



Vietnamese stand guard around Chinese prisoners

Chinese preparing major Viet push

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Southern Vietnam predict a big Chinese offensive in the Vietnam border war in a few days. Japan's Kyodo news service reported, while Hanoi claimed China is sending in more reinforcements after losing 4,000 troops in four Vietnamese counterattacks.

Kyodo said sources in the Chinese capital told it the goal of the intensified "positive action" against Vietnam would be to destroy at least one Vietnamese army division and military bases and artillery emplacements near the border.

But British reporters in Peking said Vice Premier Wang Chen told them the Chinese invasion force would not try to advance down the Red River valley toward Hanoi.

Milk supply ample Westchester hit by panic buying

By STEVEN CLARK Staff Writer

While milk deliveries in Westchester County are untouched by the sudden strike of milk drivers and processing workers in New York City and Long Island, local retailers are reporting numerous cases of "panic buying."

Milk supplies trucked to stores south of the Yonkers border were stopped by metropolitan dairy plants after Teamsters Local 584 called a walkout at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Major plants of the Greater New York Milk Dealers were picketed throughout the weekend, resulting in the disappearance of milk cartons in Westchester and the truck by milk consumers north into Westchester.

"We had people coming up from the city yesterday and were out of milk by 10 a.m.," said Donna Vitano, manager of an A&P on McLean Avenue. "On Saturday I ordered 50 additional cases of milk and they were all gone."

Other chain supermarkets reported similar buying patterns. At Key Foods on McLean Avenue and Foodland on Tuckahoe Road, for example, milk reportedly was gone by closing time Sunday.

Please turn to MILK on back page of section

Flood fear rises with heavy rain

Weekend rains of close to two inches caused flooding throughout Westchester today, making early morning travel sticky and prompting authorities to issue flash flood warnings.

An inch and three-quarters fell during the weekend up to 8 a.m. today at the weather station at Westchester County Airport, Rye Lake, with just over an inch between midnight and 8 a.m.

All parkways and roads were reported open for the morning rush hour, although there was considerable amounts of water in a number of places, including North Street at the Hutchinson River Parkway in White Plains and Harrison, south of Mamaroneck Road in Scarsdale, at Sparks Avenue in Mount Vernon, and on the Bronx River Parkway at Hamilton Avenue and Main Street, White Plains.

The rain was to continue through tonight and possibly change to light snow before ending.

Eclipse Event to be 'washout'

The Associated Press The total eclipse of the sun may have been a great event for some western states today, but the resultant partial eclipse which should have been visible in the Northeast was expected to fall victim to the latest winter storm.

The National Weather Service in Albany said skies over New York State, Vermont and western Massachusetts were expected to be "all socked in" Monday, blocking any chance to view the partial eclipse of the sun.

North America won't have another chance to see a total eclipse until the year 2017.

Glenn Behrmann of the Schenectady Museum Planetarium said the partial eclipse in the Northeast was expected to begin at 10:32 a.m. Monday over Buffalo. Best viewing times, if one could have seen the sun, would have been 12:36 p.m. for the metro area.

The problems of heavy clouds also hindered those in the Midwest. In Missouri, Mont., eclipse watchers had only a 10 percent chance of seeing anything but low-flying birds.

North America won't have another chance to see a total eclipse until the year 2017.

It was better to the west. Weather forecasters gave people at Lewiston, Mont., the best chance of seeing the total eclipse. Viewers in Galandale and Yakima, Wash., were first given a 30 percent chance, but forecasters later improved that to 50 percent when satellite photos showed the cloud cover falling eastward.

That's a little better than it looked like earlier, said a National Weather Service spokesman late Sunday. As a Pacific front pushed the clouds in from the coast, observers aloft were the only eclipse-chasers with a guaranteed chance to see what they came for.

Among groups chartering planes, the Seattle Science Center offered an unobstructed view plus a champagne brunch 3,000 feet above the Columbia River gorge. The ride on a chartered Alaska Airlines 727 journey cost \$115 to \$132 a person.



