

PINTER Laszlo D.

1951

**THE EVENING STAR**

Washington, D. C. \*\*  
SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 1951

## New York Artist Held In Stepson's Killing, Stabbing of Wife

By the Associated Press

NEW YORK, Mar. 3.—An artist garbed in a woman's beige sports coat and paint-stained shoes was taken into custody today in the fatal stabbing of his 17-year-old stepson and the wounding of his estranged wife.

The painter, identified as Laszlo Pinter, 40, was found by police on Staten Island after an all-night search. He had fled his Park avenue studio bare-footed and in an undershirt last night after an apparent attempt at reconciliation with his wife, Mrs. Christine Pinter, 40, ended in the double stabbing, police said.

Leonard Allen Fleming, her son by a previous marriage, died of a wound in the abdomen.

### Military Academy Student.

He was a student at La Salle Military Academy on Long Island and at the time of his death was wearing his cadet uniform.

The boy managed to stagger to the doorway of another apartment building and asked that police be called. He was dead when they arrived.

Patrolman James Mann, who picked up Pinter, quoted him as saying an argument developed when the boy urged his mother to leave the studio at 1063 Park avenue.

He quoted Pinter further as saying:

"For six years she's been giving me a lot of trouble. The boy hit me. What could I do? They tried to push me out the window. I put up with it long enough."

### Sounds of Fight Heard.

Neighbors told police they heard sounds of a fight in the Pinter apartment last night. In a few moments the bleeding mother and youth were seen fleeing down the stairs.

Mrs. Pinter was picked up by a motorist and taken to a hospital, where her wounds were described as not serious. But she became hysterical when she learned her son had died only a few moments after he left the apartment building.

Police said the stabbings apparently were committed with a bloodstained antique belt-knife found on an ornate chest in the apartment.

### Woman Supplied Clothing.

The search for Pinter, police said, led to an attractive, blond woman friend of Pinter's. They said she supplied him with the coat and the shoes.

The woman, identified as Mrs. Frances Grassl, 35, also an artist, was quoted by police as saying Pinter liked to walk for hours on Staten Island when he was moody or upset.

Neighbors said Pinter was born in Hungary and came to America in 1937.



**LASZLO PINTER,**  
Artist held in slaying of step-  
son.  
—AP Wirephoto.

