

The New Revolutionaries

Visitor Reports Talk of Bombs In Powelton

BULLETIN - 7/30/70

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Of The Bulletin Staff

Two months ago, Terry A. Caldwell, a shaggy-haired, blond ex-mine worker from Colorado, arrived in Philadelphia.

With his pregnant wife and two small daughters, he moved into the Casket Company Community Center, a "liberated" building at 3312 Race st.

The building, owned by the city's Redevelopment Authority and vacant at the time, was seized May 23 by the East Powelton Concerned Residents, exercising squatters rights.

EPCR seeks to halt Drexel University's construction incursions into Mantua and Powelton.

Powelton Leaders

Shortly after his arrival, Caldwell was in contact with two EPCR leaders, Kenneth H. Moberg and John (Jack) Wright, Jr.

Moberg, 37, a part-time cab driver, teaches a psychology course to nurses at Montgomery Hospital, Norristown; Wright, 27, is a history instructor at Temple University.

Word soon was whispered within a small circle around Moberg that Caldwell, 30, was a demolition expert, that he had cross-country contacts in the New Left Movement and that he carried a revolver, according to sources within the revolutionary movement.

Impact of Radicals Is Assessed Here

Although their number is small, violent revolutionaries among the nation's youth have caused growing concern to local and federal authorities.

To assess the threat from the radicals in this city, Bulletin reporters Bayard Brunt and Albert V. Gaudiosi spent three months talking with revolutionaries and law enforcement authorities. Their report continues today.

Rumor also circulated that he was sought for a New Left bombing in Berkeley, Calif.

Caldwell, who attended Los Angeles City College for a year, did nothing to dispel speculation that he was the "Berkeley Bomber."

Rather, police and revolutionary sources say he embellished this image by drawing for Moberg a crude sketch of a homemade bomb.

The sketch showed a bomb fashioned from a discarded aerosol can, with directions for filling it with black powder, inserting a wick and sealing it with wax.

Raid by FBI

In the ensuing weeks, Caldwell and his family moved from the Casket Center, to 610 S. 22d st., then to a third-floor apartment at 210 N. 33d st.

The Caldwells were at the latter address a few days
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when — on July 7, at 1 P.M. — Federal Bureau of Investigation agents, armed with a search and seizure warrant, raided the apartment.

The affidavit on which the warrant was based, said in part:

"Information has been received that Terry Caldwell traveled from Berkeley, Calif., to Philadelphia, for the purpose of giving instructions on demolition and explosive devices. The said informant advises that Terry Caldwell has identified himself to be well acquainted with leading figures in student militant groups in various parts of the United States, and has used his skill with destructive devices on their behalf.

"... This group (EPCR) ... is currently engaged in plotting violent action, including destruction by explosive devices against Drexel University and the Philadelphia Police Department.

'Pertinent Targets'

"In furtherance of this plot, the said informant has also advised based on his own personal observation, that Terry Caldwell has, since his arrival in Philadelphia, marked in ink on a street map of the City of Philadelphia pertinent targets for destruction, e.g., the Planning Center of Drexel University, Philadelphia Police Department, and that Terry Caldwell has also prepared drawings, plans and instructional material concerning the construction and effective utilization of bombs and other explosive devices.

"... It has been ascertained that Terry Caldwell has been experienced and qualified for at least five (5) years in hard rock mining, including the use of explosives.

"Based on information from persons who have described themselves as close to Terry Caldwell, Caldwell has a list of underground contacts in various parts of the United States, including Kenneth Moberg and William Biggin, both of whom are potential recruits who can be expected to provide secure underground lodging for Terry Caldwell and others so engaged in the execution of the present plot.

"Independent investigation ... indicates that Kenneth

Moberg and William Biggin are known to associate with militant action groups whose avowed purpose is the destruction by the use of explosive devices of representative targets of the present system of governmental establishments."

Caldwell and Family

When the raiders entered the Caldwell apartment they found Caldwell, his wife, and their daughters, Aranne, four, and Shannan, two.

