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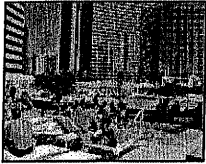
Sep. 25, 2010
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Vdara visitor: 'Death ray' scorched hair

Chicago lawyer says bag also melted

By JOAN WHITELY

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL



The Vdara Hotel swimming pool was a crowded place on a recent Sunday afternoon. DUANE PROKOP/LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

The tall, sleek, curving Vdara Hotel at CityCenter on the Strip is a thing of beauty.

But the south-facing tower is also a collector and bouncer of sun rays, which -- if you're at the hotel's swimming pool at the wrong time of day and season -- can singe your hair and melt your plastic drink cups and shopping bags.

Hotel pool employees call the phenomenon the "Vdara death ray."

A spokesman for MGM Resorts International, which owns Vdara, said he prefers the term "hot spot" or "solar convergence" to describe it. He went on to say that designers are already working with resort staff to come up with solutions.

Designers foresaw the issue, and thought they had solved it by installing a high-tech film on the south-facing glass panes, according to Gordon Absher, the MGM spokesman. The film scatters more than 70 percent of reflected rays. But that's not enough, Absher acknowledged, as some pool guests are still uncomfortable.

Chicago visitor Bill Pintas experienced Vdara's "death ray" recently. A lawyer, he was here on business for Preferred Capital Lending, which he co-owns. He also co-owns a Vdara condo.

Pintas told the Review-Journal that at midday Sept. 16, after a brief dip in the hotel pool, he was sunning on a recliner. He was on his stomach, relaxed, eyes closed.

But suddenly, the lawyer became so uncomfortably hot that he leaped up to move. He tried to put on his flip-flop sandals but, inexplicably, they were too hot to touch. So he ran barefoot to the



Bill Pintas, a Chicago lawyer and businessman, took this photo of his melted plastic bag after he was caught unexpectedly at the Vdara pool deck in a "hot spot" of reflected sunlight. COURTESY OF BILL PINTAS

shade.

"I was effectively being cooked," Pintas said. "I started running as fast as I could without looking like a lunatic."

Then he smelled an odor, and realized it was coming from his head, where a bit of hair had been scorched. It was about 12:20 p.m., as best Pintas can recall.

Taking brief refuge at the pool's bar area, Pintas chatted with employees. He said they chuckled when he described what had happened. "Yes, we call it the death ray," he says they told him. Sometimes it causes disposable drink glasses to melt, a cocktail waitress added.

After the intense reflection had passed, Pintas returned to his lounge chair. He remembered that a patron nearby laughed, and said something like, It got you, too?

Then he noticed something more -- a flimsy plastic bag holding his newspaper had partially melted. The portion of bag bearing the name Vdara had entirely melted away. Holes marked where the letters, in black ink, had absorbed the heat. Pintas snapped a photo of the bag, which he shared with the newspaper.

After Pintas' experience, a Review-Journal reporter went to the Vdara pool twice. Employees did not know they were talking to a reporter.

