



# POLICE/VANCOUVER

## ATF Inspects Area Explosives Dealers

In the wake of Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the Seattle Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms has completed inspections and security reviews of the 500 people and businesses licensed to make, sell or possess explosive materials in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Hawaii and Idaho, and in the Northern Marianas Islands, which includes Guam.

This drive, which began in October and was completed this month, focuses on thwarting the possible misuse of explosives by criminals and terrorists.

Normally, these 500 licensees would have been inspected

over the course of a full year. Each inspection includes an examination of explosives storage facilities, the completion of background checks on those with access to explosives, and an inventory of all explosives material.

Special Agent in Charge Carson Carroll said, "Although no security breaches have been uncovered, some information has been referred to our intelligence specialists for further review."

Carroll urges those who use or store explosives to be especially vigilant and to immediately report any missing inventory or suspicious inquiries to 1-888-ATF-BOMB.

## Airport Workers With Fake IDs Arrested

(AP) - Federal immigration agents arrested 30 employees at Portland International Airport Dec. 12 on charges of using fake documents to get their jobs.

Of 2,159 employees screened by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 124 were found to be working illegally, said Anthony Ho, special agent in charge of INS investigations.

Ninety workers had committed some kind of immigration viola-

tion; those arrested were the most serious offenders, he said.

The 30 workers were responsible for baggage handling and loading, construction and food and janitorial services.

None of those arrested worked in secure areas, but many had badges allowing them into sensitive areas, Ho said.

"They were a card-swipe away from access to the airplanes," he said. "One can see where this

poses a security problem."

U.S. Attorney Mike Mosman said the arrests are not part of the nationwide anti-terror investigation.

Airport Director Steve Schreiber said no Port of Portland employees, airport employees or security employees were arrested.

The arrests were part of Operation Tarmac, an INS initiative focusing on airports across the country following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Airport businesses that employed illegal workers were told to fire them.

Under federal law, employers who knowingly hire unauthorized workers face substantial fines and possible criminal prosecution.

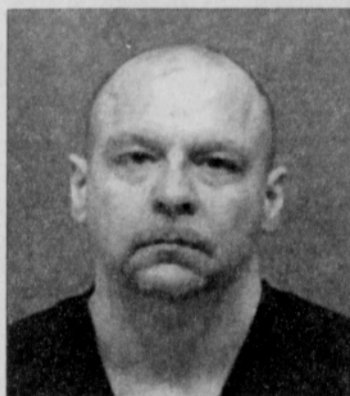
"We will use every tool and resource at our disposal - from our inspectional authority to the immigration provisions covering the work site," said Ron Smith, INS director in Portland.

## Escapee's Capture Follows New Assault

(AP)—A convicted rapist was arrested last Wednesday after he escaped from a state prison on Christmas Eve and allegedly sexually assaulted a woman.

Leighton Bates, 41, was arrested shortly after noon by two Oregon State Police troopers responding to a call from a state prison worker who spotted Bates along a main street near Interstate 5, police said.

Bates was transferred to the custody of Salem police, who are investigating a report that Bates allegedly sexually assaulted a 46-year-old woman in the laundry room of her apartment building shortly after his escape, said Capt. Tim McLain of the Oregon



Leighton Bates

State Police.

State police will separately investigate the Dec. 24 escape from the medium-security Oregon State Correctional Institution, McLain

said.

Bates apparently wrapped himself in some type of plastic and hid in a delivery truck, said Gerald Long, a corrections department spokesman.

A motorist who recognized a picture of Bates reported picking up a hitchhiker fitting his description on Christmas Day and dropping him off at a tavern.

On Dec. 24, a woman reported that Bates had threatened her with a sharp-edged instrument and sexually assaulted her in the laundry room of her apartment building before her teen-age son came to look for her.

Both the woman and her son were forced back to their apart-

ment, where the teen was tied up and both were threatened before the woman was forced to drive the suspect to Silver Falls State Park east of Salem, according to Salem police Lt. Chuck Bennett.

