

Rock Album by Hendrix Is Examined for a Clue On 'Son of Sam's' Name.

Detectives hunting the killer known as the "Son of Sam" have looked into a suggestion that he might have taken his name from a rock music lyric.

Capt. Joseph R. Borrelli, commanding homicide detectives in Queens, said yesterday that one member of the special task force investigating the case had studied a 1967 album by the Jimi Hendrix Experience trio. Mr. Hendrix, a singer-guitarist, died in 1970.

One number, "Purple Haze," can be heard with a faint incantation, "Help me, help me, help me, son of Sam, son of Sam." Captain Borrelli said: "It's interesting. It could be a coincidence. At this particular moment, I don't think it deserves special attention."

The rock suggestion was phoned in. It was among hundreds of suggestions made in calls that are still coming in daily to the task force's special telephone number — 844-0999.

The man known as "Son of Sam" has used a .44-caliber revolver to kill five persons and wound six in Queens and the Bronx since last July 29, the police say. A total of seven incidents were involved.

Interest in the case was swelled by two \$10,000 rewards offered for the killer's arrest and conviction— one by The Daily News and the other by WABC-TV, which is to be administered by the Citizens Union.

The investigators have been trying to track all 28,000 .44-caliber Charter Arms Bulldog revolvers manufactured since 1972. Captain Borrelli said that it turned out that many had yet to be sold by gun dealers, but that about 600 have been reported stolen nationwide.

The "Son of Sam" name has come from two notes by the killer printed in block lettering with unusual diagonal slants.