

SUBJECT Christopher John LEWIS (n.i.)

Three youths appeared before Judge J. D. Murray in the Dunedin District Court yesterday on a joint charge of aggravated robbery.

They were Paul Christopher Taane (17), student, Geoffrey Ewing Rothwell (16), student, and Christopher John Lewis (17), student.

The charge relates to the armed robbery of the Andersons Bay Post Office on October 9.

Defendants are also jointly charged with the burglary of Bayfield High School on September 19 and of a city gun shop on October 2.

They have been remanded until November 3 for the taking of depositions.

Taane, who was represented by Mr. M. R. Radford, and Rothwell (Mr. H. V. Duell) were remanded on \$2,500 bail, with a surety and a daily reporting clause, on the condition that they do not associate with each other.

Lewis (Mr. J. M. Hanan) was remanded in custody.

During the remand period all three are to be psychiatrically examined.

INCIDENT DURING ROYAL VISIT TO DUNEDIN

# Gun investigation

The Dunedin police are investigating a firearm incident in connection with a report heard near the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh during the Royal visit to Dunedin earlier this month.

A loud bang was heard by a number of people, including policemen, as the Royal couple stepped out of their car in front of the Museum Reserve about 3 p.m. on October 14.

The Queen and Duke were visiting the Otago Museum to inspect the New Zealand Science Fair.

Detective Chief Inspector L. Dalziel, the head of the Dunedin CIB, said yesterday the police initially believed the report was caused by someone near the Medical School Library letting off fire crackers.

As a result of inquiries, he said the police are now investigating an incident

involving a firearm in connection with the report.

Mr Dalziel said detectives are "quite satisfied that a shot was not fired at the Queen," but he was unable to say whether a shot was in fact fired during the incident.

He declined to give details of the event, but said the detectives are continuing investigations.

The report appeared to go unnoticed by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, and the walk to the Museum was not interrupted by the incident.

Mr Dalziel last night denied a Television New Zealand report that a youth is being held in custody in connection with the incident.

He said no one is being held in custody in connection with the firearm offence and no charges have been laid.

11

Being held on charges of robbing Anderson Bay P.O. instead!

s18(c)(i)

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HQ

RELEASED UNDER OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

RECEIVED  
10 OCT 1981

SU CT:

Police are concerned about the recent release from a psychiatric hospital of a youth who once claimed to be the leader of a schoolboy guerrilla group.

By Kevin O'Connor

# FREED — THE — BOY GUERRILLA!

## Police voice concern

Christopher Lewis was just 17 years old when a Dundee court sentenced him to three years' jail in December 1961 on 17 charges.

Now he has been freed from Dundee's Cherry Farm psychiatric hospital more than six months early, despite several

breaches of prison discipline which would normally have cost him his remission of sentence.

Lewis was convicted in 1961 of the armed hold-up of the suburban Andersons Bay post office, of firing a shot in North Dundee during the Queen's visit to the area, and of two counts of arson, seven burglaries and a number of other serious offences.

During the post office hold-up, which netted the

group of three youths more than \$5000, a shot was accidentally fired from a sawn-off shotgun.

During Lewis' trial the court was told he claimed to be the leader of the National Imperial Guerrilla Army, which consisted of him and two of his schoolmates.

He was said to have threatened to shoot one of his followers who wanted to back out of a planned raid.

Lewis' counsel told the

court the youth had a deep-seated psychiatric disorder.

He spent the early part of his sentence in Invercargill's youth prison, but was transferred to Lake Alton Psychiatric Hospital.

A senior police officer told Truth Lewis was sent to Lake Alton after

attacking a warden with a knife, and being found with escape plans when his cell was searched.

After a period in Lake Alton, Lewis was transferred to Cherry Farm, from which he was released on May 18.

Some police are concerned that because Lewis was in hospital rather

than in prison he gained most of his good behaviour remission of sentence, despite his breaches of prison rules at Invercargill.

The news of his release has been passed to the police's terrorist intelligence unit.

The unit's chief, Detective Superintendent Dick

McDonnell, told Truth it would be "inappropriate" for the police to comment on the matter.



s18(c)(i)

17/2

*Original to read of Christopher John Lewis*

s18(c)

(i) 2/2-17

ITEM 500

s18

(c) f.c.

*In camera court*

*Christopher J. LOUISON*

4672E-0002237PT

s18(c)

(i) 11.11.17

Extract from " DAI " Newspaper.

Published at DUNEDIN, on [date] 16.3.85

SUBJECT: Christopher John Lewis (17) ✓

RECEIVED  
21 MAR 1985  
by \_\_\_\_\_

**BURGLARY**  
Christopher John Lewis (21), unemployed fish processor, admitted three charges of burglary, one charge of attempted burglary and one charge of unlawfully taking a 1973 Honda motorcycle.  
Lewis was convicted and remanded in custody to March 22.

Two of the burglary charges relate to the breaking and entering of houses in the city, while the other burglary charge relates to the breaking and entering of the Andersons Bay Primary School.  
The attempted burglary relates to attempting to break and enter a house in the city.  
Police prosecutor, Detective Sergeant J. G. Doyle told the court property taken from one of the houses included a radio cassette, three handbags, two watches, a walkie talkie, a typewriter and \$75 in cash.  
The total value of property taken amounts to \$1,231.  
At the time the property went missing from the house, the complainant and his young family were asleep inside.  
The property was taken from various rooms indicating that the offender had been there for a period of time, the court was told.

The cash was taken from a trouser pocket in the complainant's room as he slept. Mr Doyle said.

All the property has been recovered except for the cash, handbags and watches, the court was told.

Property taken from the other house included a camera and a set of keys.

Mr Doyle said property taken from the Andersons Bay Primary School, included a portable cassette player, a battery charger, a computer game and assorted tapes and amounts of paper. The value of the property is estimated at \$300.

Lewis when spoken to by the police, in explanation for the offences, said that he was running a martial arts school from his address.

He said that the property was stolen in order to either use it in the running of his school or sell it with a view to buying equipment for the school.

Lewis told the police that there was no personal profit and that it was all for the school.

Counsel is Mr Guest.

HQ

Year 26/10/6  
2) 02/11/09 Man Sep ref am  
s18(c)  
(i)

~~20/10/6 - 30 Oct 71  
2 May 84  
30/10/1 6 June 84  
1/3/9 - Police 211  
2/15/5 - 9 Nov 81.~~

s18(c)(i)

s18(c)(i)

You may wish to read the traces pertaining to this individual.

CS to see

s18(c)(i)

17/2

Original to read of Christopher John Lewis endorsed 16.3.85

s18(c)(i)

s18(c)(i)

(TEM 509)

92589G-1000/12/82PTK

17.2.87

Extract from " OAT " Newspaper.

Published at DUNEDIN, on [date] 23. 2. 85

SUBJECT: Christopher John LEWIS (in)

RECEIVED  
18 APR 1985

In imposing a one year goal sentence on a 20-year-old man in the Dunedin District Court yesterday, Judge V. R. Jamieson said he had to consider the protection of the community.

