



Blast victims

Victims of Monday's explosion at a Northwest Atlanta Day Care Center are removed from the site. Four children and

one adult were killed and 20 other persons were injured in the furnace explosion, which some parents believe was caused by a bomb. — AP Photo

Dispute accident theory

Day care parents: Bomb caused blast

ATLANTA (AP) — The day care center blast that killed four toddlers and an adult was an accident, authorities say, but some anguished parents believe a bomb was responsible, and some blame the Ku Klux Klan.

"We're tired of our children being killed," said the Rev. Joseph Lowery, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

An angry, disbelieving crowd of about 200 people gathered Monday night at a west side church where Public Safety Commissioner Lee P. Brown answered questions about Monday's mid-morning explosion at the Gate City Day Care

center, where 82 pre-schoolers were playing.

A cast-iron boiler in the building's furnace blew apart "like a hand grenade" about an hour after it was fired up on the first chilly day of fall, investigators said. Experts who examined the debris reported no evidence of a bomb, Brown said.

But there were shouts of disbelief from the crowd.

"I'm a veteran. I know about explosives," said an unidentified man who was greeted by cheers and applause from the crowd. "But there ain't no way in hell that a furnace could blow like that."

"How many more?" shouted another man. "Until we're tired of burying our dead?"

Others at the meeting shouted that the Ku Klux Klan had set off an explosive device at the center in Bowen Homes, a public housing project in west Atlanta.

Speculation about a bomb or Klan involvement was being fueled by the black community's anxiety over unsolved slayings of eight black children and the disappearances of eight others recently.

"There is an organized assault on black people across the country," Lowery said after the meeting. "We are tired of our children being killed."

'Son of Sam': Pieces fell into place too easily

Third of a series
By MAURY TERRY

During the week after Stacy Moskowitz was gunned down on a shadowy lovers' lane in Brooklyn, police tried in vain to reach David Berkowitz by telephone. Their failure would prove the biggest break in the year-old case.

Hounding every lead, police made a fateful decision to go to Berkowitz' Yonkers

apartment and interview him in person. They wanted to know if he had seen anything unusual in the Brooklyn neighborhood where he had received a parking ticket minutes before and two blocks away from the scene of the final "Son of Sam" attack.

As soon as police arrived outside 35 Pine St., pieces began falling into place.

Berkowitz' car, parked in front of his apartment, was reportedly unlocked. Inside, in clear view, police said were several weapons, including a sub-machine gun; clips

of ammunition; and a "Son of Sam" note on the floor.

Berkowitz walked out of his apartment packing a .44-caliber revolver, the trademark weapon of the "Son of Sam," and told detectives, "You got me."

Inside 35 Pine St., police entered Berkowitz' apartment, which had the appearance of a madman's lair.

From all appearances, police had their man.

But after a year of digging for clues and

coming up empty in the biggest manhunt in New York City criminal history — an investigation that inspired police to characterize their letter-writing tormentor in superlatives such as "cunning" — could it all have come to an end with so clumsy a find?

There are those who say, in the end, the capture of Berkowitz may have been too easy. The pieces fit together too perfectly.

Among those casting a skeptical eye are

investigators for the Queens District Attorney's Office, who have been probing the possible involvement of accomplices in the "Son of Sam" murders for the past year. They re-opened the "Son of Sam" probe last October after Gannett Westchester Newspapers demonstrated the probability that Berkowitz did not act alone.

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Inside

Chinese artist exhibits

Chinese artist Han Meilin and his actress wife are in Westchester on the first leg of a 21-city tour. His art is on view at Bloomingdale's. See page B1.



Local The Kingdom of Peace, founded by Father Divine on Park Hill Avenue, remains an abode of serenity for 7 elderly 'angels.' — See story on Page A3.

Lifestyles Conceptualist Joel Liebowitz goes a different route in order to fulfill his art creations. Liebowitz now has plans to perform an artistic endeavor through the use of two space satellites. See page B1.

World/Nation President Carter and Ronald Reagan ran a race Monday from opposite sides of the country to clear up "misunderstandings" and "distortions" about the policies each plans to take to the White House. See page A10.

Sports Beginning tonight, George Brett, Darrell Porter, Willie Wilson, Dennis Leonard, Larry Gura, Greg Luzinski, Bake McBride, Mike Schmidt, Tug McGraw and Steve Carlton will bring to your living room the 1980 World Series. See page C5.

Weather Mixed sunshine and cloudiness today, breezy and quite cool with the high in the mid 50s. Clear and cold again tonight with a chance of scattered frost in valley sections, low in the 30s. Wednesday partly sunny. Details on A2.

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Iraqi troops prepare siege of oil refinery

BASRA, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi forces threatening Abadan moved more armor and artillery across the Karun River but appeared to be preparing for a siege rather than an assault to overrun the Iranian oil city and its giant refinery.

As the Iraqi war to win complete control of the Shatt al-Arab estuary went into its 23rd day, Iraq's official Pars news agency said the invaders put two more pontoon bridges across the Karun northwest of Abadan, giving them three crossing points on the approaches to the threatened city.

