

NEWS DIGEST

your quick guide to news from around the world

Good boy accused of high tech crimes

1 PHOENIX, Ore. (AP) — A straight-A high school student is accused of stealing checks from area mailboxes to buy thousands of dollars worth of electronics.

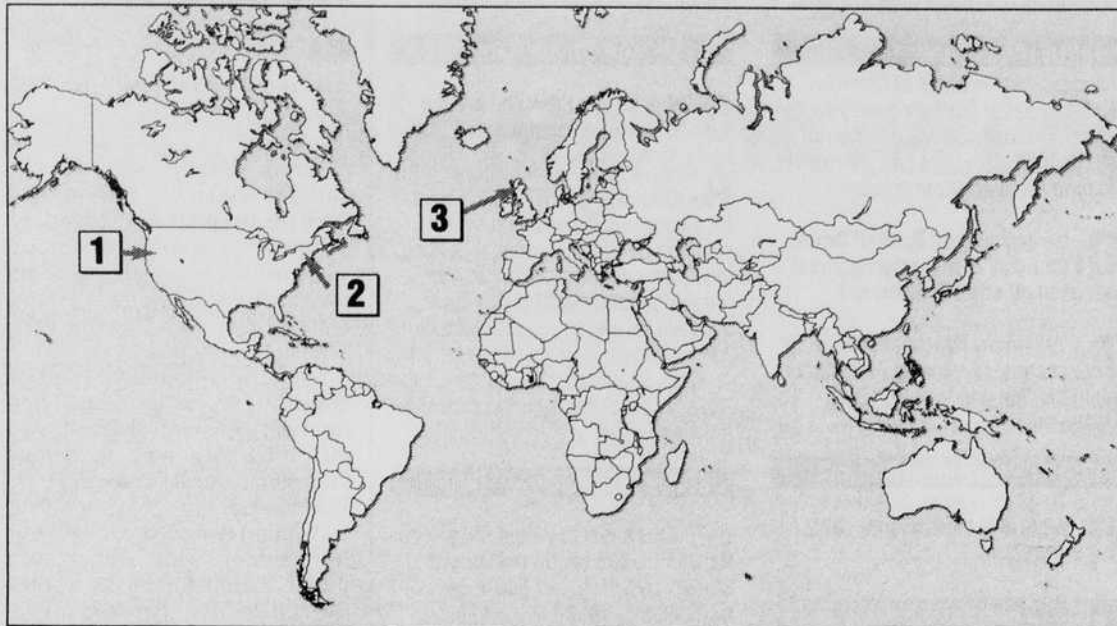
The boy, a 16-year-old Talent resident whose name was withheld by police, was arrested Friday on juvenile charges of theft, forgery and racketeering.

Police said the boy, a successful student and athlete at Phoenix High School, used the stolen checks and computer-altered identification cards to order computers, software and other electronic equipment, as well as pay-per-view movies from a satellite movie service.

"He's a genius, a very smart boy and a straight-A student," said Detective John Koury. "He doesn't have to do this."

After police heard rumors of the scam, they alerted local banks, which provided the lead to arrest the boy, police said. A search of his home turned up \$3,527 worth of computer software and stereo equipment.

The boy apparently had even bigger plans, said Koury. He had rented a storage shed and tried to order hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of computer hardware.



TWA crash probe will go on without Navy

2 SMITHTOWN, N.Y. (AP) — The Navy is nearly ready to pack up its scuba gear and underwater robots, leaving the mystery of TWA Flight 800 to an investigative army using microscopes and computers.

"It's definitely the beginning of a new phase once we get all the pieces up from the ocean," said FBI Assistant Director

James Kallstrom, the agency's lead investigator.

On Monday, the aircraft hangar in Calverton contained more than 90 percent of the pieces of the Boeing 747, which exploded July 17, killing all 230 aboard. Authorities still don't know whether a bomb, missile or mechanical malfunction caused the explosion.

Two Navy boats, with 100 divers and 450 crew members conducting the salvage operation, are expected to leave with-

in two weeks, said Rear Admiral Edward Kristensen.

If a cause still hasn't been determined by the time the boats leave, thousands of pieces of debris must undergo a closer inspection and be added to the mockup of the plane being assembled in the hangar.

The National Transportation Safety Board is eager to find a missing fuel pump and six missing fuel probes that could, theoretically, have sparked the explosion in the center fuel tank.

Bombs explode, injure 31 in Northern Ireland

3 LISBURN, Northern Ireland (AP) — Bombers struck at the center of Northern Ireland's military on Monday, detonating two car bombs inside the British army's heavily defended headquarters and raising fears the province could again become a battleground between the Irish Republican Army and pro-British paramilitary units. Thirty-one people were wounded.

There was no claim of responsibility. Whether the attack was carried out by the IRA or by another anti-British group might determine if the province's pro-British paramilitary groups call off their own cease-fire — and send Northern Ireland back into retaliatory violence.

The first bomb went off without warning in a parking lot inside Thiepval Barracks, the main camp for the 18,000 army troops in the British-ruled province.

A second detonated 20 minutes later near the base's hospital, apparently to ambush passing soldiers, medical staff and people wounded by the first bomb.

The army said 21 of the injured were soldiers and 10 were civilians — including the three most seriously hurt. One man was critically wounded and four received serious head, chest and leg wounds.

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