

Annapolis Edgy After Blasts, Capitol Guard Increased

By Carl Bernstein

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At the State House in Annapolis yesterday, a display case in the main rotunda collapsed with a crash. Within seconds, the rotunda was filled with members of a special state police contingent of plainclothesmen and uniformed officers who covered from throughout the building.

The presence of additional troopers in the State House—and their edgy response to the mishap—was indicative of an atmosphere of official concern yesterday about possible explosions.

Private citizens generally appeared to be responding without undue alarm after two explosions in Maryland early this week, three more in New York yesterday and a spate of bomb threats yesterday in both states and the District of Columbia.

Nonetheless, officials in all three jurisdictions have ordered increased police patrols of public buildings, instituted identification checks in some government facilities and declared areas of others off limits.

Following the New York blasts yesterday, bomb threats — at least 134 of them in New York, 10 in Washington, 10 in Baltimore and one in Prince George's County — produced neither explosions nor evidence of planted explosives.

The threats caused considerable disruption, however, as dozens of buildings were evacuated, searched, then — in many cases — placed under guard.

In Washington, police received anonymous telephone calls that bombs were set to go off at the Justice Department, several high schools and junior high schools. First District police headquarters, a Negro-oriented radio station and the Federal Trade Commission.

The bomb reports in Baltimore included threats to police headquarters, city hall, the municipal court, a credit agency, schools and a union hall.

In Prince George's, the county courthouse was evacuated for 90 minutes as police searched for explosives. The long wait outside in rainy weather resulted in many employees leaving for home before persons were readmitted to the courthouse about 2 p.m.

In Cambridge and Bel Air — the sites of this week's bombings — the tensions evident through Wednesday appeared to be ebbing yesterday. Officer James Leonard

assistant to the chief of the Cambridge police, said no extra patrols have been ordered, adding "I've never changed my roster by one man at all." A high school in the city, closed Wednesday by a bomb scare, was calm yesterday and attendance normal.

In Havre de Grace, where Judge Harry E. Dyer lives, the home of the judge in the Rap Brown trial was being periodically checked by city police.

Meanwhile, in Washington, associates of Brown and the two men killed in Monday night's explosion near Bel Air, reported they were checking for explosives in glove compartments, under floorboards and hoods.