

Feds: Bomb suspect sought sexual favor

By SID MAHER
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Federal prosecutors yesterday charged that accused bomber Alfred Trenkler of Milton built a bomb that killed a Boston police officer in order to ingratiate himself with his younger homosexual lover, a convicted co-conspirator in the case.

But Trenkler's lawyer told a jury the case against his client was "guilt by association" and that no evidence would be presented linking his client to the bomb as the trial began yesterday in U.S. District Court.

Trenkler, 37, is alleged to be

the technical mastermind behind the bomb that killed bomb squad Officer Jeremiah Hurley and maimed his partner, Francis X. Foley, when it exploded on Oct. 28, 1991, outside a Roslindale home owned by Thomas Shay Sr. Trenkler faces charges of conspiracy, receiving explosives and attempted malicious destruction of property resulting in the death of a police officer.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul V. Kelly told the jury Trenkler had been linked to the bombing after his name appeared in Thomas A. Shay Jr.'s address book. Shay, 21, was convicted in July of conspiracy and the malicious

destruction charge.

Kelly said evidence analysis, evidence from a 1986 bombing and statements by Trenkler himself would show his "distinctive touch" as the builder of the bomb.

But Trenkler's attorney, Terry P. Segal, said his client was innocent of the "horrible" 1986 incident as a "prank" involving a "firework."

In portraying Shay as the sole bomber, Segal's defense appears to differ greatly from that offered by Shay's attorney, Nancy Gertner, who sought to prove the bomb builder was Shay's father.

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