

'Sam' won't answer questions on accomplices

By MAURY TERRY and JAMES MITTEGGER

David Berkowitz, the confessed "Son of Sam" killer, has 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, Gammett Westchester Newspapers has learned.

Santucci requested the "Son of Sam" case shortly after a series of investigative articles in the Gammett 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 got involved in jail if he told all that he knew about the case. "And I don't want that to happen," he said.

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

Sources here told Gammett 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's refusal to answer questions from Santucci's investigators is not expected to markedly hinder Santucci's inquiry, which has 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's 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 named as the "John Wheatley" alias of the killer in a Son of Sam letter.

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 planning 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.

NEWS ROUNDUP

Rabbi's killing called 'senseless' by Gov. Carey

NEW YORK (AP) — It was "wanton and senseless," the murder of a 68-year-old Brooklyn rabbi who was going to pray, but an example of the immigrants who seeked to help others "will be cherished by every New Yorker."

Those were the words of Gov. Hugh Carey when he remarked on the killing and robbery Thursday of Rabbi David Okunov, an immigrant Russian Jew who was shot once between the eyes by a killer who grabbed the old man a inexpensive black prayer shawl and prayer book.

Okunov had four children and came to this country from the Soviet Union with his family eight years ago.

It is particularly tragic that a man who came here to enjoy the free practice of his religion, who worked hard for his fellow immigrants, should be so wantonly and senselessly cut down, the governor said in a statement Thursday.

"We can only hope that the memory of his life, of his struggle for freedom and justice and mercy, will be cherished by every New Yorker," he added.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Hasidim walked in a two-hour funeral procession in which leaders accused the city of shortchanging the Crown Heights neighborhood where Okunov was killed. Leaders blamed the city for inadequate police protection.

2 bombs explode in Israel

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Two small bombs exploded in Israel today, one day after a military court sentenced two Palestinians to life imprisonment for the bloodiest terrorist had in Israel's history.

Authorities said a police demolition expert was slightly injured when a bomb exploded about a year in Tel Aviv's central bus station. Israeli state radio said the officer dropped the bomb as he was removing it from the bus.

No injuries were reported in the second explosion, in Jerusalem's Ahud Tzvi's history.

There were no immediate claims of responsibility for the bombings.

Factions battle, riot in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Supporters and opponents of El Salvador's new junta battled with fists and rocks, sending mobs on a looting rampage spree as the government stood by and continued talks for the release of 300 hostages held by 1,000 leftists in the labor and economic ministries.

The brawl broke out in a downtown plaza Thursday night after Christian Democratic Party leader Jose Napoleón Duarte, a junta supporter, returned from a seven-year exile in Venezuela and urged more than 50,000 followers to "take to the streets before terrorists dominate them."

CIA predicts Morocco king's ouster

WASHINGTON (AP) — A secret CIA report predicts that King Hassan of Morocco probably will be ousted within a year, ABC News reported Thursday night.

The network said the CIA report warned that "the internal leadership dominated by the king is likely to continue. If it does, Hassan will lose control of events probably within a year and eventually his throne."

A CIA official refused comment Thursday night on the ABC report.

According to the network, the CIA report also states that Morocco is plagued with "a system of corruption in which every significant element of the political elite."

Hassan is considered a moderate by U.S. policymakers. Earlier this week President Carter decided to arm Morocco with helicopters and reconnaissance planes.

Basque voters opt for home rule

MADRID, Spain (AP) — Voters in the northern Basque and Catalan regions opted overwhelmingly for restoration of limited home rule but there was no indication Basque separatists were ready to end their guerrilla war for total independence from the Spanish government.

Final official results were expected later today, but the Basque Nationalist Party, a moderate faction that supported the autonomy plan, said 80 percent of those who voted in the three Basque provinces approved home rule.

The Interior Ministry in Madrid confirmed the figure and said approval was obtained at about 80 percent in the northeastern province of Catalonia. A ministry spokesman said that was a near-80 percent turnout in each of the two regions, despite a day-long drizzle.

Both the Basques and the Catalans lost the autonomy they had traditionally enjoyed under the kings of Spain after they opposed fascist dictator Gen. Francisco Franco in the Spanish Civil War. Franco revoked home rule in the Basque provinces after his troops overran them in 1937. He stripped the Catalans of autonomy after winning the war in 1939.

Guyana cabinet minister shot to death

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A Guyana Cabinet minister was shot and killed in Georgetown, his nation's capital, late Wednesday, the Guyana embassy here said Thursday.

The embassy identified him as Vincent Teekah, director of education and development, and said it had no details of the shooting.

Teekah, the embassy said, was formerly a member of the opposition People's Progressive Party, but recently crossed over to join the government of Linden Forbes Burnham, the prime minister.



Candidates for the County Legislature from Clarkstown debate Thursday night.

Clarkstown debate reveals contrasts

(Continued from 1A)

The relationship of the Legislature in the Board of Health, strained in recent days because of disputes over budget requirements and the argument over its decision to fluoridate the county water supply, was discussed by each of the candidates.

Referring to last week's decision by the Legislature to recommend cutting board members' stipend from \$25 per meeting to \$1, Morahan called it "a vote of no confidence." He called its refusal to make promised budget cuts "arbitrary and capricious and bordering to anarchy."

Wagner specifically addressed the question in such a way that it would take away the right of the people to vote for county executive, said Peterson.

Only Adler refused to accept the concept of an interim appointment until an executive could be installed, calling it a "political free-for-all."