Christopher John Lewis was appearing for sentence on three charges of burglary, one charge of attempted burglary and one charge of unlawfully taking a motorcycle.

Lewis had admitted the charges when he appeared before the court earlier.

Two of the burglary charges relate to the breaking and entering of houses in the city, while the other burglary relates to the breaking and entering of the Andersons Bay Primary School.

The attempted burglary relates to Lewis attempting to break and enter a house in the city.

Judge Jamieson said Lewis has to be kept in goal for some time so the community can have "a rest from you."

His Honor told Lewis that two aspects of these incidents, disturbed him.

He said the first one was that Lewis had not long been out of goal for offences of this type when he embarked on these offences.

His Honor said the second matter which concerned him, was that on these occasions "you involved people younger than yourself."

Counsel was Mr J. C. D. Guest.

Lewis IF  
R.  
KBS 22 4. 85

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(i)

10 April 85

s18(c)(i)

R. File

Enclosed Card for  
Christopher John LEWIS (i)  
26.4.85

s18(c)(i)

17/2

Original to new P of Christopher John LEWIS ✓

s18(c)(i)

17.2.87

ITEM 509]

925B9G-1000/12/82PTK

s18(c)  
(i) SUBJECT:

# Gorge search for suspect

**CHRISTCHURCH**  
A SEARCH in the Buller Gorge for a man wanted in connection with the armed hold-up of the Beckenham branch of Trust Bank Canterbury will resume at dawn today.  
Twenty-five police, including armed offenders squads from Christchurch and Greymouth, are involved in the search for Christopher John Lewis, 23. (iv)  
Lewis is wanted for questioning about the robbery of the Trust Bank Canterbury branch in Christchurch last week in which the offender got away with about \$20,000.  
The ground search for Lewis was wound down about 7pm yesterday. A road block sealing off part of the gorge was to be main-

tained overnight.  
The search is concentrated on an area about 11 kilometres from Westport at Island Creek where a car, which had been driven by Lewis, was found over a bank on Thursday night.  
Westport police spokesman Sergeant John Shirley said yesterday's search aimed to keep Lewis within the gorge. Ground teams were helped by an air force Iroquois helicopter.  
The rugged terrain and heavy bush made the search difficult, Mr Shirley said.  
"It's in a very isolated area at the beginning of the gorge. What we try and do is contain the person in a specific area and search likely places."  
Likely spots searched in-

cluded farm houses and huts.  
Road blocks have been set up in the gorge and cars are being checked at either end. Travellers are being advised to proceed with caution and not to stop in the gorge.  
Mr Shirley said it was likely Lewis had got wet during heavy rain on Thursday night and would be quite cold.  
He said searchers had not seen any signs of Lewis, but were confident he was still in the area.  
"There is nothing to suggest he's got out of the area. We would have expected someone would have seen him if he had hitched or walked out," Mr Shirley said.  
The relieving district commander for Greymouth police, Inspector Peter Nash, said Lewis

was found in Westport about 4.20pm yesterday. An off-duty policeman noticed a car similar to the getaway vehicle used in the Beckenham bank robbery on April 22.  
A road block was set up, but Lewis evaded it and was chased into the gorge.  
"He was some distance in front of our man, so noone actually saw him go off the road. That's why it was three hours before the car was found," Mr Nash said. — NZPA

PEANUTS

RELEASED UNDER OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

R:File - 1/3/9 Fol. 211 Vol 5.

s18(c)(i)

encl already enclosed.  
Ret. Evidence and for Christopher John LEWIS

Original to new PF for Christopher John LEWIS ✓  
Copy to 1/3/9 F. 211, s18(c)(i)

s18(c)(i)

8 May 87

/17.2.97

s18(c)(i) Published at ... on [date] 5-17-97

# Ninja skills may benefit fugitive

**SUSPECTED** bank robber Christopher John Lewis could be using Japanese martial arts skills to survive cold and wet conditions in the Buller Gorge over four nights.

Detective Sergeant Higginson said a diary and book manuscript recovered from the stolen Ford Telstar car used by Lewis, 22, revealed he had trained in the ancient martial art of ninja, including survival training.

Entries in the diary showed Lewis had survived before, in bush for days on end without food both as part of his ninja training and to evade police.

Mr Higginson said Lewis was also known to be "deadly accurate" using throwing stars, a ninja weapon.

But it is four days since Lewis was last seen and with no sign of him police are considering the possibility he might have drowned attempting to swim the Buller River.

Beaches in the Westport area were being searched by police yesterday should his body be washed ashore. An air force helicopter was also used on Friday and Saturday to sweep the river.

Mr Higginson said it was a ninja technique to use water as an escape route and Lewis had done

a lot of diving.

Lewis's chances of survival were "very slim", Constable Trevor Aky, of Westport, said.

Conditions reached freezing level in the gorge during the past few nights and yesterday it was raining.

Lewis's mother yesterday pleaded for her son to contact her.

Mrs Louise Lewis begged her son to surrender himself and get help "before he hurts someone".

Mrs Lewis said in Christchurch yesterday she could not believe her normally gentle son would deliberately hurt anyone.

Mrs Lewis said she and

Lewis's younger brothers and sister were concerned for his safety.

Mrs Lewis said her son was clever and had done "some amazing things in the past" and she hoped he had survived after four days in the bush.

Lewis, who had been living in a rented flat in Westport for six weeks, was discovered on Thursday night when the Ford Telstar was seen in the town. The car had been used to make a getaway after last month's armed robbery of the Beckettbank Trust Bank Canterbury in which about \$20,000 was taken - NZPA



CHRISTOPHER LEWIS

and already enclosed.

Encl. Cont. for

Christopher John LEWIS

s18(c)(i) 1/12

Original to news for Christopher John LEWIS / Copy to 1/13/97 F.211 s18(c)(i)

7/17 2 97

R: File - 1/13/97 F.211

s18(c)(i)

