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# Find arms, spy arsenal on N. Side

By Bob Schenet  
and Keith Bromery

A huge arsenal of weapons along with spy cameras, electronic eavesdropping equipment and manuals on sabotage was seized in a raid in the Sheridan Towers Condominiums, 6344 N. Sheridan.

The bewildering array of weapons included a fully loaded submachinegun, high-powered rifles with telescopic sights, machine pistols, revolvers, a high-powered crossbow with arrow-like bolts and bandoliers of heavy machinegun ammunition.

Investigators said they traced one pistol in the cache and found it was stolen in Jefferson, La., in 1971. Four others were found to have been stolen in Illinois since then, investigators said.

The weapons and other items were seized Thursday night in a police raid on the second-floor apartment of Julius and Sarah Ostrow and their son, Victor, 28, owner and operator of the Easy Go Pantry, a delicatessen and service station at 146th and Indiana in south suburban Dolton.

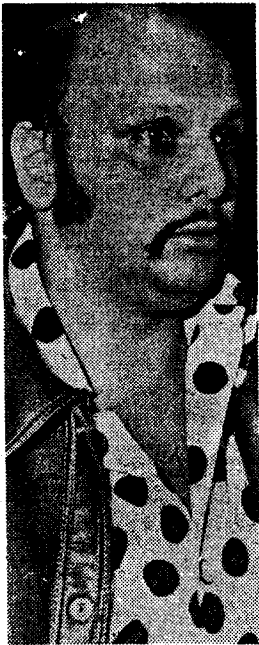
**VICTOR OSTROW** was arrested at about 4:30 a.m. Friday by police from Riverdale and Dolton in a room registered to him at the Ramada Inn at 154th and Dorchester Av. in Dolton.

A night manager at the motel said he had been living there for "several months."

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Police officers examine part of a huge arsenal of weapons, including eavesdropping equipment and spy cameras, taken in a raid at the Sheridan Towers Condominiums, 6344 N. Sheridan, late Thursday. (Daily News Photo/Edmund Jarecki)



Victor Ostrow after his arrest in connection with an illegal arms cache found in an apartment at 6334 N. Sheridan. (Daily News Photo/Ed DeLuga)

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He described Ostrow as "very quite."

Patrolmen Jerry Brezek and Frank J. Albrecht of the Riverdale police said they had heard a radio broadcast about the weapons raid on the Ostrow apartment in Chicago and went to the motel immediately.

They said they had talked with Ostrow just hours earlier after they arrested two men on charges of attempted burglary

in connection with a break-in at Ostrow's delicatessen Thursday night.

"When he opened his door at the motel, he apparently had heard the broadcast about the raid because he just said, 'I've been expecting you,'" Brezek said.

**THE NIGHT** manager at the motel said as Ostrow was led handcuffed through the lobby, he quipped: "They're trying to make an arch felon out of me."

He was charged with failure to register firearms, theft of firearms and a federal charge of possessing an illegal automatic weapon.

His father, Julius, a salesman, was arrested in the Foster Av. District police station a short time later after police, making a routine check on him through the police computer, discovered he had 67 traffic violations outstanding, police said.

The arsenal was first uncovered last Sunday in the sev-

en-story lakefront building across from Mundelein College by Patricia Carter, 31, an investigator for Cook County State's Atty. Bernard Carey, when she answered a newspaper ad for the sale of used furniture.

Investigator Carter said that while in the eight-room apartment, Mrs. Ostrow took her into a rear bedroom, which had a door on which the word, "Vic," was marked, to show her a vase for sale — and she found the room crammed with weapons.

She reported the discovery of the arms cache to Matthew Moran, head of Carey's investigations division, who checked and found no gun permit had been issued to anyone living in the Ostrow apartment, according to State's Atty.'s investigator Joseph Saladino.

He alerted Capt. John Walsh, head of the Damen Area Special Operations Group, who had the apartment placed under surveillance.

**THURSDAY NIGHT**, after obtaining a search warrant issued by Judge Earl Strayhorn of Cook County Circuit Court, Walsh led eight investigators to the apartment.

Mrs. Ostrow, 53, who was alone in the apartment, admitted them, Walsh said. Later, Julius Ostrow, accompanied by an attorney, Mel Siegel, entered and said Vic Ostrow would surrender to police Friday.

Walsh said when Siegel was asked why the weapons were in the apartment, he shrugged and said: "He (Vic Ostrow) likes guns."

One investigator said the weapons, which included several military-type rifles and carbines, would be worth as much as \$100,000.

Weapons seized included 27 rifles; a Thompson submachine gun loaded with a magazine of 20 .30-caliber bullets; 27

pistols, including automatics and revolvers of various types; three machine pistols of Austrian, German and French manufacture; a flare gun; bayonets, and knives, and the high-powered crossbow.

Saladino said 2,000 rounds of ammunition of various types, including a belt of .50-caliber machine gun ammunition, also was seized.

**ABOUT \$10,000** worth of

camera equipment, including miniature spy cameras and 35-millimeter cameras with telephoto lenses, were found along with eavesdropping equipment valued by Saladino at more than \$10,000.

Included in the eavesdropping equipment were wiretap bugs, room-bugging devices, an attache case with a secret tape recorder hidden in it and a microphone tie-clasp with wires leading to a body tape

recorder. Parts to 40 telephones also were found.

Numerous books on espionage, sabotage and arson also were seized, among them, "The Arson Investigators Manual," and "Arson and Sabotage Investigations," by Paul T. Wolfe, a textbook.

The FBI and agents of the U.S. Treasury Department's Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Tax unit joined the investigation after the raid.