Loner lies low as killer hunt hots up

THE MAN police are seeking in connection with the vicious shotgun killing of 61-year-old Mid Wales sheep farmer Mr. John Hughes Williams went to ground again last night after a series of positive sightings during the past couple of days.

Police say 35-year-old self-confident loner Mr. Richard Anthony Gammell born in Kent but now of no fixed address, stayed at the Neuadd Arms.

By PETER ROBERTS

Hotel, Llanvertyd Wells, on Sunday and Monday night and left there on Tuesday morning leaving behind his navy-blue nylon rucksack.

He snatched the 11.30am train from Llanvertyd Wells to Llandrindod Wells on Sunday and at 11.30am yesterday was spotted in Builth Wells.

Police sealed off the room in the Neuadd Arms where Mr Gammell stayed and forensic scientists checked for clues.

The search was intensified in the Builth, Llandrindod and Llanvertyd areas after reported sightings.

About 10 police, some armed, questioned people in Mid Wales pubs, shops and restaurants. Road blocks were set up and motor patrol police stopped and searched vehicles at random.

About 90 West Mercia police and a helicopter were also engaged in a separate search for a young man said to have been seen in an argument at the Oswestry area on Sunday.

Police believe this incident may also be linked with the killing with his own shotgun an Saturday night of Mr Williams of Berrysywer, Llanddeernd, near Tref- garon.

The man spotted in the Oswestry area aged between 35 and 36 and was not wearing the same clothing as Mr Gammell. He took a taxi from Wrexham to Oswestry on Sunday.

He is described as slim and was wearing a khaki parka coat with fur collar, had fairly short hair, was about 5ft 10in to 6ft tall and was carrying an American army-style backpack.

The head of the Dyfed Powys CID, Detective Chief Superintendent Pat Molloy, said yesterday he was convinced the per son who stayed at the Neuadd Arms and was later spotted on the train and at Builth Wells was Mr. Gammell.

Reports indicated he was wearing a yellow, reversible to navy blue jacket and fitted his description in other ways.

Mr Molloy said forensic scientists were still working at Berrysywer. "I am not now beginning in the wake of neither there was no burglary there and that robbery was not the motive," he added.

An inquest on Mr Williams was opened at Cwmarsihon yesterday and adjourned in a later date after evidence of identification was given.