



New shield

U.S. Treasury Sec. Michael Blumenthal, right, and acting chief of U.S. mission in Peking Stapleton Roy show off old seal replaced by one marked 'embassy' in a

ceremony last week. Ceremony marked official establishment of U.S. embassy in the Chinese capital. Story on World-Nation page. —AP Photo

Berkowitz: Others could be arrested

By MAURY TERRY
and TOM BARTLEY
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(Last of a series)

David Berkowitz insisted last year over his lawyers' objections on avoiding a trial by pleading guilty to all the Son of Sam attacks.

He now says others could go to jail if he tells all he knows about the 44-Caliber case.

That Berkowitz bombshell, dropped in the course of a four-hour interview late last year, and his statement made public last week that he will no longer discuss the case only deepened the mystery surrounding the year-long murderous march of Son of Sam through the streets of New York.

Disturbing questions—some of them prompted by new information unearthed in the course of a Gannett Westchester Rockland Newspapers investigation—have emerged in the 18 months since Berkowitz' arrest. They have created growing doubt among members of the public, the police and even the prosecution itself over whether Berkowitz acted alone.

Among the questions:
—The Son of Sam letter to New York News columnist Jimmy Breslin contains



DAVID BERKOWITZ
... mystery deepens

what Berkowitz says are references to crimes he committed in Yonkers. Yet Berkowitz refuses to discuss who wrote the letter and an internationally prominent handwriting analyst flatly declares Berkowitz not only did not write the letter but was intellectually incapable of it. Who wrote that letter, and why?

—Only days before the Son of Sam arrest, two telephone callers, one a man identifying himself as David Berkowitz of Pine Street in Yonkers, expressed interest in a German shepherd advertised for adoption. The second caller also mentioned Pine Street in Yonkers. A day later, two men appeared at the Mamaroneck kennel to see the dog. A kennel employee later identified one as Berkowitz. His description of the companion matched those given by some Son of Sam victims. Who were the men interested in the shepherd and why?

—In Berkowitz' Yonkers neighborhood, where he admits he shot dogs, three dead German shepherds were unearthed behind his apartment house the day after his arrest. Berkowitz insists he did not kill them but says, "I have a good idea who did." Moreover, three more shepherds were found slain and a fourth wounded in virtually the same location after Berkowitz was behind bars. Who has been — and may still be — killing shepherds, and why?

—Months before his arrest, Berkowitz, an avowed loner and man who admits shooting dogs, was seen walking a dog in his Yonkers neighborhood. Whose dog was he walking, and why?

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FBI says bomb arrests unlikely

By M.J. ZUCKERMAN
Staff Writer

Federal investigators say they are pessimistic about their chances of apprehending the terrorists who set off a powerful bomb Tuesday at Mobil Oil Corp's regional headquarters in Eastchester.

"Bombings are tough, real tough," FBI assistant special agent Robert Gast said Wednesday.

Gast, who heads the bureau's office in New Rochelle, said it is "safe to assume" the FBI will likely have no more success in capturing these terrorists — a group calling itself the Sam Melville-Johnathon Jackson brigade has claimed responsibility for the bombing — than it has in investigating previous terrorist bombings.

"There is so little physical evidence left after (a bombing), and we didn't grab anyone running out of the place. But we could get lucky," he said.

On Wednesday "a major portion" of the FBI's New Rochelle 70-man staff and six demolition experts from the bureau's

"There is so little physical evidence left after (a bombing)... and we didn't grab anyone running out of the place"

Washington office began sifting through the rubble of the 670 White Plains Road office building.

Two floors of the four-story building were ripped apart by the bomb, which exploded seconds after police managed to evacuate more than 300 Mobil employees from the building and clear hundreds more shoppers and workers at an adjacent shopping center.

"An hour before the blast, a group demanding Puerto Rican 'independence' and the release of four imprisoned Puerto Rican nationalists warned of the impending destruction.

"The best guess is that it was

dynamite," Gast said of the explosive device used. "If someone was to guess (that it was) 20 sticks of dynamite, they probably wouldn't be far off."

But, he added, a final determination of the explosive material used would have to await detailed tests at the FBI Washington laboratories.

Attacking the case from a different approach, FBI agents also began extensive interviews with everyone who worked in the office building to determine if they had seen any strangers wandering the hallways or stairways of the unguarded building.

Meanwhile, Robert McCool, manager of the Mobil Eastchester office, which directs the sale and distribution of Mobil products throughout New York and New England, said he was pleased with his staff's ability to spring back to work after the incident. He said 70 percent of the workers were at work Wednesday in other Mobil offices.

No firm estimate has been placed on the financial loss in the bombing either to Mobil or to Pepe & Rhine Assoc., owners of the building.



BEGIN
... criticizes Carter

Outlook gloomy as Begin, Carter confer tonight

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Carter, frustrated, impatient and already supporting key Egyptian demands, opens new Mideast peace talks tonight with Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

The outlook for wrapping up a treaty did not appear bright as Carter prepared for what he says will be "a frank discussion of the issues."

