

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

August 31, 1979

From: Commanding Officer, Seventh Detective Zone 77-11-5217
To: Commanding Officer, Bronx Detective Area
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION - INTERIM REPORT #1

1. On August 10, 1979, Detective Cinotti presented information which indicated that David Berkowitz had been seen during the week of August 1, 1977, in company with a white male who resembled a sketch prepared as a result of a shooting which occurred in the 105th Precinct on November 27, 1976 (105 Precinct Complaint #15228-89, Circular #237, dated December 18, 1976). This individual was later identified as one Steve Carlyn of 143-37 52th Avenue, Flushing, Queens. At that time, Berkowitz and Carlyn were observed entering a 1969 Chevrolet Station Wagon bearing N.Y.S. registration #286-XLG, which was registered to one Jane Jerebek of 36-35 168th Street, Queens. Subsequent investigation revealed that Jane Jerebek was married to one Joseph Jerebek and it was discovered that Joseph Jerebek had been a member of this Department who had been laid off in 1975 due to the fiscal crisis.

2. Investigation of Steve Carlyn revealed that in April of 1976, he had changed his name to Steven C. Trachtman and had moved to 67-50 Thornton Place, Forest Hills, Queens. He listed his employer as Haskins and Sells, 2 Broadway, New York, and his position as an accountant. In August of 1978, he moved to 2 Deven Road, Great Neck, L.I. A records check through this Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicates that Carlyn/Trachtman has never been arrested and has not been a member of the Armed Forces.

His previous employer is listed as the Phoenix House Foundation, 104 West 73th Street, N.Y.C., where he was employed as an Assistant Controller. Detective Cinotti obtained a photograph of Carlyn/Trachtman which bears a striking resemblance to the sketch mentioned above.

3. Although Detective Cinotti was not sanctioned by the Department to continue this investigation, he did pursue this matter during his off-duty time and at the urgings to the individual who observed Berkowitz and Carlyn together in August of 1977. This person insists that it was definitely Berkowitz he saw with Carlyn. During this period, Detective Cinotti interviewed Ms. Garilardo, Personnel Manager of Phoenix House, who states that Carlyn was fired because of sick leave due to mental problems. He further discovered that Carlyn had been treated for a mental disorder by Doctor Kraskoff of Mount Sinai Hospital. He also interviewed Mr. Milberger, resident manager of 143-37 38th Avenue, Flushing, who states that Carlyn was weird, strange and a loner who broke his lease and left no forwarding address. Detective Cinotti also discovered that Carlyn owned a 1972 green Mercedes-Benz, N.Y.S. registration #463-YVL, under the name of Steven C. Trachtman of 67-50 Thornton Place, Forest Hills. Further associated with one Janet Powell, also known as Janet Revere, who owned a 1974 Volks Wagen which was described as being yellow.

4. Since Detective Cinotti believed that there was more than one individual responsible for the Son of Sam shootings, he took a great deal of interest in recent newspaper articles which appeared to support his theory. Of particular interest to him was the apparent suicide of John Carr which occurred in Minot, North Dakota in February 1978. At his personal expense, Detective Cinotti contacted Lieutenant Terry Gardner of the Wade County, North Dakota, Sheriff's Department. During his conversation with Lieu-

tenant Cardner in 1979, Detective Cinotti discovered that the names of Carlyn and Trachtman has surfaced during the Carr investigation. It was at this time that Detective Cinotti approached the undersigned for the purpose of conducting an official Department investigation into this matter.

5. The primary purpose of the initial stage of this investigation was to attempt to establish a connection between Berkowitz and Carlyn/Trachtman which would be independent and separate from the statement made by the original witness. The common ground and key to making this connection appears to be Minot, North Dakota and John Carr. John Carr was a member of the United States Air Force and was stationed at Minot Air Force Base, Minot, North Dakota. He was known to the police in this area through his involvement with drugs and has been treated for overdoses on several occasions. Newspaper reports state that Berkowitz admitted to being acquainted with John Carr. Carlyn/Trachtman was seen in Minot, North Dakota, with John Carr in October of 1976, by a Minot, North Dakota undercover officer and several informants. According to members of the Wade, North Dakota Sheriffs Department, Carr mentioned the name of Berkowitz, Carlyn and Trachtman in his conversations with local residents. A Psycho-therapist by the name of Lease Slaughter had treated Carr and states that Carr mentioned the name of Berkowitz during therapy sessions in 1976.

