

'Cat Man' Incident Bared

Prowler Hunted On Prio Terrace

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Mysterious appearance of a "cat man" on the terrace of an oceanfront penthouse occupied by former Cuban President Carlos Prio was reported to Miami Beach police by Mrs. Prio, The Miami News learned today.

The only entry on the blotter at Miami Beach police headquarters Saturday night — when the incident occurred — was a report of a prowler at 4301 Collins Ave., the address of the Vendome Hotel, where the Prio family occupies a penthouse atop the five-story building.

No mention of Prio was made in the initial report or subsequent reports made by detectives on the investigation.

About 9:20 p.m. Saturday, The Miami News learned, Mrs. Prio called police headquarters and reported a man on the terrace.

Several squad cars sped to the scene and police searched the terrace, the hotel and the surrounding area without results.

Mrs. Prio told the police she had heard a noise on the terrace outside her room, and that when she investigated she found a man there. She said the man told her:

"I want to see Dr. Prio."

She said she ran to the telephone in her room and called police.

The only entrance to the terrace is through the penthouse apartment. However an athletic

man, after reaching the hotel roof, by means of a self-service elevator to the fifth floor and a stairway, could climb to the penthouse roof and slide down the tiles to the terrace.

A ladder formerly occupied a place on the roof but was removed after the Saturday night incident.

The Prios are out of town until tomorrow night, a member of the household said today.