Under questioning, police

explosives. The question was: "Would you be willing to instruct persons unknown in the use of explosives?" I didn't really answer affirmative or negative. I changed the conversation to something else."

Questions

The interrogation continued:

Q. When and where did the above conversation take place, and who asked the question, and who was present?

A. The conversation took

place at the Casket Center; the question was asked me by Ken in the presence of one Neal Shaffer, approximately June 26, 1970, about 10 P.M.

Q. Can you further identify the man you refer to as Ken?

A. He's on the Committee of the East Powelton Concerned Residents. He is a white male, about 35 years old, about 6 feet tall and about 170 pounds. He has a mustache, wears horn-rimmed glasses, and he is a psychology instructor at a junior college in the Philadelphia area.

(Police said he later was shown a photo of Kenneth H. Moberg, and identified him as the man he knew as "Ken.")

Q. Did Neal Shaffer take part in the conversation, or did he indicate an interest in the conversation?

A. Neal Shaffer was interested in the conversation, but I don't remember him involved in it too much, it was mainly Ken and myself. Also, I remember now there was also someone else present by the name of "Hank;" I think he's a Penn State student.

(Caldwell according to po-

'They asked me if I knew how to prime a dynamite charge.' — Caldwell statement to police.

sources say Caldwell admitted discussing the use of explosives with several Powelton residents, adding that Moberg urged him to teach the use of explosives to a "secret class."

However, Caldwell contended that during the bomb

conversation, he was under the influence of wine and just boasting.

Later, in a signed statement to police, Caldwell said: "While residing at the Casket Company Community Center, a discussion arose concerning my knowledge of

lice identified a photo of Henry Ort, another "resident" of the Casket Center, as "Hank.")

Q. Who asked you how to prime a dynamite charge?

A. Ken.

Q. Can you recall any more of the conversation concerning explosives that took place between you and Ken in the presence of Shaffer and "Hank"?

A. They asked me if I knew how to prime a dynamite charge. When I replied "Yes", I was asked to explain in detail, which I did, in detail, using an electric blasting cap. I asked Neal why he wanted this information and he replied, "We may have use for it later."

Q. Did anyone you talked to concerning these bombs indicate in any way the use to which they might be put?

A. When I asked what they wanted the information for I said, "What, are you going to bomb Drexel or something?" They said, "We may have use for it later."

Q. Did they deny they were going to bomb Drexel?

A. No, they didn't deny they weren't going to bomb Drexel (sic).

Q. Why were you asked
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SIDE)

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about your knowledge of explosives?

A. I mentioned that I worked in the mine in Colorado and I was around and familiar with the use of explosives.

Q. When you were asked by Ken about instructing persons in the use of explosives, what did you take this to mean?

Dynamite Charge

A. I took it to mean what I explained to him personally, the safe way to prime a dynamite charge, which I told him. I explained to him about sticking a hole in the dynamite stick itself, inserting the cap, wrapping the wires around the stick, using that stick as a primer, the charge to be made as heavy as you want it by adding more dynamite sticks.

I explained the same procedure to him but using a black wick fuse instead of the electrical charge. The black wick fuse is a three-foot length of fuse attached to the detonator taking approximately five minutes to burn.

In the locked trunk of Caldwell's 1955 Oldsmobile, the raiders found a German-made .44 caliber revolver and 27 rounds of ammunition.

Caldwell said he purchased the gun for \$50 in a Denver pawnshop, and carried it for protection during camping trips.

Police also found about \$25 worth of marijuana seeds in a paper towel on the bathroom window sill.

"I swear to God that's not mine," Caldwell protested. "I know everybody says that, but it's true. Somebody else must have left it here."

Caldwell told the raiders repeatedly: "I'm not a subversive. I'm not an anarchist."

Caldwell said he came east to visit his mother who lives in Sunbury. While there, he and his family lived for a week in the woods at a vacant Boy Scout camp.

Caldwell's a native of Sunbury and, in 1957, was arrested there for shooting three dogs. He was placed on 18 months' probation.

