

# Yonkers Neighbors Believe Suspect Had Harassed Them

By **RONALD SMOTHERS**

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YONKERS, ThursGay, Aug. 11—David Berkowitz, the suspect in the .44-caliber slayings, was described by neighbors here this morning as a quiet man who kept to himself yet one whom they suspected of harassing them and of setting a fire in the building.

"He just didn't say a lot," said Rachel Resto, 21 years old, who lives in the six-story building at 35 Pine Street where Mr. Berkowitz was apprehended. "He would just say hello and how are you."

The most revealing aspect of what the excited residents said early today was how little they knew of the man who a year ago had moved into a \$230.50-a-month studio apartment on the top floor of the building, facing the Hudson River.

"Loner," "strange person" was how they described him. But they all agreed on one point. "He didn't look like the sketches," said one resident, Venus Balducci.

Frankie Resto, the building's paperboy, said that Mr. Berkowitz was not seen much at night, and when asked about it, he told some people that he was a nighttime security guard. But others knew

that he was a postal employee, as the police disclosed, and they thought that he worked in the Bronx.

The residents told of some anxiety in the building since Saturday, when a fire was set in front of the door to an apartment on the sixth floor. When it was extinguished, several .22-caliber bullets were found in the fire.

Residents said there were suspicions that the fire had been set by someone living in the building, and while they did not think of Mr. Berkowitz until yesterday, the residents were thinking of no one else today.