

# Who's Mohr in Bank Bombs Case?

By Jane Eshleman Conant

Who is Christopher Charles Mohr?

A 25 year old crew-cut physicist with Ivy League clothes and a "nice manner?"

More than one person?

A clever, elusive plotter or group of plotters thus far a total mystery to police?

These were some of the myriad questions arising today in the wake of the discovery of time bombs planted in bank safe deposit boxes in San Francisco, Chicago and New York.

"Christopher C. Mohr" or "Christopher Charles Mohr" was the name used by the person or persons who rented the boxes last year and late 1970.

Police and the FBI believe it to be a pseudonym used by one or several persons involved in the "free political prisoners" plot.

When he rented one of three San Francisco boxes — January, 1971 at the Wells Fargo Bank's Mar-

ket-Montgomery office — "Mohr" gave a Chicago address, the bank said.

Also in Chicago was an apartment at 560 West Arlington Pl., the address given by a man who rented a box at a Chicago bank. One of the few clues in the strange case turned up there.

On contract cards filled out when he rented the boxes Mohr described himself as 25 years old, 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighing 165 pounds, with black hair and brown eyes. He said he was a native of Los Angeles and that his occupation was writer. He did not specify his race.

Dan Madori, former manager of the apartment building at that address, said federal agents had questioned him as long as six months ago about a "Christopher Mohr" employed as a physicist, who lived there for just two days in December, 1970.

Madori described the man as "an ideal tenant."

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He was employed by a large firm. He had ideal references."

He described him as wearing Ivy League clothes and a crew cut, not outwardly the kind of person one would expect to be involved in radical politics, and "seemed a really nice guy."

"He had a room mate," the landlord recalled, "who lived in the building for a short while and then left."

The physicist had barely moved into the apartment when he suddenly left after two days, owing money for the first month's rent, Madori continued.

Mail addressed to Mohr, "from banks," came to the building early in 1971, said Steven M. Mullins, former owner of the place. He said, "We had no idea who Mohr was so we generally just threw it out."

It appeared that a nationwide checkup on "Mohr" was spurred by a hitherto-secret bomb explosion in a Bank of America vault in San Francisco last Sept. 7.

"Mohr" rented that box, as well as the ones in the Crocker and Wells Fargo banks where bombs were found this morning, police determined.

The device went off about 12:45 a.m., bank vice president Thomas Rusize told Treasury Department investigators here.

It was regarded as a premature explosion of one of the series of bombs described in letters to news media as being of the long-delayed action variety. Nothing was allowed to leak out about the blast at that time, as an aid to the FBI.

One Bank of America official today indicated the box was rented on July 16 — the same day that "Christopher C. Mohr" made his final visit to one of the Chicago boxes.

The official here reasoned that the same person could have carried out both transactions, since July 16 was a Friday and Bay Area banks were open until 6 p.m. That would give ample time for a Chicago-San Francisco flight between bank visits.