On trial
The murder trial of Black Panther leader, Huey Newton opens today in Oakland, Calif. The 35-year-old Newton is charged with the fatal shooting of a 17-year-old prostitute on a downtown Oakland street in 1974. —AP Photo

Adult home restitution trial to begin Tuesday

By LAURA ABBOTT Staff Writer

A court case involving an adult home, which parallels a recent Westchester grand jury report on the wrongful activities of a "Mrs. X," is to begin Tuesday in White Plains.

The case was brought to court by Carol Melone, of Katonah, who has asked Westchester Surrogate Ewan V. Brewster to order turned over to her cousin's estate \$19,832 that she claims John and Ann Murphy had

stolen "wrongfully appropriated" from her cousin, the late Louise L. Metz, shortly before her cousin died in 1978.

Miss Metz was residing at the Murphy residence, Mrs. Melone is the temporary administrator of the Metz estate.

The papers allege that the Murphys, owners of the Friendly Acres Home for Adults, pressured Miss Metz to authorize withdrawal of the money from 10 bank accounts while Miss Metz was living in their house at 1 Park

Drive South, on the Westchester Country Club grounds.

Last June, based on a jury verdict, Brewster determined that the Murphys exerted fraud, undue influence and restraint on Miss Metz, causing her to draft a will that bequeathed the bulk of her estate to the Murphys. Her estate is valued at about \$100,000.

Miss Metz, who was a former resident of Valhalla and White Plains, lived with the Murphys from July 1975 until her death on July 18, 1978, according to court testimony at the trial in White Plains.

The Murphys are appealing that decision. The court's determination voided the will Miss Metz wrote while living with the Murphys. The trial was held after the Melones, who would have benefited from the prior will, contested the later will.

The circumstances described in testimony at the May trial closely paralleled those in one of five case histories given in a county grand jury report on the activities of a Westchester adult home owner. That report, released ear-

lier this month, calls the adult home owner "Mrs. X."

The grand jury report relates five cases in which "Mrs. X" lured elderly people into her control and systematically drained them of their financial assets. District Attorney Carl Vergari has said "Mrs. X" may have obtained as much as a quarter of a million dol-

Please turn to TRIAL on back page of section

Inside

Rangers stop Bossy, Islanders

The Rangers stopped Mike Bossy's goal-scoring streak and beat the Islanders 3-2, but lost center Cliff Sullivan for six weeks with a fractured ankle. See sports.

Local

Read why Warren Jackson feels some state educators are supporting "top-out" education on today's Insight page.

Lifestyles

Joyce Hergenhan has been named one of the top 10 businessmen by Glamour Magazine. See the article in Lifestyles on one of Con Ed's top executives.

World/Nation

President Carter wants Israel's Menachem Begin to come to Camp David by the end of the week to try to complete peace treaty terms with Egypt.

Sports

Mel Allen, the "Voice of the Yankees" paid a visit to the Jewish Community Center Sunday and enthralled the audience with anecdotes of his many years in baseball. See page B14.

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Home heat bill due another hike

NEW YORK (AP) — The price of oil used to heat homes and power factories may rise still further because of an apparent increase in the price of the fuel by a key exporter, Venezuela.

The world's fourth-largest oil producer decided over the weekend to raise the price of some of its oil by 15 percent, according to industry sources.

There was no official confirmation of a price increase.

The oil affected reportedly would be mostly heavy refined oil used for heating homes and firing factory boilers. Gasoline prices probably would not be affected by the move, because that fuel is made with a lighter grade of oil.

Venezuela is a key source of heavy oil for the East Coast of the United States. The East Coast imports about 17 times as much of this oil as the rest of the nation.

The Middle East Economic Survey, an authoritative oil publication published in London, said.

Please turn to ENERGY on back page of section



Energy Secretary James Schlesinger said U.S. is weighing use of force to guarantee Midwest oil flow. Story on A4.

County's Con Ed ouster plan irks New York City officials

Westchester County's proposed takeover of Consolidated Edison would collectively cost New York City customers as much as \$27 million a year, according to Consumer Affairs Commissioner Bruce H. Atter and Brooklyn Assemblyman Charles Schumer.

Calling the plan "a time bomb" for Con Ed city customers, Ratner and Schumer urged New Yorkers on Monday to strongly oppose the plan, which is currently being studied by the Westchester Board of Legislators for inclusion on the county election ballot.

