

Mia Her  
7 May 72  
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CRIME -  
BOMBS

The Miami Herald  
4-D Sun., May 7, 1972

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DUPLICATE

# Bomber Given 30 Years

MIAMI PUBLIC LIBRARY  
FLORIDA COLLEGE

By JUNE KRONIOLZ  
Herald Staff Writer

A Cuban exile charged with bombing a Miami Beach Air Canada ticket office, was sentenced to 30 years in jail after he refused to let two public defenders help him try his case.

Hector Cornillot Llano, 34, who was accompanied into the courtroom by two public defenders whom he refused to let speak, listened silently to the case against him without offering a defense, an opening statement or even questioning the six jurors hearing the trial.

The only time Llano or his two court-appointed lawyers spoke during the three-hour trial was during the closing arguments Friday when Llano read a brief, impassioned statement to the jury.

"IF THE CHARGE is being a revolutionary," Llano said, "then I am guilty." He also told the jury that he thought Canada was being too friendly to the Castro regime.

But, he told the jury, "I did not plant that bomb. I can probably tell you who did it, but it wasn't me."

The jury took one hour to return a guilty verdict to Circuit Court Judge Arthur Huttoe who is temporarily hearing cases in criminal court. Judge Huttoe sentenced Llano to 30 year out of a possible life sentence.

"We cannot let people go around because of their political beliefs placing bombs in public places," Judge Huttoe said. "You're free in this country, but that freedom does not give you the right to abuse the freedom of other people."

"THIS TYPE of tactic isn't democracy," the judge told Llano. "It's totalitarianism."

Llano had claimed before the trial that he had been trained by the CIA for guerilla activities in Cuba and had confessed to bombing the Air Canada office because, he said, the FBI had promised in return to devote more money toward freeing Cuba.

A bomb destroyed the airline office at 6988 Collins Ave. in October, 1968, but no finger prints and no witnesses to the bombing were ever found.

The state's case centered around the testimony of an FBI agent who testified that Llano had made an oral confession to him five days after the bombing. The explosive used to demolish the office is used only by the military and not available for public sale, public defender Steven Mechanic said.

"How would he have gotten it if someone like the CIA hadn't given it to him," Mechanic said.

Llano refused to allow Mechanic to try the case for him, however, and told the public defender "no, don't say anything," when he began to speak.

