

Feds probing 'Kill Obama' poll

Facebook user sought as experts question whether threat was meant

BY JASON FINK
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It seems unlikely that whoever posted a Facebook poll asking whether President Barack Obama should be assassinated will be charged with a crime simply for asking the question, though the feds yesterday continued to investigate.

No arrests have been made and a spokesman for the Secret Service would not say if a suspect has been identified.

Experts said if the Secret Service identified the person who posted the poll on Sunday, agents are likely to try to determine whether the person has done anything else that could be

considered a threat. "The Secret Service and other authorities need to ascertain whether this person's intent was to threaten the president or voice his or her displeasure with President Obama's policies," said Jeremy Sa-land, a former prosecutor in the Manhattan district attorney's office. "The nature of the poll asking — not threatening, directing or encouraging — whether the president should be

killed may be offensive ... but at first glance does not appear to be a threat."

The poll, pulled Monday, gave users a choice of a response: "Yes," "no," "maybe" or "if he cuts my health care." About 700 people responded, though the results were unavailable.

"As is usually the case, our vigilant users reported it to us first and we took it down shortly after receiving the first reports," said Barry Schnitt, a spokes-

man for Facebook. The developer of the application used to create the poll, who is cooperating with the Secret Service, said he was unaware someone had posted the Obama question until he read about it Monday.

Online, opinions were mixed about the poll. "Should find the guy who posted this and throw him off the Internet," one commenter wrote on The Huffington Post.

Cops hunt stabbing suspect

BY PETE CATAPANO
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The suspect in the fatal stabbing of a 20-year-old man outside the main post office is a vet who served in Kuwait and has a long rap sheet, authorities said.

Police are hunting for 28-year-old Sirmone McCaulla, who lives on Lexington Avenue in East Harlem, in Sunday's slay of Christopher



McCaulla

Gutierrez outside the James A. Farley Post Office. A police officer who had served with McCaulla in the Army Reserves recognized

him from the photos taken on the scene by a German tourist, reports said.

McCaulla allegedly stabbed Gutierrez four times after they accidentally bumped into each other.

"Indeed, the victim assumes a stance like a fighter," said Police Commissioner Ray Kelly, describing a surveillance video.

The funeral for Gutierrez is to be held Friday on the Lower East Side.

Gutierrez, who lived in an apartment near Penn Station, according to The New York Times, has a 1-year-old son who lives in Pennsylvania with his mother.

Ex-friend ties Gotti to slays

John "Junior" Gotti's former best friend and mob lieutenant tied him to seven murders and estimated that he split more than \$50 million in profits with his boss from a decade of law-breaking, the government's star witness testified in the Gambino family heir's racketeering trial.

John Alite, appearing in Manhattan federal court yesterday, said that he had firsthand knowledge of Gotti's role in the drug-related murders of George Grosso and Bruce Gotterup, which are charged as separate counts, and the killing

of Louis DiBono, who was slain for defying orders from his father. But Alite said Gotti also bragged about his role in four other killings.

Gotti, he said, took credit for the stabbing of Danny Silva in a Queens barfight in 1983. He also said Gotti had a role in the 1984 hanging of a witness to that stabbing who fingered Gotti. Gotti also said he drove a get-away car in a hit on mobster "Willie Boy" Johnson and discussed the killing of an unnamed victim at brother-in-law Carmine Agnello's junkyard.

(NEWSDAY)



Mariah's magic Pop queen Mariah Carey signs autographs before her appearance on NBC's "Today" show yesterday in Manhattan. Her new album, "Memoirs of an Imperfect Angel," was released yesterday.

(AP)

CONTEST BOX



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