

A Transcription from the Independent News Paper  
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**Pinole-**

A Pinole police officer, father of two, was shot and killed early this morning when he responded to a bartender's call that a patron was threatening others with a pistol. Fatally wounded in the shooting was patrolman John M. Sellers, 37, a two-year member of the department who had served six years in the U.S. Army. Before his discharge as a captain and Infantry company commander, Sellers had received a Purple Heart for wounds suffered in Vietnam.

Police Chief Kenneth Giles said that Orland T. Davis, 67, of 6273 Arlington Blvd., East Richmond Heights, is being held for questioning in the slaying. Sellers and a fellow officer, Randy Eikenbary, 25, were detailed in separate police cars to the Antlers Tavern, 2884 San Pablo Ave., at 1:20 a.m. Bartender Jerry Garza had telephoned police that a customer had whipped out a .38 caliber pistol from his pocket during an argument with the only other patron at the bar.

Giles said the suspect turned on Sellers as the officer entered the tavern through a rear door. The suspect fired once, the slug striking Sellers in his chest. Eikenbary, who was entering the front door rushed Davis and wrestled him to the floor. Eikenbary retrieved the pistol that had been dislodged from Davis' hand and shouted to the bartender to call for an ambulance, according to the police chief.

The Pinole Fire Department's rescue truck sped to the scene within a minute of the call. Firemen Dave Peters and Dick Scott loaded Sellers in their unit and rushed him to Doctors Hospital, Pinole, where he was pronounced dead. Davis has asked for an attorney, and he was to be questioned later today. Giles said he expected the suspect will be brought into court tomorrow. Giles conferred early this morning with Assistant District Attorney Mike Thelan and Jack Waddell, senior deputy district attorney. Davis is being held in the Pinole's one-cell jail.

City Manager Edward G. Wohlenberg described the shooting as a "tragic event for our police department and our community. In a closely knit community like Pinole we all feel a great loss," Wohlenberg said. He said that he telephoned Mayor

Richard Bannon shortly before 6 a.m. and reported that Bannon expressed shock at the news and extended sympathy to Sellers' wife and children.

Sellers lived in Vallejo with his wife, Mary, and their two children, Tom, 10, and Amanda, nine. A native of San Francisco, he spent his early years in San Leandro. The police chief said Sellers was currently attending Solano College, majoring in police science, and was scheduled to graduate shortly.

This was the first slaying of a Pinole Policeman in the line of duty in the city's 69 year history. Both the flags over the city hall and post office were flown at half-mast today. Funeral arrangements are pending at the Civic Center Chapel of Wilson and Kratzer Mortuaries.