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DUPLICATE

16-A col) THE MIAMI HERALD (F) Sunday, June 13, 1976

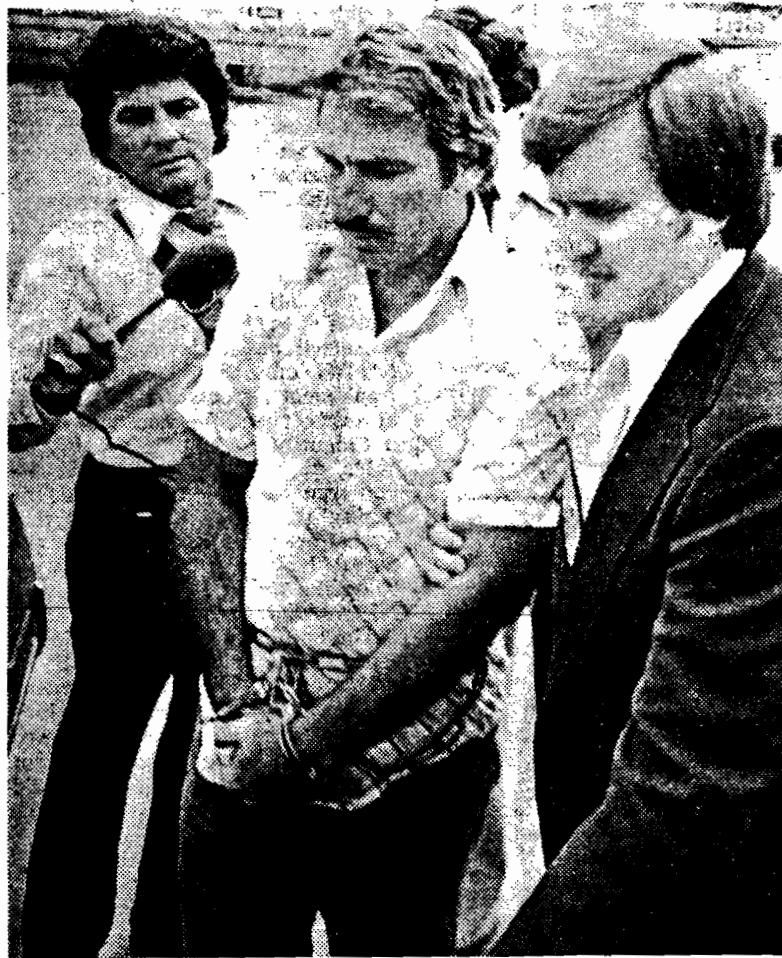


TIPOFF

# Bomber Flees Prison Camp, Eludes Officers

**BOMBER SKIPS:** Convicted terrorist bomber, Havana-born Hector Cornillot Llano is being sought — again. Llano quietly escaped in April from Belle Glade Correctional Institution where he was serving 30 years for bombing a Miami Beach Air Canada ticket office. A member of **Dr. Orlando Bosch's** Cuban Power, Llano had also served time in California for two Los Angeles bombings. At his trial, a defense attorney insisted that since the explosive used to demolish the ticket office is military issue only, "somebody like the CIA" must have given it to him. Llano stood mute. **Robert Turner**, Belle Glade's Acting Superintendent, said Llano was in minimum custody status working at a dairy outside the prison compound when he escaped one early morning. A car was waiting on nearby Highway 17. It headed South "at a pretty good rate of speed" witnesses said. Officials say Llano took all his personal possessions and two other prisoner with him.

★ ★ ★



—JOE ELBERT / Miami Herald Staff

**Escaped Bomber Hector Cornillot Llano**  
... he was arrested in Miami Friday morning

# Man Held, Questioned In Bombing Incident

*Miami Her (F) 19 JUN 76 1B Col 3*

By GENE MILLER  
And JOE CRANKSHAW  
Herald Staff Writer

FBI agents arrested an escaped Cuban bomber Friday and questioned him about the car bombing of Emilio Milian, WQBA radio announcer.

Hector Cornillot Llano, 37, a stocky 199-pound zealot of "Cuban Power," escaped from the Glades Correctional Institution at Belle Glade on April 19. He was serving 30 years for a Miami bombing in 1968.

The prison superintendent depicted the escape as "well planned." Apparently he fled to Miami.

Twelve days after his escape a bomb exploded under the hood of Milian's WQBA station wagon when he turned the key in the station parking lot. Surgeons had to amputate both of his legs.

**BECAUSE OF** Cornillot's conviction for a bombing here and five bombings in Los Angeles in 1969, police considered him a potential suspect.

No charges have been filed linking him with the Milian bombing.

"He is a suspect only because he escaped on April 19 and the bombing was on the 30th," said Ina

Shepard, a Miami detective. "That's the only connection — if you could call it that."

Police wanted to know precisely what he was doing since his escape. They said an informant told them Cornillot intended to board a ship to the Dominican Republic.

Miami detectives and FBI agents arrested Cornillot at 8:15 a.m. Friday as he emerged from an apartment in the 1500 block of NW 35th St., not far from a bailbond office, a child day care center, and a probation office.

Before he is returned to prison, he will be put in a police line-up.

**"THERE WERE** two eye witnesses in the parking lot the afternoon of the bombing," said Herb Levin, WQBA station manager.

"Both witnesses gave very similar descriptions. Police have two composite drawings.

Levin said two men were seen in the parking lot doing something to the well-marked WQBA station wagon.

One witness thought the two men were "car repairmen," according to one source.