Before flying here, Begin criticized the United States for supporting Egyptian proposals he said "were totally unacceptable to Israel."

He also called on the United States to work to change Egypt's positions on the remaining issues.

"The American delegation should think again and change their attitude," he said before boarding an El Al flight to London and New York. "I believe it is the duty of the United States to convince the Egyptians to change their attitudes."

He added that Israel had already made "great sacrifices" for the cause of peace.

Begin did not elaborate on the issues he found unacceptable, but diplomatic sources in Washington told the Associated Press the specifics of U.S. support for Egypt's stand on the three major unresolved issues. The sources insisted on anonymity.

First, the sources said, the administration agrees a one-year timetable for establishing Palestinian autonomy in Israeli-held territory should be included in the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

The United States is proposing that Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat exchange letters providing that a Palestinian authority be set up on the west bank of the Jordan River and in the Gaza district within a year of a treaty signing.

Begin has insisted that Palestinian autonomy be negotiated separately and that the treaty be completed on its own.

Sadat, not wanting to be accused by other Arab countries of making a separate peace with Israel or of forsaking the Palestinians, has long demanded a timetable.

Second, the sources said, the administration backs the Egyptian position that the treaty not take priority over Egypt's military ties with other Arab countries.

Dobbs Ferry drownings

Red Cross says pool lacked safeguards

By PHIL WAGA
Staff Writer

Mount Mercy Convent in Dobbs Ferry could have averted the drowning of a 19-year-old man and a 10-year-old boy in its indoor pool last Thursday if it had adhered to a law mandating that a lifeguard be on duty, an American Red Cross official charged Wednesday.

"If they had the proper people to use lifesaving equipment properly, then the two probably would not have drowned," Gerald Dworkin, the director of Safety Services

for the Red Cross in Westchester, said. "It shouldn't have occurred and it most probably could have been averted by a lifeguard."

State and County laws require that a pool or beach which is open for swimming have a lifeguard and Dworkin said that, from the information he now has, "it appears the laws were violated."

Calvin Webber, the assistant county health commissioner, said Wednesday that his department has just completed a full investigation of the incident and he will

discuss the report as soon as he has reviewed it.

Pools receive annual permits to operate from the Health Department and Weber said the department may take action against the pool, including revoking its permit, if it finds violations of laws.

According to accounts of the incident, Alberto Bracero, a 10-year-old from Man hattan, and another youth were swimming in the Mount Mercy pool at about 7 p.m. last Thursday when Bracero began floundering.

Benjamin Frith, a 19-year-old, also from Manhattan, jumped into the pool to help and was somehow pulled under by Bracero. Susan Baer, 29, also leaped in the water to help but rushed out to summon help on a paging device when she could not help.

When nuns from the convent arrived, they pulled the two bodies from the water and they were pronounced dead at Dobbs Ferry Hospital at about 8 p.m.

Dobbs Ferry police have concluded

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Inside

Lifestyles Today's Home/Style report is all about how to use the latest in floor and wall coverings, fixtures, tiles and other treatments to brighten the bathroom.

World/Nation China says it will withdraw from Vietnam if the Vietnamese quit Cambodia, but it's sure the Vietnamese won't. See World Nation.

Education When Pace University's World Civilization Tour visited China, it found that the Chinese had as many questions as they did. See today's Education page.

Sports The Valhalla High girls basketball team also saw a lead dwindle away, but rebounded for a victory in the Section 1 girls tournament action. See Sports.

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Amnesty spurs payment of fines

By ED TRAPASSO
Staff Writer

Bad feelings between the Yonkers motorist and the parking meter were eased somewhat last month.

Serving as peacemaker was a three-week amnesty period which permitted scofflaws to pay outstanding summonses without also having to dish out penalties fees.

The bottom line was a 10 percent increase in revenues collected by the city traffic court last month compared to February, 1978.

Traffic court received \$50,750 last month, \$4,612 more than during the same period in 1978. And although the increase may not seem particularly significant, it was more than the court expected.

"The expectation was that revenues would go down in February," said Eve Widdows, court clerk. The prediction was based on the number of summonses Yonkers police issued last month compared to 1978. This year, the police slapped 3,404 tickets on automobile windshields. Last year, 5,183 windshields were decorated with the hated summonses.

Scofflaw amnesty was the brainchild of Councilman Gerald Loehr, D-3, who sponsored the resolution. The amnesty period, which began Feb. 5, was originally scheduled to last two weeks, but was extended when traf-

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Catching some sun

Wednesday's warm weather and sunny skies brought people out to the parks again. Here a group of senior citizens and some youth took

advantage of the high temperatures by enjoying themselves in Lincoln Park on South Broadway in Yonkers. —Staff photo by Vince Antolini