

NYC Police launch new probe into 'Son of Sam' killings



DAVID BERKOWITZ ON NIGHT OF ARREST
...was he the only 'Son of Sam'?

By MAURY TERRY
and JAMES MITTEAGER
with JEFF NIES, Minot Daily News
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Newspapers

The New York City Police Department has quietly reopened its investigation into the "Son of Sam" case.

The new investigation began two years after David Berkowitz said he was a killer who worked alone and only weeks after the Gannett Westchester Newspapers demonstrated the probability he did not.

"Son of Sam" — one person, perhaps more — killed six young people and wounded seven others in a year-long reign of terror in New York City. Berkowitz was arrested with the .44-caliber murder weapon outside his Yonkers apartment on Aug. 10, 1977 and subsequently pleaded guilty to all the crimes, officially closing the case.

New York police, however, reopened the investigation in a reversal of the department's public posture that Berkowitz acted alone because they now believe he may have had at least one accomplice.

The latest investigation has taken detectives from the sidewalks of the Bronx, where at least one key figure in the original case has been interviewed anew, to the foothills of North Dakota, where local and New York City authorities have questioned friends of the late John Carr.

Carr's father, Sam, was a neighbor of Berkowitz, who later called Sam Carr the "master" who ordered him to kill. Sam Carr lives with his family in a private home on Warburton Avenue in Yonkers behind the 35 Pine Street building in which Berkowitz resided during the .44-caliber killing spree.

While the new probe, known only to a few ranking members of the department, has been conducted under a blanket of tight security, its existence has been confirmed by authorities involved in the investigation in North Dakota.

"We and the city of Minot (N.D.) police are assisting the investigation New York has begun," said Ward County, N.D., Sheriff Leon Schwan. "There are some things out here they're very interested in."

Some of the results of the investigation — and some of the questions being asked — have been made available to these reporters by sources.



The same man?

There always was controversy over the various composite police sketches of the Son of Sam. At left is a photo of David Berkowitz. Center is a police sketch said to resemble Berkowitz more than any of the others. At right is a composite made following the Stacy Mos-

The key questions the police are focusing on are:

Was John Carr an accomplice in the "Son of Sam" killings?

Was John Carr involved with David Berkowitz and others in occult activities?

Did John Carr commit suicide as originally believed or was he murdered by other conspirators because of his knowledge of the "Son of Sam" killings?

Almost from the time of Berkowitz' arrest, some police officers and others close to the "Son of Sam" case were troubled by Berkowitz' blanket confessions. Eyewitnesses to the shootings had described two people, two cars, or assailants who looked markedly different than Berkowitz. Handwriting expert Charles Hamilton insisted that Berkowitz was not the author of the "Son of Sam" letter to columnist Jimmy Breslin.

The renewed interest in the "Son of

Sam" case, sources said, came in early August of this year. On July 19, the Gannett Westchester Newspapers had published the results of its own investigation into the murder in Brooklyn of Stacy Moskowitz, the final victim of the "Son of Sam," on July 31, 1977.

The article, based on witnesses' accounts and a timed reconstruction of events, showed not only that Berkowitz had lied about his actions that night but that he probably had an accomplice who fired the fatal shots while Berkowitz acted as a lookout. Much of the information in the story, including Berkowitz' driving from the scene in pursuit of a police car only 15 minutes before the shots were fired, had been withheld from the public by the Brooklyn police and prosecutor.

The Brooklyn District Attorney's publicly dismissed the Gannett story, but the New York City Police Department private-

ly reopened the "Son of Sa...
"They (the police authorities) saw how it was piling up," a former member of the "Son of Sam" police task force said of the evidence. "There was too much there to disregard. And they went after it despite the unreal politics around it."

A highly placed North Dakota official added, "I understand that if the police investigation became known to the district attorney, there would be political pressure on them to drop it."

