

Connell, Maureen

From: Resident <opra+request-16670-0533332b@requests.opramachine.com>
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 11:57 PM
To: OPRA
Subject: OPRA request - Incident report/case summary report

Dear Edison Township,

This is a request for public records made under OPRA and the common law right of access. I am not required to fill out an official form. Please acknowledge receipt of this message.

Records requested:

Any incident reports or case summary reports, with narratives, (and any follow ups) pertaining to incident at Alpine Aromatics, Route 1, on September 11, 1978.

Yours faithfully,

Resident

Please use deliver records electronically via email to the below UNIQUE address for all replies to this request:
opra+request-16670-0533332b@requests.opramachine.com

Is OPRA@EDISONNJ.ORG the wrong address for OPRA requests to Edison Township? If so, please contact us using this form:
https://opramachine.com/change_request/new?body=edison_township

Disclaimer: This message and any reply that you make will be published on the internet. Our privacy and copyright policies:
<https://opramachine.com/help/officers>

View this OPRA request & responses online:
https://opramachine.com/request/incident_reportcase_summary_repo_2

Please note that in some cases publication of requests and responses will be delayed.

If you find this service useful as an OPRA custodian, please ask your web manager to link to it from your organisation's website.

Due
9/23/20

SEP 14 20 PM 2:00

RECEIVED
CENTRAL RECORDS
2020 SEP 14 P 8:59
EDISON POLICE DEPT
Adice

mcconnell 9/14/20

PROSECUTOR COPY

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

1500688

878-24

1. W S	2. FILE	3. INUMBER	4. DATE	5. TOTAL VALUE	6. UCR	7. CHANGE	8. CLASS CODE	9. ALIAS CODE	10. 05	11. 074742
12. STATION Edison		13. DATE 9/11/78		14. UCR		15. CHANGE		16. CLASS CODE		17. ALIAS CODE
18. VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	19. CURRE	20. JEWELRY	21. FURS	22. CLOTHING	23. AUTO	24. MISC	25. E.C.	26. AUTO E.C.	27. D. B.	28. PHONE
29. CRIME Shooting	30. N.J.S.			31. VICTIM STATE OF NEW JERSEY			32. RACE	33. SEX	34. D. B.	35. PHONE
36. DATE AND TIME X 0925	37. HOUR MON	38. D.WK. 9	39. MTH 11	40. DAY 78	41. HOME ADDRESS-CITY-STATE			42. PHONE		
43. LOCATION US #1 & Prince Street				44. CITY	45. EMPLOYER-SCHOOL			46. BUS. PHONE		
47. SEARCH WARRANT YES ☐ NO ☒		48. CONFESSION YES ☐ NO ☒		49. PERSON REPORTING CRIME Ptl. A. Rosa/Ptl. Ruffo			50. DATE & TIME 9/11/78 0928			
51. TYPE OF PREMISES other comm		52. CODE 70	53. WEAPONS-TOOLS physical force		54. CODE 30	55. ADDRESS Edison Police Dept.				
56. HOW ATTACKED See Narrative										
57. VEHICLE STOLEN ☐ SUSPECT ☐	58. YR.	59. MAKE	60. BODY TYPE		61. COLOR	62. REGISTRATION & STATE		63. SERIAL #		
n/a										
64. DETAIL TIME 0925	65. ARRIVAL TIME 0928	66. CLEARING TIME AND DATE 1400 9/11/78								
67. WITNESS/SUSPECT			68. ADDRESS			69. PHONE		70. SEX	71. RACE	72. D.O.B.
1. See Lieut. Kermes's report for suspects.										
2.										
3.										
4.										
73. NARRATIVE								74. DIVISION NO. PATROL "F"		
Detailed by headquarters at 0925 hours to the location of US #1 & Prince Street, on a report that shots had been heard by Alpine Aromatics International, Inc. Upon our arrival on US #1 & Prince Street, we made a left hand turn onto Prince Street and another left hand turn into the front driveway of the Alpine Aromatics Office building. We drove along the front of the building and to the south end of the building. Upon reaching the south end of the building, we observed two white males, who yelled out to us, that there was a man with a shotgun inside the office building. We notified headquarters that we had an armed man inside the office building and we called for assistance, and supervision. We took the position to the south end of the building and waited for supervision and assistance to arrive. We held our positions until supervision arrived and while Sgt. Berlinski and Officer Edwards assisted, several employees to get out of the building through a rear window. After we received word from Lieut. Kermes that the building inside was secured, we were instructed by Sgt. Berlinski to guard the door on the North & south end of the building. We maintained securing said locations until 1400 hours when we were relieved.										
75. TYPE NAME Andres Rosa/Gary Ruffo					76. BADGE NO. #46/102		77. MUNICIPALITY Edison			
					78. REVIEWED BY		79. DATE OF REPORT 9/11/78 KD			

1500689

PROSECUTOR COPY
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. W.	2. FILE	3. NUMBER	4. DATE	5. TOTAL VALUE	6. UCR	7. CHANGE	8. TALL COOL	9. MISC. COOL	10. CASE NO.
STATION		DATE		TOTAL VALUE	UCR	CHANGE	TALL COOL	MISC. COOL	CASE NO.
Edison		9/11/78						05	074742
16. VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	17. CURR. A.	18. JEWELRY B.	19. FURS C.	20. CLOTHING D.	21. AUTO E.	22. MISC. F.	23. REC.	24. AUTO REC.	25. D.O.B.
25. CRIME	26. N.J.S.		27. VICTIM				28. RACE	29. SEX	30. D.O.B.
Shooting			Victims listed below						
NARRATIVE. Supplement to CTR issued by Officers Rosa and Ruffo								31. DIVISION NO. CTR	

on 9/11/78.

