



SCRIPPS HOWARD

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Tim Salmon



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## SEARCH FOR D.C. SNIPER

# Police seize white van

### Sniper timeline

**Oct. 2 — 5:20 p.m.:** Montgomery County, Md., Police receive a report that the windows of a Michael's craft store in the suburban community of Aspen Hill outside of Washington D.C. have been shot out.

**6:04 p.m.:** A man walking across a suburban strip mall in Montgomery County a short distance from the Michael's store is shot by an unknown assailant. The bullets match. Police begin an investigation.

**Oct. 3 — 7:41 a.m.:** A man riding a lawnmower outside a car dealership in Montgomery County is killed by a single rifle shot.

**8:12 a.m.:** A man filling his vehicle at a gas station close to the Michael's store is felled.

**8:37 a.m.:** A woman is shot in the head outside of a post office.

**9:58 a.m.:** A woman is shot while vacuuming her car at a gas station.

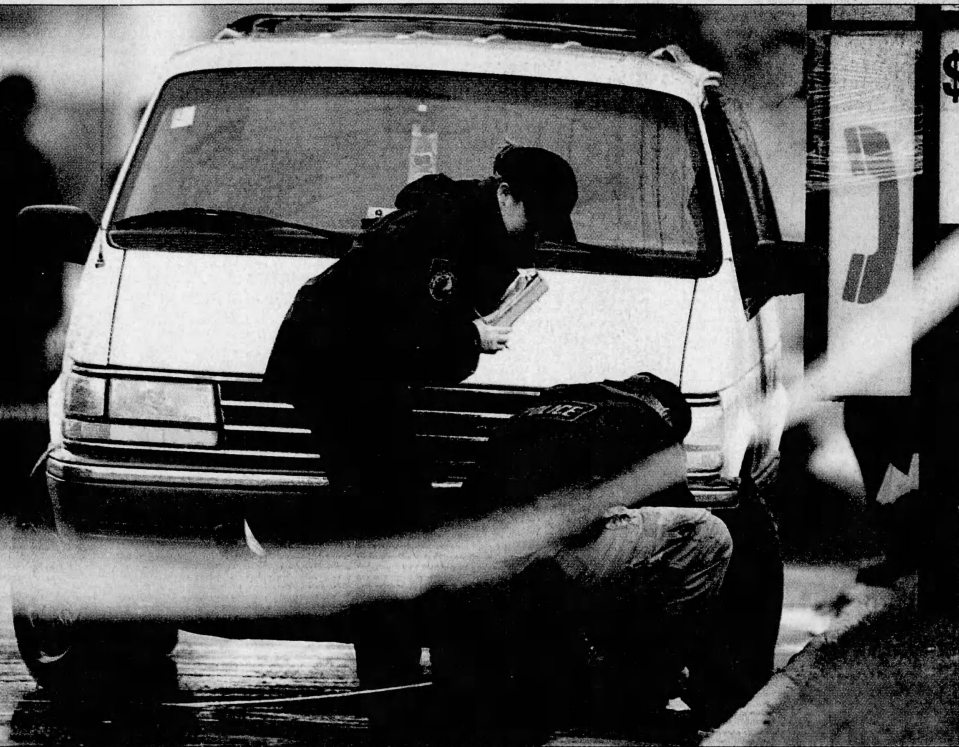
**9:20 p.m.:** A pedestrian is shot in the neck while standing on a street corner in upper northwest Washington D.C.

**Oct. 4 —** Police reveal that ballistic tests establish that the Washington D.C. killing is related to the five in Montgomery County. The bullet most likely used was a .223 caliber fired from a high-powered weapon.

**2:30 p.m.:** A woman is shot in the back while loading packages into her vehicle outside a mall in Spotsylvania County, Va., about 50 miles from Washington. She survived.

**Oct. 6 —** Police, acknowledging they have few leads to follow, ask potential witnesses to step forward. About 100 Montgomery County investigators are assigned to the case, along with about 50 ATF and FBI agents.

**Oct. 7 — 8:08 a.m.:** A student heading into a middle school in Bowie, Md., is struck in the chest by a high-powered rifle



Associated Press

Henrico County (Va.) police investigators measure and mark the position of a van that was parked at a gas station in Richmond.

