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# THE HERALD STATESMAN

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 1987

GANNETT WESTCHESTER NEWSPAPERS

ONE DOLLAR



**Steinbrenner turns sour on manager 'Sweet Lou'**

**By Tom Padilla**  
Staff Writer

YANKEES — Lou Piniella's failure to tie his lead-off man at an appointed time has resulted into a clash with principal owner George Steinbrenner.

Although Piniella does not appear to be in any imminent danger of losing his job, the incident would not hurt him — particularly if the Yankees fail to hold onto their lead and win the American League East this year.

In the past, Steinbrenner has used similar

## U.S., Israel planned hostage rescue mission

Operation laid the groundwork for future covert operations

**By Walter Pheasant and Dan Morgan**  
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — A secret element in the first arms-for-hostages transaction with Iran was a joint U.S.-Israeli counterterrorism operation in September 1985 that was designed to locate and rescue any American hostages in Beirut who were not freed as a result of the arms shipment, according to informed sources and notes of meetings.

The Rev. Benjamin Weir, released Sept. 14, 1985, was the only American freed by pro-

Truth elusive after Contra hearings, B1

Iranian extremists in Lebanon after Israel delivered 508 U.S.-made TOW antitank missiles to Iran. The rescue never took place because the U.S.-Israeli team in Beirut could not pinpoint the location of the other hostages through the movement of Weir's captors in connection with his release.

But the episode laid the groundwork for future covert Israeli-American projects against terrorism — joint activities mentioned in the recently concluded Iran-Contra hearings, but never publicly explored.

In late August 1985, after Israel had

shipped the first 100 TOWs to Iran and set the stage for a hostage release, the National Security Council staff arranged for the State Department to issue an "alias passport" in the name of "William P. Goode" to Lt. Col. Oliver L. North, the NSC's point man on counterterrorism, and was operating in cooperation with Amiram Nir, Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres' special adviser on terrorism.

The U.S. ambassador in Beirut reported Sept. 4, 1985, that "North was handling an operation that would lead to the release of all seven hostages. A (U.S. team) had been deployed to Beirut, we were told," according to



**Oliver North was NSC point man on counterterrorism.**

Please see RESCUE, back page

### LOCAL AT A GLANCE

**Lawyers will battle over school aid**

Lawyers for Yonkers and the city's school district go to court Monday to debate whether the city must release \$3.5 million in school aid.

**Fried chicken may yet come to Mount Vernon**

The Colonel may be coming to Mount Vernon. A state Supreme Court justice rules that the city's zoning board acted improperly by denying Kentucky Fried Chicken a special permit to open a restaurant.

**Keeping the greens green a full-time job**

There's more to greenskeeper Earl Millett's job than watering the fairways and mowing the grass at the Ridgeway Country Club in White Plains.

**More research needed on cancer theory**

Scientists say more research is needed to determine whether overhead power lines cause cancer in children, as a recent study in Colorado suggests.

**Candidate proposes county mortgage agency**

County legislator candidate David Grauer says Westchester County should establish a mortgage agency serving first-time home buyers confronted with the high cost of real estate.

**WEATHER**

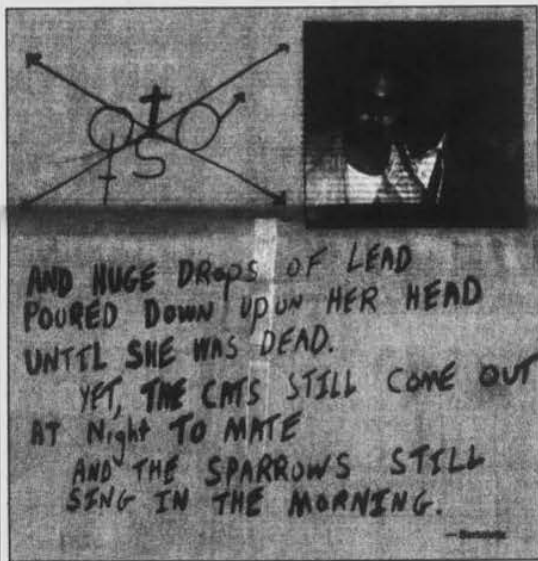
**Rain again**

Today and tonight, 70 percent chance of showers, high 80 to 85, low in the mid-60s. Monday, chance of a morning shower, becoming partly sunny during the afternoon, high in the mid-60s.

