
Suspected bomber's mom links son to 2nd suspect

By RALPH RANALLI

The mother of accused 1991 bombing suspect Thomas Shay said yesterday she kicked a man off her couch who turned out to be Alfred Trenkler of Quincy, her son's alleged co-conspirator in the explosion that killed a Boston police officer.

An explosives expert for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, To-

bacco and Firearms, meanwhile, testified that Trenkler told him he was familiar with dynamite and blasting caps — two components of the bomb.

The 21-year-old Shay — and Trenkler, who will be tried separately this fall — are accused of building the bomb and planting it under Shay's father's car to profit from a lawsuit involving the father.

Prosecutors are now trying

to establish a link between Shay and Trenkler, a 36-year-old electrical engineer who they say was the brains behind the scheme.

Defense attorney Nancy Gertner, however, has suggested that the elder Shay built the bomb himself to bolster the civil suit, from which he hoped to gain \$400,000.

Nancy Shay, who is divorced from the elder Shay,

testified she came home one evening about a month before the Oct. 28, 1991, bombing and found "a man on my couch."

"I didn't know who this person was, so I got really mad," she said, adding she had forbidden her son — who is gay — to have men as overnight guests in her Milton home.

She said her son later identified the man as Trenkler.

ATF Special Agent Dennis

Leahy testified after Shay's mother, and said Trenkler told him he was familiar with blasting caps and dynamite during an interview about a 1986 attempted truck bombing. Trenkler reportedly admitted to.

Leahy also said the elder Shay was extensively investigated and was a suspect for some time after the bombing, but was eventually cleared.