Late Friday afternoon federal in-

Turn to Page 2B Col. 1

DUPLICATE

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20p2

# Man Questioned in Incident

Miami Her (F) 19 June 76 2 B Col 1

FROM PAGE 1B

investigators were conferring with State Attorney Richard E. Gerstein's staff.

Cornillot came under intense FBI scrutiny in Miami in 1967 when bombs kept exploding in consulates and airlines that had any dealings with Cuba.

FBI agents traced him to California and there he was found guilty of taking part in five bombings on June 25, 1967. A judge sentenced Cornillot and a co-defendant, Juan Garcia-Cardenas, to prison for two to five years.

WHEN HIS time was up, Cornillot was returned to Dade County for trial in May 1972 for the Miami Beach bombing of an Air Canada ticket office.

In the courtroom, he refused to let his lawyers speak for him.

"No, don't say anything," he instructed Steve Mechanic, an assistant public defender.

Prior to trial, Cornillot claimed that he had been trained by the CIA for guerilla raids in Cuba. He said he confessed because the FBI had promised to spend more money toward freeing Cuba.

The 1968 bomb destroyed the airline office at 6988 Collins Ave. It took a jury only 30 minutes to return a guilty verdict after a three-day trial.

Cornillot's only comment in the courtroom was a brief impassioned statement.

"IF THE charge is being a revolutionary, then I am guilty . . . I did not plant that bomb. I can probably tell you who did it," he said.

Circuit Court Judge Arthur Huttoe gave him 30 years.

Cornillot was transferred to the minimum Glades prison in 1974. No one there figured that he would

escape.

Cornillot, in fact, had frequently made speeches to high schools under a "Operation Teenage Program."

Through a "study-release" program, he also attended the local annex of the Palm Beach Junior College.

"He made good grades, mostly A's, and received an associate arts degree in August 1975," said Wes Taylor, personnel director.

R. V. Turner, prison superintendent, said Cornillot had been working on a 350-head dairy adjacent to the prison for more than a year.

"It is a minimum security farm. There are no fences," he said.

On the morning of April 19, Cornillot and two other inmates suddenly jumped on a tractor and drove it as fast as it would go to

State Highway 715, about a mile west of the institution.

There, witnesses said, a late model Monte Carlo Chevy waited for them. They jumped in and the car sped southward.

The two other inmates were Gabriel Gil, 38, a Cuban exile convicted of second degree murder in Dade County on Dec. 3, 1974. He shot to death Antonio Rodriguez with a shotgun, the muzzle of the gun pressed to his body. Police said they had argued about narcotics.

THE OTHER inmate was Robert Feaster, 34, an armed robber from Duval County.

A warrant filed against Cornillot by FBI agents alleged that he had been seen in the vicinity of Brownsville, Tex. Gil was seen there, too, the warrant said, and is now believed to be in California.

# Car bomb suspect may

Mia News (FH) 6 Acoll 19 JUN 76

By LOUIS SALOME  
and HILDA INCLAN  
Miami News Reporters

# face charges

City and state investigators were sifting evidence today to determine if fugitive bomber Hector Cornillot Llano would be charged in the April 30 bombing of radio newsman Emilio Milian.

FBI agents, meanwhile, continued their search for 34-year-old Gabriel Gil, who escaped with Cornillot on April 19 from Belle Glade Correctional Institute.

Gil, imprisoned on a second-degree murder charge, is being sought on an unlawful flight warrant, the same kind out on Cornillot when he was seized by surprise yesterday while staying at a location rented by the militant, anti-Castro exile group, Alpha 66.

One investigator said Miami police were "close" to charging the stocky 37-year-old Cornillot with the bombing, which maimed Milian, news director of WQBA.

Witnesses in the Milian case were expected to view a lineup in an attempt to determine if Cornillot planted the bomb in Milian's car.

Cornillot had been serving a 30-year sentence for the 1968 bombing of a Miami Beach Air Canada ticket office when he fled the Palm Beach County prison in a well-planned escape 11 days before the Milian bombing.

