

OMEGA SEVEN CHIEF CHARGED IN BOMB SPREE

By MARALYN MATLICK

THE leader of the Omega 7 anti-Castro terrorist group was charged yesterday with trying to murder the Cuban ambassador to the UN and planting about a dozen bombs in New York and Miami.

In a 24-count federal indictment, Eduardo



Post Photo by Michael Norcia

Ken Walton, U.S. Attorneys Rudolph Giuliani and Stanley Marcus at yesterday's indictment.

CHARGED IN BOMB SPREE

Accused of bid to kill the Cuban ambassador

attempted bombing of Ambassador Rao's car.

According to court testimony, he had been cooperating with the FBI following that arrest, but fled to Miami after deciding that he was being set up by the agency.

Arocena was rearrested in Miami in July and is now being held in New York City in \$1 million bail.

In an exclusive interview with The Post in September, he claimed that the U.S. government is cracking down on Omega 7 as part of a "se-

Arocena, 40, was linked to bombings or attempted bombings of foreign consulates, travel agencies and other businesses.

He allegedly planted a bomb under the car of Cuba's UN Ambassador, Raul Roa, in 1980. He also was charged for bombings at Avery Fisher Hall and the Cuban Mission to the UN in 1978.

The indictment was announced by U.S. Attorney Rudolph Giuliani and FBI deputy director Kenneth Walton, who heads New York's Joint Terrorist Task Force with the police.

Walton cautioned that Arocena's indictment does not mean an end to Omega 7 bombings.

"One never breaks a terrorist organization," Walton said. "The leaders are always replaced with someone else."

Walton said Arocena is the self-confessed "Omar," the infamous commander-in-chief of Omega 7.

Arocena had been arrested previously on explosives charges in the

cret agreement" with Castro to "buy peace in Central America."

In the attack on Roa, Arocena is charged with planting a powerful remote control bomb under the ambassador's car on March 25, 1980.

The bomb fell off the car and was discovered before it detonated.

Arocena is charged with conspiracy in the 1978 bombings of Avery Fisher Hall and the Cuban Mission to the UN.

His alleged Florida bombing targets included the Padron Cigar Co. in Miami, three times; American Airways Charters in Hialeah, which arranged charters to Cuba; the Mexican, Venezuelan and Nicaraguan consulates in Miami; Replica magazine in Miami, twice; and Paradise International Inc. travel agency in Miami.

Omega 7 leader Eduardo Arocena. Linked to string of bombings.