

Murder
7-16-78

Trait Girls' Death Wounds Cited

Amina Trait, 6, and Kyia Trait, 9, suffered 63 and 44 slash and stab wounds respectively when they were allegedly slain by their mother in 1978, an Erie County medical examiner told a State Supreme Court jury late Thursday.

Dr. Justin Uku testified at the murder trial of Mrs. Gail Trait, 27, accused of killing Amina, Kyia and her two other children, Inez, 4, and Demario, 2.

Mrs. Trait is accused of the butcher knife slaying of her four children in an upper apartment at 122 Montana Ave. on July 16, 1978.

Dr. Uku, who performed au-

topsies on the bodies of Amina and Kyia, testified that Amina died of stab wound of the heart, lung and aorta, a major artery in the body.

Died of Hemorrhages

Kyia died of internal and external hemorrhages due to multiple stab wounds, said Dr. Uku. Wounds to her left lung could have been fatal by themselves.

George B. Quinlan, senior assistant district attorney, is expected to call other psychiatrists today to testify to the cause of death of the other two children.

Defense attorney Carl Vizzi, who has interjected a defense of innocent by reason of insanity, asked Dr. Uku if a person wouldn't "have to be in a psychotic state to inflict that number of wounds?"

"It's not normal behavior," the witness replied.

Went to Scene

Dr. Uku was followed to the stand by Dr. Edmond Glocwicz, another county medical examiner, who testified he went to the scene at 122 Montana and ordered the bodies removed to the morgue at the Erie County Medical Center on Grider Street.

Trial will resume at 9:30 this morning before Justice Joseph D. Mintz and the jury of nine men and three women.

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