



Vincent Owens

DETECTIVES LAUNCH MANHUNT FOR "TRIGGER-HAPPY" ROB SUSPECT: Detectives in Queens have launched an all out search for a holdup man they describe as "extremely dangerous" and "violent."

"This guy is a loose cannon, said Det. Frank Bianculli, who heads the manhunt for suspect Vincent Owens. Bianculli, who is assigned to the Queens Robbery Squad, said Owens always carries a gun and is "trigger-happy."

Owens, 33, of Hollis, is out on bail after being jailed last February on charges that he carried out five armed robberies at Walgreens and Genovese drug stores in Queens.

Detectives said Owens has since switched his attention to fast food restaurants and seems to prefer Roy Rogers. Owens netted approximately \$100,000 since he skipped a March 16 court date, said Sgt. Vincent Mazziotti, a supervisor at the Queens Squad.

Officials from the Roy Rogers chain - hit five times by Owens - have offered a \$10,000 reward for his capture.

Manager Scott Desano was shot by Owens when the gunman approached Desano as he drove away after closing one of the fast food outlets on the night of March 6, Bianculli said.

Mazziotti said Owens has also disarmed three restaurant security guards - in one case by holding a gun to the head of an off-duty cop, and engaged in a shootout with an armed security guard. Owens was originally accompanied by his "partner," Shawn Pridgen in the rob/spree. But Pridgen was shot and killed during the shoot out on June 1 by a retired cop who happened to be in a restaurant the pair were about to rob, police said. Owens wasn't alarmed when his partner went down, Mazziotti said. "He returned fire. He shot his way out."

Metropolitan area cops have been given photos of Owens and have been warned not to approach him before calling for backup.

away," Mazziotti said.

Police advise anyone who comes in contact with Owens to be extremely cautious. Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Vincent Owens is asked to call Det. Frank Bianculli at the Queens Robbery Squad at 321-2285 between 9 a.m. - 1 a.m., Monday through Friday. On weekends, call 520-9200.

Owens is described as a black male, 5'8", 230 lbs., sometimes with an "unshaven" look.

"WELCOME HOME" INDICTMENT FOR SILVER GUN CARJACKER: The alleged "silver gun carjacker," Gerald Jerome, was arraigned last week in Queens Supreme Court on an indictment charging him with the April 15 gunpoint robbery of a Bayside woman. Jerome, who police say terrorized eastern Queens with an early spring rob/spree, was arrested in Rocky Mount, North Carolina on June 4. He waived formal extradition proceedings last week in Nash County, North Carolina and was returned to New York on Wednesday.

Jerome, 27, was arraigned on one count each of robbery in the first degree, grand larceny in the third degree, criminal possession of a weapon in the second degree, and criminal mischief in the second degree, two counts each of robbery in the second degree and grand larceny in the second degree, and grand larceny in the second degree in connection with the Bayside robbery. He is a suspect in seven other robberies that occurred throughout Queens in March and April of this year.

Jerome was returned to New York by Detectives from the Queens Robbery Squad and Detectives from the Queens District Attorney's Squad.

Jerome faces up to 25 years in prison, if convicted of the April 15 robbery.

SUSPECT CHARGED AS FOREST HILLS RAPIST: Queens detectives have charged a man caught burglarizing a Forest Hills residence with the rape of a 30-year-old woman on May 25 in the same community.

According to Detective Martha Middleton, Harris was arrested on June 20 by officers from the 112th Precinct who found him hiding under a bed in a second-floor bedroom at 69-10 110th St., while responding to a "burglary in progress" radio call.

Anthony Harris, 29, faces 12½ to 25 years in prison on the rape-related charges and an additional 7½ to 15 years for the burglary.

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