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The Mirror

May 29, 1997, Thursday

**HEADLINE: LADY 'TEC IN DEATH TRIAL PRINT QUIZ;**

**WOMAN POLICE OFFICER WHOSE FINGERPRINT WAS FOUND IN A MURDER  
VICTIM'S HOUSE DENIES BEING INSIDE**

**Stuart Cameron**

A woman police officer whose fingerprint was found in a murder victim's house yesterday denied being inside.

Detective Constable Shirley Cardwell, 34, was grilled in court and denied that while probing the death of spinster Marion Ross she went into the victim's home to take a "peep" at the body - leaving her thumbprint.

The detective told the High Court in Glasgow that her chiefs put pressure on her to say she may have been in the house but couldn't remember.

But she was adamant she had not.

Mr Alan Dewar who is prosecuting David Asbury, 21 accused of Miss Ross's murder said: "Do you maintain that you were never in that house?"

DC Cardwell who is suspended and faces disciplinary action over the print said: "Yes".

Asked Mr Dewar: "Do you accept that the fingerprint was yours?"

DC Cardwell replied: "No".

DC Cardwell said that she had no explanation how the print got there.

During the trial the defence has suggested that Miss Ross's fingerprint may have been put on a tin money box found in Asbury's home after her death.

The trial before Lord Dawson continues.