

Son of Sam

Area wonders if 'Sam' is 'the' dartman

By KARIN LIPSON
Staff Writer

Could the Son of Sam killer be the elusive Westchester dart sniper?

This was the question asked by many Westchester residents today, as they read heard and talked about David Berkowitz, the Yonkers resident accused of being the Son of Sam slayer.

Like the .44-caliber killer who aimed his weapon primarily at women, the never-captured dart man hit at least 23 women with his .177 caliber inch-long steel darts.

From Feb. 29, 1976 when he surfaced in Yonkers, to his last attack in Nanuet, Rockland County on May 13 of this year, the dart sniper ventured out at night, usually shooting his female victims in the head,

neck, shoulder or chest. Most of the women were shot through the window of their ground-floor apartments. None of the victims died.

In July, 1976—just before Son of Sam went on his year-long rampage—County Sheriff Thomas Delaney speculated that the dart shooter was probably a young man from the Yonkers area with a car, because several of the attacks were in Yonkers or near-by areas. Berkowitz, 24, moved to Yonkers from New Rochelle in April, 1976.

But in the wake of Berkowitz' arrest, the sheriff's office refrained from making a connection. "I'm sure everybody is asking, 'Is Mr. Berkowitz the dart man?'" said Chief Investigator Salvatore D'lorio. "But there's nothing to substantiate that, to my knowledge."

Based "on my own feelings," he added, he doubted the possible connection because "there's too big a change in the method of operation."

The .44-caliber killer stalked his victims while they were out-of-doors or sitting in cars, while the dart sniper has been highly effective with his "peeping Tom" methods.

Yonkers police were non-committal. "I have no information to say we are investigating (this angle) right now... but it is possible that it will be looked at during the whole, broad investigation," said Lt. Thomas Kressman, an aide to Police Chief William Polsen. Kressman added it would be "good, normal police procedure" to check Berkowitz' background against unusual unsolved crimes like the dart shootings.

What does a victim of the dart sniper think? Lucretia Valvano, of 21 Stokes Road in Yonkers, said the possible connection struck her for "just a brief moment (after) my mother mentioned it." But Ms. Valvano thought the time overlap between the .44-caliber killings and the dart shootings make it unlikely that the two attackers are really one.

Asked about the Westchester dart snippings, a New York police spokesman would only say the case was "not in our jurisdiction."

No dart gun was found among the small arsenal police picked up when they arrested Berkowitz. Three weapons—a .44-caliber pistol, a machine gun and a rifle—were recovered from Berkowitz' car and apartment.



David Berkowitz

Doctors start probe

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"We will do what is standard according to Article 730 of criminal procedure law," said Dr. Schwartz, a tiny, goateed man with a slightly pompous air. "We will try to evaluate if he is suffering from any mental disease or defect and if it interferes with him understanding the nature of his acts."

"We'll try to ascertain as to whether he knows what's going on now. We'll try to determine whether he is criminally responsible. — Ultimately the judges will have to decide if he is fit."

This will be accomplished through conversation and observation, said Dr. Schwartz. He refused to say what had been discussed with Berkowitz or what he planned to learn from him.