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**YK NY**



## 10 years after the .44-caliber rampage

**By Phil Waga**  
Staff Writer

THE seven-story apartment house overlooking the Hudson River in Yonkers buzzes with the sounds of day-to-day living, a din that belies the deadly madness that once lurked on the top floor.

Apartment 7E, a studio whose windows were covered by bedsheet, was the lair for David Berkowitz, the .44-caliber killer who called himself Son of Sam. For more than a year between 1976 and 1977, he stalked New York City by night, striking eight ladies and leaving six young people dead and seven wounded.

The rampage of random shootings cast a pall of terror over the metropolitan area, with each sound bringing the prospect of more gunshots and more victims. Finally, the biggest manhunt in New York City history — with 300 detectives and police officers frantically searching for the killer — ended in front of Berkowitz's Five Street apartment house a decade ago.

seized him seconds after he stepped into his car Aug. 10, 1977. The pudgy postal clerk smiled and added: "How come it took you so long?"

Today Berkowitz, who pleaded guilty to six murder charges, is serving six 25-years-to-life sentences at the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, N.Y., a maximum security facility with 2,700 prisoners 40 miles south of the Canadian border.

Because prison officials fear for his life — he was slashed across the throat by a fellow inmate at the Albion Correctional Facility in 1979 — Berkowitz is in a segregated ward with 257 "victim-prone" prisoners.

Inmate No. 784-1976 spends much of his time alone in a 6-foot by 10-foot cell that contains a sink, a toilet, a small table and a bed. He dines with inmates from his unit, lifts weights, does porter work, attends classes at the prison, occasionally grows a beard and mustache and receives several visitors.

Prison officials refuse to discuss other specifics about Berkowitz, citing privacy regulations regarding inmates.

Berkowitz, now 34, will be eligible for parole Aug. 5, 2002. Dr. David Abrahamson, a Manhattan

"You got me," Berkowitz, then 24, told police who

THE COPS, THE VICTIM, THE NEIGHBOR, THE KILLER PAGE A12

## Second convoy i to gulf

U.S. warships escort tankers as Iranians shadow fleet

**By Richard Pyle**  
The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Three Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag and escorted by four U.S. warships sailed through the Strait of Hormuz, then up the Persian Gulf in single file after a secrecy, shrouded departure Saturday.

Gulf-based shipping sources said that as the convoy cleared the strait, the biggest tanker, the 81,283-ton Sea Isle City, moved to the front, a maneuver apparently designed to minimize the ship's exposure to mines.

The convoy is the second to move up the waterway under President Reagan's plan of rebuying 13 Kuwaiti tankers to afford them U.S. military protection.

"The ships are moving in single file — tanker, warship, tanker, warship, tanker, warship," said one source, adding that the fourth warship was seen "exploring" several miles ahead of the group.

The sources, who asked not to be identified, said the reports came from observers who saw the convoy. The re-flagged supertanker Bridgeton was also used as an explorer ship during the first convoy after it was damaged in the gulf July 24 by a submerged mine thought to have been planted by Iranians.

While the big tankers are relatively able to withstand the impact of a mine, U.S. Navy officers have expressed concern that their lighter warships, with as many as 400 to 500 men aboard, would suffer severe damage and casualties from such a blast.

In Kuwait, a Western diplomat said several

Please see GULF, A8

## Mayor Koch expected to leave hospital today

**The Associated Press**

NEW YORK — Doctors had only good news for Mayor Edward I. Koch on Saturday, saying the mayor, who's recovering from a minor stroke, would likely be released from the hospital today.