1/13/97

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

# Suspect ran 'terrorism' classes

By NEIL CLARKSON.  
 The robbery suspect who disappeared last week in the Buller Gorge near Christchurch has taken classes described by a martial arts expert as terrorism training.  
 Christopher John Lewis, aged 22, fled from the police at Westport last Thursday and crashed the stolen car he was driving down a bank in the Buller Gorge.  
 "He professes to be a Ninja but it is highly doubtful," said Mr John Boniface, head of the physical education and recreation department at Christchurch Polytechnic.  
 Mr Boniface said Ninjitsu was the ancient art of the assassin in Japan, involving espionage and intelligence gathering.  
 "What he has been doing is certainly not Ninjitsu."  
 The art of Ninjitsu developed about the fourteenth century but in Japan today there are few Ninjas trained.  
 "Basically, you are born a Ninja into a family. Originally, the Ninja were small people. They practised camouflage, feats of agility and just about every type of fighting skill imaginable."  
 Mr Boniface said Lewis had a Ninjitsu class running in Christchurch in which he claimed he was a Ninja with a black belt, first dan.  
 "There is no governing body. If you wanted to start a Ninjitsu school you could call yourself a Ninja."  
 Mr Boniface said he had been approached recently by two of Lewis' students who were upset about what they had been taught - "they were quite shocked."  
 The classes were originally portrayed to them as being training along the lines of the ancient Ninja, he said.  
 "That's what they initially thought. When they found what they were getting into, they got out."  
 Mr Boniface said one of the Ninja students gave him a list of what Lewis taught.  
 It included engineering, the training, cross-country race, bush camouflage, duo and group attacks, use of darts, knives and spikes, poison, firearms theory, world politics, atom systems, snowcraft, abilities in the bush, bush survival, and urban combat techniques.  
 "It aligns with basically terrorist activities and not with martial arts. If this sort of thing were valid, it would cause great alarm in the community."  
 Mr Boniface said Lewis was probably trying to become a modern equivalent of a Ninja with skills in urban terrorism and warfare.  
 The standard Lewis appeared to expect of his students was the ability to run 4000m cross-country with load but no carrying water for three hours, swimming 50m breaststroke, the ability to rock climb, negotiate obstacle courses, and swim under 30 logs.  
 Mr Boniface said Lewis' activities had been harmful to the reputation of martial arts.  
 "I have had numerous people asking what can be done about it."  
 Lewis is sought by the police for questioning about bank robberies in Dunedin and Christchurch, including the \$27,000 hold-up of the Trust Bank Beckettbank branch.  
 He is known to be the third man sought in connection with the robbery of a Dunedin post office and the attempted robbery of a Dunedin bank.  
 Mr Boniface, aged 22, was called in April for breach of the peace to rock climb, negotiate obstacle courses, and swim under 30 logs.  
 Mr Boniface said Lewis' activities had been harmful to the reputation of martial arts.  
 He said he was going for a grey belt and it was decided he should do an annual hold-up to get it.  
 Search report, page 2.

insulted the officers.  
 Mr Gill said the Ninjitsu expert had told Olson he had a robbery "black list" in Dunedin. Olson declined to go but the other man got angry and Olson was too scared to refuse.  
 Mr Justice Hardie Boys later said he accepted that Olson had yielded to the influence of an older offender, a master of the martial arts, who had used his particular influence for quite evil ends.  
 The other offender, a younger man who had been dealt with earlier, told the police he was a member of a Ninjitsu club.  
 He said he was going for a grey belt and it was decided he should do an annual hold-up to get it.  
 Search report, page 2.

made brief checks of the area and nearby buildings each day. The squad members had simply covered Westport police of the duty.  
 The police have found no trace of Lewis since he fled the car, which crashed down a 30m bank last Thursday evening.  
 The police have clearly considered the possibility that Lewis drowned. Searches of the beach round the Buller river-mouth have proved unsuccessful.  
 The car came to rest just 6m from the river, which was in flood at the time.

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s18(c)(1)

## Police resume gorge search

Police resumed the Buller Gorge search for Christopher John Lewis yesterday, but found no sign that he was still in the area.  
 Four members of the Christchurch armed offenders squad made the search, which concentrated on rugged bush

near the place where Lewis crashed a stolen car he was driving.  
 Sergeant John Shirley, of Westport, said the search was not prompted by any sighting or suspicious activity in the area.  
 Sergeant Shirley said that local police and

made brief checks of the area and nearby buildings each day. The squad members had simply covered Westport police of the duty.  
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18(c)(1)  
 Evidence Card for  
 Christopher John LEWIS  
 Original to and from Christopher John Lewis  
 Copy to 1/3/9 F.211  
 s18(c)(1)  
 19.2.47

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 vol 5.  
 02509G-1000/12/02PT1:  
 s18(c)(1) 4 May 1987



# Kirwee woman fears prowler is fugitive

By NEIL CLARKSON

A Kirwee woman whose son was taught Ninjutsu by the fugitive, Christopher John Lewis, fears a prowler round her house is the missing man.

Mrs Patricia Olsen said she and her son's girlfriend had been terrorised in recent nights by a prowler.

Since Sunday, two of her fowls have been found dead, one went missing on Wednesday, and yesterday, three were gone after someone had cut the netting.

She believes eggs have been stolen.

"There have been big footprints in the front garden. We never go round there."

Mrs Olsen said she believed Lewis escaped from the remote Buller Gorge alive and dismissed the suggestion that he drowned.

"He knows how to get out of rivers. He is not dead. No way," she said.



MRS OLSEN

Her son, Brent, aged 22, is serving nine months jail for robbery at a Dunedin post office

and attempted robbery at another.

Mrs Olsen said her son joined Lewis's Ninjutsu classes last year and attended lessons three times a week.

"He loved every minute of it. He thought Lewis was wonderful," she said.

"Lewis came over to our place a couple of times."

Mrs Olsen said the Dunedin trip that culminated in the offences involved senior students heading south to obtain instruction under a Ninja master.

Her son had brought home a note signed "Sampul," which Mrs Olsen said was the name Lewis used, explaining details of the trip.

The note ended: "Don't miss it, or else."

Her son went reluctantly and had been in the car while the others committed the offences, she said.

According to her son, Lewis

had told the younger of the trio that he either had to convert a car, rob a post office, or accost someone in the street to obtain a grey belt.

"Brent had said not to be so stupid."

Mrs Olsen said her son was scared of Lewis at the time.

"They said in court he was weak for not standing up to him (Lewis)."

Constable Keith Fletcher, of the Darfield police, said Mrs Olsen had reported the prowler and the matter was being investigated.

The police again searched an area of the Buller Gorge yesterday after fresh footprints were found near the car used by Lewis.

Sergeant John Shirley, of the Westport police, said the footprints had been close enough to the car to warrant investigation, but a check of the area had not opened up any new lead.

RELEASED OFFICIAL INFORMATION

R.F. 12 - 1/3/9 F. 211 Vol 5.

~~B.A.~~ Endless Carl for  
Christopher John LEWIS

s18(c)(i)

Original to new PF for Christopher John LEWIS ✓

s18(c)(i)

17.2.97

s18(c)(i)

8/5

s18(c)(i)

14 May 87

92589G-1000/12/82PTK

Extract from " Christchurch Press " Newspaper. <sup>20/10/86</sup>  
Published at Christchurch, on [date] 12 May 87

s18(c)(i)

ECT:

Christopher John Lewis (P)

RECEIVED

14 MAY 1987

by

# Suspected bank robber 'great fan of Hitler'

By NEIL CLARKSON  
The letters N.I.G.A. became the trademark of Christopher John Lewis.

The Dunedin police, investigating a spate of burglaries and arsons in 1981 found the letters engraved at the scene of the offences.

They later discovered the letters stood for the National Imperial Guerilla Army, an organisation set up by Lewis.

Mr Tom Lewis, head of the Dunedin Criminal Intelligence Section in the early 1980s, formed a dossier on Lewis, who was seen as a threat because of his radical beliefs.

"He wrote quite extensively on the type of New Zealand he would like to see. He was a great fan of Hitler and a believer in the Aryan race," said Mr Lewis, who retired from the police last year.