### Man is taken into custody

Compiled from wire services

RICHMOND, Va. — Authorities searching for the sniper terrorizing Virginia and Maryland took a man into custody today after surrounding a gray and white van parked next to an outdoor phone, witnesses said.

It was not immediately clear whether the man was connected to the sniper case; authorities refused to comment.

According to CNN, police also picked up another man for questioning. They quoted a federal law enforcement source.

The second man was picked up "in the vicinity" of the van, CNN said.

The development came as the head of the sniper task force issued a second cryptic statement that authorities trying to communicate with the sharpshooter had received a message and were preparing a response.

On Sunday, they had issued a public plea to the person who left a message at the scene of the latest shooting, in Ashland, a town north of Richmond.

Not far from the scene of that shooting, a swarm of police officers in bulletproof vests converged on the van along a main thoroughfare as the man sat inside, witnesses said. A police officer at the scene in the Richmond suburbs said the van was a Plymouth Voyager with temporary Virginia tags.

Keith Underwood, service manager at Royal Oldsmobile next to the Exxon station, said a team of police officers converged on the van and pulled the driver out around 8:30 a.m.

"He was taken out under control," he said. "I didn't see any re-

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bullet. He survives. Police link the shooting to the others. No tarot card or shell casing is discovered.

**Oct. 11 — 9:30 a.m.:** A man is shot and killed at a Spotsylvania County gas station. He is the eighth sniper victim in a 10-day period. A Virginia State trooper 50 yards from the scene heard a gun shot but could

**Oct. 9 — 8:18 p.m.:** A man is shot in the head and killed while standing at a gas

pump in Prince William Co., Va. Authorities link the shooting to the others. No tarot card or shell casing is discovered.

**Oct. 11 — 9:30 a.m.:** A man is shot and killed at a Spotsylvania County gas station. He is the eighth sniper victim in a 10-day period. A Virginia State trooper 50 yards from the scene heard a gun shot but could

not spot the shooter.

**Oct. 14 — 9:15 p.m.:** A woman loading packages into her car at a Fairfax County, Va., shopping center is shot and killed. Authorities determine she is the ninth victim slain by the gunman.

**Oct. 17 —** Authorities abandon attempts to develop a composite sketch of the killer,

saying a person who reported that he saw the shooter fabricated the story.

**Oct. 19 — 8 p.m.:** A man was shot in the parking lot of a Ponderosa Steakhouse in Ashland, Va., about 90 miles south of Washington. Authorities are investigating whether the victim, in critical condition, was the latest victim of the sniper.

## Powell's comments hint at reprieve for Saddam

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Iraqis would be much better off without Saddam Hussein as their leader, Secretary of State Colin Powell says, seeming to back away from the long-held U.S. policy that Saddam must go.

There was no official change in policy, but Powell appeared in comments Sunday to play down the demand that the Iraqi president be deposed. He said the United States is presenting a resolution to the U.N. Security Council early this week to set stringent guidelines for new inspections of Iraq's weapons programs. He said he expects passage.

"We think the Iraqi people would be a lot better off with a different leader, a different regime," Powell said on NBC's "Meet the Press." "But the principal offense here is weapons of mass destruction, and that's what this resolution is working on. The major issue before us is disarmament."

"The issue right now is not even how tough an inspection regime is or isn't," Powell said. "The question is, will Saddam and the Iraqi regime cooperate — really, really cooperate — and let the inspections do their job."

"All we are interested in is getting rid of those weapons of mass destruction."

See IRAQ on 4A



Colin Powell

### Backing off?

Secretary of State Colin Powell is appearing to back down from previous demands.

## Police are impounding prostitutes' clients cars

### Vehicles are held 'for safekeeping'

By Craig Garretson  
Post staff reporter

Those who pay for the services of city streetwalkers may soon be walking themselves.

New city ordinances that target those who solicit prostitutes by impounding their cars won't kick in until next month, but police began to turn up the heat on "johns" in the past week, arresting 25 men and 16

women for soliciting prostitution and impounding 13 cars, said the vice unit's Lt. John Gallespie.