6. Suspicion that Carlyn/Trachtman may have been involved in the Son of Sam shootings is aroused by circumstances which, though not as yet substantiated, cannot be summarily disregarded. Some of these situations and events are listed below:

a. The witness is positive that Berkowitz and Carlyn were together in August of 1977. After the Moskowitz shooting, but before the arrest of Berkowitz.

b. There is a remarkable resemblance between the photograph of Carlyn/Trachtman and the sketch represented in Circular #237/76.

c. Several witnesses and potential victims have identified this sketch as a suspect in these shootings.

d. Carlyn/Trachtman owned a small green auto which is believed to be similar to one which was observed near the scene of the Christina Freund shooting in Forest Hills.

e. Christina Freund worked at 20 Broadway. Carlyn/Trachtman was employed at 2 Broadway. These buildings are adjacent to each other and share a common entrance and lunch facilities.

f. Carlyn/Trachtman lived near the scene of three shootings; Forest Hills and Flushing.

g. Carlyn/Trachtman was seen in the company of an individual who owns a yellow Volks Wagon. A yellow Volks Wagon was seen in the vicinity of the Moskowitz shooting. Carlyn/Trachtman resembles a suspect described at that location.

6. To date, we have not been able to verify many of the foregoing statements and conclusions with substantive evidence. In an attempt to connect Carlyn/Trachtman to Minot, North Dakota through travel or communication during 1976 and 1977, we have solicited information from Airlines, Credit Card Agencies and the New York Telephone Company without results. The New York Telephone Company retains records of long distance calls for a period of only six months. Carlyn/Trachtman did not obtain

a credit card until the latter part of 1977. Retrieval of airline information for that period of time is described as being an impossible task. We are currently awaiting the results of a summons record inquiry in New York City and Westchester County during 1976 and 1977 for the vehicles mentioned earlier in this report. This information may enable us to reach some conclusions concerning the association of these individuals. The viewing of the Carlyn/Trachtman photograph by witnesses or potential victims would be inappropriate at this time. However, it appears that we will be able to draw an association between Carlyn/Trachtman, Berkowitz and Carr through information which may still be available to us in Minot, North Dakota. This would raise the possibility that Berkowitz did not act independantly or operate alone as previously believed.

7. I fully realize the implications and ramifications of this report and I also understand the necessity for discretion in this matter. However, I do believe that we must pursue this investigation to the point where we have eliminated any element of conjecture.

John W. Plasker
 John W. Plasker
 Captain

- ATTACHMENTS:
- Circular #237
 - Photograph of Carlyn
 - Letter from Lt. Gardner
 - Letter from Officer Knoop
 - Hand written notes
 - Copy of the 3/1/79 edition of Today



POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10028

October 1, 1979

From: Commanding Officer, Seventh Detective Zone
To: Commanding Officer, Bronx Detective Area
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION - INTERIM REPORT #2

1. A review of the statement made by the witness who observed Carlyn/Trachtman in company with Berkowitz in August of 1977 entering a 1969 Chevrolet Station Wagon reveals that this person also observed paint cans and a tarpaulin in the rear of this vehicle at that time. Examination of Jerebek's Employment Record Application, prepared in 1974, indicates that he was employed as a painter by his father who is described as a painting contractor. This information tends to confirm the validity of the plate number originally supplied by this witness.

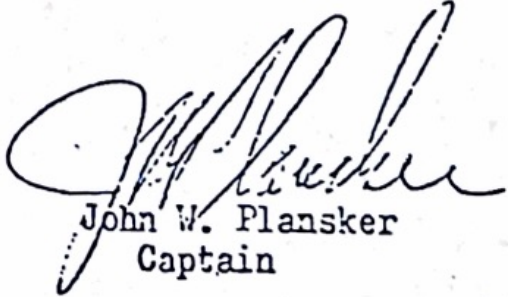
2. Several individuals who were associated with John Carr in Minot, N.D., have identified a photograph of Carlyn/Trachtman as a friend of Carr who had visited Minot, N.D. on a number of occasions during 1976 and 1977. They also identify this photograph as Steve Carlyn and/or Steve Trachtman. In addition, they also state that John Carr had mentioned the name of David Berkowitz both before and after the Berkowitz arrest.

3. The undersigned reviewed the Freund Homicide investigation and discovered that Christine Freund had worked for Reynolds Securities, Inc. located at #2 Broadway at the time of her death. This address was incorrectly reported in Interim Report #1 as 20 Broadway. Carlyn/Trachtman was employed by Haskins and Sells at #2 Broadway.

