

Around the Nation

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Police in Philadelphia Hunt Slayer of Desk Sergeant

PHILADELPHIA — Police hunted for clues yesterday in the fatal shooting of one park policeman and the wounding of another, acts officials called "out and out assassination."

About 400 policemen, aided by bloodhounds and helicopters, searched Cobbs

Creek Park where four hand grenades were found after the Saturday night shootings. No arrests have been made.

Police said a man walked into the park police station late Saturday and fatally shot an unarmed desk sergeant, Frank von Collin, 33, a 17-year veteran of the force.

An hour earlier, Patrolman James Harrington, 39, was shot in the mouth about 100 yards from the station. He was listed in satisfactory conditions.

Police Commissioner Frank L. Rizzo called the incidents "out and out assassination." However, detectives said they knew of no motivation for the shootings.

In New York, Patrolman Pio Rizzo was hit by a shotgun blast and seriously injured in the Bronx early yesterday. Police said the gunman and two companions escaped after the shooting.