

Peak Captured

On Tip to FBI

Key Suspect In Bombing Was Asleep

Duane Christopher Peak, sought in connection with the killing of Omaha Patrolman Larry D. Minard, was found asleep on the front porch of an Omaha home about 2:55 a.m. Friday, authorities said.

FBI agents and Omaha police, acting on a tip to the FBI, arrested Peak, 16, and a young man identified as a military deserter at 2517 Bristol Street.

The second youth gave his name as Charles James Johnson, 19, of 3217 North Twenty-sixth Plaza, but authorities said his real name is Hardie Michael Peterson.

The arrest of the pair brought to 17 the number of persons apprehended in the investigation of the Aug. 17 bomb explosion which killed Minard as he answered a false call for help.

Six have been charged, 10 booked and released on signature bonds, and one booked and held in jail without bond.

In another development, Asst. U.S. Atty. William Schaphorst said authorities believe that Robert Elmer Cecil, an 18-year-old who was arrested Thursday night at the home of the former head of Omaha's Black Panther party, "may be connected with the bomb" which killed Minard.

Schaphorst's comments came at a hearing in the Federal Courts Building for Cecil before U.S. Commissioner Richard Peck. Cecil was held on a charge of unlawful possession of a sawed-off shotgun.

Schaphorst said police reports indicated Cecil was holding a loaded sawed-off shotgun inside the headquarters of the militant National Committee to Combat Facism when authorities forced open a door there in a raid Saturday.

Cecil is held on \$10,000 bond in county jail pending a hearing at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Peak was to be arraigned later today, and Peterson was held without bond as police sought more information about him.

Charged 6 Days Ago

The arrest of Peak, who gave his address as 4130 North Seventeenth Street, came six days after he was charged in a warrant with first-degree murder.

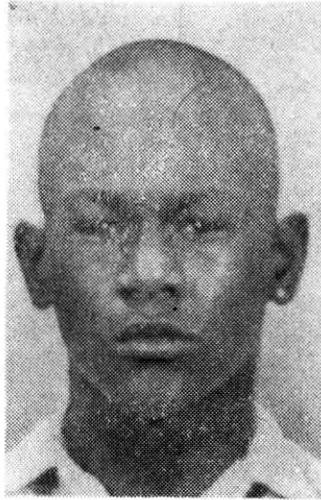
Authorities gave few details of how they located Peak.

The arrest was made by Police Capt. Bruce Hartford, Lt. James G. Perry, Sgt. Jack D. Swanson, Patrolman Arnold C. Dailey and FBI Agents Edward O'Brien and Jim Burns.

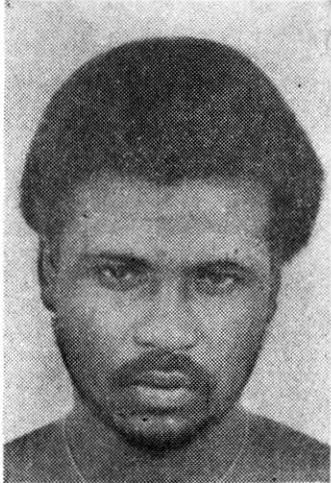
The occupant of the Bristol Street address is listed as Edward L. Haynes. Chief Deputy County Atty. Arthur O'Leary said the occupants were "innocent victims." A man who answered the door Friday morning declined to say anything except that Peak didn't live there.

Neighbors said one police cruiser had been parked near the address for more than a hour before Peak's arrest and

Please turn to Page 2, Col. 1



Peak . . . Found asleep.



Johnson . . . Second youth.

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Continued from Page 1.

estimated that 10 more cruisers were a block away.

Authorities said Peck worn soiled clothes when caught and they will be sent to a federal laboratory for analysis.

Others Taken Earlier

Cecil and David L. Rice Thursday became the first persons against whom federal charges were filed.

Rice was charged with "possession of an unlawful destructive device." He had surrendered earlier Thursday on a state charge of possession of explosives.

Cecil was arrested about 6 p.m. Thursday at the apartment of former Panther captain Eddie Bolden, 2906 North Twenty-fourth Street. Both Cecil and Bolden had been arrested last weekend, then released on signature bonds without charge.

Cecil has given addresses of 1818 Evans Street and 3508 North Twenty-fourth Street, the NCCF headquarters. Authorities went there Thursday afternoon in search of him.

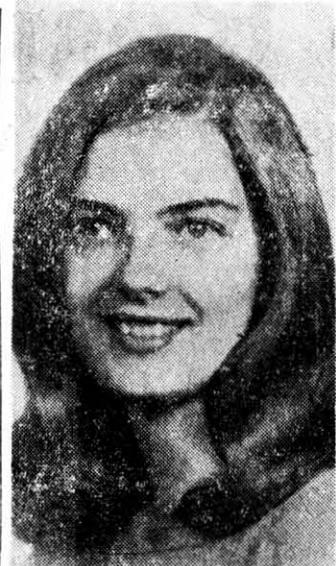
Raid Leaders

That raid was led by James Harmon of St. Louis, chief special investigator of the Federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division, and Dwight Thomas, area supervisor for that agency in Omaha.

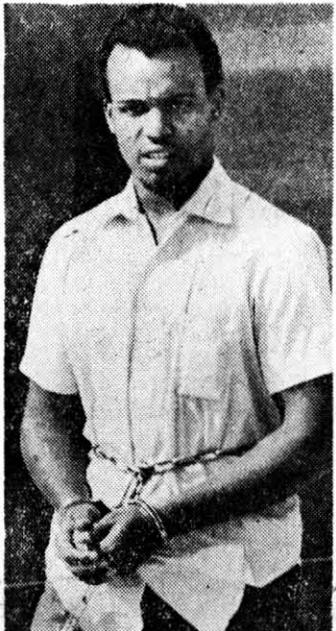
Also participating were U.S. Marshal Lloyd Grimm and Deputy Marshal Frank Hartley Jr.

'Federal Detainer'

A federal detainer was placed on Rice, who is in County Jail after failing to post \$25,000 bond on a state charge of unlawful



Miss Aufrecht . . . High school graduation photo.



Cecil . . . In handcuffs.

possession of an explosive substance.

Rice had been sought since Saturday night when police raided his home, 2816 Parker Street, and said they found dynamite.

He has made no statement. When arriving at police headquarters, he declined to say anything to reporters except "good morning."

Meanwhile, 22-year-old Norma Aufrecht, only non-black person among those arrested in the Minard investigation, was released on a \$1,000 signature bond. She was booked Wednesday night on suspicion of conspiracy to commit murder and on suspicion of being an accessory after the fact.

Charge Explained

Deputy Police Chief Glen W. Gates, meanwhile, explained the state charge against Rice.

Sunday, Gates said Rice was charged with conspiracy to commit murder. But Thursday, after Rice surrendered, he was charged with illegal possession of an explosive substance. County Atty. Donald Knowles said that is the only formal state charge lodged against Rice.

Gates then said Sunday he "just took it for granted" that conspiracy to commit murder would be the charge.

"Because of the hurry-up that we had, we said it would be one charge and it turned out to be something else. We knew we'd get a felony warrant, so to get the ball rolling we announced that charge," Gates said.

O'Leary said he has asked for dismissal of a federal fugitive warrant against Rice because he voluntarily turned himself in.