Ina Shephard, Miami homicide detective, said she was interested in talking with Gil because he is Cuban and he is an escapee. "I would love to find out what he knows," she said.

Cornillot was surprised by FBI agents and Miami police about 8:15 a.m. yesterday at a secluded makeshift, one-room cottage at 1534 NW 36th St. which he had been using as a hideout for several days.

Investigators were acting on a tip when they moved into the area of small apartment buildings.

Cornillot, who had previous ties to fugitive anti-Castro terrorist Orlando Bosch, was hiding out at Alpha 66 headquarters not far from where he was arrested.

The cottage was rented for \$70 a month by Edelmio Cowan, known as Acosta, the Alpha 66 office manager.

According to the Secretary of State's Office, the cottage was owned by R.J.R. Properties, Inc.,

of 3475 N. Country Club Dr., Golden Beach, but the corporation was dissolved on Oct. 21, 1974.

Andres Nazario Sargen, leader of Alpha 66, said Cornillot visited his office about a month ago. About 15 days ago, Cornillot began visiting the office daily looking for a job, Sargen said.

The first time Cornillot appeared, Sargen said, he (Cornillot) remarked, "I'm a free man now.

I'm on parole."

On one occasion, Cornillot said he had no money and no place to sleep, so he was allowed to bunk on a sofa in the Alpha 66 office, Sargen said.

About a week ago, Sargen added, he asked Acosta to let Cornillot use the makeshift cottage, which Acosta did.

Sargen said Cornillot had never been a member of Alpha 66, adding that he knew the fugitive as a member of Bosch's Cuban Power group of the 1960s.

In 1968, Cornillot was indicted by a California grand jury for a series of bombings attributed to Bosch's group.

Even while he was in the Belle Glade prison, Sargen said, Cornillot made bizarre appearances at the Alpha 66 office here.

In December, Cornillot stopped by the local office to explain that he had been commissioned by the prison to direct a Christmas party for Latin inmates, Sargen said.

He said Cornillot invited everyone at Alpha 66 to attend the party, along with all relatives of the inmates, and he asked that the press be notified of the event, Sargen said. He said Cornillot bought a pig for the celebration.

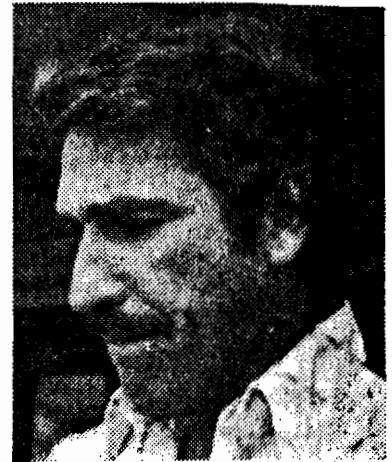
About two months ago, just before his escape, Cornillot took a side trip from a baseball game to visit the Alpha 66 office, Sargen said.

Cornillot, who had dyed his dark brown hair blond, had been playing ball with a team of inmates in Opa-locka when he stopped by, Sargen said.

When Cornillot was arrested, he had \$625 in his pocket. A book titled, "What You Should Know About Communism" rested near

the bed in the cottage, which had room only for a bath, small kitchen and a small refrigerator.

Known as a man of action with



HECTOR-CORNILLOT LLANO

commando-like tendencies, Cornillot began as a member of Autenticos, the political organization of Carlos Prio, a former president of Cuba who is now in exile.

After Cornillot's arrest, U.S. Magistrate Peter Palermo set bond at \$25,000. He was taken to the Dade County Jail.

The office of Alpha 66 often is used as a haven for sympathizers visiting from New York and Chile.

Silvio Mora, a member of Alpha 66's youth group, said, "Alpha 66, and this office in particular, is like a church. Anybody who has a problem gets asylum here."



