

# Racist Note Called Clue To Murder

By Alfred E. Lewis

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A handwritten note with a message of racial hatred was found in the New Executive Office Building lavatory where the slashed body of federal economist Ritchie H. Reed was found late Friday, Washington police said yesterday.

Homicide squad detectives said the note, written on lined paper from a wirebound notebook, is the most substantial clue they have in the slaying of Reed, 30.

Reed's body was found shortly after 4 p.m. Friday in a fifth floor men's room of the federal building at 17th and H Streets NW. Police at the time ascribed the motive to robbery. Investigators said yesterday they would not speculate on the motive, although they noted that Reed's wallet was missing.

Meanwhile, 21 extra detectives were detailed to join the homicide squad in its attempt to solve the Reed murder and the slayings Friday of a 12-year-old Southeast girl and a 47-year-old woman who was abducted after leaving the Flagship Restaurant on the Southwest waterfront.

Police officials also attributed assignment of the extra manpower to the fact that 31 of the murders that were committed this year are still unsolved. Total murders here for the year are 207, compared to 170 this time last year.

See SLAYINGS, A8, Col. 4

# Racist Note Left in Slaying of U.S. Aide

SLAYINGS, From A

Insp. Mahlon E. Pitts, chief of detectives, refused to confirm or deny the existence of a note at the Reed murder scene. But detectives working on the case said a note with "racial overtones" existed.

Investigators said the note included references to Washington being a predominantly black city and the fact that blacks here are in need of jobs. They said there were references to the police department, as well.

They said there was no blood on the 8-inch by 10-inch note, indicating that it may have been written before Reed was stabbed to death in the men's room.

A homicide task force headed by Lt. Ray Pearson, former member of the homicide squad who was recalled temporarily from the fifth district, yesterday continued a room-by-room search of the New Executive Office Building.

Detectives said that, in addition to looking for a murder weapon, they were looking for a possible source of the note.

To illustrate the scope of the investigation, detectives said they interviewed 550 persons yesterday in the building.

Investigators said they were attempting to determine whether the note was brought into the building by Reed's assailant, or was written there after the murder. They would not divulge the contents of the note.

Investigators also found the band were abducted outside Hogate's Restaurant on Maine Avenue SW. The victim, Diane Johnston, was strangled in a nearby alley while her husband was held at gunpoint by another man.

Six additional detectives were assigned to a special squad investigating the death Friday of Nenomoshia Yates, 12, of 4952 Benning Rd. SE, who was abducted, strangled and dumped along Pennsylvania Avenue about 1,600 feet inside Prince George's County.

Nenomoshia, who was last seen by her family when they sent her to a supermarket in the District to buy some sugar, was the fifth city girl since May to be abducted, murdered and left along a road in the area.

Three of the four slain girls lived in Anacostia. After one slaying, residents of Congress Heights called a rally to protest what they claimed was a lack of police protection of a Northwest woman and the other of a 22-year-old Marine corporal.

Prince George's County police also have six detectives working on the girl's murder and have assigned one man to Columbia St. NW, was charged with the murder of Alice Waters, 44, of another apartment at the same address, yesterday announced that a \$1,000 reward would be paid to anybody providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of the slayers in any of the three cases.

Detectives investigating the death of Nenomoshia Yates said they were looking for a blue compact car that was seen near the Yates home before the murder. The car had a campaign sticker bearing the name of D.C. Del. Walter E. Fauntroy, police said.

Persons with information were asked to call the homicide squad at 626-2742, or the police department's confidential tipster's number, 393-9222.



**Suspect in Reed murder**  
described as 18 to 22 years; 5 feet 7; 150 to 175 lbs.; pockmarks on face; has short Afro

## In Two Slayings

Washington police arrested and charged a man and a 17-year-old youth Friday in two separate earlier murders, one of a Northwest woman and the other of a 22-year-old Marine corporal.

Willie Barlow, 56, of 1414 Columbia St. NW, was charged with the murder of Alice Waters, 44, of another apartment at the same address, yesterday announced that a \$1,000 reward would be paid to anybody providing information leading to the arrest and conviction of the slayers in any of the three cases.

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midtown murder looks like this composite drawing. He is 25 to 29; 5 feet 7 to 5 feet 9; about 175 lbs.; has short Afro