

Unabomber Excerpts Show State of Mind

2 Papers Publish 3,000 Words From Manifesto Reflecting His
Concerns

Arthur Spiegelman

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The nation's most-hunted man thinks that the industrial revolution has taken the joy out of life, fears that dictators will someday get nuclear weapons and says that he kills so people will pay attention to his ideas.

These are some of the points made in 3,000-word excerpts published Wednesday by two major newspapers from a 35,000-word manifesto sent to them by the Unabomber, whose letter bombs have killed three people and injured 23 others in 17 years.

The FBI has called the manifesto a major clue in their intense hunt for the Unabomber, who last struck in April when a letter bomb he sent killed a California timber industry lobbyist.

An FBI spokesman said the agency was circulating the manifesto to college professors throughout the country, hoping that they might recognize the ideas as those expressed by a former student or colleague.

Based on clues in the document, the FBI says the bomber appears to have been a student of the history of science in the late 1970s, probably in the Chicago area, and then moved to Utah and northern California.

The New York Times and the Washington Post both published the excerpts from the manifesto that was sent to them in late June.

Both papers said they had not decided whether to publish the entire manifesto – a demand made by the Unabomber with a pledge that if they did, he would stop killing people with bombs.

In a full-page advertisement titled "An Open Letter to the Unabomber", published in today's New York Times, Penthouse magazine publisher Bob Guccione offered the Unabomber a monthly column in his magazine if he agrees not to strike again.

In the excerpts published Wednesday, the Unabomber condemns the industrial revolution as a disaster for mankind, because it made life "unfulfilling."

He also condemns both liberals and conservatives, wonders about the moral code that should govern the way people act and says he fears what will happen when dictators get nuclear technology.

The Unabomber's actions have been aimed primarily at targets related to universities or technology.

The FBI said it was "particularly interested" in the Unabomber's activities in the Chicago area, possibly at Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., the site of the first two bombs in 1978, or the University of Illinois at Chicago.

The Ted K Archive

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