Cornillot

# Detienen a prófugo, convicto por *Mia Her Col 19 June 76 poner bombas* Interrogado en el *19 June 76 p.1*

Por GENE MILLER  
y JOE CRANKSHAW  
Redactores de El Miami Herald

Agentes de la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI) arrestaron el viernes a un prófugo cubano, convicto por poner bombas, y lo interrogaron sobre el atentado dinamitero contra Emilio Milián.

Héctor Cornillot Llano, quien dijo haber sido entrenado por la Agencia Central de Inteligencia (CIA) para ataques guerrilleros contra Cuba antes del 1972, fue arrestado a las 8:15 a.m. cuando salía de un apartamento en la 35 St. del NW, entre la 15 y 16 Ave.

Cornillot, de 37 años, escapó el 19 de abril de la institución correccional Glades en Belle Glade, Florida. En esa prisión de seguridad mínima cumplía condena de 30 años por haber puesto una bomba que estalló en las oficinas de Air Canada en Miami Beach en 1968.

Anteriormente fue convicto por cinco atentados dinamiteros en California el 25 de junio de 1967.

El 30 de abril, una bomba colocada bajo el capó de un vehículo de WQBA estalló cuando Milián trató de arrancar el motor. Las dos piernas de Milián fueron amputadas debajo de las rodillas.

"Está bajo sospecha únicamente debido a que escapó el 19 de abril y la explosión de la bomba fue el día 30", manifestó Ina Shepard, detective de la ciudad de Miami.

"Esa es la única conexión, si es que así se puede llamar", agregó.

Antes de que sea devuelto a la cárcel, Cornillot será puesto en una formación policial de hombres que tienen descripciones similares a las dadas en el caso Milián.

"Habían dos testigos oculares en la zona de estacionamiento en la tarde de

## caso de Milián

la explosión", manifestó Herb Levin, gerente general de WQBA. Indicó que la policía había preparado dibujos a base de las descripciones proporcionadas por los testigos.

Levin señaló que dos hombres fueron vistos haciendo algo con la camioneta de WQBA. Uno de los testigos pensó que los dos hombres estaban tratando de reparar el vehículo, según expresó una fuente.

Cornillot fue objeto por primera vez de una investigación del FBI en 1967, cuando estalló una serie de bombas en aerolíneas y consulados cuyos gobiernos tenían negociaciones con Cuba.

Los agentes le siguieron la pista hasta California, donde fue convicto por participar en cinco atentados y condenado junto a Juan García Cárdenas a cumplir de dos a cinco años de prisión.

Una vez cumplida esa condena, fue

trasladado al condado de Dade donde fue juzgado en mayo del 1972 por la bomba contra las oficinas de Air Canada en 6988 Collins Ave., Miami Beach.

Antes de celebrarse ese juicio, Cornillot dijo que había sido entrenado por la CIA para ataques guerrilleros contra Cuba. Explicó que había decidido confesar debido a que el FBI le prometió usar más dinero para liberar a Cuba.

La única declaración que hizo Cornillot ante el tribunal que lo enjuició en 1972 fue: "Si la acusación es por ser un revolucionario, entonces soy culpable ... No puse la bomba. Probablemente podría decirles quien fue el que la puso".

En la prisión de Glades, adonde fue trasladado en 1974, nadie pensó que trataría de fugarse.

En la mañana del 19 de abril, Cornillot y otros dos reclusos se montaron en un tractor y guiaron hasta la carretera estatal número 715, a kilómetro y medio de la prisión.

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Nuevas pistas en la bomba a Milián: *Mia Nueva (FH) 21 June 76  
8A col 1*

