

## Bomb victim fears more violence

BY ERIN FUCHS

DALTON BUREAU

RESACA, Ga. — Renegades biker James Brock Jr. sat on his couch, next to a walker, and held up the stump to show where his right hand used to be, while his 18-month-old daughter, Kaylee, played with the limb.

"I'm not angry, per se," said Mr. Brock, who was injured in August when a bomb exploded as he got into his pickup truck.

**LISTEN UP** "I worry about my family, and I worry about the safety of my kids. ... If she would have been in the truck," he said, motioning to Kaylee, "she never would have made it."

Mr. Brock, 27, blames a feud between the Renegades and rival motorcycle group the Outlaws for the attack — which put him in the hospital for a month and could put him out of work, he says, indefinitely.

"I don't have any other enemies," he said. "I'll put it that way."

The bomb exploded Aug. 16 about 6:30 a.m., as he got into his truck to go to work at the dye house at Mohawk Industries. "I thought it was the Outlaws," Mr. Brock said.

Authorities have been investigating a possible connection to biker club rivalry. In June, a shooting at a Forest Park, Ga., strip club left Outlaw biker Frank Rego Vital dead. Mr. Brock's father, James Wayne Brock Sr., was charged with aggravated assault in the slaying and was himself shot and wounded.

"They had a chance encounter. ... They just bumped into each other in the night," said Capt. R.W. Cotrell of the Forest Park police. Mr. Brock Sr. was jailed, but charges have since been dropped, Capt. Cotrell said, and he was released because it was apparently self-defense.



STAFF PHOTO BY DAN HENRY

James Brock Jr., left, speaks about surviving a car bomb that was detonated in his truck, as a fellow motorcycle club member and friend of three years who wished to remain unidentified listens from behind. As a member of the Renegades, Mr. Brock believes that someone from the Outlaws, a rival motorcycle gang, planted the bomb. The photo was shot to not show Mr. Brock's face at his request.

On Sept. 21, the elder Brock returned to Resaca, said Lawrence Zimmerman, his lawyer. "I don't think he was being treated fairly by the justice system," Mr. Zimmerman said. "He sat there (in jail) for three months." The senior Brock declined to comment.

Meanwhile, state, local and U.S. law enforcement agencies have continued to investigate the car bombing, said Marc Jackson, spokesman for the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

"There is no releasable information at this time," he said, but acknowledged investigating a possible connection to the biker club feud. "The Outlaws motorcycle club has been identified as an international criminal organi-

zation whose members engage in acts of violence," he said.

But Mr. Jackson stressed investigators haven't confirmed the involvement of any Outlaws in the bombing.

Attempts to reach members of the Outlaws through an online message board, or through Harley-Davidson motorcycle shops, were unsuccessful. An area Outlaw member was contacted recently but declined to comment.

For a previous article, another Outlaw said, "We've been advised not to say anything."

Meanwhile, Mr. Brock Jr. said he doesn't leave the house — except to go to the doctor.

He believes the Outlaws will kill him, he said. In January, he

and the Outlaws fought at Tipsy's bar in Dalton, Ga., he said. A police report states Mr. Brock Sr. fired a gun into the air and was later charged with aggravated assault.

A witness said that the Outlaws started the fight — but were unarmed. "(James Brock Sr.) put the gun in the Outlaw's face and told him, 'You need to leave the Renegades alone.'"

Mr. Brock Jr. said Renegades carry licensed guns "because we feel like that (Outlaws) club may be out to ... hurt us if we run across them."

"They might back off for a little while. But in the end, they'll try it again," he added, "to get me somehow."

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