The officials said if the Westchester plan was approved the rates of remaining customers in the New York City Westchester franchise area would increase in order to cover Con Ed's additional per capita production costs.

City customers would have to bear the burden of these increases because Con Ed would maintain the same generating capacity, with fewer customers to pay for the

costs, the officials said.

They added there would be an increase even though Westchester County would be paying Con Ed for its distribution, transmission and customer service facilities.

"New York City consumers are already subjected to the highest electricity rates in the country," Ratner noted. "Rather than looking for ways to leave its neighbors out in the cold, Westchester should be working with us to devise a plan where we could all have reasonable energy costs."

Schumer called Con Ed "a sinking ship," that has Westchester politicians hailing out. "I sympathize with Westchester's unhappiness with Con Ed's rates, but a unilateral action is the wrong response," the Brooklyn Democrat said.

The officials said they learned through confidential sources that the Public Service Commission would "almost certainly" approve a rate increase for city customers if Westchester drops out of the franchise area.

Berkowitz waged 'war' on Yonkers streets

By MAURY TERRY and TOM BARTLEY (Copyright, 1978, Westchester Rockland Newspapers and Maury Terry)

One of a series

Much of the criticism—and lawsuits—aimed at the City of Yonkers over its handling of the David Berkowitz case have maintained the city should have known he was Son of Sam and arrested him as the 44-Caliber Killer, a dubious assertion the courts have rejected twice in dismissing those suits.

What has not been tested is whether Yonkers police should have realized that Berkowitz was

—An armorer, responsible for at least two firebombings only steps from his 35 Pine St. apartment.

—An armed marauder who used his weapons to shoot two dogs, one of them fatally, at the home he had firebombed some six months earlier.

—A writer of threatening letters, who had dispatched messages of hate to the firebombing victims and to a doorman neighbor whose front door he set afire only days before his eventual arrest.

Those crimes spanned but 15 months, followed a virtually identical pattern, took place on less than an acre of land—and went unnoticed.

A Gannett Westchester Rockland Newspapers investigation has found that if all the evidence against Berkowitz

held separately by the Yonkers police and the Westchester Sheriff's Office, had been put together, it could have resulted in his arrest as a suspect in a host of state and federal crimes by mid-June, 1977—before the Son of Sam had claimed one more life, blighted a young man and wounded a young couple.

Unlike many crimes that go unnoticed by the big cities and small towns of Westchester, the guerrilla war Berkowitz waged in Yonkers was but a small part of the larger role he played in the year-long siege of New York City's night streets by the Son of Sam.

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BERKOWITZ: 'I went to kill the Carr family'

Continued from page one

There had been no .44-caliber killings in about a "son of a Sam" when Berkowitz opened that war against his Yonkers neighbors in the black stillness of the morning of May 13, 1976.

Berkowitz was new to the neighborhood, a compact collection of modest single-family homes and high-rise apartment buildings co-existing between the busy north-south arteries of Warburton Avenue and Broadway in northwest Yonkers.

Berkowitz had settled himself into a top-floor studio apartment at 35 Pine in April after stalking out of his rented room in New Rochelle after an emotional outburst over the barking of his landlord's dog.

Berkowitz' new apartment was numbered 1E and commanded a dramatic view of the Hudson River. But far below was a scene that would prove even more dramatic to Berkowitz—Sam Carr's backyard on Warburton Avenue, and next to it a spot of a street called Wicker.

The Joachim Neto family and their German shepherd, Rocket, lived at 18 Wicker St., some hundred yards from Berkowitz' new home in a three-story frame house. Shortly after 3:30, covered by the darkness of the May morning, Berkowitz slung a firebomb only inches from the bedroom window behind which the Neto's 12-year-old daughter had been sleeping. Flames burned the front of the house and porch, causing an estimated \$1,000 in damage.

"It burned, it burned. We all thought we were going to die," says Andrea, 14, media, mother of Mrs. Maria Neto, recalling in her native Spanish the night that flames illuminated their tiny neighborhood and plunged the family into a six-month siege by a terrorist.

Then came the letters, "dirty letters" that threatened the family, says Mrs. Almeida. "We destroyed them." A series of obscenities and abusive phone calls followed, says Mrs. Neto, and then a false alarm to the Yonkers police telling them that dead bodies were to be found at 18 Wicker St.

