

TTC Bus Hijacked

December 31, 2006

TORONTO: A man hijacked a TTC bus downtown Saturday, December 30th, in the afternoon, then ran away. Police said that the suspect got on the bus in the area of Bay and Wellesley streets and threatened the bus driver with a hand-gun. The driver told police he was forced to drive the bus through the downtown core. The passengers on the bus were allowed off before the trip around the city, police said.

Eventually, the suspect simply got off the bus in the area of Queen and Church and ran away. The bus driver was not injured. "We have no idea of the point of this. There were no injuries and no robbery," said Det.-Const. Chris Hominuk. Police are looking for a white man in his 40's, about 6-foot-1 wearing a suede jacket, jeans and a red hat.

"It could have ended a lot more terribly. We're glad the operator and passengers are safe," said Bob Kinnear, president of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 113. Around 600 TTC employees have been assaulted on the job this year, up significantly from the 500 injured most years.

Anyone with information is asked to call police at 416-808-5200 or Crime Stoppers at 416-222-TIPS.