

# Gunman, Who First Struck in 1976, Killed Six and Wounded Seven

By MARTHA A. MILES

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The man who called himself "Son of Sam" has killed six persons and wounded seven since he first struck on July 29, 1976. Early that morning he shot and killed Donna Lauria, 18 years old, of 2860 Buhre Avenue in the Westchester Heights section of the Bronx, who was sitting in a double-parked car outside her home with a friend, Jody Valenti, 19, of 1918 Hutchinson River Parkway. Miss Valenti was wounded in the left knee.

Three months later, on Oct. 23, Carl Denaro, 20, was wounded in the head as he sat with Rosemary Keenan in a parked car on 160th Street between 32d and 33d Avenues in Flushing, Queens. He recovered, although doctors had to place a steel plate in his skull. Miss Keenan was uninjured.

The next shooting, a month later on Nov. 27, wounded Joanne Lomino, 18, of 83-31 262d Street, Bellerose, Queens, and her friend, Donna DiMasi, 17, of 86-31 262d Street, Floral Park, Queens. They were sitting on the porch of Miss Lomino's home. She is paralyzed from the waist down; Miss DiMasi was shot through the neck.

At this point, the police were not looking for a single culprit in these shootings. But the police did not establish a connection until another young woman had died. She was Virginia Voskerichian, 19, of 69-11 Exeter Street, Forest Hills, Queens, shot to death at 7:30 P.M. March 8 as she walked along Dartmouth Street on her way home from college. She was slain

half a block from where Miss Freund was killed five weeks earlier.

Three days later, the authorities announced that the police had learned that the same .44 caliber weapon had been used in all these incidents.

Valentina Suriani, 18, of 1950 Hutchinson River Parkway in Baychester, the Bronx, and Alexander Esau, of 352 West 46th Street, were shot to death about five weeks later, on April 17, as they sat in a parked car near Miss Suriani's home. At that point, a special task force of 70 detectives began working on the case full-time.

In the next attack, Judy Placido, 17, of 2208 Wickham Avenue in the Pelham Bay section of the Bronx, was shot in the right temple, right shoulder and back of the neck as she sat in a parked car with Salvatore Lupo of Maspeth, Queens, at 3:20 A.M. on June 26. The car was outside 45-39 211th Street, Bayside, Queens, a half-block from a discotheque where they had been dancing. Mr. Lupo was shot in the right forearm.

The killer had threatened in a letter to mark the anniversary of the first killing, July 29, with another slaying, and the police mobilized hundreds of plainclothes officers for street patrols and decoy operations, focused heavily on areas where "Son of Sam" had struck before.

Two days later, however, he shot a couple in a lovers' lane area near Dyker Beach Park in the Bath Beach section of Brooklyn.

Robert Violante, 20, of 1972 Bay Ridge Parkway in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn, and Stacy Moscovitz, 20, of 1740 East Fifth Street in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn, were each shot in the head.



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