



THOMAS SHAY JR.
TV interview eyed

Feds target new evidence in fatal bomb trial

By RALPH RANALLI

Armed with a recently released videotape interview, federal prosecutors this morning will attempt to persuade a U.S. District Court judge to change her mind on a key potential piece of evidence against accused bomber Thomas Shay Jr.

The trial of the 21-year-old Shay for the bombing death of Boston Police officer Jeremiah Hurley, meanwhile, is set to begin with opening arguments tomorrow after attorneys in the case picked a seven-woman, five-man jury yesterday.

U.S. District Court Judge Rya W. Zobel recently ruled that an identification of Shay by a Radio Shack employee as the purchaser of several electric components was not admissible.

But Assistant U.S. Attorneys Paul V. Kelly and Frank Libby Jr. have asked Zobel to reconsider her ruling after the airing of a previously unseen portion of an exclusive interview Shay gave to WLVI-TV/Channel 56 news anchor Karen Marinella.

In the interview — the new portion of which was aired Friday — Shay admits to buying two electric components for his alleged co-conspirator Alfred Trenker of Quincy, the motion says.

"There's only two things that I purchased that were inside that explosive device that killed Officer Hurley," Shay says, according to the government's motion.

"What were those two things?" asked Marinella.

"The toggle switch and the, ah, double-A battery holder... The Radio Shack clerk on Mass. Ave. recognized me, ah, I don't know really know why he recognized me, but ah, Al had me go in there and purchase those things."

Zobel also ruled on several motions yesterday, refusing defense attorney Nancy Gertner's request to postpone the trial and her request for two separate trials for Shay — one on the government's evidence against him and the other raising an insanity defense.