutely nothing... One second she's animated and the next second she's not, and there was absolutely nothing between. Just a noise and absolute, absolute stillness.'

Kemper drove home. He knew his mother was out for the evening. His arm was hurting him, and it was all he could do to manhandle the girl's body – Cindy weighed about 70kg (11 stone) – into the house before his mother returned. The plaster cast on his arm was spattered with blood, and he covered this up with white shoe polish. He hid the body in a cupboard and waited for morning.



Once his mother had gone to work, he pulled the corpse out, sexually abused it, then dissected it with an axe and a knife, putting the pieces in plastic bags for disposal. The head he kept in his bedroom cupboard.

Morbid souvenirs

He also kept Cindy's oversized woollen check man's shirt for his own use, and took as a 'souvenir' a small hand-made ring she was wearing. He then got rid of the rest of her belongings before driving south. He went through Monterey and tossed the bags out of the car where the road crested a 91m (300-ft) cliff south of Carmel.

The next day, a sharp-eyed highway patrolman saw an arm sticking out of a bag beside the road. Looking over the

DRS. SIMARD AND HOOPS
A Medical Corporation

PATHOLOGISTS
J. NEST E. SIMARD, M.D.
WILLIAM E. HOOPS, M.D.
K. WOLFGANG TITUS, M.D.

TELEPHONE 434-1895
808 EAST ROMIE LAKE
SALINAS, CALIFORNIA
93901

Autopsy
Coroner's Office

Acct. No: 73-21
Mission Mortuary

PATIENT: DOE, Jane # 1
AGE:
SEX: Female

PATHOLOGIST: E.E. Simard, M.D.
DATE OF DEATH: 1-9-73
AUTOPSY: 1-11-73

CLINICAL HISTORY:

Portions of this body were found in a gully off of Highway 1 near Bixsby Creek.

On gross examination the parts appeared to be freshly severed from the body. The condition of the limbs and the presence of fluid essentially unadulterated blood are such that it is estimated that the body had not been dead for more than 48 hours at the time of autopsy examination.

The material consists of two arms and two legs. They are labeled 1, 1A 2 and 3. Number one is the left arm which has been amputated by disarticulation of the shoulder joints. The lines of excision are quite sharp and the strokes used to cut the skin appear to have been bold and firm. The manner in which the arm has been amputated indicates that the limbs were not hacked away from the torso but rather were dissected in a fairly competent manner. The upper portion of the arm measures 10 1/2 inches in length while the lower portion measures 9 1/2 inches in length starting at the olecranon process and ending at the point of disarticulation of the wrist. The hand has been removed by a rather neat disarticulation through the wrist joints exposing the articular surfaces of the radius and ulna. On the volar surface of the lower arm and located on the radial side of the arm is a flat pigmented mole measuring 1/2 inch in maximum diameter.

The right leg which has been disarticulated through the hip joint.

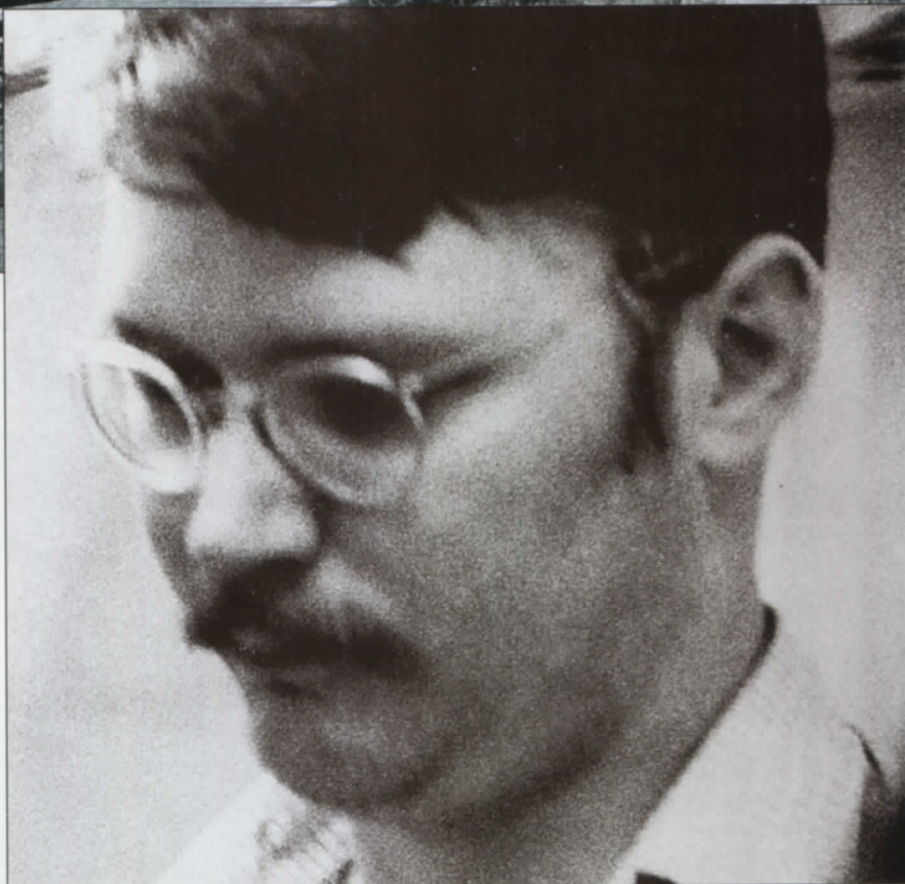


Richard Gibson

▲► Ed Kemper's mother, Clarnell, lived at 609A Ord Drive in Aptos (the ground-floor part of the house, above). After Kemper (right) was released from the Atascadero hospital, he moved in with his mother for a time. It was here that he brought the body of Cindy Schall and dissected it.

cliff, he saw more human debris scattered down the drop, including a hand and portions of two legs. A week later, the rib cage was washed ashore near Santa Cruz. By 24 January, enough of the body had been found for the pathologists to identify the dead girl as Cindy Schall.

As soon as he heard over the radio that the remains had been discovered, Kemper panicked and buried Cindy's head in the back garden, outside his mother's bedroom window.



AP/Wide World Photos