

Harassed Victims of Drug Raids Are Moving

By ANDREW H. MALCOLM

Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, July 3 — The Herbert Giglotts, one of two Illinois families illegally raided in April by Federal narcotics agents, have fled their home in downstate Illinois to start a new life somewhere else.

"We just can't take the harassment any more," the 29-year-old Mr. Giglotto said last night as he loaded his furniture and pets on a rented truck in Collinsville. "We're getting out of here."

Today the Donald Askews, the other Collinsville family whose doors were kicked in by unshaven, plainclothes narcotics agents on April 23, said that they too had been harassed and that someone broke in and stole their television set on Monday.

This afternoon an official of the Federal Bureau of Investigation said his office had been asked by the Department of Justice to investigate the possibility of a conspiracy by Federal narcotics agents to violate the civil rights of the Collinsville families. But the official indicated that the F.B.I. investigation was concluded some time ago. He would not disclose the findings.

In Washington tonight, Robert Feldkamp, a spokesman for the Office for Drug Abuse Law Enforcement, said, "if indeed the families are being harassed, I can assure you it is not by representatives of our office."

Say They Werer Followed

In Collinsville, Mr. Giglotto and his wife, Evelyn, said they had been followed since their story — telling of shabbily-dressed narcotics agents ransacking their home, shouting obscenities and threatening their lives with cocked guns — received nationwide circulation.

The Giglotts said there had been mysterious telephone calls in the night. When answered, there is only silence on the other end.

Both of their cars were side-swiped while parked recently and seriously damaged.

Friends and neighbors tell of visits by unidentified agents inquiring about the Giglotts.

And there have been reports of strange men appearing at a bar frequented by the Giglotts and passing the word, "We're going to get Giglotto one way or the other after all this publicity dies down."

"After you see these guys in action on a raid," Mrs. Giglotto said, "you can imagine all sorts of things happening."

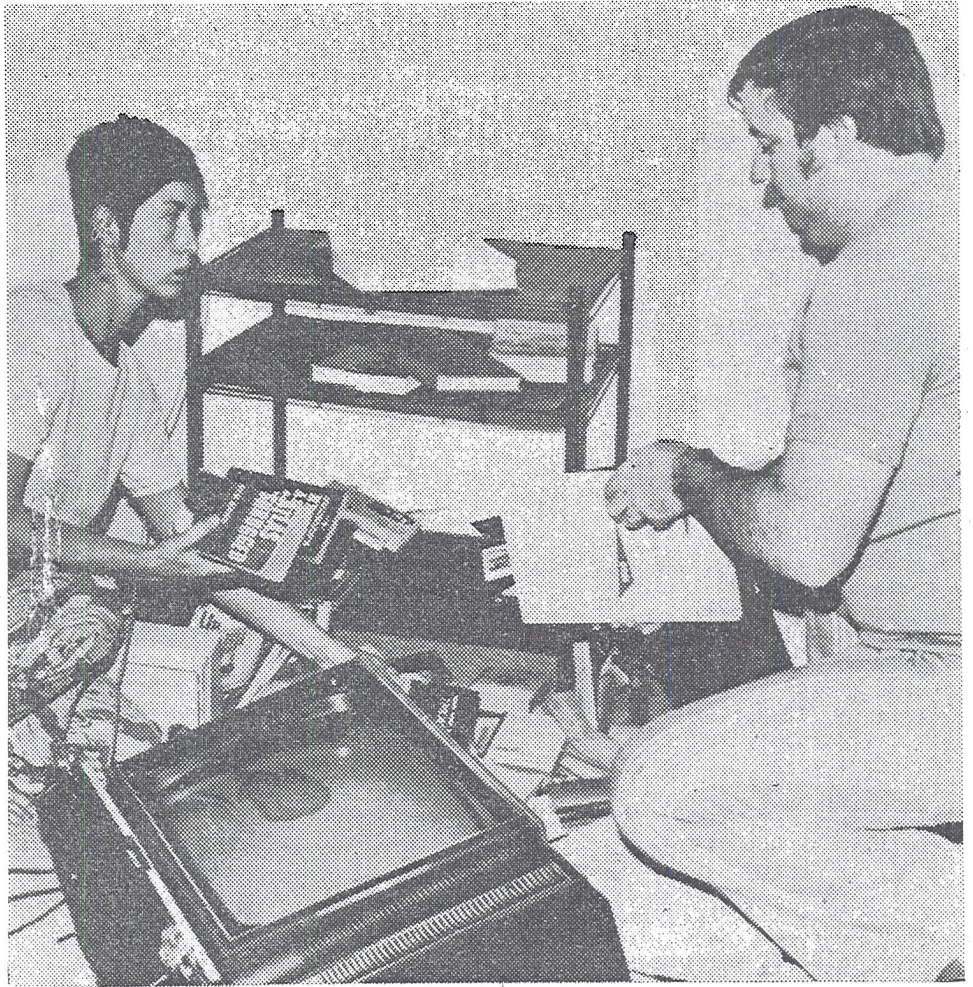
Then last night an anonymous caller phoned Mr. Giglotto's mother and said that her other son, John, had been shot in the head and dumped in a lake.