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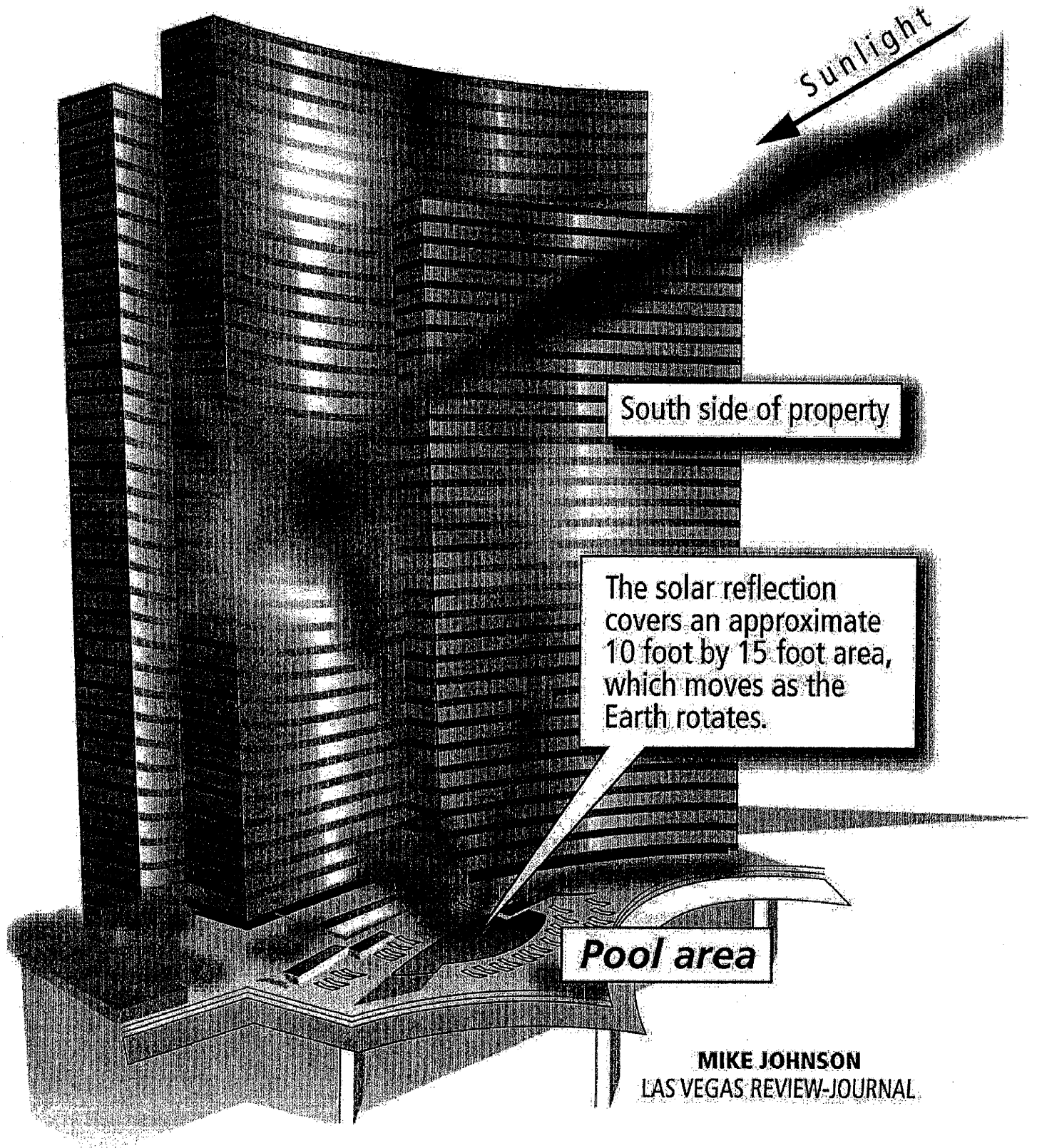
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'Death Ray' heats up Vdara guests, residents



MIKE JOHNSON
LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

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A SMURSH OF PETE

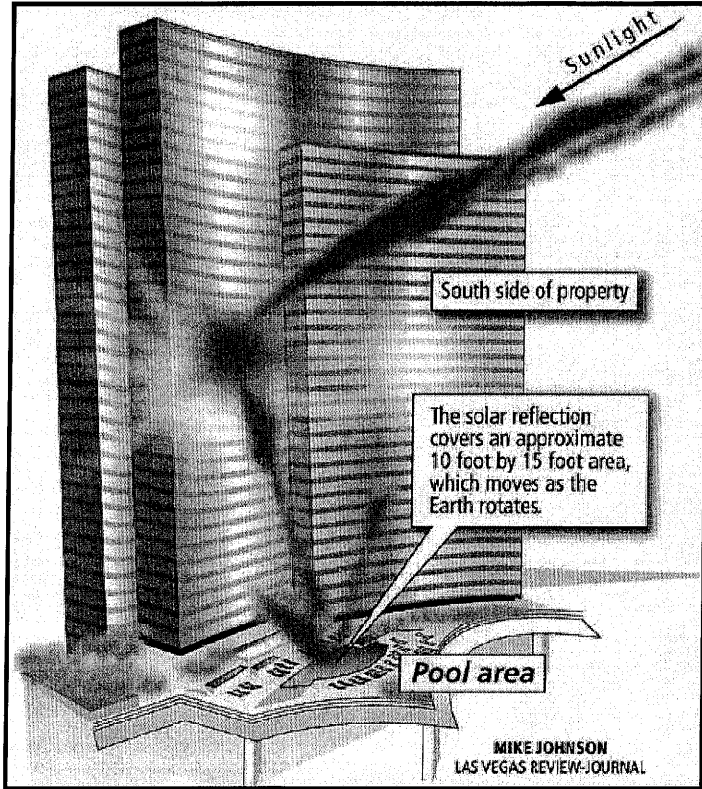
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PHOTO

The Internet scrap book
of Pete Ashton

Theme by nostrich.



BLDGBLOG: Las Vegas Death Ray

Source: bldgblog.blogspot.com

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EXHIBIT 3

-APPLICATION-

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Domiciled in: United States

Copyright claimant _____

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Transfer Statement: By written agreement

Rights and Permissions _____

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Certification _____

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Date: November 24, 2010

Applicant's Tracking Number: 0002160

Registration #:

Service Request #: 1-524088592

Application Date: 11-24-2010 12:55:02

Correspondent _____

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