Victims: Albert Restivo,
#1

Victim: Voltan L. Shagi,
#2

Suspect: Robert E. Mayers,

At approx. 0925 hours this date, we the undersigned Officers, intercepted a radio message as to a reported shooting in progress at the Alpine Aromatics International Inc., located in the Edison Industrial Center US 1 and Prince Street, Edison, New Jersey. A few minutes later again intercepted radio message from Officers at the scene requesting assistance at the scene as the suspect was within the office building at the location with a shotgun.

Proceeding to the scene and upon our arrival we found the office building was completely surrounded and secured with the suspect confined within. On the scene we were approached by one Mr. Michael Lalley, who informed us that the suspect had shot and killed two men in the Production and Shipping Building which is located in a different part of the Industrial Center.

We accompanied Mr. Michael Lalley to this building and made entry into the Shipping and Receiving Section from the East side of the building where we found victim #1, a white male, approx. age late 50's, medium build, approx. 160-170 lbs., with black graying hair and balding. This victim was wearing gray slacks, blue shirt, brown loafers, and white socks and was lying on his back with his face turned to the left and his legs spread. His left arm was extended outward and his right arm was across his lower chest with his right shoulder on a shipping pallet near a desk. Closer examination revealed a large pool of blood under the left side of his face, a trail of blood from his mouth and a large pool of blood beneath the lower part of his torso. There was blood splattered on pallets and also on 55 gal. steel drums in the area. The victim's glasses were approx. 2 ft. North of his head and a burnt Marlboro cigarette was

32. TYPE NAME	33. BADGE NO.	34. MUNICIPALITY
Arpad Marics / James Yancsek	Sgt. S	Edison
SIGNATURE	35. REVIEWED BY	36. DATE OF REPORT
		9/11/78 bn

1500690

CONTINUATION PAGE

1. STATION Edison	2. CODE 05	3. CASE NUMBER 074742	4. DIVISION NUMBER CIB
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NARRATIVE
lying approx. one inch from his left hand. This victim had what appeared to be a shotgun blast to the upper part of his chest, extended into the lower part of his throat. Also noted was a spent shotgun shell near the victim's feet.

In checking the victim he appeared to be expired, as there was no response to his pulse and heart beat when checked.

Mr. Michael Lalley then took us to another room identified as being the Production room where we found victim #2 a white male, approx. age in the mid 60's, with gray hair, and balding, wearing a cap. This victim was large in physical stature approx. 210-220 lbs. and was wearing a dark blue work uniform, with black belt, black low cut shoes, and white socks. The shirt of his work uniform was embroidered on the left side with the company name Alpine Aromatics, and the right side above the pocket was "Skip". This victim was lying face down on the left side of his left arm beneath his head with the right arm extended outward. The victim's legs were crossed right on left. Closer examination revealed that there was a large pool of blood beneath his chest. This victim had what appeared to be a shotgun blast of the upper chest and also his left wrist was torn by this blast. Near the victim's feet we noted a pair of glasses and company shipping labels. Also near the victim's head we noted a spent shotgun shell.

In checking this victim he appeared to be expired, as there were no signs of pulse and heart beat.

Contact was made with Headquarters by phone and informed Lt. Anthony Calamoneri the Desk Lieutenant of our findings and requested an ambulance and a Doctor at the scene.

At this time we learned that the suspect had apparently shot himself and that Lt. Kermes was Superior Officer conducting this investigation.

The building where the two victims were found was at this time secured and where we reported our findings to Lt. Kermes who was advised of the two victims in this building.

Edison First Aid Squad #3 arrived at the building with Squad Members Joseph DeMatteo, white male, age 20 of [REDACTED] and a James Genovese, white male, age 19 of [REDACTED]. DeMatteo examined both victims for vital signs, pulse, heart beat, and eyes which all proved negative.

We then spoke with Michael Lalley and learned that he was working in the production area of the building when he heard his brother John Lalley screaming something about a man and a gun from the Shipping and Receiving Section. Michael Lalley went running toward his brother's voice and heard a shotgun blast and came face to face with the suspect who held a shotgun. Michael ran past the suspect toward his brother John and they both ran from the building to the closest building where they called Headquarters. Michael Lalley added as he ran from the building he heard a second shotgun blast.

We next interviewed a Mr. John Lalley, white male of [REDACTED]

5. INTERVIEW NAME A, Marics / J. Yancsek	6. RANK OR TITLE Sgt. S	7. REVIEWED BY 2	8. PAGES 4	9. DATE 9/11/78	10. INITIALS bn
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SIGNATURE

1500591

CONTINUATION PAGE

1. STATION Edison	2. CODE 05	3. CASE NUMBER 074742	4. DIVISION NUMBER CIB
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NARRATIVE

[REDACTED] John Lalley informed us that he was working in the shipping and receiving section of the building near an open bay door, when he observed the suspect known to him as "Bob" a past employee, entering through the bay door carrying a shotgun. John Lalley turned over a folding table he was working at and held the table in front of him for protection and began calling and warning everyone in the building of the suspect's presence with a shotgun. As the suspect passed him, John Lalley ran toward the open bay door and could see the suspect go towards victim #1 Albert Restivo who was attempting to crouch behind some 55 gal. steel drums and the suspect fired his shotgun at him one time and started toward the Production room. At that time John met his brother Michael and they both ran to call the Police.