"Mayor Koch is further improved today and would pass for normal in every way if we had not seen him for the last few days," Dr. J.P. Mohr, director of the stroke center at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center's Neurological Institute, said at a news briefing.

Normally, patients would be required to remain at the hospital a few more days, but Koch would be more comfortable at his home, Grace Mansion, and would be released, the physician said.

Koch, who's been ordered to rest and remain inactive, will return to the hospital Wednesday for additional tests, Mohr said.

Deputy Mayor Stanley Breznoff said the mayor was feeling well, reviewing some official documents, staying abreast of the news and watching television. Koch, 62, was transferred to Columbia-Presbyterian on Friday after experiencing some of the same symptoms — slurred speech, dizziness and nausea — that had caused him to be taken to Lenox Hill Hospital on Thursday.

The mayor suffered "what is clinically a trivial, small stroke" but there will be some slight swelling around the area of the brain injury, Mohr said. The swelling would be the most intensive three to seven days after the stroke, and Koch could "suffer some additional weakness in the days ahead," Mohr said there is about a 1 percent recurrence risk in the first month for this type of stroke.

## Researchers: Curb growth or lose marine life in Long Island Sound

**By Tom Anderson**  
Staff Writer

Oxygen crises like the one choking Long Island Sound this season will worsen in future summers unless development is limited and sewage treatment plants are improved, say researchers working on a federal study of the Sound.

The researchers say officials should begin thinking now about how to prevent the drastic drops in oxygen in the Sound

that in recent weeks killed lobsters and other aquatic life off Westchester, the Bronx and Nassau counties, and drove fish out of the area.

But, with the study four years from completion, the Reagan administration this month proposed a cut in federal funding for the study from \$2.5 million a year to about \$1 million a year. Funding for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, one of the federal agencies in the study, would be drastically

reduced to \$50,000 from \$900,000.

Rep. Joseph DiGiardi, R-New Rochelle, who toured part of the western Sound with federal and state officials Saturday, said he and other members of the House of Representatives' Long Island Sound Caucus would seek support in Congress for more funds.

"We need a minimum of \$2 million a year, and we can't go below that," DiGiardi said aboard the Orust, a research vessel owned by the State

University of New York at Stony Brook.

The funding, on which Congress will vote by the end of the year, is critical because unless solutions to the problem of low oxygen are found, the areas affected will spread and the condition persist longer in summers to come, said Donald Pritchard, a professor in the Marine Sciences Research Center at SUNY Stony Brook.

Please see SOUND, A10

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SON OF SAM

SON OF SAM

From page one

psychiatrist who knows him well, said Berkowitz is certain he will never be paroled.

"He knows he'll be rejected for parole again and again and spend the rest of his life in prison," Abrahamson said. "He has resigned himself to the situation."

Abrahamson said Berkowitz is ambivalent about his captivity.

"Sometimes he likes being alone," Abrahamson said, "and sometimes he misses the publicity that he received."

Abrahamson also maintained that Berkowitz has expressed remorse for the murders he committed.

"He's told me that he's sorry for what he did," Abrahamson said. "He says he knew perfectly well what he was doing, and he now knows that what he did was wrong."

Can't forget, can't forgive

Ten years after Berkowitz wielded his 44-caliber Charter Arms Bulldog revolver, relatives of his victims cannot even contemplate forgiving him. Instead, many of them believe he should die.

"He's a murderer and if the system won't give him the death penalty, then I'd love to," said Nyesa Moskowitz, whose 20-year-old daughter, Stacy, was the last of his victims. "There's something terribly wrong with a system that lets a murderer like Berkowitz live."

As she spoke in her Brooklyn home, Moskowitz scanned a collage of 100 photographs of her daughter on a bedroom wall. Tears welled in her eyes as she recalled how Stacy, before going out for the evening of July 31, 1977, had worried about the gunman who was killing young men and women across the city.

