

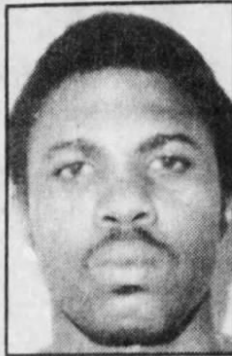
Police seek help to find suspect in fatal shooting

By Prakash Gandhi

OF THE SENTINEL STAFF

Detectives investigating the death of a 37-year-old Orlando man Friday appealed for help from the public in tracking down a suspect.

Police have issued a warrant for the arrest of Jerry Barr, 30, said Orlando police Detective Charlie Ings. Barr's last known address is 805



Barr Avondale St., Orlando, but Ings said police have not been able to find him.

He is wanted in connection with the fatal shooting of Venus Rumph, 37, who died at Orlando Regional Medical Center about 9:15 a.m. Friday, nearly nine days after being shot outside his South Parramore Avenue home.

Ings said there were many people near the scene of the shooting, some of whom could provide clues.

The shooting was near a restaurant called Sister Reed's and close to the Christian Service Center's Daily Bread program site, which serves lunches for the needy.

Ings said a line of people had

already formed outside the Daily Bread center waiting for it to open when the shooting occurred.

"We would appreciate anyone who saw or heard what happened to come forward," Ings said.

Rumph, who lived alone in an upstairs apartment at 217 S. Parramore Ave., was shot with a .25-caliber automatic at about 10:30 a.m. on July 3, said Ings.

Rumph was approached by a man about 1 a.m. in the street outside his home, Ings said. The pair argued but witnesses have been unable to say what caused the dispute, Ings said. The man left after the argument. But he returned later that day and shot Rumph in front of his doorway, Ings said.

Rumph ran from the scene and approached a witness for help, Ings said.

He handed the witness a brown, blood-stained piece of paper with the name Jerry Brockton on it before collapsing 1½ blocks from where he was shot, Ings said. He added that Brockton and Barr are the same man.

Ings said Barr is from Leesburg. Ings described him as 5-foot-9, weighing 160 pounds, of medium build, with black hair and brown eyes. He was wearing a red shirt and jeans.

Anyone with information can call Ings at 849-2419 or Crimeline at 849-2482.

Police: Suspect in killing had fought with victim

A 30-year-old suspect wanted in the fatal shooting of an Orlando man had fought with the victim the night before the shooting, police said Monday.

Police have issued a warrant for the arrest of Jerry Barr on a charge of first-degree murder, said Orlando police investigator Jerry Keefe. An arrest warrant for attempted murder had been issued earlier.

Barr, whose last known address is 805 Avondale St., Orlando, is wanted in connection with the death of Venus Rumph, 37, on July 3 outside Rumph's South Parramore Avenue home. Rumph died at Orlando Regional Medical Center on July 12 after nine days in intensive care.

"We have been told by witnesses that the argument was about a woman, but we don't know who this woman is. Apparently, Rumph did not know her either, so it looks as if Barr picked on the wrong guy.

"Apparently, the woman was not mentioned by name. If we could find out who she is, we might know what this argument was all about."

Anyone with information can call Keefe at 849-2419 or Crime-line at 849-2482.