But to the budget controversy, Peterson also defended the right of the Legislature to make changes in the membership of the board after terms expire if it is left to do so, he said. He said he would not support a referendum to serve on its boards and agencies.

Questioned about the possibility that the county should take over some lawn functions to save money and avoid duplication of services, a majority of the candidates said such matters would have to be decided on a item-by-item basis.

Ms. O'Sullivan, Adler and Peterson both pointed out the need for individual reviews of services, which would eventually point to where programs could best be originated.

Ms. McLaughlin agreed with the need for a complete services inventory, and charged that Ms. O'Sullivan had backed such an action as head of the Multi-Services Committee. Ms. O'Sullivan countered that the inventory was delayed because Diane Beljean, C-Department, had not completed a fact-finding mission she was assigned.

While recognizing that there was room for different governmental levels to provide different services, Wagner noted that when larger governments take over services, often present local control is lost.

Morahan followed up on that, maintaining that county services touch the lives of most county residents but that for the county to mandate services takeovers would be foolish.

During another part of the debate, Adler came under attack from most of the other candidates for a campaign he mounted earlier this year against a county sales tax. It was a campaign which came after a

legislative committee squelched a suggestion by a citizen's group that a sales tax be instituted.

"I took severe exception to Mr. Adler's going through the (Nauveel) Mall creating fear that we were going to implement a sales tax," said Ms. McLaughlin, who served on the citizen's group.

The alarm was raised throughout the county, said Morahan, who served on the legislative committee. "It came across as a political move by an opportunist."

It was a non-issue, agreed Ms. O'Sullivan. "It is a shame it became a straw in the wind as it did." Wagner only commented that he was against the sales tax because it represented a supplementary tax rather than an alternative to property taxes. Peterson only commented that he did not sign the petition circulated by Adler.

In response, Adler said he was just trying to advocate the views of the people in his anti-sales tax campaign.

Numerous other items came up during the debate, not all of which were discussed by all the candidates. Among them:

- All the candidates agreed that the problem of solid waste disposal was the most issue of the coming decade. There was general agreement that solutions had to be found immediately, with Wagner and Ms. McLaughlin pushing for a recycling method that would turn garbage into a potential source of county income. Both Adler and Peterson pointed out that a regional approach was going to be needed to beat the problem.
- Morahan and Mrs. McLaughlin both endorsed direct county funding of the program.
- Moderator Linda Berns from the League of Women Voters read questions from the audience. Candidates were also questioned by Journal-News Managing Editor Robert Baird, Assistant City Editor Chris Carroll and Staff Writer Kevin Coupe.

Scientologists planted spies at IRS offices, papers show

WASHINGTON (AP) — Documents made public Thursday show that the Church of Scientology planted spies at the Justice Department and the Internal Revenue Service and begged an IRS meeting where the church's tax exemption was under discussion.

Federal prosecutors made these disclosures in a 10-inch-thick stack of documents that were ordered released by U.S. District Judge Charles H. Richey. Richey is to hand down a verdict Friday in the case of nine leaders of the church who are charged with conspiracy and theft of government documents.

The documents were seized in Los Angeles by the FBI in 1977 from the Church of Scientology, which claims 2 million members.

The use of spies, a bugging device and theft were outlined in the August 1978 federal indictment. But the newly released documents show for the first time the detailed planning church leaders put into the scheme.

One document states that a Scientology operative planted a listening device in an IRS conference room on Nov. 1, 1974, and then got in a car where he and two colleagues taped the hushed conversations off the car's FM radio.

In another Scientology document seized by the government, a church leader, upon learning of the theft of documents from the IRS, said, "Such news brings joy to my heart. Absolutely fantastic. I can't wait to see the data."

At one point, the documents disclose, the church had done so well in obtaining IRS materials, that church employees were practically expected to get out one office by the 15,000 IRS documents they had obtained.

Also released along with the documents was the 28-page record of the government's case, which Richey ordered the government on Oct. 4 to prepare as a substitute for a jury trial. Richey said prosecutors had agreed to the written case in plus bargaining with the defendants.

The government, however, fought for a full jury trial, arguing unsuccessfully that the plea agreement was never consummated.

The written record, in addition to presenting the government's case, also says each defendant will be found guilty of one count of the 30-count indictment.

Richey, who is not obligated to convict the defendants, will announce his decision in the case Friday, but may bring any last-minute bid. Since the defendants will not

technically be pleading guilty, they may appeal any conviction to the U.S. Court of Appeals.

One church document described an elaborate scheme to hide the theft of secret IRS documents.

The plan involved creating an "incident of a psychotic staff member" at the IRS who mails out IRS files to the person groups mentioned in their files. Among the recipients, the plan said, would be the Church of Scientology, which would then have a legal reason for demanding full IRS files.

The plan's drafter, unidentified in the documents seized by the government, worried about security "we slip up could mean curtains," he wrote.

The idea agreement submitted to Richey calls for:

- Seven defendants to be found guilty of conspiracy to obstruct justice, which carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. The seven are Mary Sue Hubbard, wife of church founder L. Ron Hubbard; Henning Heide; Duke Snider; Richard Weigand; Gregory; Willardson; Clady Raymond and Gerald Bennett Wolfe. Wolfe worked in the IRS.
- Defendant Mitchell Herzman would be found guilty of conspiracy to illegally obtain government documents, which carries the same maximum punishment.
- Defendant Sharon Thomas, who according to the indictment worked in the Justice Department, would be found guilty of an unspecified misdemeanor theft count.

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