Then Son Returned

The 58-year-old mother became hysterical. But a few hours later John returned home from the movies, unaware of the call.

Mr. Askew, the second victim of the raid by agents of the Federal Office for Drug Abuse Law Enforcement, said he too, had received mysterious phone calls in the night, although his phone number is unlisted.

"You know you think maybe it's just some teen-agers," said the 40-year-old Mr. Askew. "You know how teen-agers are.



The New York Times

Herbert Giglotto and his wife, Evelyn, in the wreckage of their apartment in Collinsville, Ill., after Federal narcotics agents' illegal raid.

But then Monday someone broke in and stole my color TV set. And they came in the same way those agents did that night — kicking in my back door."

Mr. Askew, whose wife has been in and out of a hospital psychiatric ward since the raid, has also spent so much time talking to Government investigators and lawyers about the incident, its aftermath and his \$100,000 damage suit that he fell behind in business and had to sell his service station.

He hopes to return to the construction business "if we can just get things straightened out."

Dozens of Others

The claims of harassment and intimidation followed by one week publication of the results of an investigation of such drug raids by The New York Times. It disclosed that dozens of other mistaken, violent, often illegal and sometimes fatal drug raids had been executed on innocent citizens across the country by Federal, state and local narcotics agents, often acting on uncorroborated tips from drug addicts who were pressed for information.

The agents involved in the Collinsville incidents, who had no search warrants, no arrest warrants and no authorizations for their forcible entries, attributed the raids to "a bum tip." Further details of the raid's background, presumably contained in internal investigative reports compiled by the drug abuse office and the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, have never been released publicly.

Washington officials say they do not want to affect the deliberations of a Federal grand jury in Springfield, Ill., that is considering the case.

Until the incidents in Collinsville, a town of 19,600, 15 miles east of St. Louis, the other mistaken raids were little known across the country, apparently because many of the citizens involved were unaware of any legal recourse and feared reprisals by the agents.

In some cases, lawyers told The New York Times, the police arrested innocent persons during mistaken raids and then offered to drop the charges if those persons would forget about the incident.

The Giglotts received no such offer. And no apologies were extended, although some men were sent to inspect the damage. The Giglotts have sued for \$1-million.

Mr. Giglotto, a boilermaker, said he has encountered some harassment among fellow workers who did not believe he was not making substantial sums of money from the incident.

And the couple said several friends broke off relations with them after the raid, apparently out of fear.

Doesn't Blame Them

"I guess I can't blame them," Mr. Giglotto said. "They don't want their life history checked too and maybe their door kicked in."

The couple said they had received scores of sympathetic messages from individuals around the country, but none from Collinsville.

Mr. Giglotto said he also sensed a change in the attitude of the local police, who were not involved in the raids. One officer checked recently to see if the car the Giglotts were driving was stolen, Mr. Giglotto said, and another policeman told him, "You've brought us nothing but aggravation."

"He's got aggravation!" Mr.

Giglotto exclaimed. "My door was the one kicked in. And I didn't ask to be raided, you know."

For protection recently, Mr. Giglotto arranged for friends to stay with his wife when he went to work. Occasionally a friend would spend the night with them in their modest town house apartment on Arrowhead Drive near Collinsville's catchu factory.

Will Try to Forget

"We're going to try and relax a while and forget the whole thing," Mr. Giglotto said as he left. He declined to say where he and his wife were moving.

"We've got a few towns in mind," he said. "We'll settle down, both go back to work and start over again because I'm afraid those agents are not going to stop all this as long as they are running around busting into homes."

Today Fred Fehl, special agent in charge of the Cleveland F.B.I. office, said his men were asked on June 18 to investigate the Collinsville incidents. But he indicated he work was completed some time ago.

It was also learned that F.B.I. agents interviewed other persons seized by agents assigned to the St. Louis office of the drug abuse office.

The narcotics agents involved in Collinsville were suspended with pay but have reportedly been seen at other raids during their suspension.

On Sunday their parent agency, the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs, was merged with the drug abuse office into a new Federal Drug Enforcement Administration.