



Thou shalt not...
A conflict is raging in Kentucky over the 10 Commandments - can they be posted in classrooms? The Supreme Court says no.

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Back to life
A mortician in England stopped what he was doing when the facial expression on a 'corpse' began to change.

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'Son of Sam' murders were committed by members of a satanic cult that he belonged to.'



'I'd still be guilty of conspiracy in some of the cases...guilty of second-degree murder in others.'

Sam: I didn't kill alone

By MAURY TERRY
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 Westchester Rockland Newspapers and Maury Terry

David Berkowitz says he did not kill alone. For the first time since he pleaded guilty in 1978 to being the lone gunman who terrorized New York City for 1978-79, Berkowitz has admitted in a series of signed statements and letters that the sensational Son of Sam murders were committed by members of a satanic cult that he belonged to.

The letters were sent to this reporter.

Berkowitz names the late John Carr, son of his Yonkers neighbor Sam Carr, as a fellow cult member and one of his accomplices in what is the biggest murder case in New York history. But he would not name any other members of the cult.

In the letters, he also wrote details of the cult's operation, plans and dark activities.

He says authorities covered up his case and "would have to be idiots to ignore the overwhelming evidence" demonstrating the involvement of others in the shootings, which left six dead and seven wounded in 1976-77.

Berkowitz admits his complicity in the killings, but emphasizes that he was not the only gunman.

Even if his accomplices were caught, he says, "I'd still be guilty of conspiracy in some of the cases. I'd even be guilty of second-degree murder in others. So regardless, I would still have a long prison term. But this doesn't bother me."

"Next, I could safely tell you that one (cult) member, John Carr, is deceased," Berkowitz writes. "So this would still leave me with myself to share the guilt or proof of it. Besides, many others have vanished, scattered all over the U.S.A., for all I know."

According to Berkowitz:

- The murderous Yonkers cult, to which he says he and John Carr belonged, included both male and female members. The group, Berkowitz says, practiced a variety of rituals and followed the teachings of "occultists Eliphas Levi and Aleister Crowley, as well certain concepts of Black Magic, ancient Druidism, the Order of the Golden Dawn, and the Ecwage witches of Spain."
- He was instructed to get, with "inside" help, a job at the Yonkers Animal Shelter. From where he was supposed to remove dogs for sacrifices by the cult in "obnoxious religious rituals."
- "I was just supposed to fill out the (job) application and turn it in," he writes. "Someone on the inside was supposed to vouch for me."

Berkowitz says the plan was abandoned because of the around-the-clock presence of a security guard at a company across the street from the shelter.

Less than a week before his arrest in August 1977, he and other cult members stripped his Yonkers studio apartment of all its good furnishings, defaced the walls with bizarre slogans and left the apartment a shambles in an attempt, successful at the time, to make police believe he was a lone, deranged assassin who killed at the command of barking dogs.

Berkowitz says he was "always sane," that his confession in 1977 was "contrived to impugn humanity," and that the cult's plan to set up his apartment "clearly shows ad-

(Please turn to back page)

Love on wing leaves this couple feathering their nest at hospital

By KATHRYN KAHLER
 Staff Writer

Cupid's arrow had a special sting for two New City residents who exchanged lovebirds on Valentine's Day.

Late Wednesday the two were resting comfortably amid the sterile and unromantic ambience of Albert Einstein Hospital in the Bronx while the peach-faced lovebirds awaited blood tests and possible death.

County may monitor its waste sites

By KEVIN MCCOY
 Staff Writer

Toxic chemical or waste storage sites in Rockland soon may be monitored and inspected by the county Health Department.

Rockland Legislator Sam Colman, D-Ramapo, who last year won county funding for a Health Department search for unknown toxic waste dumps, has called for a County Legislature resolution giving the department authority over known storage sites.

"The Health Department is just about ready to start searching out sites where we didn't know toxic waste was being dumped," said Colman. "By giving Health Depart-

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The lovebirds are believed responsible for transmitting pittuitary sinus or parrot fever, to the lovers.

Results of blood tests on the 48-year-old man and 34-year-old woman have not been completed, but doctors diagnosed the couple as having the virus disease based on their symptoms and the purchase of Valentine's Day of the South American lovebirds, members of the parrot family, from a pet store in Clarkstown.

Health officials refused to release the names of the couple or the pet store.

Rockland Health Commissioner Dr. Daniel Hyman said the cases were the first two recorded of pittuitary sinus in Rockland.

