THE BATTALION Page 8









# FBI sees success possibility in plot to steal U.S. submarine

United Press International

ST. LOUIS - An FBI man has testified an undercover agent who posed as a potential buyer for the nuclear submarine Trepang be-lieved the plot to steal the vessel from New London, Conn., had a chance of succeeding.

"The undercover agent thought there was a possibility the plot could be workable," said Michael Haggard, who headed the FBI's handling of the case.

Haggard Friday said the undercover agent, Bruce Mouw, was given written details of the plot to steal the 292-foot ship.

Haggard said his own theory was that the three men charged in the case were trying to swindle a businessman of \$300,000 in front money and never intended to heist the submarine. Lack of hard evidence tosupport his theory caused the government to pursue the case as an

actual threat to pirate the submarine. Haggard was the only witness to testify Friday at evidence hearings for two of the three men charged with conspiring to steal the submarine.

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After the hearings, U.S. Magistrate David C. Noce transferred the cases of Edward J. Mendenhall, 24, of Rochester, N.Y., and Kurtis J. Schmidt, 22, of Kansas City, Kan., to a federal grand jury. The two men were arrested Oct. 4 after meeting with Mouw at a

MANOR EAST 3 THEATRES

FOUL PLAY 7:15 9:35

COMING HOME 7:20

Skyway Twin

WEST

AT LAST, AT LAST PLUS

THAT TENDER TOUCH

EAST HOOPER

PLUS

GATOR

HEAVEN CAN WAIT

Campus

THE END 7:25 9:45

downtown hotel. The third suspect, James W. Cosgrove, 26, was arrested later that night at his Geneva, N.Y., home. In 1973 and 1974 Cosgrove served 14 months on the Trepang. In his cross-examination of Haggard, Wolff repeatedly asserted the

alleged conspirators were only after front money.

"That alternative was supposed but the source never believed this was so," Haggard said when questioned by Wolff.

Haggard was referring to an informant identified by Wolff as Charles E.N. Rosene, a St. Louis businessman.

Rosene told reporters he notified the FBI Aug. 9 that on July 26 Mendenhall called him from Rochester and asked him to find a buyer for the submarine.

An FBI agent testified that another man was told they planned to steal the submarine from New London, kill its crew, possibly fire a nuclear missile at the city and then sell the submarine at sea for \$150 million.

Haggard testified Mouw was told at the meetings the men planned to steal the submarine from New London, kill its crew, possibly firea nuclear missile at the city and then sell the submarine at sea for \$150 million

Mendenhall and Schmidt remain in federal custody on bonds of \$100,000 each.

## New substance can trace bombs already detonated

#### **United Press International**

CHICAGO — A new product being tested by federal authorities will help police trace already detonated explosives to the distributor and possibly even the buyer, thereby curbing terrorism. Called "microtaggants," the pro-

duct consists of microscopic multilayered particles that can be incorporated into almost any solid or emi-solid matter and provide identification similar to fingerprints.

The tags, about the size of a grain of salt, can be used to mark migratory animals, identify private prop-erty and disclose the amount of medicine in livestock. However, their most important use involves the identification of dynamite. The Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Firearms and Tobacco is testing the product. Roy Parker, manager of the test-

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ing project with the AFT in Since each tag has nine lay Washington, said the tags will pro-vide "very important leads to bomb investigators" The term and lead to bomb investigators." The tags could lead to more convictions and fewer terrorist bombings, Parker said.

Five bills are pending in Congress to make manufacturers add sives) he makes up," said Dom microtaggants to explosives and file their identifying tags with the AFT. In a recent AFT test, an auto was In a recent AFT test, an auto was loaded with explosives and deto-

nated, destroying the car. The federal agents magnetically swept the area and found the microtaggants.

A closer look under a microscope revealed a sequence of colors on each layer of the tags. The color code then revealed the type explosive used, where it was manufactured, when it was made and who distributed it. The distributor could possibly lead police to the actual buyer of the explosives.

846-9808

several million different color available. The coded microtag cost about \$200 a pound. 'A dynamite manufacturer assign a code to every bath (of ex

> dynamite now has, but the label blown off after the explosion. "With this, a few minutes a

G

ASH

the explosion, investigators would have a lead as to where the dyn mite came from while the trailist hot," O'Brien said.

A simple pocket microscope detect the tags, yet there would be so many of them in one stick of dynamite it would be nearly impo-sible for someone to pick all of the nce Ma

Microtaggants can be bought by consumers, who can mix them will paint and lacquer to cover privat property. Ultraviolet light will \* veal the color code on the tagind const under the paint if the property ever stolen.

"People can buy the tags and have their own code," O'Brien said. "To can consider this a fairly sophist cated label. PETRO

The tags also can be added a paint and sprayed on large groups a migratory birds so the birds can be tracked.

'The Food and Drug Adminis tion currently is concerned about the presence of medicine in fresh at cons slaughtered animals," O'Brien said "Our intentions would be that apes of gu medicine would bear a tag the for would move through the animal was "ver digestive system and come at the mony.

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