

# ROBERT BLAKE'S STUNNING

Robert Blake crumbled under the strain of his quest for the murder of the Bonny Lee Bakley, sources, teetering between blind rage - error.

"do this to me. I'm Robert Factor. I'm Baretta," he confesses before confessing responsible for all this my wife deserved to die!"

8, regained his composure, booking at L.A.'s Parker continued, but by then, say he looked like an old man, fingers bowed and his head

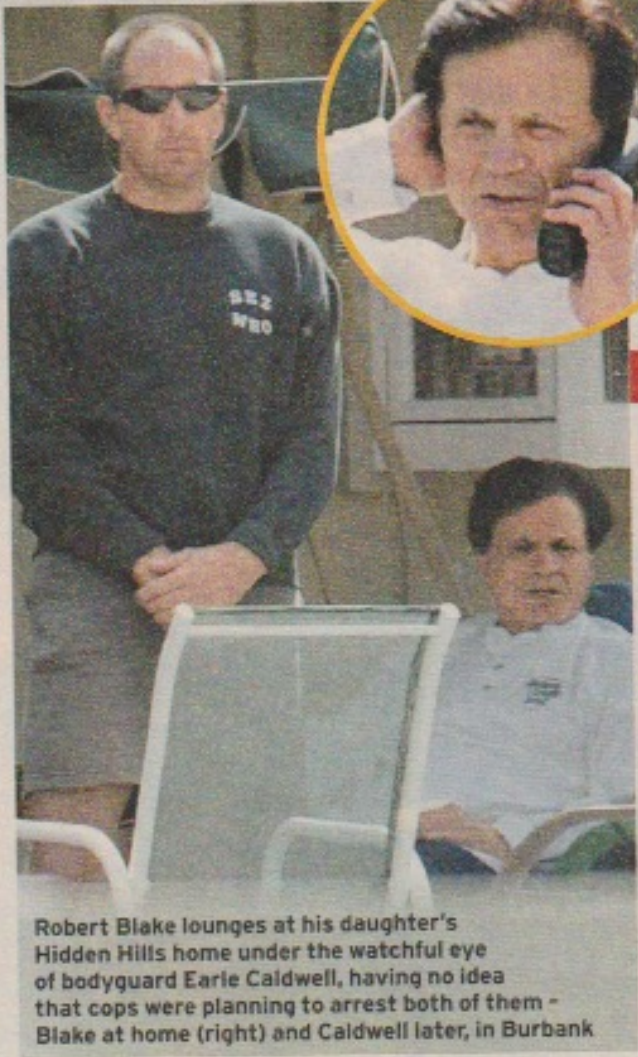
me stood in sharp contrast to the one that unfolded at her's Hidden Hills home before.

when 30 cops, led by with the LAPD's Robbery Division, swooped in to smiling and cocksure months after Bakley was not dead in his black health in Studio City, y 4, 2001.

believe the Baretta star hire two hit men to kill but failed and then shot self. During an intense and ing investigation, police 900 pieces of evidence reviewed more than 150 20 states.

also got the World War II man-made handgun they used to kill Bakley - a con who preyed on lonely, sex- men and incensed Blake by rth to his daughter, Rose, in having an abortion.

made in early 2000 reveal a Blake berating Bakley for pregnant and then reneging abortion promise. was a rotten, stinking, filthy said. "Getting pregnant



Robert Blake lounges at his daughter's Hidden Hills home under the watchful eye of bodyguard Earle Caldwell, having no idea that cops were planning to arrest both of them - Blake at home (right) and Caldwell later, in Burbank



'You can't do this to me - I'm Baretta!'



deliberately and lying to me about abortions. That's who you are and that's the name of that tune.

"If that's the way you can live and you can live with yourself doing stuff like that, it's gonna come down on you."

Alerted to his impending arrest by his lawyer, Harland Braun, the actor was waiting outside when cops showed up.

"He came swaggering down to meet them," reveals an eyewitness.

"He even smiled, despite the fact he knew he was going to be arrested. If he was nervous, he was trying not to show it."

Blake was instructed to put his hands on the wall and spread his legs as cops frisked him. The actor and several detectives then disappeared inside the house. Forty minutes later, they came back out - this time with Blake's arms handcuffed behind him.

While cops "high-fived because

they'd finally nailed their man," says an eyewitness, Blake was placed in the back of an unmarked squad car for the 30-minute drive to headquarters.

At that point, says another source, he was still defiant. "His attitude was, 'You've got nothing on me - is this your best shot after 11 months of investigation?'"

"But as they drove down the freeway with him cuffed between two cops in the back seat, his cockiness started to subside. His hands began

## COUNTDOWN TO MURDER

RE'S a blow-by-blow account of the events leading up to the crime and Blake's arrest:  
 ● 1998 - Bonny Lee

meets Blake at a jazz club in Burbank, Calif. They begin dating.  
 ● June 2, 2000 - She gives birth to Rose. Bonny Lee believed Marlon Brando's son Christian was the

father, but DNA tests prove Blake was and he agrees to marry her.  
 ● Nov. 19, 2000 - They wed at Blake's "Mata Hari Ranch" in L.A.'s Studio City area. Bonny Lee moves into the guesthouse with Rose. Within days, she returns to Arkansas to complete probation for being caught with stolen credit cards.

● May 4, 2001 - Bonny Lee and Blake dine at Vitello's. She is then shot to death in their car just a block from the restaurant.  
 ● May 5, 2001 - Blake says the shooting occurred while he was returning to Vitello's to retrieve a handgun he'd left behind. Staff say there was no sign of a gun.