

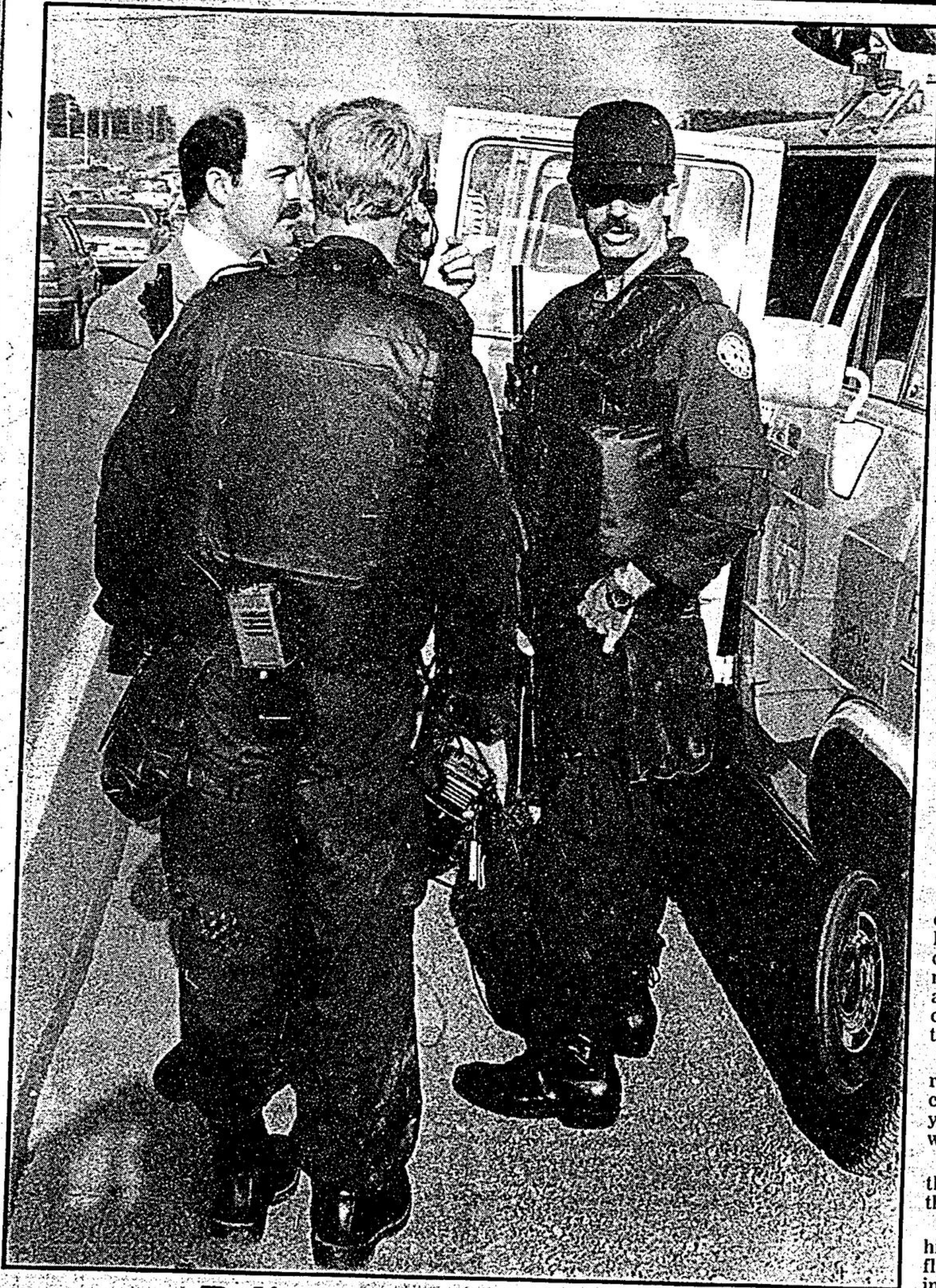
Weekender

VOL. 2 NO. 37

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Saturday, September 13, 1986

48 pages 25 cents



Police surround Unionville area house... again

By GREG COATES
Staff Reporter

For someone who says he's never been in trouble with the law, Markham's Gary McIsaac is seeing an awful lot of policemen lately.

On Tuesday, heavily armed police from Metro's emergency task force surrounded Mr. McIsaac's Hwy 7 home while looking for his younger brother.

It is the second time in about a month that police have raided the McIsaac residence looking for 22-year-old Michael McIsaac.

He is wanted in connection with the abduction of his estranged wife about a month ago (which she denies ever happened) and for skipping bail on possession of stolen property charges. In May, he was sentenced in absentia to two years.

While Gary McIsaac, 25, has no problems with police looking for his brother, it's the way he and his family have been treated that has him upset.

Gun to head

"They made me put my hands on my head and drop to my knees," he said, following Tuesday's raid at his Hwy 7 home near Woodbine Ave. "They put a gun to my head and told me to crawl on my hands and knees to the road."

Mr. McIsaac said the only reason given was that, "we can't take any chances. It's your brother and that's why were doing this to you."

Police were acting on a tip that Michael McIsaac was at the Hwy 7 home.

Mr. McIsaac admitted that his brother was at the house, but fled when he saw police arriving. Undercover police chased the man on foot, but failed to apprehend him.

Police surrounded the house and ordered everyone out. They spent about an hour searching the premises, apparently looking for a weapon but finding nothing.

Armed, dangerous

An alert to all Metro-area police forces to be on the lookout for Michael McIsaac advises that he's believed to be armed and extremely dangerous.

The suspect's wife and two children, Tara, 3, and Michael, 4, were in the house, along with brother Gary, 25, and his wife Joanne, 23, their five children and Joanne's brother, Stephen.

"I don't like having a gun pointed to my head," said Mr. McIsaac. "I don't have a criminal record and I've never been in trouble with the law in my life."

While police advised Mr. McIsaac that he was being charged with obstruction of justice and with harboring and abetting a criminal, he told The Weekender no papers were served.

Taken for questioning

He was taken to York Regional Police Force's 28 Division for questioning and later released.

"They wouldn't let me put a pair of shoes on or give me a ride back," said Mr. McIsaac. "I had to take a taxi. A guy with five kids has enough bills."

He added that he can't believe the way police are dealing with his brother.

"Nobody can believe it, to come here with that much heavy artillery," he said. "We're talking about Bonnie and Clyde."

Mr. McIsaac said he has tried to persuade his brother to surrender, but noted he is too afraid.

"I'd be too," he said. In a recent newspaper article, Michael McIsaac said he wants to turn himself in, but fears police will shoot him on sight.

York Regional Police Inspector Barry Delaney said if he wants to surrender, but is afraid of police, he can contact Crime Stoppers anonymously and Crime Stoppers will make arrangements for him to surrender safely.

At press time, no arrests had been made.

Police raid Hwy. 7 home

Members of Metro Police Force's emergency response unit gather following a raid at a Hwy 7 home Tuesday. Police were looking for Michael McIsaac, who is wanted in connection with the abduction of his estranged wife about a month ago and for skip-

ping bail on possession of stolen property charges. The house belongs to Michael McIsaac's older brother, Gary. The suspect was at the house, but escaped on foot as police arrived.

— Greg Coates

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