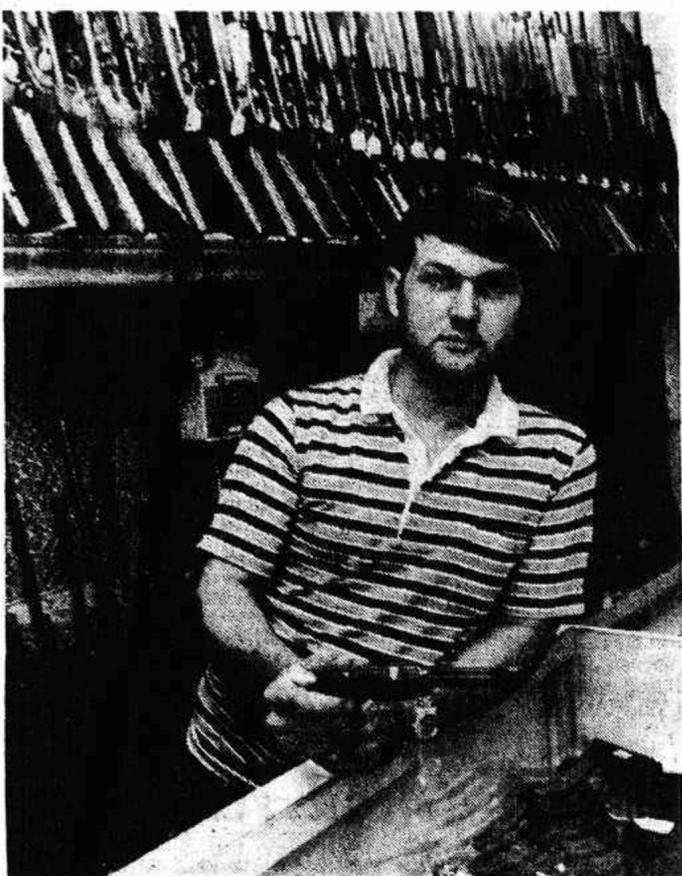
"A person might not stand trial if he had no realization according to society's standards that what he had done is wrong," Dr. Schwartz said.

Security has been increased to protect Berkowitz from the public and to prevent any possible escape. There are seven guards on the sixth floor. A police officer supplied by the 71st precinct stands guard behind the mesh in his cell.

The elevator does not stop at the floor. The stairways are locked. All packages are checked. Thus far, Berkowitz is said to have received no visitors.

Few threatening telephone calls have been made to the hospital, according to Josephine Williams, director of public affairs at the hospital. "There have been calls asking to speak with him," said Mrs. Williams. "There are some with the same last name who want to know if he is a relative. One woman called to say 'I love him very much.'"

A bomb threat was called into the hospital Thursday evening. Five young people on the grounds at building "G," believed to be friends of Stacy Moskowitz, were arrested by police officers for trespassing. The charge was dropped, however, when the administrator at the hospital chose not to press charges.



Sold .44

Billy Wheeler, manager of a Houston pawn shop, said he sold the gun supposedly involved in the 'Son of Sam' shootings. Wheeler said federal agents picked up a copy of the

sales record on the 1976 gun purchase. The agents said the gun was bought by Billy Dan Parker of Houston while Wheeler said the didn't remember anything about he purchaser. — AP Photo

'Sam' tries to sell the story of 'Son'

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People who know Sam Carr are reluctant to talk about him. When they did, all but two asked that their names not be used.

James McPoland, a county legislator from Yonkers and, before he too retired last year, Carr's boss at the Public Works Dept., did talk for attribution. "He was not the most popular guy due to his nature," McPoland said, "but he was sure a good worker. If Sam was your friend he was darn good and loyal and he'd do any job given him."

"He was a hard worker," agreed Robert Tocco, also a former supervisor over Carr.

Others were not as complimentary. "loner," "out for himself." One of the ways Carr has "stretched a dollar," one person said, is by going to the Yonkers Board of Contract and Supply, which makes municipal purchases, and finding out which vendor the city deals with on a particular item he needed for his own business, figuring the firm used by the city would be less expensive.

Perhaps it was the aspect Carr's "nature" mentioned

by McPoland that brought him into contact with Berkowitz.

Berkowitz complained about Carr's dog barking. Carr believes it was Berkowitz who wounded the dog last April with a bullet the animal still carries in its body. There were written threats, warning of death. Carr telephoned New York City police, who Carr said didn't respond until he called a second time. Carr's daughter, Wheat, is a dispatcher for the Yonkers Police Dept.

Other writings, allegedly by Berkowitz, mentioned Carr.

Mercy College in Dobbs Ferry has informed police that inquiries about educational programs were received from people identified as David Berkowitz and Sam Carr. Carr denies contacting the college. Police suspect Berkowitz did.

Last June Jack Cassara, the owner of a house in New Rochelle where Berkowitz once roomed, received a card expressing sorrow that Cassara had fallen from his roof and urging him to be careful.

