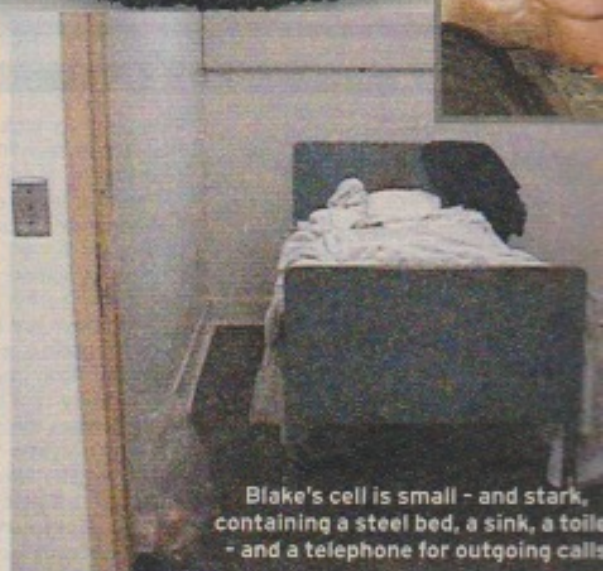


# BIG CONFESSION

'My wife deserved to die'



Blake's cell is small - and stark, containing a steel bed, a sink, a toilet - and a telephone for outgoing calls.



**INSIDE HIS JAIL CELL** EXCLUSIVE

to shake as he kept explaining, "You people are making a big mistake - this is gonna cost you plenty when my attorney sues for wrongful arrest," the source says. While Blake was mouthing off on the way to the police station, his bodyguard, Earle Caldwell, 46, also was being arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit murder. By the time Blake arrived at Parker Center a few minutes after Caldwell, says an eyewitness, he appeared

grim-faced, pale and looked like "a man walking to death row." "He was staring straight ahead and had a really intense grimace," adds the source. "He looked terrified. He was biting his bottom lip and his face was very pale - he looked like a corpse." A police source adds: "By the time Blake was booked, he was a nervous wreck. The rough-tough Baretta stuff was gone. He looked like any other sniveling felon

who realizes he's in big trouble. "He was dead worried they were going to put him in a cell with other felons. He kept saying, 'Don't do that - they'll kill me. I'm Robert Blake, the actor - you've got to give me some special consideration.'" "There was nothing cocky about him at this point. He looked like a guy with the full weight of the law on him and he was utterly crushed." Just after midnight, Blake - Booking No. 7253166 - was

transferred to the Men's Cell a half-mile away. He was in standard prison garb, dark pants and matching shirt. He had a routine health screen and was escorted to a single-occupancy cell in the jail's hospital unit, the wing where O.J. Simpson was held during his criminal trial for the murder of wife Nicole. As a high-security inmate, Blake was a "person of high notoriety."

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MAY 7, 2002

- May 6, 2001 - Police serve a warrant at Blake's house, recover two 9mm handguns and seize phone records.
- May 9, 2001 - Blake's lawyer, Garland Braun, releases letters showing Bonny Lee ran a lonely-hearts business, swindling men out of money.

- May 11, 2001 - Blake's bodyguard/chauffeur Earle Caldwell says cops have zeroed in on the Baretta star.
- May 25, 2001 - Bonny Lee is buried as a somber Blake pays tribute to her for bringing their daughter into the world. Bonny Lee's family boycotts the service,

- accusing Blake of being her killer.
- Aug. 24, 2001 - Blake says he plans to sell his ranch.
- Jan. 13, 2002 - Cops announce they've made major progress after sifting through videotapes, photographs, letters and other documents that belonged to Bonny Lee.

- April 4, 2002 - America's Wanted host John Walsh tells CNN's Larry King that his sources have informed him arrest is imminent.
- April 18, 2002 - Blake is at the gated community home of his daughter Delinah, 35, in suburban Hidden Hills.