4. Lease Slaughter, the psycho-therapist who treated John Carr in Minot, N.D. was interviewed by telephone. He is no longer a resident of Minot, N.D., but states that to the best of his recollection, Carr mentioned the name of David Berkowitz and Son of Sam before August of 1977, however, he could not be certain until he reviews his notes which are in Minot, N.D. Efforts are being made through the Minot, N.D. Police Department to obtain copies of these records.

5. Florence Larsen, who allegedly received a telephone call from a person who identified himself as David Berkowitz of 35 or 50 Pine Street and inquired about the adoption of a German Shepherd was interviewed. Mrs. Larsen still remains firm about the details of this telephone call and apparently has no reason or motive to fabricate this incident. This telephone call is significant because the persons associated with John Carr in Minot, N.D. have been reported to use German Shepherds in connection with rituals and sacrifices. We have a copy of a taxidermist bill dated August 9, 1977, for the mounting of a dog ear. We have been told that it was to be presented to Carlyn Trachtman.

6. Forwarded for your information.


John W. Plasker
Captain



POLICE DEPARTMENT
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10035

October 18, 1979

From: Commanding Officer, Seventh Detective Zone
To: Commanding Officer, Bronx Detective Area
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION - INTERIM REPORT #3

1. On October 17, 1979 at about 1745 hours, the undersigned interviewed Detective Cinotti for the purpose of discovering the circumstances which led to this investigation.

2. Detective Cinotti states that in late 1974 or early 1975 he met a married couple who were about fifty years of age at a social function in Queens County. They became friends. Sometime in June of 1977, they called Detective Cinotti and stated that they had information concerning the "Son of Sam" investigation. They supplied Detective Cinotti with the name of Steve Carlyn and stated that he resembled one of the composites which appeared in the newspaper. Detective Cinotti conferred with his Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Delsignore, Ninth Homicide Zone, who advised Detective Cinotti to follow-up on this information and to keep him informed of any developments. Detective Cinotti continued to perform his normal duties, but did request a criminal records check on Carlyn which proved to be negative.

3. On August 8, 1977, this couple called Detective Cinotti and said that they saw Steve Carlyn enter a station wagon in the parking lot of a Queens diner at about 1030 hours. This vehicle was also occupied by an individual they described as being a white male in his late twenties, with black hair. They supplied Detective Cinotti with the license plate number and through a FATN check in the 45th Precinct, he determined that this vehicle was registered to Jane Jerebek.

4. The day after the Berkowitz arrest, this couple again contacted Detective Cinotti and stated that the individual they saw with Carlyn on August 8, 1977 was David Berkowitz. This identification was made through the photographs of Berkowitz which appeared in the newspapers following his arrest.

5. Detective Cinotti informed Lieutenant Delsignore, Lieutenant Power and Detectives assigned to the Queens Task Force of this possible association between Carlyn and Berkowitz, but all gave the impression that they were not interested. In addition Detective Cinotti approached Assistant District Attorney William Quinn of the Bronx District Attorney's Office with this information, but was told, in effect, that they were satisfied with the confession. When Detective Cinotti advised this couple of his efforts, they stated that they would go elsewhere with this information, but discovered that no one would believe them.

6. Between August of 1977 and August 1979, this couple occasionally contacted Detective Cinotti and would insist that the information given to him was true and accurate. Detective Cinotti advised them to wait and see what would happen in court. He then became interested in a series of articles which appeared in Today, a newspaper published primarily for Westchester County area readers. As a result, he contacted Police Officials in Minot, N.D. and discovered that the name of Carlyn had appeared in police records during the investigation of the death of John Carr. It was at this time that Detective Cinotti approached the undersigned for the purpose of conducting an investigation into this matter.

7.

Forwarded in compliance with your request.

John W. Plansker
Captain

JWP:cl



POLICE DEPARTMENT

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10016

October 22, 1979

From: Commanding Officer, Seventh Detective Area
To: Commanding Officer, Bronx Detective Area
Subject: CONFIDENTIAL INVESTIGATION INTERIM REPORT #4

1. On October 19, 1979 at about 1700 hours, Police Officer Joseph Jerebek was interviewed in the office of the Commanding Officer, Bronx Detective Area located on the second floor of the 48th Precinct. Chief Dreher, Deputy Inspector Rorke and Captain Plansker were present during this interview.