"He had no time for Maoris or blacks. That was one of the problems he caused in borstal."

Mr Lewis claimed the fugitive had hoped to use N.I.G.A. to set himself up as the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

"There was no room for

Royalty in any of his plans." He claims the dossier he prepared on Lewis, which was sent to the Criminal Intelligence Section in Wellington and the Security Intelligence Service, would still be in existence.

Mr Lewis claimed the S.I.S. was interested because of Lewis's political aspirations.

The robbery Lewis performed at a Dunedin post office in 1981 was done with military precision.

"He planned it and had the paramilitary gear and firearms in a nearby garage."

He and his accomplices went to the garage during morning break at school, changed into the military uniforms, held up the post office and escaped with about \$10,000.

They left all the gear at the garage and went back after school to clear up and remove the money.

"He was operating a stop watch. He was very pleased with their effort because they did it in the allotted playtime."

Mr Lewis believes the fugitive could survive in the rugged Buller Gorge.

"He could be setting the scene for his own battle ground. I've been there. It's a lot like Vietnam. It's just like a jungle."

Mr Lewis told of going to Lewis's flat in 1981 to speak to him about the post office robbery.

"He was sitting in the corner playing with his pet mice. He just mentioned 'I won't be seeing these for a while.'"

"We said 'no' and before we could stop him he had torn the head off both of them. That is an indication of the type of guy you are dealing with."

The Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr Stuart McEwen, yesterday called for the complete file on the Christopher Lewis incident involving the Queen's visit to Dunedin in 1981.

Mr McEwen called for the file from Dunedin after a series of questions relating to the incident were put to him by the "Dominion."

Earlier in the day Mr McEwen had described claims of a cover-up over the affair as "nonsense" and said the Queen was never at risk.

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Evidence said for

File - 20/10/86

s18(c)(i)

Christopher John LEWIS.

Original to now P/ Christopher John LEWIS!

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14 May 87

ITEM 509]

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# ed religious says he's t Abbot of Paremoremo

A HARDENED young Paremoremo inmate, once dubbed the "boy guerilla" by the media, has converted to an Eastern religion. The self-styled terrorist, who began his life of crime as a school-boy in Dunedin, has declared himself Abbot of Paremoremo.

And he calls the prison his "monastery". Christopher John Lewis, 24, serving eight and a half years for armed robbery, wrote to Truth this week about his new-found Buddhist enlightenment.

He had his letter smuggled from the maximum security prison's A Block in a bid to plead for early release.

"I have worked at my own rehabilitation because I haven't given up my hope to be respected again," he said.

"I have established links with a religious group that I have found immense help with me personally, and so I get regular visits by monks and nuns."

Lewis said he had organised "group gatherings" between other inmates and Buddhist monks so others could also benefit.

"I am, and have been, very serious about my beliefs that have come to me while here," he said.

"So I am, in a way, Abbot of this monastery."

Lewis said he had permission from prison superintendent Max Hindmarsh to have people brought into prison to attend meetings.

"I have been given permission from Mr Hindmarsh to have the Buddhist Auckland lay people visit my meetings," he said.

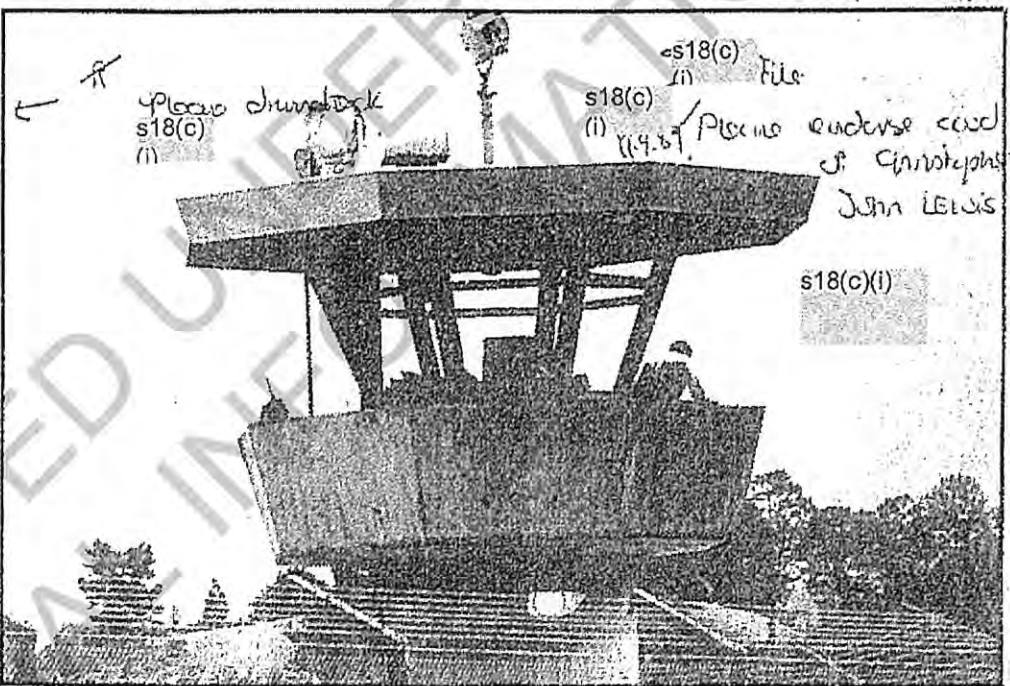
"I even have High Monks writing to me from Asia—asking me what I'm doing here."

Red-haired, baby-faced Lewis began his trek to the limits of New Zealand law on October 9, 1981, when he and two fellow high school students armed themselves with a shotgun and imitation guns.

During morning interval they dressed in military-type clothing, held up a post office and escaped back to school on pushbikes.

On the way they helped a police car out of a drain it had got stuck in—while racing to the holdup.

The other two got corrective



PAREMOREMO... Lewis, who once boasted of trying to kill the Queen, says he's ready to come out.

By EDWARD ROONEY

training, but Lewis was jailed for three years for the robbery and other charges—including discharging a firearm the day the Queen visited Dunedin.

It was that gunshot that gave Lewis his notoriety.

### PSYCHIATRIC

It was later revealed Lewis had tried to kill the Queen by firing a .22 calibre rifle, luckily from out of range. He boasted to police of being leader of a terrorist group called the National Imperial Guerilla Army.

On May 18, 1984, the boy guerilla was released, six months before his three-year term finished,

from Cherry Farm, a psychiatric hospital near Dunedin.

Lewis had spent the early part of his sentence in Invercargill's youth prison, but was transferred to Lake Alice Psychiatric Hospital before going on to Cherry Farm.

In May 1987, a huge manhunt was mounted on the West Coast of the South Island after Lewis went bush in the rugged terrain.

Police said they wanted to question him about a \$20,000 bank raid in Christchurch some weeks before.

Lewis had honed new skills during his spell of freedom, the martial art of the Japanese assassin. The lessons he had taken stood him in good stead on the

Wild West coast.

He evaded police, reputedly by clinging to the chassis of a tour bus, but was finally arrested in Auckland while trying to buy a car.