But Moskowitz recalled bitterly how she pointed out to her daughter that the killer had attacked brunettes in Queens and the Bronx.

"I told her not to worry because she had blonde hair and we were living in Brooklyn," Moskowitz said. "Those words will ring in my ears forever."

Several hours later, she learned her daughter had been killed.

Moskowitz wiped the tears from her eyes and added: "I could kill Berkowitz right this second and eat lunch and watch TV a second later without any trouble."

Michael Lauria of the Bronx, whose 18-year-old daughter, Donna, was Berkowitz's first victim July 29, 1976, was less explicit. "If Berkowitz is paroled, I'll meet him," Lauria said slowly, emphasizing the word "meet."

"He murdered my only daughter and if he is paroled, I'll meet him," Lauria said. "I'll definitely meet him."

The wounded survivors also cannot forget.



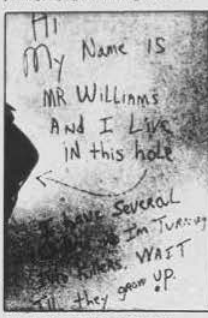
Gannett/Mark Vargel

I could kill Berkowitz right this second and eat lunch and watch TV a second later without any trouble.

—Nyesa Moskowitz, mother of victim Stacy Moskowitz

They include Joanne Lomino, now 28 and a paraplegic confined to a wheelchair; Judy Placido, now 27, whose face and neck still bear the scars of the gunman's bullets; and Robert Violante, now 30, who lost one eye and sees little through the other.

Most of the survivors refuse to speak publicly, saying the shootings were too



A wall in Berkowitz's apartment.

traumatic. Violante, a postal worker in Brooklyn, is "very, very bitter," said his lawyer, Harry Lipsitz. "He believes very strongly that Berkowitz has not been sufficiently punished."

Judges closed the case after arresting Berkowitz and insist that he acted alone. But a new book claims he was a member of a nationwide satanic cult and had accomplices in the shootings.

"The Ultimate Evil" is by freelance writer Maury Terry, who has maintained for years that Berkowitz committed only two of the slayings while other members of the group were responsible for the other deaths.

"This is organized evil," Terry claims. Queens District Attorney John J. Santucci formally reopened the case in 1979, asserting that Terry's long-held contentions were plausible. Santucci, however, rejected repeated requests for an interview to discuss widespread reports that the case has not been investigated for many years.

A city haunted by fear

While Berkowitz haunted the metropolitan area, fear enveloped its residents.

Many of his targets were brunettes — so many brunettes colored their hair. Many of his victims had long hair — so many young women wore their long hair in buns or concealed it under scarves. Many of those shot were parked in secluded areas — soon few cars were parked in many of those spots.

Police, meanwhile, were conducting a frenzied investigation.

A task force of 100 detectives and 200 uniformed officers handled more than 200 telephone calls a day, compiled a file of more than 10,000 suspects and interviewed 3,187 of the leading candidates — all to no avail. Detectives contacted more than 2,000 gun dealers across the nation. Decey police teams — each with a man and woman in the front seat — spent night after night parked on lovers' lanes and dark streets.

The killer fixated on the attention and composed bizarre notes to the police and the media.

"Hello from the gutters of New York City," he wrote in one letter.

"Don't think that because you haven't heard from me for a while that I went to sleep," he taunted during a fall in the killings. "I am still here. Like a spirit roaming the night. Thirsty, hungry, seldom stopping to rest, anxious to please Sam. I love my work."

The unwitting object of Berkowitz's obsession, police learned after his arrest, was Sam Carr, a 64-year-old Yonkers neighbor and owner of an answering service. Berkowitz claimed that Carr really lived 6,000 years ago and that he was receiving his orders to kill from Carr's dog, Harvey, a Labrador retriever.

Sam Carr and his daughter, Wheat, still live in the same large house on Warburton Avenue, a short walk from Pine Street, that they occupied when Berkowitz was on his killing spree. They refuse to be interviewed.