John Lalley added that he too heard a second gun shot report, and as he was running he had also observed the suspect's vehicle a light green Volkswagon parked in front of the building. After making the phone call to Headquarters John Lalley and his brother Michael went back to the building and saw that the suspect had driven across a large parking lot area to the company office building. John Lalley also at this time identified the two victims as being #1 Albert Restivo Plant Foreman, and victim #2 as being Zoltan "Skippy" Skagi the Shipping Dept. Foreman.

We also spoke with a Mr. Kenneth Friedrich, white male, age 29 of [REDACTED]. Mr. Friedrich stated he was in the Production Area when he heard John Lalley screaming, he went towards the Shipping and Receiving Section and saw the suspect with the shotgun so he ran from the building.

We then interviewed Mr. Michael Lawrence, white male, age 27 of [REDACTED]. Mr. Lawrence was also in the production area, heard John Lalley screaming and saw him holding a table between himself and the suspect with a shotgun. He then saw the suspect pass John Lalley, heard the shotgun being fired and observed victim #1 falling to the ground. He then started for an exit from the building last seeing the suspect going down an aisle stacked 55 gal. steel drums in the Production Area toward the rear of that area. As Mr. Lawrence left the building he heard a second shotgun blast.

Also learned during our interviews that there was one other person in the Production Shipping Bldg. this person was a Mr. Guy Etter who is the son-in-law of victim #1. We later learned that Mr. Etter was taken [REDACTED].

During our interviews while the building was secured by Officers Edwards and Bell, Dr. Shipa of the Edison Medical Group arrived on the scene and pronounced both victims deceased at approx. 1020 hours.

Upon completion of interviews, by the direction of Lt. Kermes, the four victims interviewed were released after being advised of a possible required statement at a later date.

BCI Unit arrived on the scene with Sgt. Macechok and Det. Harold Thomas who photographed the scene and collected the two spent 12 gauge double 00 buck shotgun

5. TYPE NAME A. Marics / J. Yancsek	6. BADGE NUMBER Sgt. S	7. PAGE 3	8. DATE OF REPORT 9/11/78
SIGNATURE		PAGES	b7

1500692

CONTINUATION PAGE

1. STATION Edison	2. CODE 05	3. CASE NUMBER 074742	4. DIVISION NUMBER CIB
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NARRATIVE

shells and also one unspent shotgun shell apparently lost by the suspect while approaching the area where victim 2 Shagi, had been working.

A diagram of the building was also made indicating the point of entry, travel by the suspect, positions of both victims and evidence collected. Also the wallets of both victims were removed from their person for the reason of positive identification and protection of personal property. These wallets were inventoried by the undersigned Officers and also Officer Bell who was at the scene and victim #1's wallet Mr. Albert Restivo we found no money and it only contained personal papers. In the wallet of victim #2 Valtan Shagi we found \$8.00 in paper currency (1 \$5.00 bill, 3 \$1.00 bills) and personal papers.

These two afore mentioned wallets were later turned over to Sgt. Macechok of the BCI Unit.

At approx. 1250 hours Mr. Salvatore Rusciano the Middlesex County Morgue Keeper arrived on the scene and removed both victims.

Synopsis of the Investigation: It appears at this time that the suspect Robert Mayer arrived at the Alpine Aromatics Shipping and Production Building sometime around 0900 hours. He parked his vehicle in a parking area approx. 75 ft. South of the Shipping Receiving open bay doors and entered this section carrying a shotgun. He walked into the Shipping Receiving Section, passing witness John Lalley a distance of approx. 42 ft. and shot and killed victim #1 Albert Restivo. The suspect then went directly to the Production Room and in a Southernly direction to the rear of the drum racks a distance of an additional 128 ft. where he shot and killed victim #2 Valtan Shagi. The suspect then returned to his vehicle (point of exit from buildin unknown) and drove Northeast through a parking lot a distance of 1,050 ft. to the office building, parked his vehicle, and entered the office building.

(For continued activities of suspect refer to SIR submitted by Sgt. Bekiarian on this date).

This investigation completed at this time.

5. TYPE NAME A. Marics / J. Yancsek	6. BADGE NUMBER Sgt. S	7. PAGE 4 OF 4	8. DATE OF REPORT 9/11/78 bn
SIGNATURE			

PROSECUTOR COPY
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1500693

1. W	2. FNE	3. INUMBER	4.	5.	6.					
STATION		DATE		TOTAL VALUE	UCR	CHANGE	CLASS CODE	MISC. CODE	CASE NO.	
Edison		9 11 78						05	074742	
VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	16. CURR. A. 2	17. JEWELRY B. 3	18. FURS C. 4	19. CLOTHING D. 5	20. AUTO E. 6	21. MSC. F. 7	22. REC. G. 8	23. AUTO REC. H. 9	24. OTHER I. 10	
25. CRIME Assist in Four Murders			26. N.J.S.		27. VICTIM ALPINE PRODUCTS Rt. #1 & Prince St. Edison, NJ			28. RACE	29. SEX	30. D.O.B.
								31. DIVISION NO. Patrol "B"		

NARRATIVE:

This is a SIR to Lieut. Kermes CIR of the above case number, #074742.

