

Another False Alarm In Zodiac Case

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—Homicide investigators said today a man being held in Las Vegas as a possible suspect in the Zodiac murders “doesn’t look like anything that we’re interested in at all.”

Inspector Dave Toschi, one of the team assigned to the Zodiac case, said Gary Ronald Schilling, 27, Los Angeles, was “one of about 5,000 suspects who resembled our composite (picture) of Zodiac that we’ve checked.”

“We can’t positively rule him out until we receive his fingerprints,” the inspector said. “But it’s just a routine check. Somebody jumped the gun on this and it’s gotten completely out of hand.”

Schilling was arrested on the Las Vegas strip Tuesday night for possession of unregistered firearms. He was later booked

on a hold for murder as a possible suspect in the five Bay Area killings of recent months.

Toschi said Schilling had been questioned at length about the Zodiac killings by Las Vegas detectives and didn’t seem to be a likely suspect.

Schilling was arrested when deputies found him sleeping in the back of his car in the parking lot of a hotel. They found a .380 beretta and a .22 caliber pistol in the car.

Fingerprints and handwriting samples were sent to San Francisco police to determine if there is any connection between the man and the so-called Zodiac killer.

Authorities in San Francisco have attributed five murders in recent months to a person who has called himself Zodiac in letters to police and newspapers boasting of the murders.