

# Withdrawal—With Undue Interest

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New York—With their guns drawn, police swarmed into a bank yesterday and collared what they thought was another bank robber waiting for a teller to hand over the cash.

"This is the guy," said the teller.

"Wait a minute," the man said. "I was only making a withdrawal."

"Sure you were, pal," said the cops, who hauled him off to the station house to be booked. About an hour later, the suspect was released. He had convinced police that he really was making a withdrawal—legally.

Police said that the man, whose identity was not disclosed, had an account at the Citibank branch at 200 Park Ave. He had filled out a withdrawal slip and handed it to the teller. But he had never looked at the back of the slip.

On the back, some prankster had printed in block letters: "This is a stickup." And the prankster returned the slip to the rack, where the customer later found and used it.

The teller did look at the back, however, and activated an alarm.

The customer was released when a check of the account number on the face of the orange and white slip showed that the man had an account at the bank, after all.

New York—Police said yesterday that one man—whom they have dubbed the "T-shirt bandit"—has committed 10 robberies this year. He has apparently contributed more than any other identifiable bank robber to the city's new bank-heist record—including the record-breaking holdup itself.

The T-shirt bandit, photographed by bank cameras, has taken \$12,973 since Aug. 2, police said.

Police said that the light-haired man usually waits his turn on line, then smiles and hands the teller a note that says: "If you value your life, give me your money."

He is about 5 feet, 8 inches tall, and usually wears glasses with gold-wire frames.

Police said that it was his 10th robbery of the

year which broke the city record Wednesday. They said that he robbed the Chemical Bank on Water Street, making off with \$414. That robbery, the sixth and final one of the day, was the 642nd of the year. The greatest number of bank robberies in the city previously was 641 in all of 1977.

There was only one actual bank robbery yesterday. A bandit walked into a Chase Manhattan bank at 345 Hudson St. in lower Manhattan, held a teller at gunpoint and fled with a bag full of an undetermined amount of cash, police said. The heist took place about an hour before closing, police said.

Meanwhile, a Manhattan jewelry firm was robbed of \$250,000 in gold and gems by two men, police said. A police spokesman said that the robbers forced the owner of Gem International Inc. to open the door on the 12th floor of 145 W. 45th St. at about 4:40 P.M. They produced handguns, forced the owner to the rear office and ordered him to open a safe. The robbers spent 15 minutes taking gold and jewelry, police said. There were no injuries.