Detailed at approximately 0930 hours to the above location, Alpine Aromatics Products, Route #1 & Prince Street. Upon my arrival at the scene I was informed by Officer Andres Rosa, investigating officer at the time, that there was a gunman inside the building with a shotgun and apparently had shot someone in the building. At this time I dismounted my vehicle on the Route #1 side of the building at the driveway entrance to the building and placed my bullet proof vest on and stationed myself near the rear quarter panel of my unit, #19. At this time behind me arrived Sgt. Berrue and Sgt. Berlinski, my commander. At this time I informed Sgt. Berlinski and Sgt. Berrue of the occurrence that Ptl. Rosa had informed me. I then received a radio message over the radio from headquarters that Lieut. Kermes was coming to the scene and would take command. Myself and all the units at the scene took the upmost caution and stayed behind our units and surrounded the building. At this time we took our orders from Sgt. Berlinski who was on the scene. No shots were fired by me at any time at the scene. Approximately 1010 hours, I received a radio message from Lieut. Kermes saying the building was secure inside, that he was inside the building, and for us to take care of crowd controll. I was then stationed by Sgt. Berlinski to the corner of Route #1 and Prince Street on the lawn by the building, for crowd control. I was relieved from crowd control at approximately 1300 hours by Lieut. Kermes, who informed me at this time that I can clear.

During my time on crowd control, I was ordered by Lieut. Kermes at approximately 1100 hours to impound the suspect's vehicle, which was a 1978 Volkswagon, see impound sheet this date. Headquarters was notified by me to notify Reiner Brothers on Lieut. Kermes's order. At this time I checked the vehicle inside and the inside of the vehicle was as follows. I found a brown plastic garbage bag approximately 30 gallon bag on the passenger front seat of the vehicle which was in a wrinkled or unfolded manner. I also found several maps from different states in the area laying on the floor. I also found a timer clock used in baking or oven type clock, white with red letters. Upon checking the trunk of the car I found the following items: A gym bag or duffle bag with several electronic tools in it, a pair of black & white striped coveralls, mans type, a black hat, size 6 7/8, several books and tests for a truck drivers job. I also found a first aid kit, a spare tire, and a bag which had a sales slip on it which I did not open. I also found a black jacket in the trunk of the car. At this time Reiner Brothers appeared on the

32. TYPE NAME	33. BADGE NO.	34. MUNICIPALITY
James R. Whalen, Sr.	#38	Edison
	35. REVIEWED BY	36. DATE OF REPORT
		9/11/78 KD

SIGNATURE

1. STATION Edison	2. CODE 05	3. CASE NUMBER 074742	4. DIVISION NUMBER Patrol
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NARRATIVE

scene and I released the car to him after they signed for it and ordered them to tow the car to Police Headquarters, where I later checked on the car at 1340 hours and found the car to be in the lot. The impound sheet was turned over to the desk, Sgt. Daniel Miller. I cleared this time and went on patrol.

During my time at the above scene, I was involved with no incidents except what I was ordered to do by Sgt. Berlinski and Lieut. Kermes.

5. TYPE NAME James R. Whalen	6. BADGE NUMBER #38	7. PAGE 2 of 2	8. DATE OF REPORT 9/11/78 KD
9. REVIEWED BY		PAGES	
SIGNATURE			

PROSECUTOR COPY
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1500699

1. W	2. FEE	3. INL. ABER	4.	5.	6.	7.
8. STATION	9. MO. DAY YR.	10. TOTAL VALUE	11. UCR	12. CHANGE	13. CLASS CODE	14. ALIEN CODE
Edison	9 11 78					04
15. CASE NO.	16. CURR.	17. JEWELRY	18. FURS	19. CLOTHING	20. AUTO	21. MISC.
07A742						
22. REC.	23. AUTO REC.	24. FOUND.	25. CRIME	26. N.J.S.	27. VICTIM	28. RACE
			Homicide/Suicide		Alpine Products US #1 & Prince St. Edison, NJ	
29. SEX	30. D.O.B.	31. DIVISION NO.	Patrol			

NARRATIVE:

Responded to Alpine Aromatics on a report of a shooting. Upon arrival I took up a position outside the office building of Alpine Aromatics outside the main entrance which faces Prince Street. After initial entry of the building was gained by Lieut. Kermes and his party, I along with several other officers, were instructed to enter the main entrance. Upon entering the building, we proceeded to search the building, finding several employees barricaded in rooms. We did not locate any armed suspects at the time of the search, although one of the bodies was later identified as the suspects.

Upon securing the area, I was detailed to [redacted] by Sgt. Berlinski to segregate and guard the employee witnesses who were being transported there by the [redacted]. Outstanding cooperation was given by the [redacted] who supplied a separate ward for the witnesses and security to help seal the area off from reporters. At the [redacted], I was joined by Ptl. Galati who took initial statements from the witnesses.

After being released by the [redacted], all witnesses were placed aboard a bus with Ptl. Galati and I escorted the bus back to the scene of the crime. At the scene I was detailed to relieve Ptl. Rosa and Ruffo to stand guard at the entrance to the building. I stayed there until the end of my tour when I was relieved by Ptl. Papi.