Bates was serving time for charges including rape, kidnapping and robbery. The earliest he could have been released was December 2037.

He was convicted after he posed in April as a stranded motorist and kidnapped and raped a Eugene teen.

Bates escaped from the Salem prison once before, in 1985. In 1992, he escaped from the minimum security Powder River Correctional Facility in Baker City.

## Child Killed In Traffic Accident

(AP)—A Christmas Day traffic accident in Gresham killed a six-year-old boy from Boring.

Avenir Rybak was riding in his family's car when it was struck by a pickup truck driven by 42-year-old Timothy Paul Gillum of northeast Portland.

The boy suffered severe head trauma and died Dec. 26 at OHSU hospital.

Gillum was arrested on charges of manslaughter, assault, driving under the influence of intoxicants, possession and manufacture of a controlled substance and criminal mischief.

Police say Gillum disregarded a traffic light at the intersection. A search later turned up a marijuana growing operation at his residence.

## Drug Bust Worth \$1 Million

A search of a southeast Portland apartment brought three arrests and about 12 pounds of heroin, 4.5 pounds of cocaine and \$6,500 in cash, according to officials with the Portland Po-

lice Bureau's drugs and vice division.

The street value of the narcotics seized in the 600 block of S.E. 148th Avenue was pegged at \$1.1 million.

Leticia Montes-Soto, 44, Lorenzo Lopez-Lerman, 31, and Joel Montes-Luna, 36, were all charged with manufacture, possession and distribution of heroin and cocaine.

## Liquor License May Get Pulled

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission plans to cancel the liquor license of Balzer's Pub & Grill, 53 N.W. 1st Ave., for a history of serious and persistent problems involving fighting, public drunkenness, thefts, illegal drug activity and excessive noise.

The OLCC recently sent a notice of proposed license cancellation to Ernie Bighaus, president of JEB Equipment, Inc., the licensee of Balzer's. Balzer's was recently declared a chronic nuisance premises by the Portland Police Bureau, the second time in several years.

## Pair Charged With Store Robbery

A man and woman have been arrested as suspects in the Dec. 12 robbery of the Action Mart at 4501 E. Fourth Plain in Vancouver.

Shawnie L. Cardwell, 29, and Jesse T. Neal, 47, were arrested

during a search warrant at a Vancouver apartment at 3412 N.E. 62nd, police said.

Cardwell is accused of attempting to rob the store by displaying a paring knife and demanding

money from the register.

Neal is accused of driving a get-away car. Neal was also booked on an unrelated charge of violation of a domestic violence no-contact order.

## Search Finds Stolen Property, Credit Cards

Vancouver police recovered stolen property, credit cards, computers and identification cards during a search of a residence at 1101 W. 31 St.

Police said Michelle Loueene Boothby, 30, was not present at the time. She is wanted for questioning regarding the case. She is described as a white female, 5 foot

8 inches tall, weighing 300 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes. She is believed to be driving a white 1991 Plymouth Voyager van, Washington License, 557 MKH.

## Hit and Run Driver

The Portland Police Bureau Traffic Division is asking for your help in identifying and apprehending the driver of a vehicle, which struck and seriously injured a Portland man.

On Thursday, Dec. 6, at about 6:15 p.m., 25-year-old Matthew Leismer was riding his bicycle next to the curb, in the 11100 block of S.E. Cherry Blossom Dr., when he was struck by a car which fled the scene without stopping.

According to witnesses, the vehicle, described as a dark

brown car, possibly an older Ford, was traveling eastbound at an estimated speed of 50 to 60 miles per hour.

Investigators believe the vehicle may have front end or windshield damage as a result of the collision.

Crime Stoppers is offering a cash reward of up to \$1,000 for information, reported to Crime Stoppers, which leads to an arrest in this case, or any unsolved felony crime, and you can remain anonymous. Call Crime Stoppers at (503) 823-HELP.



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