En route east, Caldwell continued, he stopped off at Columbus, Ohio, "and got tea r-gassed because Ohio State University people were

rioting and the National Guard was called."

Referring to the bomb talk, Caldwell told the raiders: "I talk too much. I've learned a good lesson to keep my mouth shut. I didn't think they were going to blow anything up. They were all intellectuals."

He Is Released

Caldwell was taken to FBI headquarters, then the Police Administration Building, 8th and Race sts. He later was released without charge.

Mrs. Caldwell, a former model and daughter of a Los Angeles doctor, and the chil-

and harassment by uniformed city police, the Civil Disobedience Squad (CD), the FBI and the Redevelopment Authority (RDA) escalate."

The article continued:

"... Then on Tuesday some fifteen FBI agents together with city police with drawn guns, raided the apartment of a troubled family on relief which the community was trying to help, in the building on 33d st.

"Ostensibly they sought evidence to prove that the family has crossed state lines with the intent of conspiring with the community against Drexel.

"Only in Philadelphia, the city of police-fabricated brotherly bomb plots, could this happen in a community organization with legitimate substantive grievances

against public and private institutions, i.e., the Redevelopment Authority and Drexel University.

"When no evidence of explosives was discovered — or

planted — the family, including a pregnant mother and two young children, was released."

Next: Federal law and the revolutionaries.

dren were never taken into custody.

After the interrogation, police told Caldwell to get out of town as quickly as possible. He left Philadelphia with his wife and children. The police don't know his present whereabouts.

On July 13 the underground newspaper Free Press ran an article on the Caldwell raid. It was written by Moberg, Wright and Eddie Loewenstein, and began:

"As Drexel becomes increasingly intransigent and rejects all community efforts to negotiate, the intimidation

Background of Powelton Dispute

On Nov. 8 last year, a group of Powelton Village residents hauled a dilapidated swing onto a vacant lot at 33d and Arch st. and christened the lot an "instant community park."

It was an action taken in opposition to Drexel University's plan to build a dormitory on the site.

Dr. Gerald Goldin, a University of Pennsylvania physics teacher, said the community objected to Drexel's expansion into the area at the cost of their homes.

He said he was a member of the East Powelton Concerned Residents.

Up to Surface

It was the first time the EPCR had surfaced publicly in its battle with Drexel, the Redevelopment Authority, the police and city officialdom.

Since then its members have participated in sit-ins, demonstrations, fence-busting forays and legal actions. The most recent was a court hearing two weeks ago at which it was testified that residents "brought babies and set them on the ground" where construction work was underway.

Sometime during the month following the "instant park" episode, a wire mesh fence was erected around the 33d and Arch st. construction site.

On the night of Dec. 3, members of EPCR and other groups pulled down the fence.

On Dec. 6, 60 Powelton residents staged a sit-in at Drexel's Activities Center on Chestnut st. between 32d and 33d sts. Two days later, Judge Leo Weinrott issued a

temporary injunction barring sit-ins at Drexel.

The EPCR was one of five groups named as defendants.

On Dec. 18, State Supreme Court Judge Herbert B. Cohen vacated the injunction. His ruling was sought by Community Legal Services, Inc., which represented the defendants.

It was not until Jan. 29 that the next demonstration occurred, however. On that date, about 200 persons moved into Drexel's administration building and promised to stay there until the univer-

sity stopped demolition of homes in the area.

Drexel President William Hagerty told them that construction of the \$4 million women's dormitory and other building projects would continue despite the protests.

More Sit-Ins

The sit-in ended after three days with an agreement that demonstrators and the university would start a series of talks. Upshot of the talks was that the dormitory construction would continue but other building projects in the area

would be stopped "indefinitely."

Since then there have been sporadic sit-ins and demonstrations at various Drexel projects, including the dormitory.

On May 23, members of EPCR took over a building at 3312 Race st. once occupied by a casket company. The redevelopment authority had condemned it. The invaders said it would be used as a community center.