Over the last six weeks, the New York City Police Department has been "in constant touch" with North Dakota authorities who are aiding them in the investigation of new leads in the case, authorities there have disclosed. And, New York police also have interviewed associates of the late John Carr in North Dakota.

Key factors in the new inquiry are two pieces of information: One, Berkowitz and John Carr, who police did not believe knew each other, were acquainted months before Berkowitz was arrested as a mass murderer; and two, Carr was known to select associates as "Wheaties," an alias of the killer ("John 'Wheaties,' rapist and suffocater of young girl") in the "Son of Sam" letter sent to Breslin.

During a four hour interview last year, Berkowitz said he knew John Carr, adding, "I hated him."

Berkowitz also said that "John Wheaties" and John Carr were the same person, cryptically adding that if he (Berkowitz) told all he knew about the "Son of Sam" killings others could go to jail. "And I don't want that to happen," Berkowitz said.

But the Berkowitz-Carr relationship was not confirmed until police recently traveled to Minot, N.D. to interview Carr's associates there.

"John told me he looked up to Berkowitz because Berkowitz wasn't afraid to do anti-establishment things... He told me they used to bum around together in Yonkers," said Lee Slaughter, a North Dakota therapist who counseled Carr.

"He also told me one of his nicknames was 'Wheaties' and he had a tremendous amount of detailed knowledge of the shoot-

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U.N. to hear Castro report on his 'third-world' summit

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Fidel Castro reports to the General Assembly today on the stormy Havana summit then lunches with U.S. Ambassador Donald McHenry and 90 other dignitaries after laughing off American military exercises aimed at countering Soviet troops in Cuba.

The Cuban president, guarded round-the-clock by a massive net of security men, travels to the United Nations' riverside headquarters in Manhattan from the fortress-like Cuban Mission on East 38th street, where he has remained in seclusion ever since arriving in New York early Thursday.

During Castro's scheduled 4 1/2 hour U.N.

visit, hundreds of American, Cuban and United Nations security men will blanket the East River headquarters and the surrounding streets, where pro-and anti-Castro groups are expected to gather. U.N. grounds will be closed to the public today.

New York police boats will patrol the river to head off any incidents similar to the 1964 attack on Ernesto "Che" Guevara, Castro's industry minister. As Guevara addressed the General Assembly, anti-Castro Cubans fired a bazooka at the U.N. complex from across the water. The shell fell short and splashed harmlessly into the water. Guevara was killed in 1967 leading a revolutionary band in Bolivia.



Shouts of protest

Crowds gather Thursday at the Cuban Mission at Lexington Avenue and 38th Street where Cuban President Fidel Castro is staying during

his trip to New York City. A common chant, shouted in Spanish, was "Assassin, you do not believe in God. Get out of the country." — Staff photo by Ed Ledes

City stations stay in bounds of gas prices

By STEVEN CLARK
Staff Writer

The director of the Yonkers Consumer Protection Agency said Thursday that all service stations in the city are now charging prices within the prescribed limits, in light of the \$5,050 collected by the city last month in fines from price gouging dealers.

Michael Brillis reported that 22 of the city's 160-odd stations were given summonses during the agency's undercover inspections this summer. Dealers found to be charging more than the maximum price were fined \$50 for every customer they overcharged during the inspection.

Fines reportedly ranged from \$50 to a high of \$450, which was charged to the Grey Oaks Service Station on Nepperhan Avenue for nine violations.

The maximum price is determined by totaling the base price on the station's invoice, 15.4 cents for expenses, four cents for federal tax, an eight percent sales tax and an eight percent state tax.

The latest prices at major gasoline dealers, which are subject to daily change are:

Company	Leaded	Unleaded	High Test
Mobil	\$1.08.2	\$1.11.6	\$1.16.8
Amoco	\$1.08.2	\$1.11.2	\$1.16.8
Getty	\$1.09.2		
Gulf	\$1.03.6	\$1.06.8	\$1.09.4
Shell	\$1.07.2	\$1.10.4	\$1.15.8
Texaco	\$1.05.6	\$1.09	\$1.11
Exxon	\$1.03.4	\$1.07.4	\$1.09.6

Con Ed billing employees in ouster fight? Probe asked

By DONNA GREENE
Staff Writer

County Executive Alfred DeBello Thursday asked the state Board of Elections to investigate charges that Con Edison is using "heavy handed" techniques to force its employees to contribute to the campaign against County Proposition One.