32. TYPE NAME

James Carter

33. BADGE NO. #66

35. REVIEWED BY

34. MUNICIPALITY
Edison

36. DATE OF REPORT 9/11/78 KD

SIGNATURE

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1500700

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. STATION	2. FRE	3. INUMBER	4.	5.	6.	7.
8. DATE	9. MO.	10. DAY	11. YR.	12. UCR	13. CHANGE	14. CLASS CODE
15. CASE NO.	16. VALUE					
17. CURR.	18. JEWELRY	19. FURS	20. CLOTHING	21. AUTO	22. MISC.	23. REC.
24. VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	25. CRIME	26. N.J.S.	27. VICTIM	28. RACE	29. SEX	30. D.O.B.
31. DIVISION NO.						32. TYPE NAME

SHOOTING

NARRATIVE: WHILE ON PATROL IN DISTRICT #3 WE HEARD CAR #14 PATROL DETAILED TO ALPINE PRODUCTS IN REFERENCE TO GUN SHOTS FIRED. BEING CLOSE BY WE WENT TO THE AREA FOR BACKUP. WE MADE A RIGHT ON PRINCE ST. TO PATRICK ST. AND ENTERED THE PARKING LOT WHERE WE SAW CAR #14 STOPPED BY THE MAIN OFFICE OF ALPINE PRODUCTS. SOME MALES MOTIONED FOR US BY CAR #14. UPON ARRIVAL WE WERE TOLD A MALE HAD GONE CRAZY SHOOTING PEOPLE WITH A SHOTGUN AND WAS INSIDE THE OFFICE BUILDING. SGT. M. BERLINSKI ARRIVED ON THE SCENE ALONG WITH OTHER OFFICERS AND THE BUILDING WAS SURROUNDED. SGT. BERLINSKI USING HIS P.A. SYSTEM GAVE A MESSAGE OVER IT, IF ANYONE COULD, TO LET US KNOW IF THEY WERE OKAY. AT ONE WINDOW A BLIND OPENED AND A HAND WAVED TO US. SGT. BERLINSKI AND MYSELF WENT TO THE WINDOW AND 3 FEMALES AND 1 MALE CAME OUT THROUGH THE WINDOW AND WE GOT THEM TO SAFETY. THE NEXT OFFICE HAD 2 FEMALES IN IT AND THEY COULD NOT OPEN THE WINDOW. UPON SEEING THIS I SMASHED THE WINDOW AND OPENED IT AND WE GOT THEM OUTSIDE AND TO SAFETY. AFTER SOME OFFICERS WENT INSIDE AND SECURED IT, WE WERE THEN DETAILED TO THE UPPER BUILDING TO SECURE IT FROM EVERYONE BECAUSE THERE WERE 2 VICTIMS INSIDE. AFTER THE BODIES WERE PICKED UP BY THE COUNTY CORONER, WE HAD THE BUILDING SECURED AND WE CLEARED THE AREA.

32. TYPE NAME Clifford Edwards
 SIGNATURE C. Bell

33. BADGE NO. 33 81
 35. REVIEWED BY
 34. MUNICIPALITY EDISON
 36. DATE OF REPORT 9/11/78

PROSECUTOR COPY
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1500701

1. W S	2. FILE	3. INUMBER	4.	5.	6.	7.
STATION		DATE		TOTAL VALUE	UCR	CHANGE
Edison		9 11 78				
16. CURR.		17. JEWELRY		18. FURS	19. CLOTHING	20. AUTO
1. VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	2. A	3. B	4. C	5. D	6. E	7. F
25. CRIME Shooting				26. N.J.S.		27. VICTIM Alpine Products US #1 & Prince St. Edison, NJ
				28. RACE		29. SEX
				30. D.O.B.		31. DIVISION NO. Patrol

NARRATIVE:

Responding to the report of a shooting at the Alpine Products Building located at US #1 & Prince Street. The building was immediately surrounded by police personnel.

After arriving and using the "Public Address" system, an announcement was made by me that "the police have the building surrounded and for all occupants of the building to signal in some manner if they are near an exit." Seconds later the window blinds of one of the rear offices moved. With this, I moved up to the building with Officer Edwards. At this time we started removing three females and one male through the window to safe positions on the ground.

After removing the employees from this office, Officer Edwards and I smashed the window of the next office and removed two female employees from the building to a safe position on the ground.

Lieut. Kermes, Sgt. Beklarian, Ptl. Galati arrived after which we entered the building and searching the building we found one female employee hiding in the safe vault, and several other employees hiding in the locked closet.

Searching, we found the body of the suspect lying on the floor, face down, near the north west corner of the lobby offices with spent shotgun shell near his body. Another body of a white male was found in an office.

With the building secured, police uniform personnel were remained at the scene under the direction of Lieut. Kermes.

32. TYPE NAME

Martin Berlinski

SIGNATURE

33. BADGE NO.
Sgt.

35. REVIEWED BY

34. MUNICIPALITY
Edison

36. DATE OF REPORT
9/11/78

KD

1500706

PROSECUTOR COPY

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. W	2. FRI	3. NUMBER	4.	5.	6.	7.
8. STATION	DATE	TOTAL VALUE	UCL	CHANGE	CLASS CODE	MUN. CODE
Edison	9. MO. DAY, YR. 9/11/78	10.	11.	12.	13.	14. 05
15. CASE NO. 074742	16. CURR. A	17. JEWELRY B	18. FURS C	19. CLOTHING D	20. AUTO E	21. MEC F
22. REC. REC	23. REC. REC	24. REC. REC	25. CRIME	26. N.J.S.	27. VICTIM	28. RACE
SHOOTING (Triple Murder & Suicide)			SEE NARRATIVE			
NARRATIVE:	SUPPLEMENT TO: a CIR issued by Officers Rosa & Ruffo on 9/11/78.					31. DIVISION NO. CIB

ACCUSED: #1- Robert E. Mayer, [REDACTED]

VICTIMS: #2- Raoul Pantaleoni, [REDACTED]

#3- Albert Restivo, [REDACTED]

#4- Zoltan Shagi, [REDACTED]

0930 Hours:

This officer along with Officer Thomas proceeded in Car #43, (BCI Van) to the scene of a reported shooting at the Alpine Aromatics International Company located at the Edison Industrial Center, US #1, in Edison.

