

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

Pistol in Postman's Death Was First Owned by Police

By BARRY MEIER

The day after five people were shot at a Jewish community center in Los Angeles, Federal authorities called a police department in Washington State to confirm that a pistol recovered from the confessed gunman, Buford O. Furrow Jr., apparently had originally been bought by the department.

The pistol, a Glock 9-millimeter semiautomatic, was apparently the gun that the authorities believe Mr. Furrow used to kill a letter carrier after the attack on the center.

In an interview yesterday, Chief Gary Eisenhower of the police department in Cosmopolis, Wash., a town of 1,600 near the port city of Aberdeen, said an agent of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms had called on Wednesday to ask about a gun involved in a "high-profile" case.

Chief Eisenhower said he had confirmed that the Glock model 26 with the serial number cited by the agent had been bought by his five-person department in 1996 from the manufacturer, Glock Inc., test-fired and soon after traded to a local firearms dealer for a larger Glock model.

On Wednesday the Los Angeles County District Attorney, Gil Garcetti, charged that Mr. Furrow, a white supremacist, had used an Uzi assault-style submachine gun to attack the center on Tuesday.

Seven guns and stockpiles of ammunition were recovered from a Toyota that Mr. Furrow reportedly hijacked after the community center shooting, an investigator said. While some of those guns were apparently acquired by Mr. Furrow recently, he had been a federally licensed firearms dealer from 1992 to 1995, Jeff Roehm, a spokesman for the firearms bureau, said.

While Mr. Furrow purportedly used the Uzi at the community center, a short time after, a Glock 9-millimeter semiautomatic pistol was apparently used to kill Joseph Iletto, a letter carrier, the United States Attorney in Los Angeles, Alejandro N. Mayorkas, said at a news conference yesterday. A Glock pistol was recovered from the car that had been hijacked.

Chief Eisenhower said he told the A.T.F. agents that his department had traded the Glock to a local licensed firearms dealer after finding it unsatisfactory for police work. That dealer, who has since closed his store in Cosmopolis, has said that he later sold the weapon to a local resident, Chief Eisenhower said. "I am going to assume that the local resident sold the gun through a gun show or someone locally," he said.

One weapon recovered from the Toyota was an AR-15 assault-style rifle produced by a Maine company owned by a businessman who until recently was that state's finance chairman for the Republican Presidential candidate Gov. George W. Bush.

Since the shootings, agents of the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco

and Firearms, which regulates the sale of guns, have contacted gun manufacturers and others in an effort to learn how Mr. Furrow, who is barred from buying guns because of a criminal record, got his arsenal.

The indication that weapons like the Glock seized from Mr. Furrow may have changed hands several times before he acquired them will complicate the investigation. While licensed dealers must retain the name of the first retail purchaser of a gun, private transactions between individuals and sales of used weapons at gun shows are not regulated.

Mr. Roehm said Action Arms, a company in Philadelphia that had imported the Israeli-made Uzi, had gone out of business a number of years ago.

The AR-15 semiautomatic rifle recovered from the Toyota had apparently not been fired by Mr. Furrow. But it has attracted attention because its firing mechanism and other working parts are produced by Bushmaster Firearms, a Maine company owned by Richard E. Dyke, who resigned last month as Mr. Bush's chief fund-raiser in Maine after an Associated Press reporter contacted him about his firearms business. Mr. Dyke said at the time that he did not want his activities to become an issue in the campaign.

Bushmaster Firearms sells a section of some semiautomatic rifles. Buyers of the section, a receiver, which contains a gun's trigger, firing chamber and other working parts, complete the weapon by adding a stock and barrel.

Mr. Dyke did not return a telephone call yesterday. But in an interview Wednesday with The Los Angeles Times, he said that he had been contacted by officials of the firearms bureau after the shootings and that he said his company had sold the unit in question to a gun dealer in the Middle West.

Mr. Bush has taken a stand against additional Federal gun control and recently signed state legislation that would bar lawsuits against the firearms industry.

Over the years, Mr. Dyke has also contributed to the campaigns of Republican candidates including Senator Susan Collins of Maine, campaign finance records show. In 1995, he donated \$265,000 to Husson College in Bangor, Me., to establish the Richard E. Dyke Center on Family Business, which focuses on the operations of small and family-run businesses.

