

A daring lure in kidnap case

Minister risked his own family

By PHILIP RUSSO
ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

The accused kidnapper of Jennifer Schweiger lived in the West Brighton home of a storefront preacher for almost a month as police sought evidence to implicate him.

The amazing story came to light yesterday when the Rev. Charles G. Muskett revealed how he and his wife, Carolyn, took the risk of taking Andre Rand in at the behest of the police.

"We have 'special children,' too," he said, "and I felt a sympathy for Jennifer and her parents. I could just feel what it was like."

Mr. Muskett said he rented a spare room in his home at 1062 Castleton Ave. to Rand shortly after the July 9 disappearance of Jennifer, the 12-year-old Westleigh girl who has Down's syndrome.

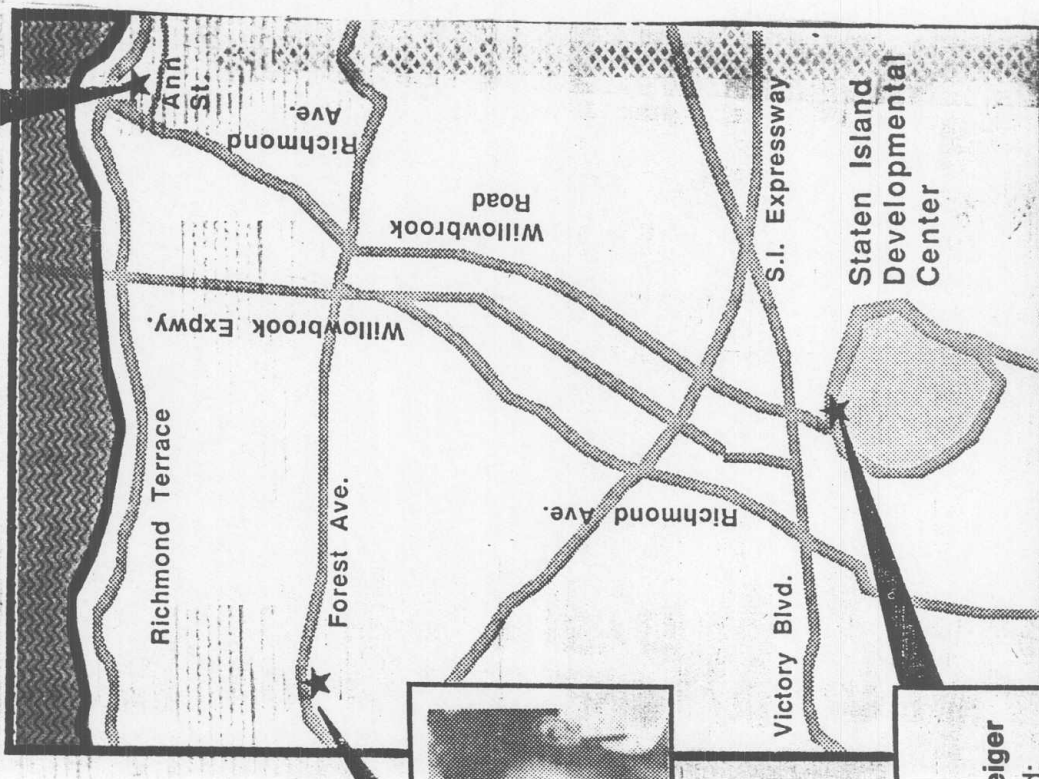
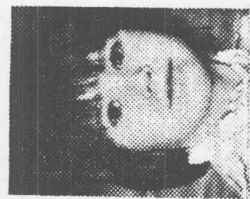
Rand was apparently looking for a room after police discovered his encampment on the grounds of the Staten Island Developmental Center. After Rand approached the Musketts, police also talked with them, requesting them to take him in so he could be placed under surveillance.

Despite his initial fear of what Rand might do to his six children — two of whom are mentally retarded — Mr. Muskett said he allowed detectives to place an electronic listening device in his kitchen table in an effort to get Rand to implicate himself during the month he lived with the family.

According to Mr. Muskett, po-

Page
5
of
7 Pages

Holly Ann Hughes
Disappeared:
July 15, 1981



iger
d: