

Berkowitz won't talk in new 'Son of Sam' probe

By MAURY TERRY
and JAMES MITTEGER

David Berkowitz, the confessed "Son of Sam" killer, balked at an attempt by investigators from the Queens District Attorney's Office to question him about the role of possible accomplices in the killings.

Queens Dist. Atty. John Santucci contacted the warden at Attica State Prison, where Berkowitz is serving his sentence, earlier this week and was told that Berkowitz would not consent to an interrogation by Santucci's detectives, Gannett Westchester Newspapers has learned.

Santucci reopened the "Son of Sam" case shortly after a series of investigative articles

in the Gannett Westchester Newspapers demonstrated the probability that Berkowitz did not act alone, as he has claimed he did, in the year-long rampage that left six young people dead and seven others wounded in 1976-77.

A spokesman for Santucci would neither confirm nor deny the bid to question Berkowitz, saying, "A pending inquiry is under way in this case and it is not our policy to discuss pending inquiries while in progress."

That inquiry into the two-year-old case is centering on the question of whether Berkowitz was aided by accomplices in the murder spree.

Berkowitz, who readily confessed to all the attacks after his August 1977 arrest, admitted in an interview last year that others could go

to jail if he told all that he knew about the case. "And I don't want that to happen," he said.

One prominent aspect of the new probe is the possibility that Berkowitz may have been aided in the killings by members of a Satanic cult that operated near Berkowitz' home in northwest Yonkers during the time the "Son of Sam" killings occurred.

Sources have told Gannett Westchester Newspapers that members of the devil worshipping cult to which Berkowitz is believed to have belonged may have aided him in committing the murders.

Berkowitz' refusal to answer questions from Santucci's investigators is not expected to markedly hinder Santucci's inquiry, which

reportedly spread to several states.

Investigators from the Queens District Attorney's Office were in Yonkers Thursday and, earlier this week, Santucci dispatched two investigators to Minot, N.D., to confer with police officials there who have unearthed information linking the late John Carr with Berkowitz.

Carr was the son of Sam Carr of Yonkers — Berkowitz' neighbor and the so-called "master" Berkowitz said ordered him to kill.

John Carr was found dead in Minot in February 1978, his skull demolished by a slug from a 30-30 Marlin rifle. His death was at first ruled an apparent suicide, but authorities now believe he may have been murdered as the result of his possible involvement in the

"Son of Sam" killings.

New York authorities, who had long believed Berkowitz did not know Carr, have recently confirmed, through interviews with Carr's friends in North Dakota, the two were acquainted.

Carr was also involved in Satanic cult activities in Minot. These newspapers reported Wednesday that a Satanic cult in Yonkers was apparently linked to Berkowitz and John Carr through phrasing used in the "Son of Sam" letter to New York Daily News columnist Jimmy Breslin and the fact that dead German Shepherds — with ears sliced off — were peculiar to the cult's operating in Yonkers and in the Minot area as well.

Motive still unclear in 2 slayings

By PETER JOHNSON
and MICHAEL SANSONO
Staff Writers

It's a "complicated" case, Greenburgh police say.

The victims: a middle-age Greenburgh man with a record of gambling and gun arrests and his 29-year-old stepson, found shot to death "execution-style" in their modern, raised-ranch home.

The clues: inside the house, two bodies on separate floors, one of them bound and gagged; a pile of cash near one of the victims, and an open safe. Outside, a hidden bunker filled with an arsenal of illegal weapons.

Witnesses: apparently none. Neighbors in the primarily black, middle-class Parkway Gardens section of town say they didn't hear anything or see anyone acting suspiciously Wednesday night.

As of late Thursday night, police still lacked a suspect, a weapon and a motive in the double slayings of 49-year-old Randolph Williams and Kenneth Anderton at their 26 South Road home.

The Westchester County Medical Examiner's Office said autopsies performed Thursday afternoon showed that Williams died of a single bullet wound to the back of the skull and brain; Anderton died of two gunshot wounds to the back of the skull and brain.

Investigators speculated that a handgun was used in the killings, which they described as "execution-style" because one of the men was bound and gagged and both were shot in the head. The caliber of bullet used in the shootings had not been determined as of Thursday night, police said.