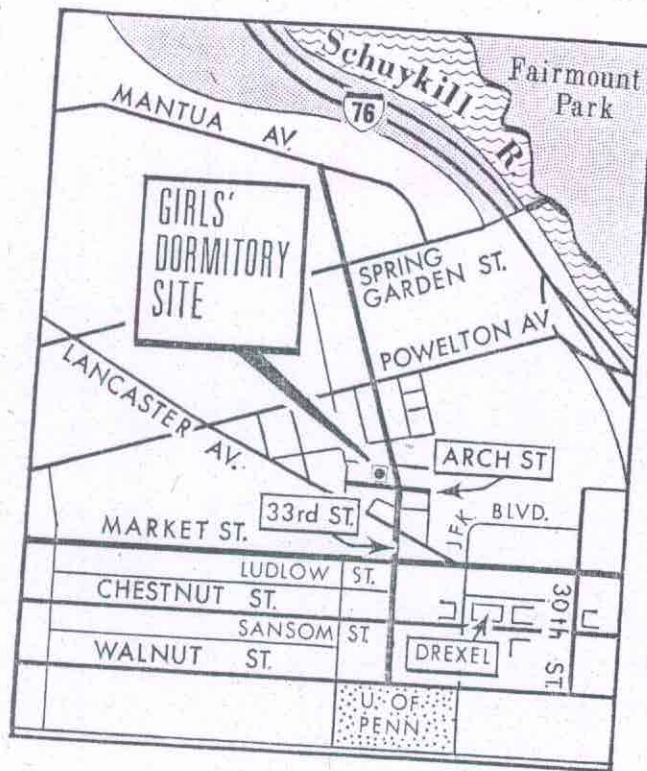
On June 29, members of EPCR halted demolition of three homes on Lancaster av. between 33d and 34th where Drexel plans to build a \$7.6 million gymnasium. They climbed on cranes and stood in front of bulldozers.

On July 9, 16 Powelton residents staged a 2½ hour sit-in in the offices of Nolen Swinburne & Associates, 17th and Sansom sts., architects designing the Drexel structures.

One of the demonstrators was Kenneth Moberg, an EPCR member who said the occupation was by the Coalition of Community Groups. The purpose, he said, was to persuade the firm to "stop planning the destruction of the Drexel Community."

Members of the East Powelton Concerned Residents say they oppose Drexel's expansion plan because it deprives both blacks and whites of housing in an area where housing is sorely needed.

They say many of the homes already destroyed were in good condition. They also contend that Drexel is acting in a heavy-handed way in matters that should be decided by the entire community.



Bulletin Map by Donald De Maio

Powelton Man Denies Charges

'The East Powelton Concerned Residents is a group of citizens whose only interest is to stop Drexel's expansion into the community.'

'We are not a violent group.'

There is a second version of the recent visit here by Terry A. Caldwell and his family.

This version, told by Kenneth H. Moberg and by a lawyer who said he represents Powelton area groups, is that Caldwell has repudiated his statement to police.

Moberg said that the Caldwells — Terry, his pregnant wife and two small children — came to Pennsylvania from the West Coast to visit his parents in Sunbury.

After the visit, Moberg said, they drove to Philadelphia but had no place to stay. So the Powelton Village Trouble Center obtained rooms for them in the East Powelton Community Center, 3312 Race st.

'Drug Problem'

"But we found they had a problem with drugs," said Moberg.

"They made a great noise about looking for drugs. The Community Center doesn't want that kind of trouble. They left July 10, presumably to go back to the West Coast."

Federal authorities and the police said that Caldwell, a former Colorado miner experienced in the use of explosives, came here from Berkeley, Calif., and that Moberg, a member of the East Powelton Concerned Residents, asked him to teach a "secret class" how to make homemade bombs.

Denial by Moberg

"It's absolutely untrue," said Moberg.

Moberg denied:

— That he ever asked Caldwell to give instructions on the use of explosives.

— That Caldwell ever drew a sketch for him showing how to make a bomb out of an

aerosol can.

— Or that the East Powelton Concerned Residents group is planning to bomb Drexel or anybody else.