"It all happened 10 years ago," Wheat Carr said, "and we want to put it all behind us."

The landlord of Berkowitz's infamous building, also hoping to erase the stigma of the gunman, legally changed the address from 25 to 42 Pine St. Once called Pine Hill Towers, it is now Hartson Hill and has become a cooperative.

Still, it is widely recognized as the one-time home of Berkowitz, conceded Marshall Kanter, the building's manager.

"The same has been changed, the address has been changed and many years have gone by," Kanter said. "but it invariably happens that I'm talking to an elevator repairman or a roofer and he says, 'Isn't that where David Berkowitz used to live?'"

When Berkowitz did live there, he paid \$230.50 a month in rent for the studio apartment on the seventh floor. On one wall, he had scrawled: "I have several



I told (Stacy) not to worry because she had blonde hair and we were living in Brooklyn. Those words will ring in my ears forever.

children who I'm turning into killers. Wait, till they grow up." He had punched a hole in another wall and written near it: "Hi, my name is Mr. Williams and I live in this hole."

The walls have been repainted and replastered several times and the resident of the apartment for the last five years, architect Douglas Cutler, is selling it for about \$50,000.

"No, there's nothing special about the apartment," said Cutler, 29, with a laugh. "It's just an inanimate object that has nothing to do anymore with David Berkowitz."

One detail breaks the case

The killer who would terrify the metropolitan area with his unlicensed .44-caliber revolver was born Richard David Falco on June 1, 1953. Seventeen months later, he was adopted by Nathan and Pearl Berkowitz, a childless couple who changed his name to David Richard Berkowitz.

Berkowitz attended Columbus High School in the Bronx and Bronx Community College. He served in the U.S. Army from January 1971 to June 1974 and qualified as a "sharpshooter," the middle level of the armed forces' scale for marksmanship.

Berkowitz worked the 4 p.m.-to-midnight shift at the Bronx General Post Office on the Grand Concourse, operating a machine that sorted mail by zip codes. When he was arrested, he had \$214 in his bank account and \$4 in his possession.

Though police used everyone from psychologists and hypnotists to handwriting analysts and astrologists to track down the gunman, they came up with one dead end after another until the eighth shooting July 31, 1977.

Caecilia Davis, a resident of the Bath Beach section of Brooklyn, where the attack occurred at 2:25 a.m., said a crazed-looking man had walked up to her only minutes before, looked into her face and ran away. He carried a dark object in his right hand, she told police, adding that she heard gunshots minutes later.

She also volunteered that police had been ticketing illegally parked cars in the area — and that broke the case.

Members of the special task force pursuing Son of Sam checked all cars that had received summonses and learned that one car, which had been parked in front of a hydrant, was registered to a David Berkowitz of Yonkers.

When a detective called Yonkers police to inquire whether anyone had heard of Berkowitz, Wheat Carr, then a dispatcher for the department, answered. She said she, indeed, knew plenty about Berkowitz and thought he was harassing her father.

A Yonkers police officer, Thomas Chamberlain, quickly called the detective and said that he and his partner, Police Officer Peter Intervale, had been investigating Berkowitz's harassment of a neighbor and suspected he was Son of Sam.

By the afternoon of Aug. 10, 1977, 15 New York City detectives and police officers had converged on Berkowitz's building. They spotted his car, a cream-colored 1970 Ford Galaxy sedan, parked 75 feet north of the building doorway.

Shortly after 10 p.m., Berkowitz strolled to the car. As he was about to start it, police surrounded him and, with guns drawn, ordered him to halt.

Police had noted all along that the revolver he used held five bullets, but he had never fired more than four at one time. One conclusion was that he had always saved one bullet to use, during a final confrontation, either on a potential captor or on himself.

But the killer who had so thoroughly terrorized a city and its suburbs surrendered without resistance. The .44-caliber revolver that had killed six and wounded seven was stuffed in a paper bag and resting on the car seat at his side.

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