# Investigan a Cornillot como posible autor de atentado

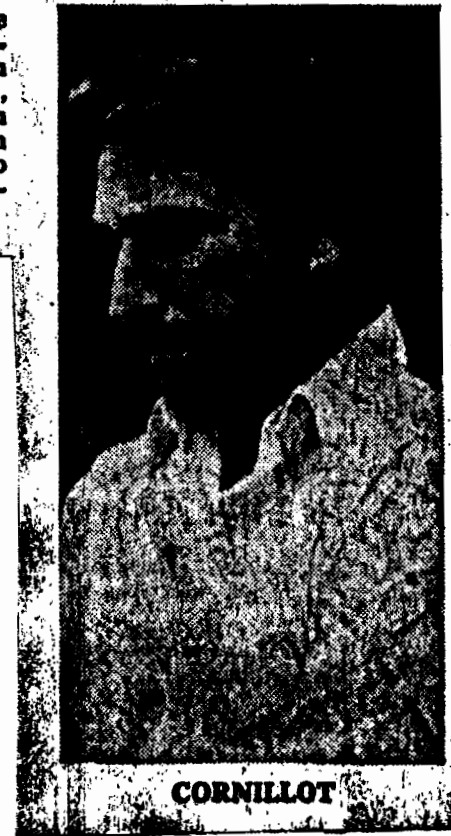
Los investigadores de la Ciudad y el Estado tratan hoy de determinar si el fugitivo Héctor Cornillot Llano, de 37 años, tuvo participación en el atentado dinamitero al director del noticiero de WQBA, Emilio Millán, ocurrido el 30 de abril.

Mientras tanto, el FBI trata

de capturar a otro cubano, Gabriel Gil, de 34 años, quien escapó de la cárcel, con Cornillot, el 19 de abril. Cornillot fue apresado el viernes, a las 8:15 a.m., en un local del 1534 NW Calle 36, alquilado por ALPHA 66, grupo militante anticastrista.

Cornillot, servía una condena

de 30 años, por la colocación de una bomba en la oficina de pasajes de la compañía de aviación "Air Canada", de Miami Beach, en 1968. El detenido, quien en el momento de su detención tenía \$625 en su poder, estuvo relacionado con el terrorista fugitivo Orlando Bosch.



**CORNILLOT**

DUPLICATE

5A col 3 Mia News (FH) 25 JUN 76

## Milian bomb suspect picked in lineup

By LOUIS SALOME  
Miami News Reporter

A witness has identified bombing suspect Hector Cornillot Llano as being around the car of WQBA news director Emilio Milian just 30 minutes before a bomb exploded under the hood.

Cornillot, 37, a husky escapee from the Glades Correctional Institute in Belle Glade in Palm Beach County, was picked out of a police lineup by the witness last weekend.

Investigators traveled to the prison in Belle Glade earlier this week seeking further evidence linking Cornillot to the bombing.

Cornillot is being held in Dade County Jail on federal charges of unlawful flight to avoid confinement.

"It's still in the investigative stage," a Miami police spokesman said. "We can't confirm anything right now."

The state attorney's office had no comment on the status of the investigation.

Investigators have not charged Cornillot with the April 30 bombing which maimed Milian — doctors amputated both his legs shortly after the explosion — because they are trying to gather additional evidence.

Cornillot escaped from prison April 19, 11

days before the Milian bombing in the parking lot outside WQBA in Miami's Little Havana. He was recaptured last week, surprised by FBI agents and police June 18 while hiding out in a cottage at 1534 NW 36th St.

The cottage was rented by the militant anti-Castro exile group, Alpha 66.

In Belle Glade, Cornillot had been serving a 30-year sentence for the 1968 bombing of a Miami Beach ticket office of Air Canada.

In 1968, Cornillot was indicted by a California grand jury for a series of bombings attributed to an exile group headed by militant fugitive Orlando Bosch.

DUPLICATE



DUPLICATE

# Alpha 66 denies charge of hiding bomb suspect

Mia News (FH) 28 June 76 SA  
By HELGA SILVA  
Miami News Reporter  
col 2

Alpha 66, the Cuban militant organization, denies accusations that it harbored Hector Cornillot knowing he was a suspect in the bombing of radio newscaster Emilio Milian's car, a blast that cost Milian both legs.

"We were unaware he was at all involved in the bombing," Andres Nazario Sargen, secretary general of Alpha 66, said. "To accuse us is a defamation campaign to try to discredit us.

"Everyone knows our stance against terrorism that is not directly related to action in Cuba. Ours is a different geographical target."

