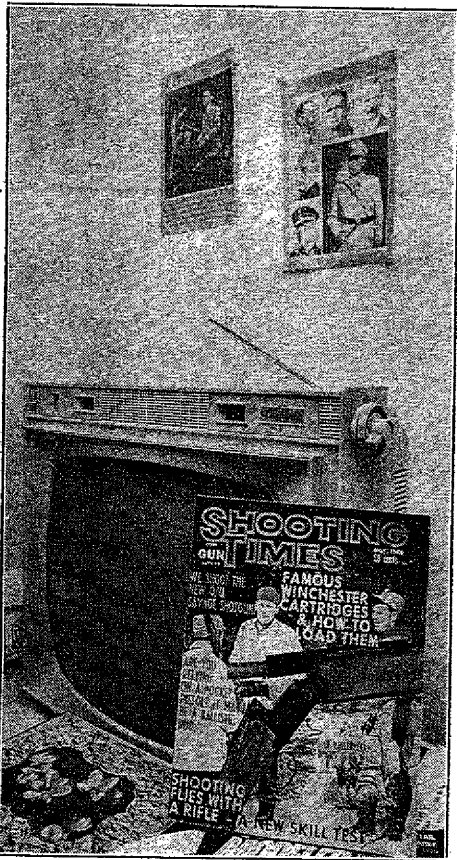




TRACE SNIPER'S MYSTERY TRIPS

Stalked Family Day Before Killing



NEWS photo by Jim Garrett

Among his souvenirs . . .



NEWS photo by Joe Farrington

Tells of Life With an Angry Man

Recovering in a Queens hospital from a recent industrial accident, Kyril Dikoff reveals some of the details of the shadowy life led by his roommate, Angel Angelof. Dikoff said the Central Park sniper, with whom he lived in a West Side apartment amid mementos of the Nazi era, said he kept guns because: "You never know when you might need one in this country."

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Sniper Roamed a World of Shadows

By WILLIAM FEDERICI and HENRY LEE

The Central Park sniper who was killed by police after a dramatic shootout Wednesday morning has been identified as a shadowy Bulgarian national traveling on a Greek passport who made many mysterious trips about the country, THE NEWS learned exclusively last night.

From his roommate, from his few friends in Slavic-speaking circles and from police, there emerged a composite of 24-year-old Angel Angelof—but no explanation of his savage outburst with an old fashioned, long-barreled .45 revolver.

The husky, dark-haired Angelof shot and killed Lilah Kistler, a 24-year-old dog walker, wounded 80-year-old Charles Bach and nicked two patrolmen before being cut down after an hourlong siege atop a comfort station near Fifth Ave. and 85th St.

Friends did disclose that the nervous, secretive Angelof had been building up to a blowoff during the past few days.

According to them, he recently came into a large sum of money as the result of a law suit, the details of which were not known. A close friend in New Jersey had suggested that he send some of the money to his parents in Bulgaria.

Angelof became furious and even threatened to kill the man. The friend didn't take him seriously at the time, but on Tuesday—only a day before the eruption in Central Park—Angelof trailed the man, his wife and child from New York to Asbury Park, N.J.

When the friend realized he was being followed, he got scared and gave Angelof the slip.

Appeared Agitated

Late Tuesday night, other friends reported, the sniper appeared agitated. He had no girl friend, they explained, preferring to consort with prostitutes. That night, he complained he had been unable to find a girl.

The shootout the following morning came after a Park Department employee found Angelof in the women's section of the park comfort station.

Angelof, who spoke Bulgarian and Russian fluently but had trouble with English, arrived in the U.S. on Feb. 18, 1966, aboard the Italian liner Cristoforo Colombo.

Worked as Dishwasher

One of his earliest jobs was as a dishwasher at Rova Farms in Freehold, N.J., and it was apparently in New Jersey that he acquired a gun for the first time.

At Rova Farms, Angelof met a fellow Bulgarian, Kyril Dikoff, 45, also recently arrived in the country, who was working there as a cook.

The two became friends and earlier this year took an apartment together at 697 Tenth Ave.

When the police searched the flat late Wednesday, they did not know there were two occupants

Identified By a Friend

The body of Angel Angelof was formally identified by a friend, Associate Medical Examiner Michael M. Baden reported yesterday. He declined to identify the man.

At Lenox Hill Hospital, 80-year-old Charles Bach of 351 E. 82d St., one of the victims, was reported in satisfactory condition following a successful operation for removal of a bullet deeply imbedded in his back.

Patrolmen Jesse Hubbard, 36, and Philip Sheridan, 28, nicked by the sniper, were in good condition.



Lilah Kistler
Victim of sniper

and assumed that photos found there were of Angelof.

In some editions of yesterday's News, Dikoff's photo was incorrectly identified as that of Angelof.