The two men's bodies were discovered shortly before 1 a.m. Thursday by the owner of the house, Gwendolyn Anderton, who police identified as the common-law wife of Williams and the mother of the younger victim. She had left the house at 5:30 p.m., and was returning from her job at the ITEL Corp. in White Plains, police said. Ms. Anderton and neighbors were being questioned by police Thursday.

Williams was found slumped over a bed in the master bedroom; Anderton was found bound and gagged next to a pool table in the basement family room, police said.

Investigators said a wall safe in the house was found open and an undisclosed amount of cash was discovered near Williams' body. They speculated that the killer or killers might have forced one of the victims to open the safe. Police would not reveal the exact location of the safe, its contents, or whether the cash found next to the body or anything else had been removed from the safe.

Police Chief Donald Singer described as "incorrect" a report published in this newspaper Thursday attributing to him a remark that robbery did not appear to be a motive in the shootings. "No motive has been ruled out," he said.

Public records show that Williams had a number of arrests for possession of policy slips and guns dating back to the early 1950s, but police declined to speculate whether the deaths might have been gambling-related. Sources said Williams might have been involved in a policy-slip operation in Harlem, where he reportedly had an office.

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Staff photo by howie Swartz

Greenburgh police at murder scene Thursday

Murder suspect gives himself up

By ED TRAPASSO and JENNIE TRITTEN
Staff Writers

Yonkers police are confident the missing five-year-old daughter of an accused killer who surrendered to authorities Thursday night will be found today.

The child has apparently been with her 28-year-old father, Jose Torres, since 8:30 a.m. Monday when he was seen fleeing the apartment building where the alleged brutal murder occurred.

Torres allegedly stabbed and bludgeoned 31-year-old Alice Rivera to death early Monday after the couple had gotten into an argument inside the apartment they shared at 102 Livingston Ave. Mrs. Rivera was the suspect's common law wife.

The accused killer apparently made a determined effort to avoid the police manhunt that was launched immediately after an investigation implicated him as the prime suspect.

It is likely that Torres with the child in tow, fled by airplane to his native Puerto Rico but returned after detectives made scores of phone calls to his relatives in the Bronx, Yonkers and Puerto Rico.

Accompanied by a lawyer, Torres surrendered at police headquarters at 7 p.m. Thursday. Both

he and the lawyer, Jethro Eisenstein, refused to reveal the whereabouts of the child. But police say they're confident the child is unharmed, and probably with a relative or family friends.

"We got every relative we could find and contacted or called all of them," Det. Sgt. Anthony Ragazzo, who headed the investigation, said today. "We contacted brothers and sisters in the Bronx and relatives in Puerto Rico. Det. Anthony Souza, who speaks Spanish was among those who assisted in the probe."

Investigators believe relatives probably contacted Torres and informed him that he was a murder suspect.

Torres, who had a full beard when he was last seen in Yonkers, was clean shaven when he turned himself in. He also had ditched his automobile, leading police to believe that he did, in fact, flee to Puerto Rico. The FBI in Puerto Rico was also hunting for the suspect.

A murder warrant charging the truck driver with second-degree murder was issued by the Yonkers office of the Westchester District Attorney's office Tuesday morning. The warrant was executed Thursday night, and Torres, who had been working for a Bronx laundry company, was arraigned today in Yonkers City Court.

Political payoff denied in school appointment

By GAIL HOROWITZ
Staff Writer

Yonkers School Superintendent Dr. Joan Raymond denied charges Thursday she paid off a political debt for Mayor Angelo Martinelli when she hired a member of the Conservative Party as Board of Education consultant shortly after Martinelli received the Conservative endorsement.

The management consultant who Dr. Raymond hired for a 10-week period at a cost to the board of \$4,100 was John Cicero, a man who the Conservative Party considered putting up as a mayoral candidate against Martinelli.

At a recent debate Democratic mayoral candidate Gerald Loehr alleged that Mayor Martinelli pressured Dr. Raymond into hiring Cicero as a political favor soon after the Conservative Party announced in June it would support Martinelli

for mayor and not run Cicero or any other Conservative candidate.