Even though the ordinances haven't gone into effect yet, Gallespie said the cars were impounded "for safekeeping."

"I'd hate to be the husband who has to tell his wife why the car is impounded," Gallespie said.

Among the cars seized were a Chrysler Concorde, a BMW 525i and two Acura Legends.

City Council members David Crowley and David Pepper began pushing the get-

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# Prostitutes: Cops get tough

From 1A

tough measures this summer, after Mount Adams residents began complaining about men who were picking up prostitutes from the innercity and "commuting" to secluded residential streets in the upscale neighborhood for rendezvous, often during daylight hours. One resident videotaped sex acts between two people outside a car on a Sunday afternoon and turned the tape over to police.

The new laws, which were passed last week, also create a "john school," based on similar programs in San Francisco and Washington, D.C., in which first-time offenders caught by undercover cops posing as prostitutes can have their records cleared if they agree to attend classes teaching them about how prostitution can spread sexually transmitted diseases and contribute to other criminal activity. Crowley said the classes will charge a \$400 or \$500 fee per participant to pay for themselves.

"It's a chance to keep your record clear for first-time offenders. The whole idea is not to unnecessarily punish people, but to make them uncomfortable so they'll never do this again," Crowley said. "It's not meant to

destroy your life, but it will cause some embarrassment. If you've got a good life, a good job, a family, think about the consequences of getting caught. It's a serious disincentive."

Crowley said prostitution is becoming a very public problem in parts of the city.

"I'm not trying to direct anyone else's moral behavior. But this is becoming an in-your-face issue," he said. "The catalyst was that videotape we saw from Mount Adams. That was just blatant. And then we were told this was a regular thing going on in Walnut Hills and Over-the-Rhine and Bond Hill and other parts of town. Even if you take the argument that prostitution is a victimless crime, it becomes very much a quality-of-life issue when it's happening on a public street on a Sunday afternoon."

Police said the new ordinances give them a chance to combat prostitution at both ends.

"What's innovative about taking cars is it gives us a chance to go after the demand side of the business," said Lt. Kurt Byrd, who worked vice for six years before becoming the police department's spokesman.

"In the past, it's been easier to work the prostitution end of it, because many johns can go into

court, plea out, pay a fine and drive home. But by taking a vehicle, it ups the ante on the john. Now they have a lot more to lose."

The program targets cars because most of the sex customers in Over-the-Rhine are from elsewhere in the city.

"We've arrested guys down there on their lunch hour. They want to drive in, complete the deal and drive back out," Byrd said. "But a lot of these people are driving in from the suburbs or from out of state."

"Prostitution has been a problem in Over-the-Rhine for 30 years or more, so the area has a reputation for it. If there's a risk that they're going to lose their vehicle for any amount of time, that may be enough of an incentive for them not to come into Cincinnati looking for this."

Impounding cars also presents safety issues to prostitutes and their customers.

"The street-level prostitute does her business inside that car because she can hide from police; the john feels much safer if he can stay inside his car while she's performing this act," Byrd said. "If you take away the vehicle, you're making it a much riskier proposition for both the john and the prostitute."

But civil rights attorney Lou

Sirkin said it's a punishment that might go too far.

"It's one thing to go after the john, but you also have to consider the impact it's going to have on the family if you're taking away the car," he said. "If I do something wrong, punish me. But don't punish my family."

Cops said the Hollywood image of a prostitute isn't going to be found on the streets of Over-the-Rhine.

"I've arrested many prostitutes, and Julia Roberts is not in the mix," Byrd said.

"We're not talking about your 'Pretty Woman' prostitute," Galespie agreed. "A lot of these prostitutes are transvestites and knife-carrying crack addicts. These johns coming down from the suburbs need to be aware of the dangers involved. They're just as likely to get robbed or beaten up or arrested as they are to get a little sex. You're placing yourself in serious jeopardy."

He also dismissed the notion of women working for street-corner "pimps."

"What people are thinking of as pimps are mostly drug dealers nowadays. The women aren't working for him so much as they're his customers. They're working for that next rock."