Photo Was Dikoff

The News located Dikoff in St. John's Hospital, Woodhaven, Queens, yesterday where he is undergoing treatment for severe injury to several fingers as the result of an industrial accident.

Through an interpreter, Dikoff disclosed that in New York and New Jersey Angelof had lavished considerable attention on his gun, practicing shooting in the fields, twirling it, cleaning it often.

"Why don't you get rid of that damned thing?" Dikoff told him. "You never know when you might need one in this country," he quoted Angelof as replying.

Several other friends also knew



Slain girl's brothers, Dr. Dale Kistler (left) and Douglas Kistler, visit death scene in Central Park.

that he possessed a weapon, and he explained to them: "My apartment has been burglarized—and I'm going to catch somebody one of these days."

However, the old-fashioned, long-barreled Smith & Wesson which Angelof used so accurately on Wednesday was apparently not the weapon he had in New Jersey.

Made in 1917

Yesterday detectives here traced the death gun back to its manufacturer in 1917 in Springfield, Mass. Two years later, on Jan. 16, 1919 the gun maker shipped the six-shot, double-action, Army-type revolver to a store on the East Coast.

Later, the gun was in the possession of the Hudson Sporting Goods Co. on Warren St. in downtown Manhattan, and in March of 1959, sold to Robert Hertz, a dealer in Toms River, N.J.

New Jersey state police ascertained that the .45 had been most recently registered to Kiril Dimitroff, of 3 Reid Rd., Jackson N.J.

Knew Angelof

Dimitroff, who told police he had acquired the weapon at a gun store in Lakehurst, said he was acquainted with Angelof—who had visited him as recently as three weeks ago. However, he was at a loss to explain how the sniper got the weapon.

To detectives, an intriguing—



Angel Angelof
Identified as Bulgarian national

and possibly sinister—aspect of the case is that Angelof made numerous, unexplained trips all over the country.

Sometimes he would be gone for a month, but even Dikoff didn't know where he went or why, or how he got the travel money, for he worked at menial jobs, paying only \$65 to \$70 a week. About a week ago he returned from a trip to Chicago. Police forwarded Angelof's

fingerprints to the FBI for possible matching in unsolved crimes elsewhere in the country. Detectives also speculated that his travels could have been for the purpose of shaking down fellow countrymen—at gunpoint.

Quiet But Moody

Though usually quiet, Angelof was also unpredictably moody, Dikoff said. At times, he said, Angelof would sit at the table, then crash his fist down and disappear into his bedroom.

"I'm not mad at you," he would call through the locked door to his friend. "I just don't want to be with people."

However, he apparently had no resentments against Americans or the country generally. In fact, he told Dikoff he had recently applied to Immigration & Naturalization for permission to remain in this country.

Claims Her Body

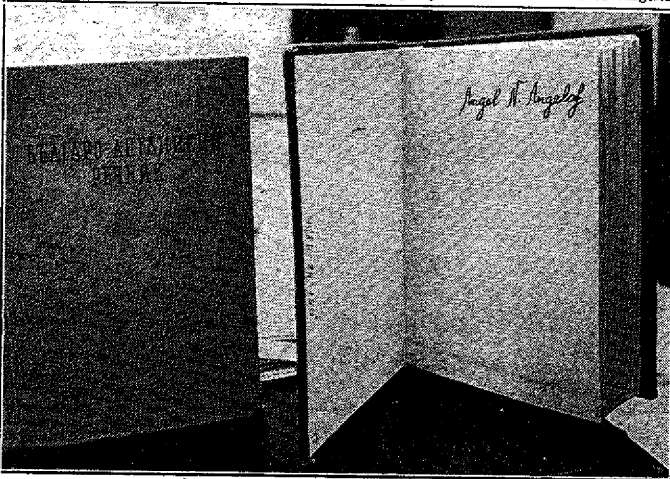
Harold C. Snowdon, a funeral director in Kingston, Pa., the hometown of Lilah Kistler, came here to claim her body. He said the sniper's victim had been a graduate of both the Philadelphia Museum College of Art and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, also in Philly.

Snowdon said her father is a prominent physician in Kingston and a brother, Dr. Dale Kistler, is an interne. A second brother, Douglas, works for the Southern New England Telephone Co., Snowdon said.

We'll Strike: Lifeguards

Lifeguard representative Lawrence Byrnes said yesterday that a strike threat by 350 guards at Jones Beach, Sunken Meadow State Park, and Robert Moses State Park, was still holds.

Byrnes, president and counsel for Local 361 of the Building Service Employees International Union, said "We are going out. We didn't go today because of the weather." Yesterday's weather was not favorable for surf bathing. The lone stumbling block to an agreement with state representatives is the union's insistence that lifeguards over 35 years old be used at beaches.



Bulgarian-English dictionary was found in Angelof's apartment at 697 10th Ave.