The list of charges against Lewis, which he incurred during his escape north, read like a perverse tour guide manual for criminals.

It started in November 1987 with the \$7972 netted from holding up a BNZ bank in Christchurch, continued to a Post Office robbery bid in March 1988 and ended and ended with two burglaries at a scout den in the Buller Gorge on May 1 and 10.

All up, Lewis' eight separate robberies and burglaries netted almost \$50,000.

Lewis, by then 22, pleaded guilty to five charges of aggravated robbery, attempted aggra-

vated robbery, theft and two charges of burglary.

It was estimated that, with remission, he would probably serve about five years of his eight-and-a-half-year term.

"I can say with certainty now that I do regret this mistake in my life," Lewis said in his letter.

"I blame it on myself and my struggle to make my business to survive--in short I had financial problems. But this is all in the past really."

Lewis said he had three books presently being scrutinised by publishers--one a large healer's manual on alternative medicine.

"I have had a number of paintings in exhibitions, I have a computer and I am studying computer programming," he said.

"I have already completed a trade certificate in electronics."

Lewis said he believed the Justice Department should provide an incentive for inmates to rehabilitate themselves.

"What is needed is for the authorities to apply a more flexible approach to parole and release."

"Those who show initiative to clean up their life--let them go."

Christopher Lewis should make his first attempt at parole in a little more than two years.

RECEIVED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

s18(c)(1)

*in* New PF for Christopher John Lewis  
Original to PF File Transfer Sect 26/10/6

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SUBJECT: PF Christopher John LEWIS

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22 FEB 1994  
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# Anti-royalist in jail

A man who tried to assassinate the Queen and also plotted to kill Prince Charles during earlier royal visits, was under guard in Paremoremo jail last night as the prince began his five-day New Zealand tour.

And police are relieved Christopher John Lewis (29), a committed anti-royalist, is doing time for armed robbery.

In 1992, he was sentenced to four years for the holdup of a bank at Waikanae, staged within days of his completion of an earlier sentence of 18 months for armed robbery.

Police say had the red-haired, innocent-faced Lewis been circulating in society, Prince Charles



LEWIS

TURNTO A3

# Anti-royalist in prison

FROM A1

could have been a likely target for him.

"He was one of two men who would have been under heavy surveillance," says a police criminal intelligence specialist.

The second man is being closely watched.

"Lewis is a committed anti-royalist, no question about it. He planned to take over New Zealand through a terror campaign and prepared a death list of prominent

figures. He's an extremist . . . a very dangerous guy.

"He founded a fascist group, the National Imperial Guerrilla Army which was not only racist but also anti the royal family."

When he was 17, Lewis used a .22 rifle and shot at the Queen during a walkabout on her 1981 visit to Dunedin. Police said the rifle was missing one of its sights.

He also fired out of the weapon's range, and the bullet fell short.

He was jailed for three years for firearms offences.

There were allegations the case was hushed up for fear it would jeopardise future royal tours.

The plot to kill Prince Charles came to light after Lewis tried to break out of a psychiatric hospital during the prince's 1983 visit.

Detailed plans were found after Lewis tried to overpower a guard at the hospital with a knife.

Lewis had spells in top security psychiatric hospitals before being let out on a doctor's approval.

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Record of Christopher John LEWIS ✓

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This copy to new PF Christopher John LEWIS.

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# Incident 'hushed up'

By Craig Page

The Queen's visit to Dunedin next month has revived memories of a serious security scare when a teenager planned to shoot the monarch during her last visit to Dunedin in October 1981.

Police discovered Christopher John Lewis (17) had intended to shoot the Queen with a .22 calibre rifle from the top-floor toilet of the Otago Medical School's Adams Building.

Media coverage of the incident was muted at the time with the police officially denying all knowledge of it, despite repeated approaches by those members of the media who knew about it, but it made headline news again six years later when many English newspapers claimed "a cover-up" by New Zealand police.

Former Dunedin Detective Sergeant Tom Lewis (no relation to the offender) spoke out in May 1987, while living in Perth, saying the incident had

been hushed up for fear of ending royal tours to New Zealand.

Police hierarchy denied any cover-up, saying all details about the incident had been made public. The incident apparently occurred as the royal party stepped out of a car in front of the museum reserve on October 14, 1981.

Police at the time said they had reports of a loud bang in the area. Nine days after the incident they discovered Lewis had planned to shoot the Queen.

The revelation came about after Lewis and an associate were arrested in relation to the armed robbery of the Andersons Bay Post Office.

Upon searching Lewis' flat they found a diary with references to the Queen's visit.

Police also disclosed that Lewis had abandoned another plan to shoot the Queen during a walkabout in the Octagon.

Following a police investigation, it was concluded Lewis

could not possibly have hit the Queen from his location in the Adams Building.

Lewis said he then discharged the rifle into the road below the building "in frustration". Police were unable to locate a bullet.

He was charged only with unlawfully discharging a firearm. He appeared in court in December 1981 on 19 firearms-related charges and was jailed for three years.

The last reference to Lewis was in 1987 when he was being sought by police were seeking him in connection with a bank robbery. He was then thought to be on the West Coast.

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New PF for Christopher John LEWIS  
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By

# 6-week prison term for passport offence

A man has been sent to jail for six weeks for admitting a charge of making a false statement for the purpose of procuring a New Zealand passport.

Christopher John Lewis, 32, appeared jointly charged with Gaynor Joyce Wilkie, 40, in the Christchurch District Court yesterday.

Both defendants admitted the offence, which occurred in Auckland on August 23.

Wilkie, as a first offender, was fined \$350 plus court costs.

Prosecuting, Constable Mike Schout said the pair were living in Auckland with an associate. Lewis filled out an application form for a passport under the associate's name, and Wilkie endorsed a photo of Lewis as that of the associate.

Counsel for Lewis, Wolfgang Rosenberg, said Lewis had wanted to travel overseas with Wilkie, and did

not think he would get visas to the countries he wanted to visit under his name because of previous convictions.

Wilkie said in court she only became aware of Lewis's previous convictions on Thursday. She was in a de facto relationship with Lewis, and had met him in April of this year. She had endorsed the photo and the application because Lewis had asked her to.

Judge Holdeness said Lewis had applied for the passport under a false name in a deliberate attempt to deny the authorities of other countries knowledge of his "very serious list of previous convictions".

The judge said a sentence of periodic detention was not appropriate for Lewis because of his calculated attempt to circumvent the passport laws.

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Christopher John LEWIS (1r)  
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endorse record of Christopher John LEWIS

3) R please file 31/2/4

New RF for Christopher John LEWIS.  
This original to RF - Copy to 31/2/4

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# Man exiled in<sup>JF19</sup> operation to protect Queen

By NAOMI LARKIN

Police exiled a man to an island hideaway during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) because they feared for the Queen's life.

The man caused no security problems during the conference and left the island a free agent after an all-expenses paid holiday courtesy of the New Zealand Government.

But he has subsequently been arrested and, after a long police investigation, is now facing serious criminal charges which are unrelated to the high-powered conference that brought leaders from around the world to Auckland.

