Editor



San Fran. Chronicle

San Francisco, Calif.

Editor

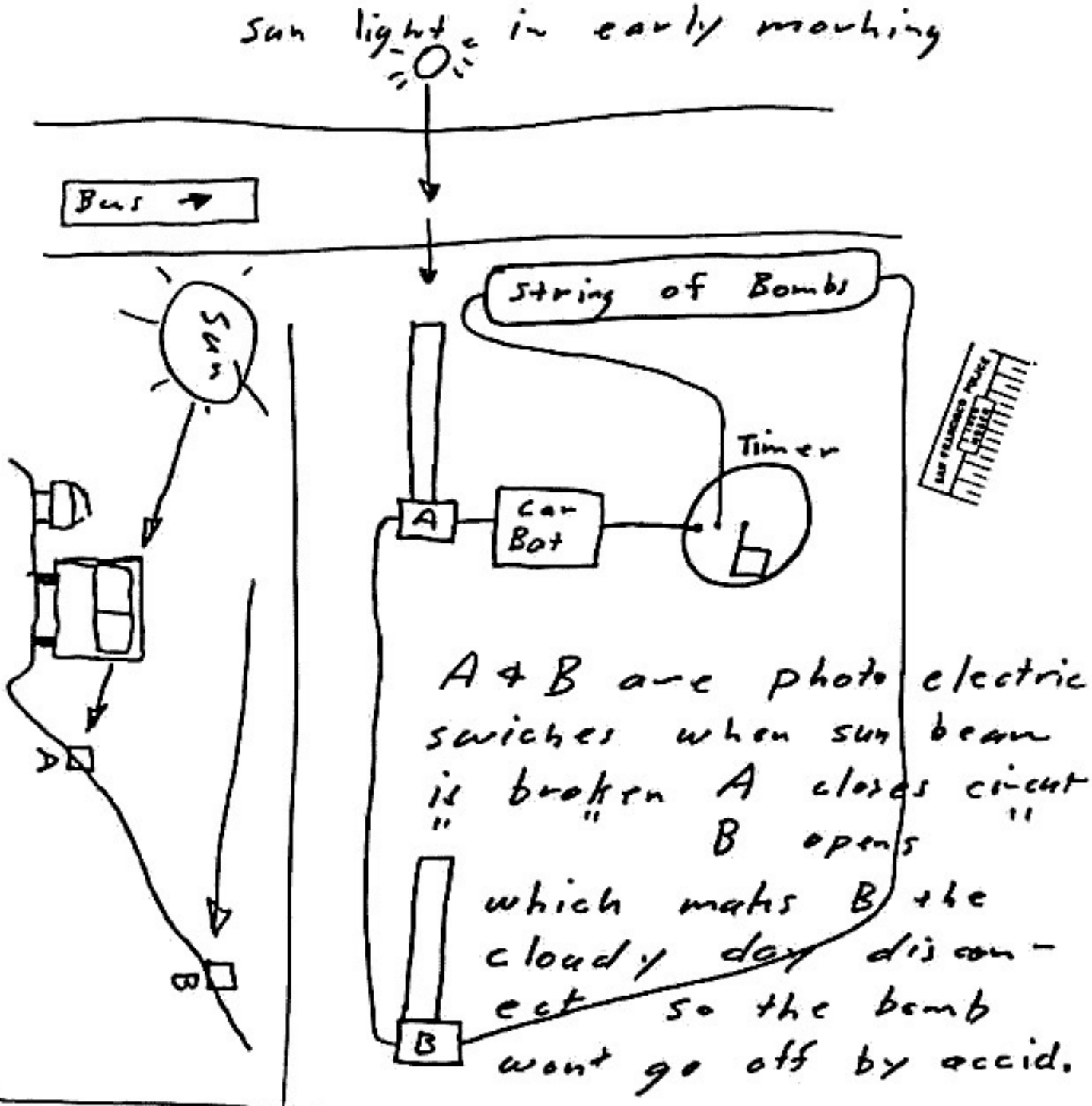
This is the Zodiac speaking
By the way have you cracked
the last cipher I sent you ?
My name is ——

A E N ⊕ ⊗ K ⊗ M ⊗ ⊔ N A M



I am mildly cerous as to how
much money you have on my
head now. I hope you do not
think that I was the one
who wiped out that blue
meannie with a bomb at the
cop station. Even though I talked
about killing school children with
one. It just wouldnt do to
move in on someone elses territory.
But there is more glory in killing
a cop than a civ because a cop
can shoot back. I have killed
ten people to date. It would
have been a lot more except
that my bas bomb was a dud.
I was swamped out by the
rain we had a while back.

The new bomb is set up like this



PS I hope you have fun trying to figgure out who I killed

=10 SFPD=0

Zodiac Killer Taunts Police in New Letter

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — "It is Zodiac," says police inspector Dave Toschi. "Here we go again."

Toschi was looking at a new letter from the man who calls himself Zodiac and now claims to have killed 10 people—five more than police previously credited him with.

The letter was received by the San Francisco Chronicle, was partly printed, partly written with a blue felt-tip pen. Like earlier communications from the boastful author, it needled police on the fact they haven't caught him.

Police believe Zodiac is the man who has killed five people in Northern California since Dec. 20, 1968. The first slaying was a young couple shot in a Vallejo lover's lane. A young woman followed in another shooting; her escort was seriously wounded but recovered.

Next a young picnicking couple was knife repeatedly by a masked killer at Lake Berryessa. The girl died, the boy survived. Most recently, a San Francisco taxi driver was shot to death. Fragments of his bloody shirt have been mailed in with earlier letters from Zodiac. None was in the one received Tuesday.

Portions of the new letter were withheld by police; those released showed Zodiac's customary erratic spelling:

"This is Zodiack speaking. By the way, have you cracked the last cipher I sent you? My name is . . . series of 13 symbols . . . I am mildly cerous as to how much money you have on my head now. I hope you do not think that I was the one who wiped out that blue meannie with a bomb at the cop station . . .

"It just wouldn't doo to move in on someone elses teritory. But there is more glory in killing a cop than a cid because a cop can shoot back. I have killed ten people to date. It would have been a lot more except . . . I was swamped out by the rain we had a while back.

"PS I hope you have fun trying to firgue out who I killed."

The letter was signed with the crossed circle used by Zodiac.

There have been a number of unsolved murders in the Bay Area since December, 1969, when the Zodiac was last heard from.

Police doubt he meant the stabbing death of Robert Salem, however. Salem, a



AP Wirephoto
ZODIAC KILLER
. . . artist's sketch

lamp designer, was found dead in his apartment Sunday night. His killer had scrawled "Satan Saves . . . Zodiac" on the wall in the victim's blood.

"My name is—," Zodiac said in the tidy printing that has become so familiar.

The next line of the letter was made up of 13 symbols which may be the letters of his name.

The writer's disclaimer about the bomb apparently referred to the Feb. 17 bombing of the Park police station here which killed one officer and injured several others. No arrests have been reported in that case.

The reference to killing a "cid" apparently represented Zodiac's spelling of "kid" and recalled a threat he made in an earlier letter to shoot school bus children, a threat never carried out.

His allusion to wet weather having hampered his career in killing is his second. On Dec. 20, 1969, first anniversary of his first murders, he wrote to attorney Melvin Belli:

"Please help me. I am drawnding."

Belli offered to meet him, but Zodiac never showed up.

AP Wirephoto
ZODIAC NOTE — This is a portion of note Zodiac sent San Francisco newspaper. Writer claims to have killed ten people thus far. Police say this is the same man who had sent the earlier letters.