

Trial . . .

(Continued from B4)

Summers' former girlfriend and now one of several alibi witnesses — that her fingerprints were on a road map that supposedly links Summers to the crime scene.

The jury has been told that at least 10 fingerprints were on the map, but that *none* of them was ever identified, much less identified as Bowler's.

Asked why he lied to Bowler, Meyer told the defense attorney, "I wanted to get to the truth."

The former detective implied that police often lie when interrogating suspects and witnesses.

According to Guhin, Meyer lied to Bowler so that she would think the service station road map was hers.

Bowler says she does not know for sure if the map is hers — a position she has steadfastly maintained, the jury has been told.

In the spring of 1977 Summers shared an apartment with Bowler in the Bay Area city of Livermore. The issue is whether Bowler possessed the map and, if she did, did Summers have access to it?

Deputy District Attorney Michael Smith has argued that Summers used the map to travel to various places in California, where the prosecution says Summers was sighted with the missing children after the murder.

Guhin also accused Meyer of being determined to "get" Summers, regardless of the evidence.

"As sure as my name is Meyer, Summers will rot the rest of his life in jail," Guhin said, reading from a transcript of an interview Meyer had with one witness. Meyer argued that he never used the word "rot."

When Guhin asked Meyer if he fully followed every lead in the case, Meyer replied, "there were instances when McDonald and I did not check out what we should have . . .

"Hindsight is beautiful. If I would have known what was to happen here, I would have done a lot of things differently."

Guhin said Meyer selected leads in the case that were most incriminating to Summers. Only leads that pointed to Summers' guilt were pursued, while leads tending to indicate his innocence were ignored, he claimed.

As an example, Guhin questioned Meyer about how vigorously he tried to verify Summers' story that he was working in Utah on the day of the murder. Meyers said he made one phone call in 1979 to the man who reportedly hired Summers, but that the man wasn't available. Meyers conceded that he never again tried to contact the alleged employer.

Guhin also asked if the detective ever tried to contact other men who supposedly saw Summers working on the day of the slaying. Meyers said no.