2. Chief Dreher conducted the preliminary interview during which time Police Officer Jerebek appeared to be forthright and honest in his response to questions concerning his perceptions of the Department and his moral and legal obligations. When asked if he knew anyone by the name of Steve Carlyn or Steve Trachtman, there was an apparent nervous reaction, but he stated that he did not know anyone by that name. He was presented with a photograph of Steve Carlyn/Trachtman and first stated that it resembled someone he knew a long time ago who was involved with drugs. He then stated that it might resemble a reporter who had questioned his wife regarding the Son of Sam shootings. He indicated that several reporters had questioned his wife regarding her connections with a group of people who were allegedly associated with Berkowitz. Police Officer Jerebek could not recall dates or details, and Chief Dreher suggested that he call his wife Jane, who might remember more specific information. During this telephone conversation, Police Officer Jerebek reported that Jane was familiar with the name of Steve Carlyn through a reporter who had questioned her about drugs and her association with Carlyn. During this conversation, the name Veronica Luenken was mentioned as the person who had accused Jane Jerebek of being associated with Carlyn. Chief Dreher suggested that the interview be continued at the Jerebek

residence so that Jane Jerebek, who seemed to recall these events more accurately, could also be interviewed. Both Jane and Joseph Jerebek agreed and the initial interview was terminated at about 2000 hours.

3. The interview resumed at the Jerebek residence, 81-15 259th Street, Queens, which was neat, orderly, nicely furnished - one family house. Jane Jerebek appeared to be bright, open and friendly. Jane stated that a series of harrassments and interviews by reporters started on August 13, 1977 at about 0135 hours, when two Police Officers from the 109th Precinct appeared at the door of their former residence (36-35 168th Street) and said that they were investigating a report that Jane had been abducted. On August 15, 1977, a reporter named "Pete" from Newsday called and stated that he had information from a woman who stated that Jane knew something about "Kicka". On August 15th or 17th, 1977, her landlady (Kovacs) reported that a girl, who was accompanied by a man in a blue van, had knocked on the door of her apartment. On August 17, 1977, Jane states that she was interviewed by a Maury Terry and a man named Mitteager who represented themselves as reporters and asked if she ever used drugs, ever visited the Blue Dolphin Diner or if she knew Steve Carlyn. They also asked her if she knew Veronica Lueken and showed her a letter allegedly written by Luenken which described how Jane's body was cut up and thrown into the East River. They also stated that Berkowitz had an accomplice who was involved in a drug ring in Queens. Veronica Lueken's address was reported to be 53-23 193th Street, Queens. Jerebek's neighbor, Mrs. James Lawler of 81-19 259th Street told Jane that her house was formerly occupied by a Father Hammify who may have had difficulties with the Luenken woman. Jane also believes that Lueken had visited her residence at 36-35 168th Street sometime between October 17th and October 23rd, 1977. During the period from August 13, 1977 and October 23, 1977, a series of threatening and harrassing telephone calls were made to the residence of Joseph Jerebek's father. Jane states that her maiden name was Smith, that she is a graduate of Hunter College and that after graduating, but before her marriage, she was employed as a librarian. She also states that these incidents and interviews stoped in February, 1978.

4. Both Jane and Joseph Jerebek stated that they have never permitted anyone to borrow the 1969 Chevrolet station wagon and that it was disposed of through an auto wrecker near Shea Stadium in October of 1977. They also stated that they never frequent diners, either together or alone, and have never visited the Blue Dolphin Diner. Joseph states that it could not have been unusual for him to have paint cans and a tarpaulin in the rear of the station wagon in 1977. The only other person who would have been with him in that auto during that time was a retired Police Officer who was helping him with a painting job for one day.

5. The interviews of Jane and Joseph Jerebek leads to the presumption that Veronica Luenken is the informant referred to in Detective Cinotti's original report and is the individual who allegedly observed Berkowitz and Carlyn together in Jerebek's auto. Veronica Luenken is known to this Department because of her un-orthodox religious practices in Queens a number of years ago. Her reliability as a witness or informant is seriously in question and the possibility of independently establishing an association between Carlyn/Trachtman and Berkowitz in Queens County during 1977 is doubtful. We have not been able to determine how or why Luenken selected Jane Jerebek as an object or vehicle for her accusations, but it appears that Joseph Jerebek was never the target or subject of Luenken's allegations.

6. Our original investigation was initiated and predicated on the statement of a witness whose creditability has become highly suspect. The question is, Should we continue or terminate our inquiry into this matter? Despite this reversal, we have developed information and circumstances that almost demand resolution. I believe that this investigation should be continued, if only for the sake of being able to say that this Department has never ignored or overlooked any information connected with the Son of Sam shootings. Some of the questions and information generated by this investigation are listed below:

- a. We have statements that John Carr knew Berkowitz.
- b. We have a statement that John Carr mentioned Berkowitz and Son of Sam before the Berkowitz arrest.
- c. We have statements that Carlyn/Trachtman was an associate of John Carr.