Former police Superintendent Bryan Rowe yesterday confirmed to the *New Zealand Herald* that the man was sent to Great Barrier Island for security reasons during the 1995 November summit conference.

Mr Rowe, who masterminded security operations for the heads of Government meeting, said police wanted the man out of Auckland, where the conference was being held.

"He was one of our main concerns ... only in relation to what we perceived his views could be in relation to her Majesty the Queen, and in general the royal family."

He refused to elaborate on the reasons behind the move.

Mr Rowe said police discussed their plan with the man before the conference and he agreed to go.

"We did have some concerns about him during CHOGM and we took what we considered were appropriate steps to eliminate any risks that he might pose to that operation," he said.

"He co-operated with us in our proposed arrangements and we were quite happy with the outcome."



The man was not under 24-hour surveillance while he was on the island. However police were satisfied he could not get off without their knowledge.

It is understood police were in close contact with plane and boat companies operating to and from the island — two hours by fast boat from downtown Auckland.

The island policeman is also believed to have been well-briefed on his important visitor.

The tab for his stay at a lodge in Tryphena was included in the overall heads of Government meeting policing costs, Mr Rowe said.

The owner of the island lodge, who did not wish to be named, said the man arrived with a woman companion and stayed five nights. He kept a low profile.

"They just blobbed out and relaxed — had a good holiday," the owner said.

"After he left there was a bit of talk about him in the bar and the Queen came up in the conversation so somebody must have found out he was ushered over here."

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file Christine S. Lee  
(Nov. 11)



20 February 1977

court-furlan (carrie ACCUSED ADMITTED MURDER TO ACQUAINTANCE, COURT TOLD  
nzpannrx nt415

Attachments.

r n,, COURT-FURLAN 24-02 172

COURT-FURLAN (carried earlier)  
ACCUSED ADMITTED MURDER TO ACQUAINTANCE, COURT TOLD

Auckland, Feb 24 - A man charged with the murder of Auckland mother of three Tanya Furlan admitted to an acquaintance that he was responsible for her death, Otahuhu District Court was told today.

Christchurch man Christopher John Lewis, 32, has been charged with the murder of Mrs Furlan, who was found battered about the head and in a pool of blood in her Howick home on July 26 last year. She died on the way to hospital.

Lewis is also charged with abducting the youngest of Mrs Furlan's three daughters, six-week-old Tiffany, who was found unharmed later that day outside a church in the suburb of Royal Oak, 18km away.

On the first day of a depositions hearing, a crown witness, whose identity was suppressed, said Lewis visited him in August.

Lewis told him that, posing as a delivery man, he went to Mrs Furlan's house with a hammer in a cardboard box.

When Mrs Furlan answered the door, Lewis asked for a pen. When she came back, Lewis told her to lie down and tied her up.

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24/02/97 12-23NZ

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(eds: attn language pars 3 and 4)

The witness said Lewis told him he hit Mrs Furlan on the head with the hammer intending just to knock her out.

His original aim had been to take her hostage so he could extort money from her husband Victor.

He said he must have hit her too hard because the blood was pissing out, that it started spurting like a pool of water," the witness said.

He hit her another five times, because he knew he had f...ed up."

The witness said Lewis told him he then heard a breath from Mrs Furlan which sounded like "a death rattle".

Lewis took the baby but did not know why, the witness said.

He left a ransom note, drove to the church, dropped the baby off, and went back to the house to retrieve the ransom note.

Lewis told the witness he was glad he had done that because police at the time were "on the wrong trail".

During their inquiry, police sought warrants to view patient records held by South Auckland Health because they initially believed Mrs Furlan's killer was a woman with a psychotic illness who had recently suffered a miscarriage or a stillbirth.

The witness said Lewis told him he was in need of money for a martial arts centre.

Opening the Crown's case, prosecutor Simon Moore said shoe-prints found at the Furlan home matched a pair of sneakers owned by Lewis.

Mr Moore said a search of a property at Helensville, northwest of Auckland, where Lewis had lived, had uncovered a notepad with indentation that indicated a ransom note had been written on paper from the pad.

Judge David Harvey today repeated that while Lewis' name could be published, all information about his appearance remained suppressed.

The Furlans moved to Auckland from Canberra in 1994. Since his wife's death, Mr Furlan has returned to Australia with his children.

NZPA AKL rl ks

24/02/97 12-34NZ

court-furlan-n/1 BUNGLED KIDNAP ATTEMPT LED TO MURDER, COURT TOLD

nzpannrx nt730

r n,, COURT 24-02 452

COURT-FURLAN-N/L

BUNGLED KIDNAP ATTEMPT LED TO MURDER, COURT TOLD

Auckland, Feb 24 - The man accused of murdering Tania Furlan bashed her to death with a hammer in a bungled extortion attempt, a court was told today.

Christopher John Lewis had intended to kidnap Mrs Furlan from her Howick home and leave a ransom note for her husband, but he hit her too hard and had to finish her off, a key witness told a depositions hearing in Otahuhu District Court.

Lewis has denied murdering the 27-year-old mother-of-three on July 26 last year and kidnapping her six-week-old daughter, Tiffany.

A friend of Lewis told the court today that he tipped off the police about a confession Lewis made to him over the killing.

The man, whose name is suppressed, said Lewis told him last August that he went to the Furlan home posing as a delivery man, carrying a cardboard box.

He pulled a hammer from the box and told Mrs Furlan to lie on the ground.

He said he intended to knock her out and he hit her on the back of the head... but he said he must have hit her too hard, because the blood was just pissing out.

He hit her another five times because he knew that he had f....d up.

Lewis told him that he left a ransom note in the house, put Tiffany in the box and drove to the Royal Oak Baptist Church, where he left her.

Confused, he returned to the house 30 minutes later to retrieve the ransom note.

He said he didn't know why he had taken the baby, but said it was the best thing he could have done, because the police were off on the wrong track."

Lewis told him he wanted to extort money from Victor Furlan, who was the manager of Big Fresh in Auckland's Glenfield suburb, because he needed cash to keep his Mt Eden Dojo (martial arts training centre) going.

The witness told the court that he was facing jail for breach of parole when he told the police about Lewis and was consequently convicted and discharged.

Meanwhile, the Crown said that there were two crucial pieces of evidence linking Lewis to the murder.

Prosecutor Simon Moore said that Reebok shoeprints found in the foyer of the Furlan home matched running shoes worn by Lewis.

Writings by Lewis, consistent with a ransom note, were found during a police search of a sleep-out he was renting, he said.

Impressions on a note pad were examined and references like "come alone", "when you get money you will get child 36 hours later" and "no ringing pigs" were found.

Mr Moore said that Mrs Furlan's head had been "smashed" and the injuries were consistent with the use of a hammer.

She died in the ambulance on the way to hospital.

