

Suspect fingers friend in videotape

Claims bomb was 'surprise'

By RALPH RANALLI

Roslindale bombing suspect Thomas Shay, in a videotaped interview played yesterday in federal court, said the bomb meant to kill his father was built by a Quincy electrical engineer as a "surprise" for Shay.

In an interview with WLVI-TV that was never broadcast in its entirety, the 21-year-old Shay admitted to buying pieces of the bomb, but insisted he didn't know about a plan to blow up his father.

One Boston police officer, Jeremiah Hurley, died and a second, Francis X. Foley, was permanently disabled when the bomb exploded as they examined it. Shay's father was uninjured.

"I never asked Al Trenkler to do any type of physical harm by use of explosive or otherwise," Shay said during the interview, taped a year after the Oct. 28, 1991, bombing. "He did this on his own without my knowledge."

After the trial broke for the day, however, Shay's attorney Nancy Gertner continued to insist that none of Shay's statements are trustworthy.

She also continued to pursue her allegations that it was Shay's father, Thomas Sr., who built and planted the bomb.

The prosecution is expected to call its final witness this morning.

U.S. District Court Judge Rya W. Zobel yesterday ruled that prosecutors could not introduce evidence of a 1986 remote-control vehicle bomb built by Trenkler



THOMAS SHAY
Admits buying bomb parts

regularly for his alleged role in the Shay case.

In the videotaped interview, Shay said he believes Trenkler, 36, built the bomb because both men had been abused as children.

"Al Trenkler was abused by his father. I was abused by other people," he said. "So he decides to get back at my father."

But Shay also said federal authorities sent a "100-man diving task force" to search for evidence he and Trenkler had thrown into the ocean.

After the videotape was shown, Foley took the stand and retold the story of the day he lost an eye and hearing in one ear, among other injuries.

He said he and his partner, Hurley, were deciding whether to get their protective equipment when the bomb went off.

"I remember the explosive going off; I saw a ball of fire and white smoke, and I heard it... but it didn't sound loud to me," he said.

"I thought that the side of my face was gone... and I could feel the warmth down my leg, I knew it was blood.

"I was fighting (unconsciousness) because I was afraid I wasn't going to regain consciousness," Foley said. "Like Jerry, I wanted to communicate my feel-