"The East Powelton Concerned Residents is a group of citizens whose only interest is to stop Drexel's expansion into the community," he said. "We are not a violent group. The closest we ever came to violence was when we put our bodies in front of bulldozers."

The group is working

through the courts, he said, and very successfully so. Why, he asked, should it resort to bombs and explosives?

The whole thing, he said, looks like an attempt to frame the EPCR.

Police Statement

"The police apparently wrote out a statement about a conversation he had with me and another person," Moberg said. "Then they told him to sign it and they wouldn't press charges about the gun and the marijuana.

"He signed it under threat of these charges."

Later, he said, he found out about the statement — "we have our sources of information, too" — and went to Caldwell, who had been released. He said Caldwell agreed that his statement was untrue.

"He was never a person to keep things quiet," said Moberg. "He talked openly in public. He told me one night he got drunk and bragged about explosives, but that he was only kidding."

Rizzo Comments

[Police Commissioner Frank L. Rizzo, informed of Moberg's charges that the

About Bombs

Caldwell incident was a "frame-up," replied:

"Mr. Caldwell was not a police plant nor was his statement prepared in advance by police, as charged by Moberg. The statement was freely and voluntarily given and signed by Caldwell."

[The Bulletin, through independent sources who have asked not to be identified, has information which supports the police version of the story.]

Repudiation

David Kairys, 27, a lawyer, called The Bulletin yesterday and said Caldwell had "signed another statement repudiating everything he said to police and explaining why he said it to police."

Kairys, who works for the Defender Association, 1526 Chestnut st., under a fellowship from the University of Pennsylvania, said he represents Powelton groups "in their dispute with Drexel University" over its expansion plans.

Kairys said Caldwell's

"other" statement was in the form of a one-page typewritten letter addressed to Kairys.

Kairys said he spoke to Caldwell on the telephone.

"I told Caldwell to write down exactly what happened and send it to me in a letter."

Asked why he did this, Kairys replied:

"I was afraid they (the police) might try to use Caldwell's statement against Moberg."

2d Statement

Kairys said he had not seen the statement Caldwell signed for police.

The Caldwell statement released by Kairys was headed "3312 Race st" — the address of the "liberated" community center. It was dated July 9. It said:

"The police made it clear to me that, if I signed the statement, then they would not prefer charges against me for possession of an unregistered firearm or for possession of the few grams of marijuana which they claimed to have discovered somewhere around the apartment building.



Terry A. Caldwell
... *The visitor from the West.*

"Had charges been preferred against me, I would have been unable to leave Philadelphia to return to California with my children and my wife, who is pregnant, and this was something I had previously planned to do within the week, as numerous neighbors knew.

Violence Opposed

"To avoid the serious inconvenience to myself and to my family, of extending my stay in Philadelphia under inhospitable circumstances, I signed the statement, and was released after a lie detector test at approximately 1.30 A.M. July 8, 1970.

"I was not given a copy of said statement and I repudiate it."



Kenneth H. Moberg
... *The East Powelton figure.*

Moberg said:

"None of us really knew who the Caldwells were. We just took a family in without asking questions.

"It's absurd to think he and I got together with anyone to talk about explosives. I don't like violence. Don't say I'm a member of the New Left. The New Left is a term to cover a combination of many political beliefs.

"My political position is that I do not support the use of violence. That is why I left the Free Press."

Boston Native

Moberg, a native of Boston, is married to the former Zandra J. Lee, of Stroudsburg. They have two children, Re-

becca Lee, nine, and Kenneth J. Jr., two.

Moberg was graduated from Hatboro High School in 1952, and attended Lafayette College, Easton, from 1952 to 1954. He was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a B.A. in city planning in 1957.

He took an anthropology course for a year at the University of Michigan, and was a psychology major at Temple University from 1962 to 1966. He attended Bryn Mawr College from 1967 to 1969.

Moberg teaches a psychology course to nurses at Montgomery Hospital, Norristown. To supplement his income, he drives a cab in the city.