

Fair, Warm

Expect fair skies, becoming partly cloudy this afternoon. Highs in the mid-80s. (Details, Page 2A.)

MONDAY'S TEMPERATURES

7 a.m. 70	1 p.m. 82	7 p.m. 79
9 a.m. 71	3 p.m. 82	9 p.m. 76
11 a.m. 79	5 p.m. 81	11 p.m. 74

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## Dynamite Found at Downtown Building

# If That Bomb Had Gone Off...

By GLORIA MARINA

Herald Staff Writer

A mysterious Cuban exile group claimed responsibility for an unsuccessful attempt to bomb a downtown building Monday and vowed that Miami's recent wave of terror bombings would continue until a convicted, fellow bomb-maker is set free.

The alarm clock timing device had been set to trigger the bomb at midnight, when the building at 1444 Biscayne Blvd. would have been largely empty of the office workers who occupy the building during normal office hours.

But the bomb was still alive and ticking toward another 12 o'clock when it was discovered by an employe of the Dade County School Board on her way to work in the building shortly before 8 a.m.

Newton Porter, a member of the Metro bomb disposal squad that disarmed the terrorist device, said anyone waiting at a nearby bus stop or entering the downtown Social Security office in the building would have been blown to bits if the bomb had exploded belatedly.

"THIS BOMB had something like eight pounds of dynamite," Porter said after it had been safely removed from the flower bed in front of the ground-floor ticket office of Dominicana Airlines. "That's a serious bomb. And it would have taken out every window in that building," he said of the block-long office building.

Miami police, who made the initial investigation into the bombing attempt before the FBI stepped into the case, said the terrorist bomb failed to explode apparently because a small

fleck or drop of paint had fouled the contact points of the unsophisticated timing device.

Four and a half hours after the bomb was discovered, a Spanish-language radio station in Miami received an anonymous call from a man who said that a statement about the bombing could be found in a telephone book in a coin-operated laundry not far from the studios of the station.

THE STATEMENT was entitled War Communique No. 3 and was signed by the single name Tomas on behalf of the Young Men of the Star.

It said that the bomb found Monday morning had been planted by a commando group of the little known exile band and was aimed pri-



—TIM CHAPMAN / Miami Herald Staff

Officer Newton Porter

... with reconstructed bomb

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**Bomb Disposal Experts Look Over Site Where Device Was Planted**

*... it was discovered by employe on her way to work*

## Bombing Try Related to Arrest Of Comrade, Exile Group Says

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marily at the offices of the Dominicana Airlines.

"DUE TO a technical failure, said operation (the planting of the bomb) did not succeed as we desired, but once again the traitors have felt the fire of revolution."

Monday's intended bombing of the Dominicana Airlines office was the second attack aimed at an office of the Dominican Republic in Miami this month. And it was the third bomb claimed to have been planted this month by the Young Men of the Star.

Earlier this month, a bomb did extensive damage to the Consulate of the Dominican Republic on Brickell Ave. in Miami, and the consul narrowly escaped injury in the blast. A few days later, the same exile band claimed responsibility for a bomb that exploded in Broward county.

All three bombings, the latest communique said, are related to the arrest in the Dominican Republic of convicted bomb-maker Humberto Lopez, Jr., who was delivered to the FBI in Miami in early October by Dominican police.

**LOPEZ HAD BEEN** arrested, tried and convicted of making a bomb in Miami last year. Before he could be sentenced to jail, however, he fled the United States.

The FBI announced his arrest earlier this month, and whisked him off to the Broward County jail after he was flown to Miami aboard a Dominicana Airlines flight.

The communique issued by the Young Men of the Star on Monday,

after the bomb malfunctioned, said the attack on the consulate was in retaliation for the "traitorous" actions of the Dominicans — as was Monday's planned attack — and the bomb in Broward county was in protest against the detention there of Lopez.

Jittery Federal Marshals secretly moved Lopez from the Broward County jail to the Martin County jail in Stuart this weekend, after the bomb explosion in Broward County.

In the wake of Monday's unsuccessful bombing attempt, Martin County Sheriff James Holt disclosed that he had asked Federal Marshals to remove Lopez from his jail as well.

**HOLT SAID** he had agreed to a federal request that Lopez be held in his jail after receiving assurances that no one would know where Lopez was being held.

"This would have been a nice place to keep him — if no one knew he was here."

But word leaked out over the weekend that Lopez had been moved to Stuart, and Holt said "it's time they moved him somewhere else. He's what you call a hot prisoner, I don't think this community needs to be subjected to that kind of harassment," Holt said of the bombings, "especially when we have nothing to do with it here."

He said Federal Marshals would move Lopez to another, undisclosed jail Monday night.

**AFTER THE** Cuban exile group claimed responsibility for planting the bomb in downtown Miami, the FBI said it "was taking charge of

the investigation."

But FBI spokesmen — like those of the Miami and Metro police departments — gave no indication that they expected to make any early arrests. The FBI and area police disclosed that they had never heard of the terrorist group claiming responsibility for the bombings before this month.

The communique issued by the exile group seemed to anticipate the FBI disclosure that it was taking charge of the investigation.

"Our fight will continue in spite of the traitors," the communique said, adding "whether the traitors be called the KGB or the FBI.

"HEAVEN AND earth will go up in flames until Cuba and our prisoners are set free," the communique concluded.

Miami and Metro police withheld the name of the woman who first discovered the bomb in front of the downtown building Monday morning.

After spotting the two sticks of dynamite with the heavy-duty battery and alarm clock attached, the woman told a maintenance worker at the building. He in turn telephoned Miami police who alerted Metro's bomb squad.

Nearly 400 office workers were in the building at the time, and they were evacuated.

David Gothelf, a contractor who was at the building to complete some work for Dominicana, helped evacuate the people in the building. "I had to bodily expel the coffee shop owner and many of the people, because the bomb was still alive and could have blasted us to kingdom come. For all we knew, there might have even been another bomb," he said.