"The cops came banging on the door at about 1 in the morning," says Maria Neto. "We didn't know what had happened." There were no bodies, of course.

Berkowitz said after his arrest that he had called the Yonkers police, presumably anonymously, to tell them that "Joachim is tormenting me," most likely a reference to Joachim Neto.

Finally, on Christmas Eve, 1976, Berkowitz left his job with an Elmford construction company, stopped at a co-worker's home in north Yonkers for a couple of holiday drinks and, finishing the evening, shot Rocket to death on the front porch of the Neto home.

As Berkowitz fired his small-caliber rifle into the front wall of the house, the Neto's 12-year-old was once again behind the wall, this time playing a piano with her cousin in the living room. One shot missed the living room window by about a foot.

"It was horrible—all of it," Mrs. Neto remembers. "I was sick during that time and that made me worse. We were terrified because someone was trying to kill us. I waited by the window every day for my daughter to get home from school... I wanted all us to move out."

Although the shooting of Rocket was the last Berkowitz attack on the Neto's, they remained in terror until his arrest eight months later. "This was kept us in fear for more than a year's time," says Mrs. Neto.

With the killing of Rocket, Berkowitz had physically completed his campaign against the Neto family. But by then he had already opened a second front in the guerrilla war, only yards from the Neto home, following the identical pattern, but with a potentially deadly difference. Again, it was in the darkness of a new morning, in October, 1976, when Berkowitz began his attacks on the family of Sam Carr.

Carr, who was then 63 and retired from the Yonkers Public Works Department, operated an answering service out of his rambling home at 214 Warburton Ave. He lived there with his wife, Francoise, his daughter Wheel, 25, a Yonkers police dispatcher, son Michael, 23, and the family's black Labrador retriever, Harvey. Another son, John, 26, was in the Air Force, awaiting discharge in North Dakota.

Their treatment at the hands of Berkowitz would be doubly cruel. For while the attacks followed the Neto pattern of firebombing-hate mail-dog shooting, Berkowitz would also appropriate Carr's first name, linking it indelibly to the Son of Sam killings and propelling this essentially private person into a glare of public attention he neither asked for nor desired. The Carr family refused to be interviewed for these articles.

The publicity and other tragedies to befall the Carr family were all far in the future, however, when Berkowitz paid his first call on 314 Warburton Ave.

It was Oct. 9, 1976, when Berkowitz arrived with a firebomb at about 4 o'clock on a Saturday morning.

The Molotov Cocktail flew through the darkness and smashed through a front window, into the home's answering service office, and set after a curtain, some books and a desk. Carr, awake at the time, grabbed a fire extinguisher and doused the flames before the firemen arrived. It was less than five months since another pre-dawn firebomb had charred the nearby Neto home.

Fire Department records show that Yonkers detectives were at the scene but

the police, citing pending lawsuits against the city over the Berkowitz case, officially will neither confirm that nor say what steps were taken to investigate the arson, a crime punishable by up to 25 years in prison.

This newspaper was told by one source, however, that neighborhood youths had spotted Berkowitz throwing the firebomb, that they later told the Carr family their attacker was "a white guy from 35 Pine." It was a reference to Berkowitz' apartment building, predominantly occupied by black families. That information was subsequently reported by the Carrs to the Yonkers police, the source says. The police say they were never told.

Except for the shooting of Neto's shepherd the following December, the Fine-Wicker-Warburton neighborhood settled into a state of relative calm for the next six months.

New York City was a different story. Two weeks after the Carr home was firebombed by Berkowitz, a .44-caliber slug tore into the head of Carl Denaro, 20, seriously wounding him, as he sat in a parked car with a girl in Flushing, Queens. Although New York detectives did not know it at the time, and would not for several months, the same gun had been used two months after the Neto firebombing to murder 18-year-old Donna Laura outside her Bronx home on July 28.

By the time Carr next heard from Berkowitz, by an anonymous letter post-marked April 18, 1977, three young women had been murdered with that .44-caliber Bulldog and four other persons had been wounded. The Son of Sam was halfway through his murderous march of the city streets when Carr received his first letter, which complained bitterly of Harvey's barking in the backyard but contained no threats other than legal action the writer said he was instituting against Carr.