Last week the man began having high fever, chills, a cough, malaise, and some pneumonia-like symptoms. He was admitted to Albert Einstein because of the high fever, regional health officials said. Three days later, his friend came down with the same symptoms, but less severe.

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First fall

Mrs. Nancy Reagan holds on to a small boy of St. Ann's Infant Home in Hyattsville, Md. Wednesday just moments

after the First Lady lost her balance while bending down to hug the youngster and instead fell over backwards.

AP Photo

Senate to slice budget further to aid business

By CLIFF HAAS
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Recommending even deeper overall cuts than President Reagan has asked, Senate budget writers are slicing more money from some social programs to make room for restoring export subsidies that benefit big business.

By the time it quit work for the night Wednesday, the Senate Budget Committee had approved more than \$3 billion in cuts, a net of about \$2.4 billion more than Reagan recommended for the areas covered.

One of the panel's votes was to restore \$110 million — a third of Reagan's proposed cut — for the Export-Import Bank. The bank subsidizes exports through loans and loan guarantees to purchasers of American goods, and most of the benefits go to a few large American corporations.

At the recommendation of Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., the panel supported deeper cuts in housing for the poor and community services and to more than make up the money put back on the Ex-Im Bank budget.

Mrs. Kassebaum denied the move was designed to help companies like Boeing and Cessna, which produce airplanes in her state and sell them abroad with the Ex-Im Bank's help. She said the change is intended "to help workers keep their jobs, not big business."

The action on the Ex-Im Bank was one of few times the committee voted more money than Reagan had recommended as it completed its second day of work on the 1982 federal budget.

Sen. Peter Domenici, R-N.M., the committee chairman, predicted the panel would complete its spending blueprint today, and aides said it would wind up approving more than the \$48 billion in cuts the president has recommended.

The committee recommended reductions in social programs ranging from unemployment benefits and Social Security to food stamps and welfare.

While Reagan was generally getting his way in the Senate, he was winning another victory in another committee of Congress.

The House Ways and Means Committee gave its initial endorsement to \$8.8 billion in spending cuts in social programs it oversees and a \$6.4 billion tax cut, nearly identical to the president's request.

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Bomb squad officer recalls near miss

By DAVID COLTON
 Staff Writer

NEW YORK — To the untrained eye, it was just an empty beer carton left on an unseized sidewalk, another piece of the broken dreams that litter the lower East Side.

"They said it was ticking, but I didn't hear anything. We leaned over and bang, I heard the explosion and we're on our backs," said bomb squad Det. Kenneth Dudonis, his face coated with gel and his hands wrapped in plastic Wednesday at Bellevue Hospital.

"Had it been another type of de-

vice, a high-explosive, it would have been all over."

As it was, Dudonis, a 38-year-old Pearl River resident, and his partner, James O'Connor, 38, of Lindenhurst, L.I., spent the day recuperating from burns and cuts suffered when the "beer carton" exploded in their faces early Tuesday morning at 9 Bleecker St. The blast rattled but did not damage headquarters of the left-wing Yippie party in a three-story tenement a few feet away.

Masking their pain with jokes and surrounded by friends and family in twin hospital beds on the fifth

floor of Bellevue, the officers helped reconstruct the explosion for teams of detectives assigned to the case.

"Personally, I don't think it was the FALN (a Puerto Rican terrorist group)," Dudonis said during a bedside interview Wednesday. "But it's not for me to say at this point."

City police have also discounted the claims of a caller to The New York Daily News that the FALN planted the bomb with the intent of killing policemen. Bomb Squad Det. Charles Wells said Wednesday the FALN normally calls right after a

blast and then assumes responsibility in writing.

In this case, police were alerted just minutes before the explosion by an anonymous caller reporting a bomb outside Yippie headquarters near the Bowery. Yippie leaders have blamed the blast on "neo-Nazi" groups.

As of Wednesday night, bomb squad investigators were still sifting through evidence and had not ruled out any group, or individual, as a suspect.

Dudonis and O'Connor knew



Det. Kenneth Dudonis
 ...Pearl River resident

(Please turn to back page)

D. Berkowitz
BRIDGE
ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY

MAURY Terry

The house will be my apartment was only knocked in several days before I got arrested. It's quite certain that my police detective will confirm to you that there were still numerous places of...
...for the marks in the walls, if I recall correctly, they were done in red paint...
...the apartment was the same way in general. The books, magazines, photographic literature, etc., were left scattered...
...I never had any such furniture, but within a week before I was arrested...
...I would not be writing. Therefore you must be...
...if you would like to...
...I would be...
...I would be...
...I would be...