"Charges of political pressure placed on me are totally unfounded," said Dr. Raymond. "I have not been involved in the political arena in Yonkers and do not intend to be."

Mayor Martinelli joined Dr. Raymond in denying the allegations saying, "Cicero's hiring was arranged in a professional manner and handled by professional personnel at the Board of Education without

political influence." If Cicero's position was arranged in a "professional manner" as the mayor says, Loehr says he wants to know why Cicero was paid by voucher and not put on the regular Board of Education payroll.

Dr. Raymond says she hired Cicero for a short-term, 10-week project from the end of July through September for which he was paid \$4,199 to audit and assess the job descriptions of 150 civil service employees at the Board of Education.

The reason Cicero was not put on the regular payroll, according to Dr. Raymond was because he was hired on "short term basis" and was not considered a regular employee of the board. However, the voucher procedure enabled her to hire Cicero without the approval of the nine-member Board of Education.

"I received Cicero's resume along with many others and I picked him because of his management skills," said Dr. Raymond.

The superintendent also claims there was no other staff members at the board who had the qualifications to do the job Cicero was hired to do.

In an interview Thursday Chairman of the Conservative Party Joseph Spencer said he never had any conversations with

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AP Photo

Carter vows action on windfall oil profits

Oil refinery overcharging cited by U.S.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government says the nation's 15 largest refiners have overcharged customers \$5.2 billion since the Arab oil boycott of 1973 — the equivalent of five cents a gallon for all the gasoline sold in this country in a year.

That total was announced as the Department of Energy brought new charges against Texaco and the Atlantic Richfield Co., claiming pricing irregularities of about \$200 million.

Both firms denied the charges. "These notices are yet another effort of the Department of Energy to once again attempt to improperly apply ambiguous regulations retroactively," Texaco said.

Arco said the dispute involved "technical aspects of the Department of Energy's complex pricing formula."

The new allegations come at a time when many refineries have reported big surges in their profits, the House of Representatives has reversed an earlier decision to relax controls on gasoline prices and President Carter says he will advance proposals "which could be quite punitive to the oil industry" if Congress fails to give him the "windfall profits" tax he seeks on oil company gains resulting from deregulation of crude oil prices.

The Energy Department is seeking to force oil companies accused of pricing violations to make restitution. But the firms have disputed the charges and, while appeals are being made, refunds of only \$150 million have been made, according to Paul I. Bloom, the lawyer in charge of a special Energy Department audit of the pricing actions of the country's 15 largest refiners.

Even if full restitution is finally ordered, most of the money would go to large companies like utilities and airlines. Wholesalers and retailers receiving credits would not necessarily be required to pass the payments on to consumers in the form of refunds or temporary price reductions.

In Thursday's actions, Texaco was charged with four "probable violations" of more than \$132 million. This brought to nearly \$1.3 billion the total of violations charged to Texaco. One of the charges against Texaco involved the way the company treated \$119 million in its books

Vulcan Society wins delay

Court stalls firefighter hirings

By JENNIE TRITTEN
Staff Writer

A federal court judge has issued a 10-day temporary order restraining the City of Yonkers from hiring the 15 additional new firefighters it planned to appoint this week.

The order was sought Thursday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan by the Vulcan Society of Westchester, a group of black fi-

refighters working in the county.

District Court Judge Abraham Sofaer set a hearing for Monday, Nov. 5 in federal court on the matter, according to Robert Villani, the city's deputy corporation counsel who attended.

At the November hearing, it will be determined if a preliminary injunction should be granted until such time a trial is held to

determine if a permanent injunction should be taken out against the city.

The Vulcan Society has charged in federal court that Yonkers, Mount Vernon, White Plains and New Rochelle fire departments discriminate against blacks in their hiring and promotional practices. Since that law suit was initiated, the city says settlement discussions have been going on

Inside

Mayoral debate

Is Yonkers on the move, as Republican Mayor Angelo Martinelli claims? Or is it really not, as Democratic challenger Councilman Gerald Loehr claims?

Read their answers for yourself as the transcript of The Herald Statesman's mayoral debate continues today on page A8.

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