

# Second Letter From .44 Slayer Has Police Chasing 4 Nicknames

By MOLLY IVINS

The special police unit investigating the killer who calls himself Son of Sam was striving yesterday to find the source of four bizarre nicknames the killer used in a second letter.

The letter from Son of Sam, who has killed five people and wounded three others, all with the same .44-caliber pistol, urged the police to check on "The Duke of Death," "The Wicked King Wick-er," "The Twenty-Two Disciples of Hell" and "John 'Wheaties'—rapist and suffocator of little girls."

The killer suggested in his letter, sent to the columnist Jimmy Breslin, that the names be forwarded "to the inspector (presumably Deputy Inspector Timothy Dowd, who is in charge of the investigation) for use by the N.C.I.C."

The N.C.I.C. is the national Crime Information Center, a computer bank of criminal records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Washington.

Mr. Breslin received the second letter from Son of Sam in the middle of last week. The first letter was left at the site of the last killings April 17. By the weekend, police handwriting experts were satisfied that the letter was from Son of Sam and The Daily News began to print parts of it. Mr. Breslin ran the text in his Sunday column.

The letter from Son of Sam said: "Hello from the gutters of N.Y.C. which are filled with dog manure, vomit, stale wine, urine and blood. Hello from the sewers which swallow up these delicacies when they are washed away by the sweeper trucks. Hello from the cracks in the sidewalks of N.Y.C. and from the ants that dwell in these cracks and on the dried blood of the dead that has settled into the cracks."

Addressing himself to Mr. Breslin, the killer continued: "J.B. I'm just dropping you a line to let you know that I appreciate your interest in those recent and horrendous .44 killings. I also want to tell you that I read your column daily and find it quite informative."

"Tell me, Jim, what will you have for

July Twenty-Ninth? You can forget about me if you like because I don't care for publicity. However, you must not forget Donna Lauria and you cannot let the people forget her, either. She was a very sweet girl but Sam's a thirsty lad and he won't let me stop killing until he gets his fill of blood."

Donna Lauria was the first victim of Son of Sam, shot to death outside her home in the Bronx last July 29. All but one of the killer's victims have been young women with long, brown hair. The fifth victim was Alexander Esau, 18, the companion of Valentina Suriana, 18, who was also killed on April 17.

The killer continued: "Mr. Breslin, sir, don't think that because you haven't heard from [me] for a while that I went to sleep. No, rather, I am still here. Like a spirit roaming the night. Thirsty, hungry, seldom stopping to rest, anxious to please Sam. I love my work. Now, the void has been filled.

"Perhaps we shall meet face to face some day or perhaps I will be blown away by the cops with smoking .38's. Whatever, if I shall be fortunate enough to meet you I will tell you all about Sam if you like and I will introduce you to him. His name is 'Sam the Terrible.'

"Not knowing what the future holds I shall say farewell and I will see you at the next job. Or, should I say you will see my handiwork at the next job? Remember Ms. Lauria. Thank you.

"In their blood and From the Gutter, 'Sam's Creation' .44

"P.S.: J.B., please inform all the detectives working on the slayings to remain.

"P.S.: J.B., please inform all the detectives working on the case that I wish them the best of luck. "Keep 'em digging, drive on, think positive, get off your butts, knock on coffins, etc."

Upon my capture I promise to buy all the guys working on the case a new pair of shoes if I can get up the money.

"Son of Sam."