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24/02/97 20-01NZ

court-furlan-d/1 FURLAN MURDER CASE GOES INTO SECOND DAY

nzpannrx nt305

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COURT-FURLAN-D/L

FURLAN MURDER CASE GOES INTO SECOND DAY

Auckland, Feb 25 NZPA - A hearing into the murder of Auckland mother Tania Furlan entered its second day at Otahuhu District Court today.

Cross-examination of the first Crown witness, whose identity has been suppressed, continued at the depositions hearing.

However, most of the questions related to matters suppressed by Judge David Harvey.

Australian-born Mrs Furlan, 27, was found battered about the head and in a pool of blood in her Howick home on July 26 last year. She died on the way to hospital.

Christopher John Lewis, 32, of Christchurch, has been charged with her murder and with abducting the youngest of her three children, six-week-old Tiffany.

The baby was found unharmed later that same day 18km away outside a church in the suburb of Royal Oak.

NZPA AKL rl wrh

25/02/97 11-30NZ

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

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COURT-FURLAN-N/L

MAN ACCUSED OF FURLAN MURDER HAD TALKED OF KIDNAPPING A CHILD

Auckland, Feb 25 - The man accused of murdering Auckland mother Tania Furlan had allegedly talked about kidnapping a child and killing her, Otahuhu District Court was told today.

Christopher John Lewis told an associate that it didn't matter if the child died, because it was "just a soul", the court was told during a depositions hearing.

Lewis has denied murdering the 27-year-old mother-of-three on July 26 last year and kidnapping her six-week-old daughter, Tiffany.

Andrew Collett, who joined Lewis' martial arts training centre last year, told the court that Lewis invited him to participate in various schemes, including kidnapping a child from outside a school to extort money.

He said the idea was to send a ransom note to the grandfather, who was wealthy, get the money and "kill the kid", to avoid being identified.

Mr Collett said Lewis told him it didn't matter if the child was killed because it was "just a soul." He said he thought the idea was "shocking" and turned Lewis down.

Lewis also talked about a group of them going to Queenstown, where they would "take out the local cops" in the early hours of the morning, he said.

"We were going to take them out one by one as they came to the police station, then we would have the run of the town for a few hours.

"We could then help ourselves to jewellery shops, banks, anything we wanted ... we were going to fly out on microlights" Mr Collett said.

Other scheme dreamt up by Lewis included stealing a boat so they could rob a bank on Waiheke Island with a firearm.

The idea was to hit the bank at closing time, tie up the tellers, get the cash and dump the tellers in a bush area.

They would then take the boat back to Half Moon Bay and either sink it or send it running off into the harbour, he said.

During cross-examination by Lewis' lawyer David Jones, Mr Collett said that many of the schemes were discussed when Lewis had been smoking cannabis.

Lewis was a talker, not a doer, he said, and he did not take any of his ideas seriously, apart from the proposal to kidnap and kill a child.

Although he never went to the police about Lewis, he stopped going to the centre last July, he said. Lewis had contacted him saying he wanted to travel to South America with his girlfriend and was applying for a passport using a false name.

A police officer involved in the murder inquiry told the court that police were originally looking for a female who was a baby snatcher.

Otahuhu police Detective Sergeant Richard Middleton said Lewis was never a suspect until October, when one of his friends tipped the police off about a confession he had made.

In a statement handed up to the court, Mr Middleton said he travelled to Christchurch and found Lewis and his girlfriend sleeping in a tent in his mother's backyard. Lewis was later arrested.

NZPA NZH cm gt

25/02/97 20-47NZ

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OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

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# Man who tried to kill Queen dies in prison

By KAREN HOWARD

CHRISTOPHER John Lewis, a white supremacist jailed in 1981 for a botched assassination attempt on the Queen, was found dead yesterday in Auckland's Mt Eden prison, where he was awaiting trial for the murder last year of Auckland mother Tania Furlan.

Police said prison staff found Lewis, 32, dead in his cell about 3.15pm.

Lewis was well known to police for his attempt to assassinate the Queen during her 1981 visit to Dunedin and his plans to kill Prince Charles during his 1983 tour. He had also served time in prison for a string of other offences including armed robberies.

Police said there were no suspicious circumstances in Lewis's death and they were not seeking anyone else.

Lewis had been remanded in custody after being accused of murdering Mrs Furlan, 27, in her Howick home last year and kidnapping her six-week-old daughter, Tiffany, who was later found abandoned near a church.

Police believe he intended to kidnap Mrs Furlan and extort money from her husband but resorted to bashing her to death when the plan failed.

Lewis's bizarre makeup first emerged while still at high school, where he idolised people such as Hitler, Mussolini, Idi Amin and Napoleon and established his own fascist group named the National Imperial Guerrilla Army - NIGA.

The supposed paramilitary group was fantasy with a sprinkling of reality. Lewis made himself a sergeant in the group and coerced two school friends to join.

It was during this time that Lewis, an anti-royalist, went to the Queen's walkabout in Dunedin armed with a .22 BSA rifle. Lewis told police he eventually gave up waiting for the Queen to pass by and fired a shot into the road to break the tension before abandoning his rifle.

It was also in 1981 that he and the two members of his NIGA group planned and executed an armed raid on the Andersons Bay Post Office in Dunedin.

They held the postmistress and two 10-year-old children at gunpoint before cycling back to school with about \$10,000.

As they cycled back they passed police cars heading toward the post office. One car had gone off the road. The three helped police put it back on the road then pedalled on to school where they set a test and scored among the top six.

Lewis's escapades that year earned him an 18-year sentence for crimes including robbery, arson and firearm offences. He also spent time at top security Lake Alice mental hospital near Wanganui and at Cherry Farm near Dunedin.



CHRISTOPHER LEWIS

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

# Twisted boy who tried to kill Queen

Christopher Lewis first received psychological help for his bizarre behaviour when he was just 10 years old. People who grew up with the alleged killer in Dunedin say he was a true psychopath.

As a teenager he pulled heads off birds, attacked other children, then took to guns, shooting them round his city flat to the alarm of friends.

Aged 17, he amazed Dunedin police when he and two friends robbed the Andersons Bay post office, during school recess.

He also admitted firing a shot at the Queen during her visit to Dunedin in 1981.

Five years later Lewis was again in the headlines when he was sentenced to 8 1/2 years' prison for a string of aggravated robberies. He had studied armed police for a fortnight, and was said to be fully trained in the martial art of ninjua.

A court psychiatrist said Lewis was living in an "omnipotent fantasy world that could compel him into wilder exploits."

In 1992 Lewis was again charged with aggravated robbery. Nobody who knew him was surprised to hear he had been charged with killing Tania Furlan, the wife of his local supermarket manager, in what police said was a botched kidnapping attempt. A former partner in crime, Paul



Tania Furlan

'Beyond mixed up' ... 'hormones gone mad' 'true psychopath' ... TONY WALL speaks to the people once close to Christopher Lewis, the man accused of murdering Tania Furlan and who, with his death in custody yesterday, will never stand trial.

Taane, knew Lewis during the heady days of 1981, when a teenage Lewis was plotting to shoot the Queen and rob banks.

The pair and friend Geoffrey Rothwell — now a Dunedin lawyer — carried out the Andersons Bay post office robbery.