Before her election to the Senate, Ms. Collins was the center's first executive director. Last year, both she and Senator Olympia Snowe, Republican of Maine, voted against a Federal bill to require trigger safety locks though both lawmakers backed a similar bill this year.

Steve Abbott, Ms. Collins's chief of staff, said that Mr. Dyke was a "well-known Republican activist" in Maine and that his business interests also included restaurants and other companies.

CRIME -
LA Shootings

AM

Uzi - banned
prospectively

Glock - not OK

AR-15 - not OK

If no one heard
tell 1 yr ago, could
be used

The New York Times

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1999

A Day of Recovery for Residents of Salt Lake City

By MICHAEL JANOFSKY

SALT LAKE CITY, Aug. 12 — Among the expensive houses in the hills overlooking City Creek Canyon, the brick ranch-style house on 18th Avenue was about the hardest hit by the tornado that tore through Salt Lake City at lunchtime on Wednesday.

The roof was gone. Walls were missing. Pieces of a life shared by the owners, Gloria G. Schow and her husband, La Mar P. Smith, were strewn about like pieces of shattered glass. Indeed, much of the debris was pieces of shattered glass.

But like so many other people in Salt Lake City after the terrifying moments in which the tornado snaked northeast through downtown into the hills above the city, Ms. Schow and her husband were lucky.

They were not hurt.

Mayor Deedee Corradini said today that the death toll remained at one. The victim, Allen Crandy, 38, of Las Vegas, Nev., was helping exhibitors set up booths outdoors for a sporting goods convention that had been scheduled to start today. The convention will start on Friday.

Mr. Crandy was hit by a steel beam from a tent in which the booths were going up. About 70 people were injured seriously enough to require hospitalization, the Mayor said. A few were still in critical condition today.

In large measure, the city escaped catastrophic consequences of the storm, which meteorologists said was a rare event for this mountainous region. Most of the damage was limited to isolated areas of downtown, where construction valued in

A rare tornado creates a day to remember.

the billions of dollars is under way as the 2002 Winter Olympics approach, and the upper-income neighborhoods beyond.

No monetary estimate has been made of the damage, said Senator Robert F. Bennett, Republican of Utah. But it is certain to reach into the millions.

Today, cleanup crews were busy clearing fallen trees, restoring power and boarding up broken windows from the tornado that meteorologists

said had winds up to 157 miles an hour.

Debris from the Delta Center, the home of the Utah Jazz basketball team, and Assembly Hall, a building under construction by the Mormon Church, was scattered as far as Ms. Schow's neighborhood, more than five miles away.

One of the hardest-hit spots was the open area where two large white tents had been constructed to house the overflow from the annual sporting goods convention in the Salt Palace, the city's main convention center. The sporting goods convention is the biggest in the state each year, with 18,000 visitors.

The high winds shredded the tents and toppled the supporting beams. John Davis, a salesman from Vancouver, British Columbia, who was setting up his wares when the storm approached, said he found safety under a nearby flatbed truck. He said he watched the tents fairly disintegrate in the winds.

The Wyndham Hotel, which stands beside the Salt Palace and adjacent to where the tents stood, was also damaged extensively, with gas leaks and many windows blown out. The hotel was filled with conventioners, who were sent to other hotels.

Mayor Corradini, who joined state and Federal officials at a news conference at the Schow house because it was judged to be one of the worst hit, said 121 houses in the city were damaged, with 34 of them uninhabitable. She and other officials, including Gov. Michael O. Leavitt, said they had been assured by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that the Federal Government would contribute to cleanup and renovations costs.

Already, insurance adjusters are here to assess the damage to Ms. Schow's house, which was built in 1960 and had a current sale value of about \$300,000. Still, Ms. Schow's eyes welled with tears as she recalled the happenstance that kept her and her husband out of harm's way.

"We had gone to a friend's funeral," she said, standing on her front lawn, now piled with broken furniture and other belongings. "Afterward, we decided to go out for lunch. If we had come home, we would have been here when this happened. We could have lost our lives. The house, we can rebuild."

The New York Times

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