

Feds seek bomb suspect's TV interview

By SHELLEY MURPHY

A Quincy man accused of masterminding an explosion that killed a Boston police officer has insisted he was an unwitting accomplice in a deadly plot hatched by a friend.

Thomas A. Shay, 21, of Quincy offered his version of the Oct. 28, 1991, Roslindale blast during an interview five months ago with WLVI-TV, Channel 56, that has been aired in part, and is being demanded in its entirety by federal prosecutors.

Shay claimed his engineer friend, Alfred Trenkler, was so enraged by Shay's years of sex-

ual abuse as a child in state institutions that he built a bomb to kill Shay's father.

"(Trenkler) was angry that it had happened to me and maybe thought it was my father's fault or my mother's fault that I was in these homes," Shay told WLVI-TV during the October interview.

"So he builds a bomb, tries to kill my father and thinks that I'm going to be happy over it." Shay insisted he didn't know anything about the bomb until after it exploded.

A federal indictment returned in December alleges Shay and Trenkler, 36, of

Quincy, plotted to kill Shay's father, Thomas L. Shay, by planting a bomb under his car.



SHAY

examining a suspicious box that the elder Shay found in the driveway of his Eastbourne Street home in Roslindale.

Trenkler is accused of build-

ing the bomb and Shay is accused of buying some of the components and planting the device under his father's car.

The motive for the younger Shay was greed and revenge, according to sources who claim Shay hoped to inherit any money his father might win in a \$400,000 civil lawsuit that was pending at the time.

Assistant U.S. Attorneys Paul V. Kelly and Frank A. Libby Jr. have asked U.S. District Judge Rya Zobel to order WLVI-TV to turn over a complete videotape of its Oct. 17 interview with Shay at the Plymouth County House of Correction.

Attorney Mark Tully, who represents WLVI-TV, argued that the prosecution's goal of building a case doesn't outweigh Channel 56's First Amendment interests against becoming a research tool of government.

Zobel has taken the matter under advisement.

Shay was cooperating with the government against Trenkler at the time of his interview with Channel 56, but he was indicted after investigators were unable to corroborate his story and suspected he minimized his role in the blast, sources said.