Upon first arriving at the scene, we proceeded to assist the officers already at the scene by blocking off the southbound lane of Route #1 with our BCI van and also assisting by moving some of the stopped traffic so that the ambulances could get through.

When it was learned that the interior of the main office was secure, we were ordered by Lieut. Kermes to now proceed to the main office and conduct our investigation.

In the Main Office and Lab area, we then proceeded to photograph two white male bodies in different locations of the building. Upon completion of photographing the locations of the bodies plus the interior of these offices, then proceeded to chalk off the victim's bodies plus all the spent and loaded shotgun shells.

In the Main Office area, suspect #1, Robert Mayer, was found with three loaded shotgun shells lying beside the right side of his body, and approximately 4 feet away behind his right foot, inside of an open door area into an office was found a spent shotgun shell. Approximately nine feet to the right of Mayer's body was found one sawed off shotgun, approximately 12 feet from this shotgun was found another spent shotgun shell. These were all collected, packaged separately and kept for evidential value.

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NARRATIVE

Victim #2, Raoul Pantaleoni, was found in an office lying on the floor behind a desk. Near his left elbow was found one spent shotgun shell. Approximately seven feet to his right in front of a metal cabinet was found another spent shotgun shell. Outside this office area, approximately 2½ feet from the door jam entering this area was found another spent shotgun shell.

This area was completely photographed and the positioning of all these above mentioned items were chalked off. The above items were collected and packaged separately to be kept for evidential value.

We then proceeded to the plant area, separate non-connected building, and found victim #3, Albert Restivo, lying on the floor with a spent shotgun shell between his feet. This area was photographed and chalked off and the spent shotgun shell collected and packaged for evidential value.

We then proceeded to another part of this plant area and found victim #4, Zoltan Shagi. Photographed this area, also chalked off the victim plus a spent shotgun shell approximately four feet to the right side of the victim. This was collected and wrapped to be kept for evidential value.

Between the victims were rows of 55 gallon drums on racks, and under the middle row found one live 12 gauge shotgun round. This was marked, also photographed and collected for evidence.

We then proceeded to photograph the exterior of this plant building and also the exterior of the office Lab building.

Photographs of the suspect's car, a green Volkswagon Rabbit, Plate #936-JFV, were also taken.

Back in the office area, Sgt. Bekiarian turned over to me a wallet belonging to Raoul Pantaleoni and I removed the wallet belonging to Robert Mayer from his body.

In headquarters, Sgt. marics turned over to me the wallet belonging to Albert Restivo and also the wallet belonging to Zoltan Shagi.

Back in headquarters, examined the sawed off shotgun that was removed from the office area. This shotgun, an Ithica, Model #37, 12 gauge pump shotgun, Deerslayer Model, Serial #381013429, was cut down to an overall length of 22½ inches. Also checked this shotgun for possible latent prints and on the main metal area, found a partial print not identified at this time.

NOTE:

Upon removing the body of the suspect, Mayer, by the Coroner's Office, it was discovered that he had 40 live rounds of Federal 2½" Magnum 00 Buck, 12 gauge shotgun ammunition in his pocket.

In headquarters, ran NCIC check on the shotgun, proved to be negative for stolen, also checked New Jersey State Police Firearms Unit and discovered that the weapon was not on file as being purchased, however, was informed

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1. STATION Edison	2. CODE 05	3. CASE NUMBER 074742	4. DIVISION NUMBER CIB
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NARRATIVE

that the suspect, Robert Mayer, had been issued a firearms ID card, Plainfield, New Jersey in 1-70.

Called ATF (Alcoholic, Tobacco, Firearms Unit of the Federal Government) for a trace on the weapon, the results will follow in approximately two working weeks.

On 9/12/78 received a call from Prosecutor Hoffman stating that any belongings of the victim or suspect can be returned to the family. At the time of making this report, the personal property of Zoltan Shagi and Albert Restivo had been returned to the family. Also one pair of grey pants were turned over to the Koyen Funeral Home and two sets of keys were turned over to the suspect's wife.

Diagram of the plant area drawn by Sgt. Marics, diagram of the office lab area drawn by Sgt. LaPlaga.

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PROSECUTOR COPY
SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1500709

1. W	2. FEE	3. NUMBER	4.	5.	6.	7.
STATION		DATE		TOTAL VALUE	UCR	CASE NO.
Edison		9-11-78				074742
VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	16. CURR.	17. JEWELRY	18. FURS	19. CLOTHING	20. AUTO	21. MISC.
	A	B	C	D	E	F
25. CRIME HOMICIDE			26. N.J.S.		27. VICTIM LISTED BELOW	
					28. RACE	
					29. SEX	
					30. D.O.B.	