DeBello says he wrote a letter to state Board of Elections Executive Director Thomas Wallace, asking him to investigate the charges. Wallace could not be reached for comment Thursday.

At a press conference in White Plains,

DeBello distributed copies a letter and enclosures he said he received anonymously from a self-described Con Ed managerial employee about 10 days ago.

The packet contained a copy of a memo signed by Con Ed President Arthur Hauspurg which asks employees to give "serious consideration" to making donations against Proposition One. It also contained a letter from the supposed employee who says, "you may rest assured that those not

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World Series scene shifts

BALTIMORE (AP) —The 1979 World Series between the Baltimore Orioles and the Pittsburgh Pirates, now tied at one victory apiece, moves tonight to Pittsburgh's Three Rivers Stadium for Game 3.

Thursday night's second game, won by Pittsburgh 3-2, was played before 53,739 in rain during the late innings.

The first game of the best-of-seven series had to be postponed Tuesday night because of rain. It finally was played Wednesday night after rain and snow threatened to postpone it again.

In Game 2, the Pirates broke a 2-2 tie with two out in the ninth inning on a run-scoring single by pinch-hitter Manny Sanguillen.

Pittsburgh scored its first two runs in the second inning off Jim Palmer on singles by Willie Stargell, John Milner and Bill Madlock, plus a sacrifice fly by Ott

Rights Panel: City strangled us

By PHIL WAGA
Staff Writer

The Yonkers city government funded the city's Commission on Human Rights inadequately because it wanted only a symbol and not an effective body, two of the commission's leaders charged Thursday.

The 15-member commission, founded in 1963 to investigate complaints of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations and credit, resigned en masse Thursday morning, saying it could not continue operating because of insufficient funds.

"There is no question in my mind that the city does not want an independent Human Rights Commission," Lawrence Porcari, the chairman of the commission and one of those who resigned, said. "What you

had was a commission of individuals with integrity and the city couldn't tolerate that.

"The city government wants only a symbol for a Human Rights Commission," Hector Ghimenti, the executive director of the commission, who is also resigning, said. "The city wants the commission only for the convenience of being able to say that Yonkers has a Human Rights Commission. But it doesn't want it to be effective."

Ghimenti charged that City Manager Pat T. Ravo, Mayor Angelo Martinelli and the City Council were guilty of funding the commission insufficiently because they wanted an ineffective body and the commission was functioning independently and properly.

Ravo could not be reached to respond to the charges but he did forward a letter

which he wrote to Porcari last week when he was told by the commission's members that they would resign if the panel's funding was not increased.

In the letter, Ravo said that it is "self-defeating to the overall goal of the human rights program" for the commission to resign.

The city, Ravo asserted, "has gone well beyond the scope of most other cities" in providing services and offices, such as the commission, the Office for the Aging and the Office for the Handicapped, "to assist Yonkers citizens." This has all been achieved, Ravo said, "through the innovative use of all existing funding" and "can continue as long as we all work together for the benefit of all concerned."

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Inside

Lifestyles Shaping up and keeping fit...The Nickolaus Technique to improve the body will soon be introduced to Westchester. Read Betty Lewendon's description of the method in today's Lifestyles Section.

World/Nation The impasse over a pay raise for congressmen has already made a deep cut in the paychecks of 1.3 million federal workers, and the number could nearly triple by Tuesday.

Sports The masterminds, Baltimore's Earl Weaver and Pittsburgh's Chuck Tanner, will take their strategies to Pittsburgh tonight with the World Series all tied up at one-game apiece in the best of seven series.

