

Concern grows over missing

Concern grows over missing 10-year-old

By STEVIE LACY-PENDLETON

As the third day of the search came to an end, police were no closer to solving the mysterious disappearance of Steven Vance.

Vance, 10 years old and suffering from a brain disorder, disappeared from in front of his home at 51 Wayne Terr., Port Richmond, on Sunday evening.

The youngest of three children, Steven suffers from aphasia, a brain disorder that results in the partial or total loss of the ability to articulate ideas. He has been described as autistic, fragile, withdrawn and timid.

Steven takes Mellaril, a strong drug used to reduce hyperactivity, among other emotional and physical conditions. He takes the drug twice a day and has been without it since Sunday afternoon.

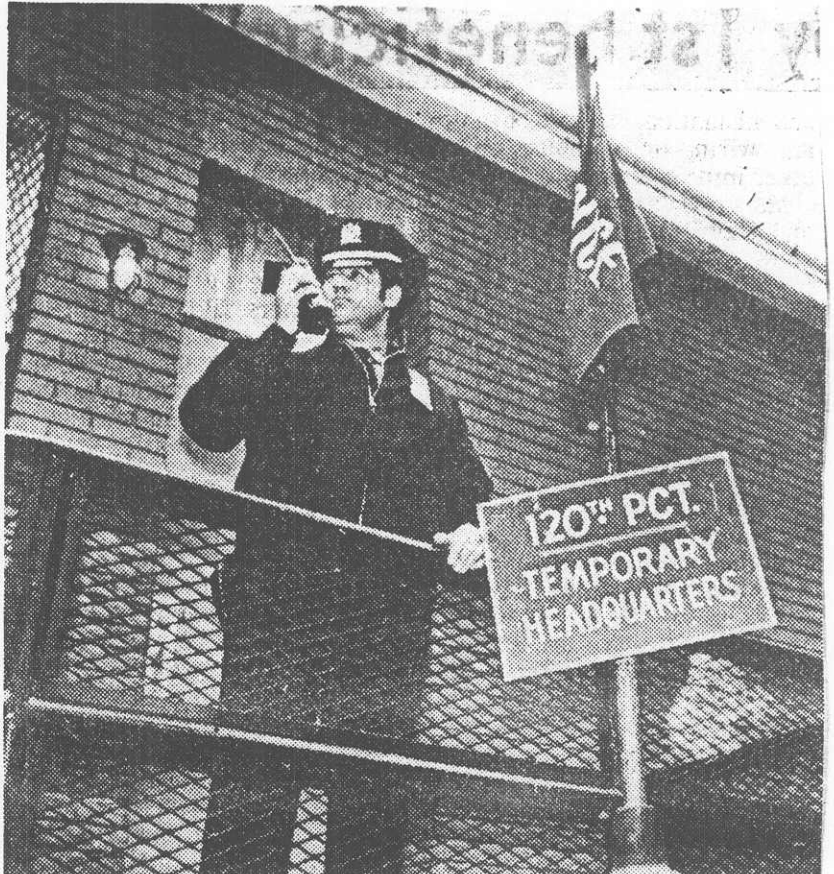
A nurse, who asked not to be identified, said patients treated with Mellaril experience "very agitated" behavior if the drug is withdrawn.

"If the little boy has been without his medication since Sunday he would appear hyperactive; his emotional state would be extremely agitated. Absence of (the) dosage would also result in extremely pronounced tremors and he might become disoriented," she said.

Deputy Inspector Dennis

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10-year-old



Sgt. Edward Diaz helps coordinate searchers from police station-houses throughout the Island. Police have a temporary headquarters in the Markham Houses, West Brighton, while they accelerate their search for Steven Vance.

S.I. Advance Photo by Barry Schwartz