Letter from Berkowitz received by Maury Terry, telling how his apartment was defaced.

Sam, in letters to reporter, says he didn't act alone

(Continued from A1)
...ance planning. But I want to add my idea and I'm certain you know that I write...
...Berkowitz's written admissions, and specific details contained in them, have been independently investigated by these newspapers and investigators of Queens District Attorney John Santoro, who is now aware that Berkowitz provided the information. Santoro has been able to substantiate Berkowitz's visit to the animal shelter and has found supporting evidence for the assertion that his apartment's private appearance was a set-up.

Joseph Berkowitz's refusal to name other accomplices besides John Carr, evidence has been uncovered pointing at a full dozen possible conspirators whose names have been turned over to Santoro for further investigation. The total cult membership may number more than 20.

If Santoro moves on the matter, it would be a continuation of a case he reopened late in 1979 following publication of an investigation in these newspapers.

The newspaper probe demonstrated Berkowitz apparently acted with members of a cult and revealed his residence as well as other crucial information that had been withheld by New York City Police and the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office.

Berkowitz's admissions were made in this reporter's over a six-month period last year, 18 months after the Garment investigation began. They were withheld until now in an abominable attempt to persuade Berkowitz to name other conspirators besides John Carr. He refused to do so and from the outset declared that his cooperation remains secret.

Berkowitz has refused to talk to the authorities. His position was that he would help to a degree because he wanted the truth to come out. Keep the rest of it public," he said. He has not approved the publication of this correspondence.

Berkowitz says he remains in fear of other cult members and their ability to harm his family, which he had

been told would happen if he betrayed the group. His leaders, he says, have photographs and addresses of his family and other members' families.

My father has been urging me to cooperate fully. Cooperate, cooperate," he says. "But he has no idea of the dangers to him from the cult. I don't want to get a reduced sentence. I have to go over each detail, each occurrence, each victim step by step and explain just what my role was. My father means well but he doesn't understand what that would mean for him.

Berkowitz, who avoided a trial by pleading guilty to all the charges, says he will not testify against any of his accomplices, even if he ultimately remains the only conspirator sent to prison for the killings.

I am not a shoddy pigeon and I cannot, no matter how heinous the crime, testify against another individual," Berkowitz writes. "Even if a given individual has wronged me, still I must keep silent because this is the code — this is our code — the inmates of Attica."

I know this sounds like something out of a gangster movie, but this place (Attica) is my home now and I will live by the rules and by the code.

Neither do I want to go back to court and go through this circus routine again. This was disgusting and stupid and I just refuse to even consider this," he says in reply to an attempt to convince him to testify.

I mean I'm not really talking, but I don't want the wrong people to think that I am, because I'm not," he writes.

I would talk tomorrow," Berkowitz says. "I'm aware that it would be the way to substantiate some of the things I've said. They (the authorities, good witnesses, etc.) will agree with each other as to certain facts, times, dates, etc. There is also the matter of which district attorney is willing to prosecute. I'm sure Santoro realizes by now that he's taken an ounce that he can handle. So I'm staying put."

County may check waste sites

(Continued from A1)
...ment officials the power to check locations where toxic chemicals are stored or used, and to order the units remaining inoperable in our fight against potential pollution of our water supplies.

To implement Colman's plan, the Rockland Board of Health would have to amend the county Sanitary Code, said George O'Keefe, county assistant environmental health commissioner. Adding special guidelines for storage and disposal of toxic material in the code, he said, would give the county authority to issue summonses to violators.

If added to the code — which O'Keefe said could happen as early as the board's April meeting — the measures would give the Health Department legal authority to inspect, event, toxic chemical and storage areas operated by private industry or individuals.

"Once it's in the Sanitary Code, we can go in to any place where a health problem might exist. We've got that power under the Public Health Law," said O'Keefe.

Colman said the Health Department could begin by inspecting all toxic material and waste storage containers and monitoring the underground tanks used by service stations to store motor fuel.

"This law should also authorize the Health Department to control the sites at which soil and other soil removal chemicals are stored so we can be sure that our water supply is not endangered by them," Colman added.

He called for speedy County Legislature approval of the idea to ensure that the Health Department has the additional authority when a report on unknown toxic waste sites is completed.