NARRATIVE: SUPPLEMENT TO: Officers Rosa & Ruffo's CIR of 9/11/78. 31. DIVISION NO. VICE

SUSPECT: Robert E. Mayer, [REDACTED]

VICTIM: #1- President & Company Owner - Raoul Pantaleoni, [REDACTED]

#2- Shipping Foreman - Albert Restivo, DOB: [REDACTED]

#3- Shipping Clerk - Zultan L. Shagi, [REDACTED]

SUSPECT's VEHICLE: 1978 Volkswagon, 2 DR, green, NJ [REDACTED]

SUSPECT's WEAPON: 12 Gauge, sawed off, Ithaca, model #37 Deerslayer

SYNOPSIS: Pump action shotgun, Serial #381013429, barrel length: 12 1/2" overall length: 22 1/2"

At approximately 9:10AM Robert Mayer parked his vehicle approximately 30 feet from the Bay doors in the shipping/receiving area of the manufacturing plant of Alpine Aromatics International Incorporated, at the Edison Industrial Park.

He exited his vehicle and entered the shipping area carrying a sawed off pump action shotgun. Approximately 30 feet into the building he was observed by an employee, John Lalley who immediately picked up a work table while yelling for the other employees to run. The suspect ran by Mr. Lalley, passing within three feet and trapped Albert Restivo against a formation of barrels. Mr. Restivo sank to his knees as the suspect at point blank range fired one shot into the upper chest and neck area of the victim while Mr. Lalley looked on.

The suspect ejected a round from the weapon and immediately ran through another section of double doors into the compound area traveling approximately 130 feet around two sets of double drum racks where he shot and killed Zultan Shagi at point blank range severing part of his left wrist and striking him in the upper chest area. Mr. Lalley and several other employees heard the second shot but did not see the actual shooting.

After the second shot, Mr. Lalley along with his brother, ran to Berger industries to call the police. At the same time, another employee, Michael Lawerance, ran to the main office, adjacent to US #1 to alert the employees at that facility what was taking place at the manufacturing plant.

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1. STATION Edison	2. COM 05	3. CASE NUMBER 074742	4. DIVISION NUMBER VICE
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NARRATIVE

Mr. Lawerance was standing by the inner door of the front entrance next to the receptionist desk explaining the situation when several employees observed the suspect (Robert Mayer) exit his vehicle and run down the hill towards the front entrance carrying the shotgun.

At this point, the office employees ran for cover, some were able to leave via the rear exit while others locked themselves in offices. Mr. Pantaleoni was attempting to lock the inner door when the suspect smashed the sliding window at the receptionist desk with the barrel of the shotgun. Mr. Lawerance who was still standing with Mr. Pantaleoni at the time, started running for the rear of the building with Mr. Pantaleoni to his right.

Mr. Lawerance thought he heard a shot fired while he was running with Mr. Pantaleoni. At one point he thought he was wounded, however, he continued down the hallway to the rear of the building where he entered the flavor room, along with Irene Peters, Peter Blechinger, where they locked and barricaded the door. Mr. Lawerance who didn't look back as he was running was not sure where Mr. Pantaleoni attempted to hide.

Another employee, Marie Ferraro, hid in the safe between two filing cabinets while John Yorey, Chester Peters, Rita Maloney and Jacqueline Coester, barricaded themselves in the bottle room. While yet another employee Barbara Bowers barricaded herself in the soap room.

At approximately 9:28, the office building was surrounded by uniform personnel, while Sgt. Berlinski and Officer Edwards helped the employees through the windows of the bottle and soap rooms, respectively and escorted them to the safety of the parking area.

After learning that several employees were barricaded in the center section of the building, Lieut. Kermes, Sgt. Berlinski, Det. Galati and the undersigned entered the building via the open window in the soap room. Upon entering the office area we observed a white male (later identified as Robert Mayer) lying face down approximately four feet from the conference room door. Half way between his position and ours we could observe a sawed off shotgun laying on the floor partially under one of the desks.

At this point a systematic search of the offices and rooms in the building was conducted.

Found dead in the purchasing agents office lying face down behind the desk was Mr. Raoul Pantaleoni with multiple gunshot wounds of the lower back and kidney area.

After the building was completely secured, the occupants of the bottle room and safe were escorted to the parking area.

PROBABLE MOTIVE:

Robert Mayer was hired on January 3rd, 1974 and subsequently terminated on October 9th, 1975. His termination was the result of a continuing dispute regarding what he felt were inadequate safety standards maintained by the

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NARRATIVE

company.

His case was heard by Osha in the latter part of April 1978. A decision was rendered on June 1st 1978 in favor of Alpine Aromatics, thereby rendering Mr. Mayer's termination permanent. Mr. Pantaleoni and Mr. Restivo testified against Mr. Mayer during the hearing, however Mr. Shagi was not involved in the termination process.

FACTS:

9:25AM: Chief Fisher ordered Lieut. Kermes to assume responsibility for the investigation at Alpine Aromatics Incorporated.

9:30AM: Lieut. Kermes, Detective Galati and the undersigned arrived at the scene and were briefed by Sgt. Berlinski who related that several employees were still in the office building barricaded in different rooms. At this point Lieut. Kermes made the decision to enter the building in order to protect the remaining employees from the gunman.

9:35AM: Perimeter personnel under the supervision of Sgt. Robinson, were advised that Lieut. Kermes, Sgt. Berlinski, Detective Galati and the undersigned were going to enter the building.

9:37AM: The aforementioned officers entered the building via the open window in the soap room.

Once inside, the barricade which was previously erected, was removed from the door.

Upon leaving the soap room, the long passage way directly outside the door was secured.

9:41AM: Looking into the main office area, we observed a white male, later identified as the suspect, Robert E. Mayer, lying face down on the floor approximately four feet from the conference door. There was a sawed off pump shotgun laying on the floor approximately halfway between our position and the suspects.