The note, which bore a picture of a dog, was "signed" by Sam Carr and his wife. Cassara had not

been hurt. Mrs. Cassara telephoned Carr, who knew nothing of the card. Police suspect Berkowitz did.

Last Oct. 4 a Molotov cocktail was thrown through the window of the Carr home. Police and the Yonkers Fire Dept. Arson Squad were investigating Berkowitz as a suspect when he was arrested.

Other persons have been drawn into bizarre case. An 83-year-old woman, Becky Borgman, who lived in the apartment beneath Berkowitz said someone slipped a note under her door threatening death if she didn't lower the volume of her television set.

Craig Glassman, a part-time employe in the Westchester sheriff's office, also lived beneath the Berkowitz apartment. He also received death threats because of his television set and a week ago a fire was set outside his door. Fifteen .22 caliber bullets were thrown in the fire. Yonkers police and the arson squad were investigating Berkowitz. Glassman, it turned out, is the "Craig" in the letter found in Berkowitz' car the night he was arrested.

For the others it seems to be over. For Sam Carr, because he became "Sam," it goes on.

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Authorities weigh Sam link to rapes

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"Considering the nature of the application... you have achieved the results simply by bringing the application to the court," Yaswein told Berkowitz' lawyer.

With the fear of another strike by the Son of Sam removed, there was celebrations at discotheques in the Queens and The Bronx as young women ended their self-imposed boycott and lined up to get into the clubs.

Berkowitz was born Richard David Falco on June 1, 1953, and was taken from the hospital by foster parents, Nathan and Pearl Berkowitz, who lived in The Bronx. At the age of 17 months, he was adopted.

A music teacher who gave saxophone lessons to the

boy recalled he was constantly throwing temper tantrums.

"He was the most erratic kid I've ever known," said David Margolies, now a stockbroker.

Ed Snediker, who knew Berkowitz when he was growing up, said Berkowitz he was bothered by his adopted status. Snediker said Berkowitz, although raised in the Jewish faith was and bar-mitzvahed at 13. "was never sure what nationality he really was."

He was 14 when his adoptive mother died of cancer. In high school he dated seldom and needed remedial courses to graduate. Four days after his 18th birthday, he joined the Army.

Paul Billow, who served with Berkowitz in the Army in 1973-74, said he had seen him turn from a gregarious pal into a recluse.

"When I first met in his 1973 he was a Jesus freak."

But by the time he left the Army he'd had a complete personality change," said Billow, 24, of Saginaw, Mich., who expressed shock and disbelief at the arrest.

He said Berkowitz was "in Korea for a year or so and he used to tell us how heavily into dope he was."

He said Berkowitz spoke of "reds" and "uppers," sedatives and stimulants, but not of LSD—the hallucinogen that some reports said he used.

Liberation's woman.



Molly Pitcher loved her husband so much so, that when he went into battle during the Revolution, she did too. Right by his side. Then one day, while loading cannons, he was killed by a British bullet.

Molly knew the time had come to take stock in her country. So she picked up where her husband left off. And when the smoke cleared, America had a new victory and a new heroine.

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Savings Plan at work, a little is set aside from each paycheck to buy Bonds Regularly. Automatically.

That way you're making a real investment in your future. And in America, too.

So buy United States Savings Bonds. Right from the start, it's been an equal opportunity investment.



Take stock in America.

200 years at the same location.

Wishing didn't make their troubles go away

Small text block containing a story snippet about a person's troubles.

'Thought for the year'

This headline, clipped from the Sept. 12, 1976, edition of The Herald Statesman, was tacked up on a wall in the apartment of Son of Sam suspect David Berkowitz at 35 Pine St. The headline accompanied a story on the Westchester County Board of Legislators adjourning until August, when the same problems the board was attempting to cope with would still be

there. Above the headline was written 'Thought for the year' on the wall. The headline was among several pictures taken inside the apartment by Robert Kalfus of the New York Post, who is among four journalists charged with trespassing by Yonkers police for being in the apartment. Police confiscated their film, but Kalfus turned over blank rolls and the Post ran the pictures Friday as an exclusive.