A British reporter who visited the area said he saw tanks, amphibious vehicles and artillery moving across one of the bridges "in a leisurely manner" and that the Iraqi troops were relaxed and confident. He said the Iraqis were shelling Abadan and the Iranians were replying with "inaccurate" fire but were getting no air support.

Iraqi officials claimed their forces advanced three to five miles toward Abadan, but the Western reporter said it appeared that the Iraqis were planning a siege of Abadan and Iranian-held parts of the port city of Khorramshahr, on the west side of Karun River's juncture with the Shatt al-Arab.

"I wouldn't be surprised if they just sat back," said the reporter, a military specialist for a British newspaper. "They don't really have to 'take' anything."

Khorramshahr and Abadan are the two big cities on the Iranian side of the Shatt al-Arab, Iraq's waterway to the Persian Gulf and a major territorial issue for centuries between the Arabs of what is now Iraq and the Persians of what is now Iran.



Iraqi forces rejoice after crossing Iran river on road to Abadan

Riverdale Avenue

Amid rubble, they build new life

By TERRI HALL
Staff Writer

On Riverdale Avenue, a street where the city is planning to tear down several buildings this week, another one has been quietly going up.

Reporters sent out to search for the wrecking crews — who were not working on Columbus Day — found instead a construction crew up on scaffolds and hard at the renovation of buildings at 9 and 11 Riverdale Ave. between Main and Hudson streets.

This renovation, like the scheduled demolition of buildings toward the

southern end of the avenue, is the end result of arson.

Arthur Dozier was out on the sidewalk Monday morning, his face turned skyward as he watched the builders and chatted with passersby and customers of Dozier's Used Furniture which, like the building, is owned by his son, Arthur Dozier II.

The pair is something like a real-life Sanford and Son.

"My father had a dumping truck a long time ago," said Dozier II, explaining how he got into the used furniture business. "While we were

moving and hauling refuse, we came across a lot of furniture."

Eventually, Dozier II decided to open up a used furniture shop at 119 Riverdale. "But the city bought that place," he said, "and chased us out."

The used furniture shop at 9 Riverdale Ave. was opened almost two years ago. Before he bought the building, Dozier II said, he called up the city's Community Development Agency to check and see if they had any immediate plans for the area.

Please turn to RIVERDALE on back page of section

Feuer drivers asked to skip pay

By JENNIE TRITTEN
Staff Writer

The immediate future of the Feuer Transportation Co. in Yonkers was in doubt today over whether enough of the firm's 40 union truck drivers were willing to work without pay in an effort to save the financially-troubled tri-state trucking company.

Fifteen drivers, a majority of day shift, were at work at 8 a.m. today without pay but another six drivers were refusing to work without pay. The payroll work also includes maintenance workers and warehousemen.

Today's uncertainty followed a Saturday meeting at Feuer's Federal Street truck terminal attended by 40 employees and James Pace, company president. Pace told the workers, who had not been paid Wednesday, that he could not meet the weekly payroll and asked them to work without wages the next two weeks to give him time to obtain a substantial private loan to save the firm. Last

Thursday, Pace had promised to pay the workers by the weekend, according to Thomas Worrel, union shop steward of the Teamsters and Chauffeurs Local 445 representing 26 workers there.

The shop steward claims he is owed more than \$3,000, which he said includes two weeks back wages, four weeks vacation time due him and money he loaned the former owner more than a year and a half ago in a stock deal which was to be paid off the end of this year with 6 percent interest. The union's welfare and pension fund is also owed more than \$180,000, he noted.

In April, 21 workers took over the financially troubled firm which the former owner the first of the year said he was closing down and filing bankruptcy. However, some disgruntled drivers are disputing who actually owns the company, contending the former owner still retains control. Each of the workers invested \$1,000 of their savings to seek a \$700,000 U.S. Department of Housing and

Urban Development loan to pay off some of the \$1.8 million debts incurred by the former owner. When that loan and financial help sought from the U.S. Economic Development Agency fell through, Pace said he would seek a private loan.

However, the workers' bid to take over suffered a setback last week, when the Federal Street terminal property in Southwest Yonkers was purchased by Refined Syrups and Sugars Inc., a neighboring firm, at a foreclosure bank auction for \$600,000.

The auction was conducted by the Bank of New York after it foreclosed on the \$505,723 mortgage on that property which Feuer was unable to pay or make arrangements to payoff with the bank.

Whether the workers could continue to operate the company or go out of business depended on meeting the weekly payroll, holding off creditors until the private loan was secured, and making either a short or long term arrangement with the new landlords, Refined Syrups.

4 more U.S. scientists win Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Two Americans — James W. Cronin of Chicago University and Val L. Fitch of Princeton University — won the 1980 Nobel Prize in Physics today for nuclear research.

They were cited by the Swedish academy of Sciences "for the discovery of violations of fundamental symmetry principles in the decay of neutral K-mesons."

Today two more Americans and a Briton today shared the 1980 Nobel Prize in chemistry for biochemical studies of nucleic acids, the master blueprints of life.

Prof. Paul Berg of Stanford University in California received half the \$212,000 prize. The other half went jointly to Harvard Prof. Walter Gilbert and British Prof. Frederick Sanger.