The report, authorized by the Legislature last year, called for hiring a consulting firm to seek out formerly unknown toxic and chemical waste dumps and storage sites by studying aerial photographs of the county. Colman, who won a Legislature commitment of \$18,500 for the program, said a consulting firm studying existing aerial photographs, mostly taken by the federal government, would release its report in a few months.

The report, once released, will be submitted to the state Department of Environmental Conservation. Acting under the state's 1979 Inactive Hazardous Waste Act, the DEC would then conduct test borings on burial sites turned up in the study and decide how best to prevent the waste or chemicals from polluting ground water supplies.

Birds leave lovers in hospital

(Continued from A1)
...fever. She, too, was admitted to the hospital.

Fattaciosa usually is not deadly, and is often mild in humans. It is carried by birds, the reason the U.S. Department of Agriculture requires quarantine of foreign birds and treatment with antibiotics to prevent the spread of the disease.

The birds were to be tested late Wednesday night or today by New Jersey health officials because they were purchased wholesale in that state.

If blood tests show psittacosis, they will be sacrificed for autopsy so a definite diagnosis can be made.

Owners of the four Clarkstown pet stores listed in the telephone book denied their stores were involved.

But regional health officials said the owners of the store involved had agreed to quarantine his birds for three weeks and treat them with antibiotics in case others had the disease.

Psittacosis is an air-borne infection spread primarily by bird droppings. Human-to-human transmission is possible, but rare.

Five children and two elderly people who live with the stricken couple have been tested by local health officials and appear to be healthy, Hyman said.

In addition to the cold-like symptoms, persons with psittacosis fever usually are constipated and have a lack of appetite. The pulse rate, considering that fever may be as high as 105 degrees, is generally slow.

The disease is treated with antibiotics in the tetracycline family. Relapses can occur.

Richard Gallo, public health representative for the Bureau of Disease Control, said the two birds, both juveniles, appeared healthy.

"But that's no indication they could be carriers," he said. Health officials should know in a week whether the birds will be allowed to live.

Injured bomb squad man recalls explosion in N.Y.

(Continued from A1)
...ticle of the political tension in the air when they arrived on Bleecker Street Tuesday morning. They had barely begun inspecting the beer cart when the clock ran out on a 60-minute timing device attached to two sticks of unidentified explosive inside.

The explosion left both men with first-degree burns on their face and hands. One of the officers had his pants blown away.

"We never actually saw the device," Dudonis, the father of two children, 10 and 12, said as his wife, Carol, stood by. "I remember having time to say, 'My God, what happened.' We had one explode at Macy's in 1969. I think a small incendiary device bigger than this. But I was only slightly injured at that time."

A police veteran of 15 years, the last 13 spent in the bomb unit, Dudonis has received eight decorations, including a medal for valor. He moved to Pearl River six years ago.

O'Connor, who was presented with a green plastic hat by fellow detectives to celebrate a belated St. Patrick's Day, has five children and is a 16-year veteran.

Both men appeared in good spirits, but needed pain-killers at the hospital. Each is listed in satisfactory condition, and Mrs. Dudonis

said her husband's right eye did not seem damaged, as initially feared. "Considering the alternative, they're in great shape," she said. "I heard about it on the radio and actually it was better finding out that way, that he was all right."

Her brave smile vanished when asked about her husband's years on

the New York City bomb squad. "It's his life," she struggled. "You do what you have to do. You're as strong as you have to be."

Is Dudonis ready to return to the streets when he's recovered? "No," the officer said. But he was laughing as he said it.

Senate takes budget, makes deeper cuts

(Continued from A1)

The vote in the Democrat-controlled committee was unanimous despite the reservations by some members about specific cutbacks proposed by the administration.

But in the Senate Budget Committee, the majority Republicans sometimes had to overcome Democratic opposition as they voted for abolishing the \$3.8 billion public service job program, a reduction of more than \$1 billion in education programs and a \$2 billion cut in some Social Security programs.

The committee also backed Reagan's call to slash food stamp expenditures by nearly \$1.5 billion, and it called for reducing the budget

for school lunch programs by \$1.5 billion.

However, it rejected Reagan's proposal for a 30 percent cut in a program that provides milk for pregnant mothers and infant children, voting to spend \$23 million that the president wanted cut.

And it voted to restore \$653 million Reagan wanted to cut from elementary and secondary education aid for the handicapped and youth training programs.

Among other actions Wednesday, the Budget Committee voted 15-3 to support Reagan's call for ending the Social Security minimum benefit of \$122 a month, a move affecting relatively few Americans on retirement.

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