



## Artis held in drug bust

*Raids in 4 towns lead  
to charges for parolee*

**By Thomas Vaughan**  
Staff Writer

John Artis, a co-defendant with Rubin "Hurricane" Carter in a triple murder two decades ago, was among 11 persons arrested Friday night in raids in Wanaque, Hawthorne, Bloomingdale and Paterson, police disclosed yesterday.

Donald Campolo, an assistant Passaic County prosecutor, said Artis was arrested on Hamburg Turnpike in Wayne after objects used in packaging and consuming narcotics were found in the 1985 car he was driving.

The prosecutor said a loaded .45-caliber pistol and other drug implements were found Friday night in Artis' Redwood Avenue apartment in Paterson.

Artis, 40, was charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine and sent to the county jail in Paterson without bail. Campolo said his office will act tomorrow to charge Artis with illegal possession of a firearm. Campolo said Artis and the other suspects arrested in the raid will be arraigned tomorrow in Passaic County Superior Court by Judge Ralph V. Martin, who will set bail.

Campolo described Artis as one of the principals in a drug distribution ring operating primarily from two sites in Wanaque and one in Paterson. The ring

See ARTIS, Page A-12

# Artis held in drug raid

(Continued from Page A-1)

sold narcotics to buyers in upper Passaic County, Campolo said.

Campolo said his office will attempt to prove that Artis was one of several persons who bought drugs in upper Manhattan and delivered them to locations in Wanaque and Paterson. Records seized disclosed the suppliers distributed the drugs by consignment, Campolo said.

Narcotics detectives assigned to the prosecutor's office said Artis was trailed from his home and stopped about 6 p.m. in Wayne. Campolo said Artis apparently was heading to one of five spots marked for police raids in Wanaque that night.

Raids also were carried out on Orchard Street in Bloomingdale, Lafayette Street in Hawthorne, and East 22nd Street in Paterson.

"It was not an unusual operation," Campolo said. He said orders were taken and filled at two chief locations in Wanaque. Campolo said the ringleaders made certain never to keep drugs in any volume at either site at any particular time. "They knew their needs and made buys based on those needs," Campolo said.

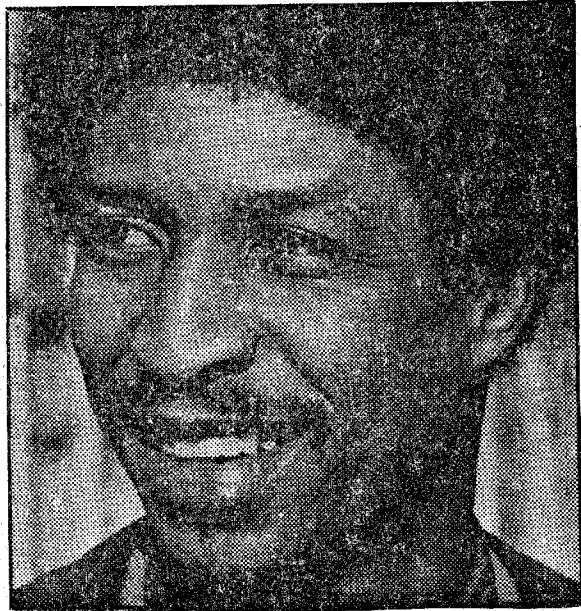
Artis was paroled in 1981 from Rahway State Prison. He and Carter were convicted of shooting to death three whites at the former Lafayette Bar and Grille at Lafayette and East 18th street June 16, 1966. Prosecutors claimed the killings were in retaliation for the murder earlier that day, reportedly by whites, of the black owner of a nearby tavern.

Carter, who was imprisoned at Rahway, was paroled in November 1985 and dropped from sight.

The key targets in Wanaque were a house on Ringwood Avenue, where Rosemarie Linda Hendricks, 39, lived on the second floor. She was arrested at her job in Rutherford and charged with conspiring to distribute cocaine. Detectives said a search of her apartment turned up an estimated \$300 worth of cocaine, drug paraphernalia, packaging materials and a small amount of marijuana. Raiders also found records indicating narcotics transactions. Campolo said a quantity of Valium, a prescription drug, was also seized.

The home of Christine McCaghey on Lakeside Avenue was the other major target in Wanaque. McCaghey, 43, was also charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

Charles Quintana, 20, and Christopher Caserta, 19, were arrested at her home and charged with single counts of conspiracy to distribute cocaine.



John Artis

File photo

Also arrested on charges of conspiracy to distribute were two Wanaque men, Michael Mully, 25, of Brook Street, Wanaque, and Michael Tremonti, 35, of Lafayette Street, Hawthorne. Tremonti also was arrested on a charge of possession of narcotics paraphernalia.

Cathy Osborn, 22, of Ringwood Avenue, Wanaque, was arrested on a charge of conspiracy to distribute marijuana, and a raid at house on Orchard Street, Bloomingdale, resulted in the arrest of Rick McGrady on charges of possession of narcotics paraphernalia and conspiracy to distribute cocaine.

Maureen Payne, 31, of East 22nd Street, Paterson, the third chief location, and her brother, Alphonso, 30, were arrested on charges of possession of narcotics paraphernalia and amphetamines, commonly known as speed.

Campolo said the wiretapes were used to gather information during the two-month investigation. He said 50 policemen from the prosecutor's office and from Paterson, Wanaque, Hawthorne and Bloomingdale participated in the raid that netted just under \$1,000 in cash, six cars and an estimated \$5,000 worth of narcotics, mostly cocaine.

Police said the principal figures in the operation made buys of cocaine in powder and crack form in New York at least twice a week. Campolo said an investigation disclose operation was in existence since last December.

The suspects were due to be arraigned and have bail set by Judge Martin tomorrow in Passaic County Superior Court.

Campolo said the investigation, initiated by the narcotics unit of the prosecutor's office, was continuing in conjunction with New York authorities. He said at least one other arrest is expected.