Mr Taane said Lewis loved characters like Bonnie and Clyde and Jessie James.

"They were his favourites — he fancied himself as an outlaw. You could say some kids are mixed up — he was beyond that."

Mr Taane, now a Dunedin father, said he was not at all surprised when he heard his old friend had been charged with murder.

"He always wanted to know what it

would be like to take someone's life." Paul Taane met Lewis at Tahuna Intermediate School when the pair were about 10. Even then Lewis was getting himself into trouble.

He made frequent appearances in the school's disciplinary book — for incidents such as flipping over the teacher's desk, playing with matches and showing pornographic pictures to other pupils.

Lewis' mother, a Churchchurch woman who spoke exclusively to the *New Zealand Herald* earlier this year on the condition she not be named, said she wanted to see the principal and psychological counselling was suggested.

The woman her son saw was good but she left the country after a year and the sessions stopped. The counsellor

increasingly youth prison, but served

had felt that he needed to learn to cope with the "massive adrenaline surges" he was having.

Lewis was introverted as a child and a loner. His father left when he was seven, and he resented his stepfather.

By the time Lewis was 10 or 14, his mother said, his hormones had "gone mad" and she could no longer control him.

Doctors were never able to put their finger on what was wrong, she said. Some thought he was a manic depressive, but he never had those symptoms — he got "high as a kite and excited but didn't crash back down the other side."

After the post office robbery and the shot at the Queen, Lewis was sent to



NOTORIOUS: Christopher Lewis in 1987. At this time he was committing aggravated robberies.

most of the sentence at Lake Alice psychiatric hospital. There he put a knife to the throat of a guard, but was disarmed by other guards.

His mother said he felt he did not belong in Lake Alice.

"He said he was the only one there who hadn't killed anybody."

Mr Taane said Lewis took part in anti-Springbok rugby tour demonstrations in Dunedin in 1981, not because of his oppressed apartheid but because he enjoyed being near trouble.

"He was always there with a crash helmet on, and he always carried a weapon. Chris was never not armed."

Mr Taane said Lewis was an intelligent, polite young man — "butter wouldn't melt in his mouth" — but after



AT 21: "Butter wouldn't melt in his mouth." A friend recalls him as intelligent and polite.

knowing him for a while, he became scared of him and realised he was dangerous.

He remembers staring down the barrel of a shotgun when Lewis pointed it at him as a sinister joke.

Another time, when Lewis was 14, he took a leather whip he had made and wrapped it around the throat of a young neighbour, almost strangling her.

When 15, he pointed a shotgun at an old lady and demanded a ride to the shop, and two years later he pulled the head off a sparrow "just for the hell of it."

Mr Taane said Lewis was like no one else he had met before or since. "But then, you probably only meet one true psychopath in your life."

Christopher LEWIS  
24-9-97

SUBJECT:

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Chris  
Christopher Lewis  
PF

10/10/97



# Mother's love endures for disturbed son

The mother of Christopher Lewis had one of the hardest jobs of any parent — bringing up a psychologically disturbed boy who later embarked on a life of crime.

But she still loved him. "He's my son, I still love him and I always will," she told the *New Zealand Herald* in an exclusive interview earlier this year.

She spoke on the condition that she not be named. She did not want her Christian friends in Christchurch to know of her link to an alleged murderer.

Lewis was at his mother's home when police turned up to arrest him for the Tania Furlan killing.

His mother was shocked, and could not believe her son could take a life.

Lewis always maintained his innocence in letters home to his mother.

But while the killing seemed out of character, his mother said, "I will not be an ostrich and put my head in the sand and refuse to face reality."

She felt for the Furlan family and planned to write to them.

Christopher Lewis' mum had high hopes for her son despite his troubles.

She said she saw Christianity as a possible way for her son to leave behind his criminal past.

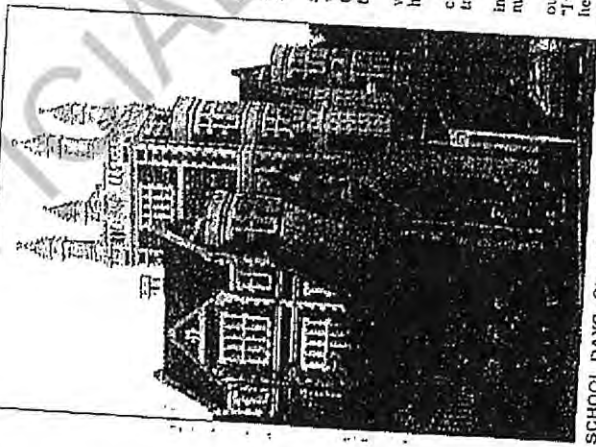
"It would be the beginning of a way out for him. I want him to embrace God again like he did when he was young."

But she said Lewis always laughed off the suggestion.

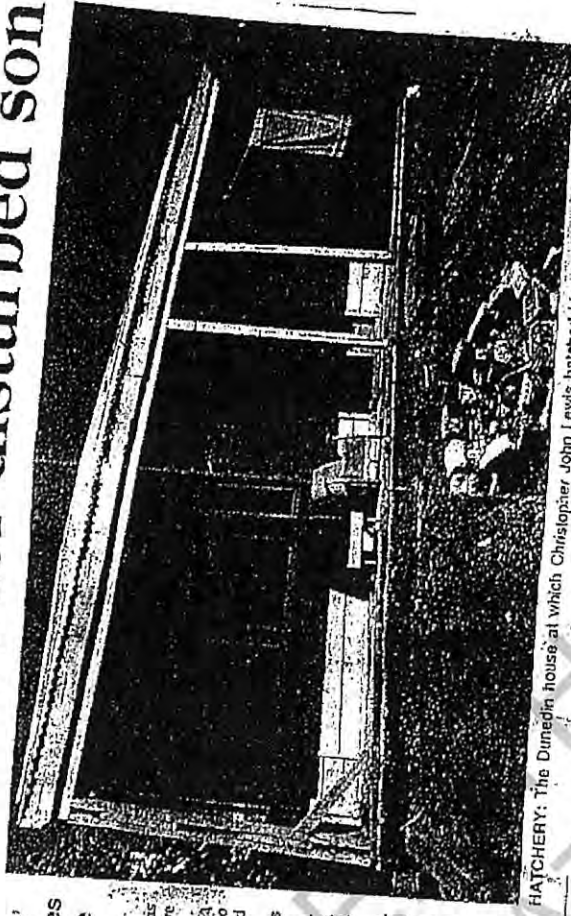
His mother said he was a relatively normal child, but she began to lose control of him when he got to school.

The shot at the Queen and the post office robbery worried her, but she still had hopes at that stage that it was "just a teenage thing" he was going through and he would grow out of it.

She still believes the Queen episode was not anti-royal but an act of bravado blown out of proportion by the media.



**SCHOOL DAYS:** Olago Boys High School, where Lewis spent his third and fourth-form years.



**HATCHERY:** The Dumezin house at which Christopher John Lewis hatched his plan to shoot the Queen.

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