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3 F.B.I. Men in a Stakeout Are Shot, Apparently by Their Fellow Agents

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 25—A team of inspectors from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's headquarters is trying to reconstruct a shootout in which three bureau agents were wounded last week, apparently by other agents, while trying to avert a robbery at a New Jersey bank.

Sources familiar with the inquiry, which is not yet complete, said that one of the agents deployed outside the bank had apparently mistaken an agent on the inside for one of the would-be robbers and fired a shot, wounding him.

As the agent fell, the sources said, two other agents stationed inside the bank rushed to his aid and were also mistaken

for robbers by their colleagues and were shot.

The three wounded agents, Donald E. Alman, Glenn W. Woodeshick and Ralph L. Frank, were hospitalized in good condition. One of the robbery suspects, Franklin Vuono, who had remained behind the wheel of what was described as the intended getaway car as two other men tried to enter the bank, was shot to death.

The sources said that the 1975 Ford Torino driven by Mr. Vuono to the Wood-Ridge National Bank, in the town of Wood-Ridge, N.J., 10 miles north of Newark, had been provided for the three robbers by the bureau.

The intermediary in that arrangement was said by the sources to have been

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3 F.B.I. Agents Are Shot in a Stakeout at Jersey Bank

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an F.B.I. informer who had also given the bureau advance notice of the intended robbery.

Although the bureau normally sends a member of its internal inspection division to the scene when one of its agents is wounded, the sources indicated that the bureau's investigation of the Wood-Ridge incident was being accorded greater urgency than usual. A bureau spokesman declined all comment.

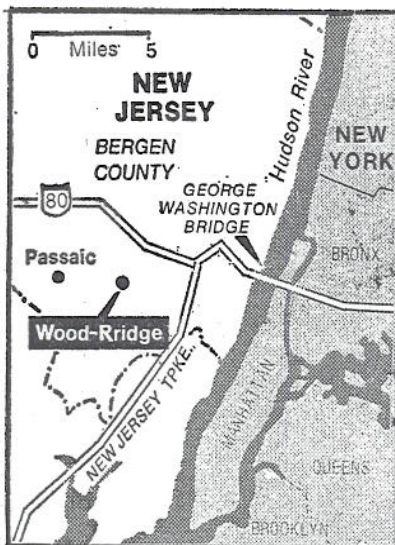
According to the sources and reports of eyewitness accounts, an unknown number of agents, acting on the informer's tip, arrived at the bank early Friday afternoon. Some of the agents were stationed in cars and other vehicles parked outside, some on the roofs of nearby buildings, and the three who were later wounded were assigned to wait inside.

Patrons Stayed in Basement

Shortly before 1:30 P.M., bank patrons and Ruth Hammell, the bank's manager, were taken to a basement room, where they stayed until 45 minutes after the shooting.

Three tellers and the three agents remained upstairs. The bank's inner doors were locked, and the outer ones were left open.

About 1:30 P.M., Mr. Vuono, who was 59 years old and had lived in Lakewood, N.J., drove up to the bank's door and two other men got out of the car. They were identified by the bureau as Vincent



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Amato, 52, and John J. Calorco, 30, both of Jersey City.

Bystanders said that Mr. Amato, who reportedly has a conviction for bank robbery, and Mr. Calorco were wearing workmen's clothes, gloves and masks and carried drawn pistols.

The two men reportedly walked through the first set of doors only to find the inner doors barred. Then the shooting began. According to Gary Roe, a supermarket employee who said that

he had observed the shootout, "It was all over in a matter of minutes."

One source speculated that the confusion that led to the wounding of the three agents inside the bank might have stemmed from the belief of the agents outside that Mr. Calorco and Mr. Amato had gained entry to the bank.

Witnesses were quoted as saying that some of the agents in the street carried shotguns in addition to revolvers. The automobile in which Mr. Vuono was sitting when he was killed had 57 bullet holes by one account and a shattered windshield by another.

Man In Serious Condition

Mr. Amato was taken in serious condition to Hackensack Hospital. The three wounded agents were taken to the same hospital.

No details could be learned about the identity of the informer who had provided the bureau with word of Mr. Amato's intentions to rob the bank and provided the robbers with the automobile supplied by the bureau. But the sources dispelled one report that Mr. Vuono, the dead man, had been the informer.

The bureau and other law-enforcement agencies occasionally help would-be criminals to obtain automobiles, weapons or other items needed for the commission of a crime. Under recent court decisions, no entrapment exists in such circumstances as long as the original intent to commit a crime is not induced in the would-be criminals by the police.



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The Wood-Ridge National Bank in Wood-Ridge, N.J., where three F.B.I. agents were wounded last Friday