

NEW YORK POST

HOW I NIXED 'FT. DIX 6'

By JANA WINTER in Wilmington, Del., and JEANE MacINTOSH in N.Y.



mycokerewards.com

20-ounce
Coca-Cola®
just for
signing up

GET FREE COCA-COLA

©2007 The Coca-Cola Company.
All Rights Reserved.

May 21, 2007 -- The moment they saw the men pull guns from the back of a pickup and start shooting while shouting in a foreign language, clerks at a New Jersey electronics store knew they weren't looking at a run-of-the-mill home video.

"It was scary, to say the least," said Nate Sierer, 25, one of three Circuit City workers who helped bring down the six suspected terrorists arrested this month in an alleged plot to massacre soldiers at Fort Dix.

"You could definitely tell that all the weapons were fully automatic," said Sierer, a store manager who, with two co-workers, watched the first several minutes of the tape after it was dropped off at the Mount Laurel store to be copied.

"There were four to six guys talking in a foreign language, and they'd just shout and shoot. They're screaming and shooting," Sierer recalled. "I didn't know what they were saying, but it was scary."

In an exclusive interview with The Post, Sierer, who recently transferred to a Circuit City in Wilmington, Del., praised the two co-workers who alerted him to the video. (The duo has declined to speak publicly.)

Sierer recounted how two men handed the employees a video camera and asked that its mini-tape be copied to DVD.

They copied the tape and tested it.

"We usually just play the copy for a second to make sure it works" Sierer said. "So it wasn't until after the DVD was made that my guys saw what was on it."

They immediately called Sierer.

"I came over, and they're like, 'You've got to see this,' " he said. "They seemed to be pretty freaked out. They played the video for me."

The tape, Sierer said, "starts with a bunch of guys driving down an icy, snowy road in a pickup truck."

"After a while, they get out, and that's when you can see where they are," he said. "There's woods all around, and then a clearing in the middle. They grab their guns out of the back of the truck, and they walk into the open field."

When they began shooting and yelling, Sierer "was definitely afraid."

"I said, 'Let's turn this off now. I think we should call someone, like Homeland Security,' " he recalled.

Unable to find a phone-book listing, they Googled Homeland Security, found a number and called.

Federal agents arrived within an hour, Sierer said. "One of the guys says, 'Make me a copy of that tape, will ya?' " he recalled.

The agents also took the work-order form, which included a cellphone number, for the men who had dropped off the tape.

After the authorities left, "I told my guys to call the two men who brought the camera in and let them know their DVD is ready," Sierer said.

He didn't hear anything else about the frightening video until May 8, when news of the arrests broke and the Mount Laurel co-workers called and told him to turn on the TV.

"I was like, 'Holy crap!' " Sierer said.

Since word of Circuit City's role in the bust came out, employees have rallied around Sierer and the two clerks, and complained that they got no reward - not even a day off - for their heroism.

Sierer said that doesn't matter.

"I don't want to live scared," he said. "And it felt good to be able to do something like that for my country."

"I'm proud of what I did. Very proud."

jeane.macintosh@nypost.com

Home

NEW YORK POST is a registered trademark of NYP Holdings, Inc. NYPOST.COM, NYPOSTONLINE.COM, and NEWYORKPOST.COM are trademarks of NYP Holdings, Inc. Copyright 2007 NYP Holdings, Inc. All rights reserved.