A week later, on April 17, Valentina Soriani and Alexander Esau were shot to death in a parked car in the Bronx and a letter was dropped between their bodies. In the letter, which was not made public, the writer identified himself as "Son of Sam" and named his murders on an old, drunken, family-beating father named Sam. "Go out and kill" commands father Sam," the letter read at one point. All told, it used the name Sam six times in describing his lust for blood, his heart condition and his home, garage and attic.

Sam Carr, like the rest of the public, was not aware of those references when he received his second letter from Berkowitz three days later. This time, the anonymous letter postmarked April 19 threatened to kill Carr and his family. One week later, Berkowitz says, he tried to make good on that threat.

In the course of a four-hour interview late last year at which one of these writers was present, Berkowitz described that April morning and what he said was his true target.

"I went to kill the Carrs."

Berkowitz described the Carrs as "my enemies." He said, "I hated them. I wanted them dead. But they were inside (the house) so I shot the dog instead."

Berkowitz said in the interview that he had headed a 30-round clip into his .45-caliber, semi-automatic rifle, a weapon purchased in a Brooklyn sporting goods store. At 8:30 in the morning, Berkowitz said, he took his rifle along the apartment behind Sam Carr's house with the intention of slaughtering the Carr family.

Instead, he fired several shots in the direction of the Carr home, one of them hitting Harvey, the black Labrador tied up in the backyard. Sam Carr immediately contacted the Yonkers police, complained of the dog shooting and turned over the anonymous letters he had received from Berkowitz.

Harvey today still carries a 43 slug in his body and police sources still say they cannot determine the caliber. Carr, however, has been quoted as saying he found a shell casing in his backyard. A source confirms that, adding the casing was turned over to the Yonkers police. Police sources deny the department ever received the shell.

With the wounding of the Carr dog, Berkowitz had completed a carbon copy of the Neto attacks about one hundred feet away.

Had a pattern emerged? "With such a like pattern of crimes happening so close to one another, it's probable that the same person could be responsible for all of it, including the arsons," a New York City detective says.

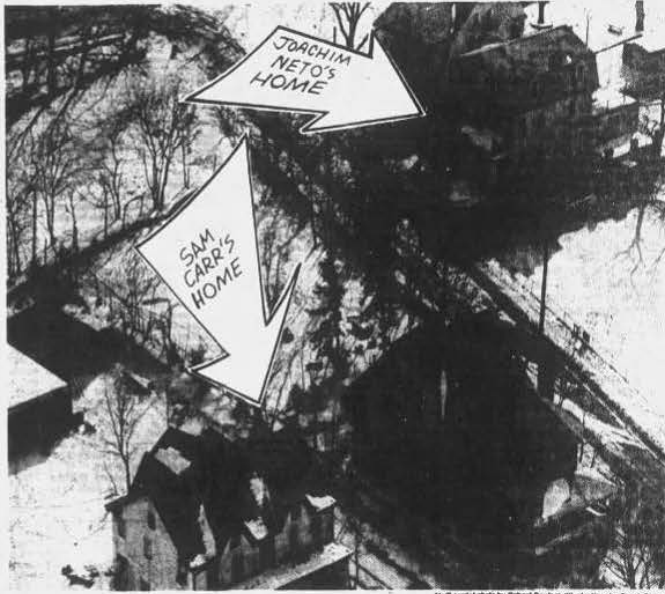
An FBI agent adds, "With the threatening letters griping about a dog barking, it makes sense to believe that the guy most likely lives within earshot of the dog. That's a pretty narrow search area to be concerned with."

A source close to the Carr family says Berkowitz followed up the rifle attack with still more anonymous threatening letters. These letters have never surfaced but others, dramatically more important, have come to light.

They were mailed by Berkowitz in early June, little more than a month after he had shot up the Carr's backyard. They could have led the police to the firebomber-rifeman of 35 Pine St.

They could have led to the arrest of David Berkowitz. They could have saved a life and prevented a blinding. They did not.

TOMORROW: Did Berkowitz use his letters to guide the police to his Yonkers hideaway?



The homes Berkowitz says he attacked behind his Yonkers apartment building

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