At this point a systematic search of the office area was conducted.

9:43AM: The first office entered was that of the Purchasing Agent, Chester Peterson, whereas the body of Mr. Pantaleoni was found laying face down on the floor behind the desk. He was shot at point blank range in the lower back and kidney area.

The rest of the offices and rooms were searched and the personnel hiding in the Bottle Room and Safe were subsequently escorted from the building.

9:55AM: Sgt. Macechok and Detective Thomas from the Bureau of Criminal Identification arrived and photographed the crime scene while taking into custody all evidence pertaining to this investigation.

5. TYPE NAME Angelo Bekiarian	6. BADGE NUMBER Sgt.	7. PAGE 3	8. DATE OF REPORT 9/13/78
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1. MATCH	2. CODE	3. CASE NUMBER	4. DIVISION NUMBER
Edison	05	074742	VICE

NARRATIVE

10:05AM: First Assistant Prosecutor Barnet Hoffman, Lieut. John Delimann and Detective Richard McCabe, from the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office arrived and at that point a joint investigation was initiated.

10:18AM: Dr. Spierer arrived and officially pronounced the victims and Mr. Mayer.

The interior of the office building and manufacturing plant were sealed off by Police Personnel while the investigation was being conducted under the direction of Lieut. Kermes and Assistant Prosecutor Hoffman by Sgt. Marics, Sgt. Yancsek, Det. Galati and the undersigned.

11:00AM: The following employees were transported to [redacted] for [redacted] for Julia Atkinson, Alice Goldfarb, Mike Lawrence, Guy Etter, Linda Rocco, Jean DiTomasso, Denise DiTomasso, Harriett Ganzler, Agnes Iateau and Emil Buongiorno.

They were segregated from the rest of the [redacted] by Detective Galati and Ptl. Carter, until they were subsequently transported back to Alpine Aromatics Office Building where they were interviewed.

12:05AM: The Coroners arrived along with the Medical Examiner and the victims and suspects bodies were transported to Perth Amboy Hospital.

12:30PM: John Mumber, a certified shorthand reporter from the Middlesex County Prosecutors office arrived and it was agreed that all potential witnesses would be informally interviewed prior to the taking of any formal statements by Detective McCabe and the undersigned. Whereas only the employees that observed anything of any significance would be asked to give a formal accounting.

Beginning at 12:52PM and culminating at 2:37PM, formal statements were taken from Felix Buccellato, John Yorey, John Lalley, Jacqueline Coester, Irene Peters, Stephen Claisse, Michael Lawrence, Julia Atkinson, & Chester Peters.

NOTE:
The aforementioned statements are presently being transcribed at the Middlesex County Prosecutors office.

A total of eight shots were fired. Two in the manufacturing plant and six in the office building. All of the rounds fired were Magnum 00 Buck, 12 gauge shotgun shells. Note - each shell contained 12 pellets. Also 43 live rounds were found in the suspect's pocket and an additional live round was found in the manufacturing plant near the body of Mr. Shagi.

All evidence confiscated was turned over to Sgt. George Macechok.

A diagram of the office building was made by Sgt. LaPlaga while Sgt. Marics supplied a diagram of the manufacturing plant.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORT

1. W	2. FEE	3. NUMBER	4.	5.	6.	7.			
STATION		DATE		TOTAL VALUE	UCR	CHANGE	CLASS CODE	MISC CODE	CASE NO.
Edison		9 12 78					05		074742
8. VALUE OF STOLEN PROPERTY	16. CURR. A	17. JEWELRY B	18. FURS C	19. CLOTHING D	20. AUTO E	21. MISC. F	22. REC. G	23. AUTO REC. H	24. OTHER I
25. CRIME	26. N.J.S.		27. VICTIM				28. RACE	29. SEX	30. D.O.B.
MURDER/SUICIDE			SEE NARRATIVE						
NARRATIVE:								31. DIVISION NO. BCI	

1400 Hours on the above date, I was detailed to a Post Mortem to be performed at Perth Amboy General Hospital on two subjects involved in a murder/suicide that had taken place earlier this date.

1400 Hours, Arrived at Perth Amboy General Hospital for the Post Mortem on the following two individuals: Raoul Pantaleoni, age 62 and also Zoltan Shagi, age 62.

Dr. Marvin Schuster was to perform the post mortem on Raoul Pantaleoni and Dr. Stone performed the Post Mortem on Zoltan Shagi with the following findings. Through the Post Mortem it was revealed that Raoul Pantaleoni

The findings after the Post Mortem of Zoltan L. Shagi revealed

At 0930 Hours on 9/12/78, I was again detailed to the Perth Amboy General Hospital where the second Post Mortems would be performed on the other two victims involved in the murder/suicide from the previous day.

Upon arrival Dr. Schuster was to perform the Post Mortem on Robert E. Mayer, age 38, suspect in the above shootings, and a Dr. Kress was to perform the Post Mortem on an Albert Restivo, age 55.

Albert Restivo, upon whom the Post Mortem was performed by Dr. Kress, had

Before leaving the Morgue at the Perth Amboy General Hospital, I was given whatever clothes and personal effects had been with all four bodies when they had been brought to the hospital at which time I returned all to headquarters for future evidential purposes.

32. TYPE NAME Harold Thomas	33. BADGE NO.	34. MUNICIPALITY Edison
35. REVIEWED BY		36. DATE OF REPORT

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