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- Be cautious about going into a basement garage when you are alone.
 - Avoid poorly lighted stairwells that are seldom used. If you must use the stairs, do so in the company of a companion or someone you trust. Use the elevator whenever possible in a building; stand next to the control panel in an elevator, and if threatened, push the alarm button.

A simple way for a person living alone to detect if an intruder entered his or her apartment during an absence, is to leave a bank note, the equivalent of \$5, on a table in the entrance vestibule. Before entering, a check is made to determine if the bank note is still there. If it is no longer there when opening the door, the apartment must not be entered. The door will be closed and locked and a friend or neighbor will be asked to assist in inspecting the apartment to ensure no intruder is hiding therein.

3. RESIDENTIAL PROTECTION

Before carrying out an attack on a house or an apartment, common criminals will invariably keep the premises under surveillance for a period of time to determine what deterrents might be encountered.

They will learn when a residence is unoccupied, if there is a guard on the grounds, a watch dog, a wall or fence to be penetrated, any external lighting that could reveal their movements, and external alarm system and the types of doors and locks that would confront them.

If the deterrents provided would make intrusion a difficult operation, there is a good likelihood that even the criminal with a successful background would look for a softer target.

Residential security, in many ways, is more difficult to achieve than office security. The basic difference is that a residence is designed to be lived in 24 hours a day. Any system of security must contain this "livability" factor. It must be tolerant of children, pets, and spouses who return home late. The system must function while the family is at home going about their normal activities, as well as when the house is unoccupied.

Doors, Windows and Other Openings

The most vulnerable points for penetration of a residence are the main, side and rear entrance doors. To be considered secure, all must be fitted with deadbolts. In high crime areas it is also advisable to install two strong sliding bolts on the inside of each external door.