

# Truck dock slaying of Jewish leader baffles detectives

By Mairy Jayn Woge

Cleveland homicide detectives are looking for leads in the slaying Tuesday night of Arthur J. Jaffe, a prominent Jewish community leader.

Jaffe, 51, of 2128 Marlindale Rd., Cleveland Heights, president of Henry Jaffe & Co., a plastics recycling firm, was found dead on the loading dock at the company, 6501 Cedar Ave. He had been placing items for shipment in a truck trailer.

Jaffe was shot once in the right front chest, Cuyahoga County Deputy Coroner Charles S. Hirsch said yesterday.

Detectives James Cudo and Edward Kovacic said they believed Jaffe was killed during a robbery. His wallet, containing an unknown amount of cash and six credit cards, is missing.

Jaffe's body was found behind the trailer he was loading, police said. Beside him was a bill of lading he was checking off.

Police said the driver of the truck, Francis Koskey, 34, of Liberty, N.Y., was asleep in the cab of his truck during the shooting. He told police he had fallen asleep after arriving at the Jaffe dock. The truck motor was running, he said. The driver was not held.

Jaffe was completing his fourth year as president of Taylor Road Synagogue, Cleveland Heights. Services for him were there yesterday afternoon.

He had been a member of the board of the Bureau of Jewish Education, was treasurer of Hillel Foundation at Case Western Reserve University and headed the chaplaincy committee of the Jewish Community Federation. He was a past president of Bar Ilan Chapter of Hapoel Mizrichi, religious Zionist group.

Police said that Jaffe's body was found at 10:40 p.m. by his brother, Alvin H., after Honeywell Protection Services called the family home to report its burglar alarm



Arthur J. Jaffe

at the Jaffe company was inoperative.

Honeywell told police Jaffe had called at 5 p.m. to say he was expecting a truck to arrive and that the company alarm would be disconnected until 8:30 p.m. when the trailer was expected to be loaded.

When the alarm was not reset by 10, a Honeywell employe telephoned Jaffe's wife, Miriam. She told The Plain Dealer she asked Honeywell to check the company premises. That was refused, she said. So Jaffe's brother went to the site to investigate.