The revolutionary organization has been feeling the heat since Cornillot, a convicted bomber who escaped from prison, was arrested June 18 behind the Miami headquarters of Alpha 66. The 37-year-old fugitive has been positively identified in a police line-up as having been seen around Radio Station WQBA 30 minutes before the car explosion.

"He led us to believe he was out on parole and he asked for a place to sleep," said Sargen of Cornillot. "This did not seem strange to those who talked to him. People are out on parole all the time and we have been told he had been out on other occasions."

Cornillot escaped from The Glades Correctional Institute 11 days before the Milian bombing. He had been sentenced to a 30-year term for the 1968 bombing of a Miami Beach Air Canada ticket office. The news of the April 19 escape was reported for the first time in a Miami newspaper two months after it occurred.

Members of Alpha 66 conceded that news of his escape came out in the Cuban colony 15 or 20 days before he was arrested. "But the point to us was he didn't hide. He didn't act like a fugitive. He walked up and down Flager Street. Had been spotted walking or drinking coffee on SW 8th Street by several people who knew him," said Sargen.

"We wouldn't have denounced him to the police — for the escape. But certainly we would not have given him refuge."

Cornillot slept at least one night in the organization's office, at 1530 NW 36 St., however. The rest of the time he slept on and off in a room rented by Edelmiro Cowe, a member of Alpha, in a building directly behind the Alpha 66 headquarters.

"We don't deny refuge to people who legitimately need it. This has always been Alpha's policy. But this man is neither a member of Alpha nor does he share our political belief," said Sargen.

According to the spokesman, neither the police nor the FBI questioned Alpha officials about Cornillot after the actual arrest. At that time there was no attempt on their part to hide him. When FBI and Miami police surrounded the area and went in — guns in hand — for the arrest, Sargen and others in the office were asked if they knew Cornillot. No one denied knowing him.

Right after Cornillot's arrest, Alpha 66 officials appeared in a question-and-answer interview at WQBA to clarify their position before the Cuban exile community, which is up in arms against terrorism since the Milian bombing.

# Explosive Items Left Near Consulate

By EDNA BUCHANAN  
Herald Staff Writer

Miami police and Metro's bomb squad moved in and quietly removed "explosive paraphernalia" from a room at a small motel next door to the Dominican Republic's consulate Wednesday.

The consulate, at 1038 Brickell Ave., was rocked last October by a bomb blast heard miles away. It destroyed a parked car in front of the consulate, shattered windows and damaged the entrance and several rooms.

Members of a bomb task force, which includes Metro and Miami police, went to room 319 at the Arrowhead Motel, 1050 Brickell, at 3 p.m.

They told desk clerks they were conducting an investigation, entered the room, photographed the contents and then gingerly carried several boxes from the room — which had been unoccupied.

The boxes were removed by Metro's armored bomb disposal truck.

Miami police declined to divulge the amount or type of explosives seized. A sparse press release announced that an "investigation to

determine how and why this substance was placed at this location" is underway.

"It's all part of an investigation that would be jeopardized by the release of any further information," Miami Police Maj. Robert Knight said.

Motel employes said the room's last tenant had been locked out

some time ago for non-payment of rent.

Knight said he believed that the last occupant in not involved in the case.

The Arrowhead, a single story structure just south of the consulate — which was closed and locked after the bomb squad's departure Wednesday — was also

damaged when the blast hit the consulate last year.

An organization called "Young Men of the Star" claimed responsibility for that bombing in retaliation for the arrest and deportation to Miami of Cuban exile terrorist leader Humberto Lopez Jr.

No arrest was ever made in the case.

DUPLICATE

# DUPLICATE

Motel explosive  
4A col 3  
under police probe  
Mia News (FH) (JULY 76)

Miami police are continuing their investigation today to determine the source of "explosive paraphernalia" discovered at a Brickell Avenue motel next to the Dominican Republic Consulate.

Police would not say how much or what type of explosive they found in yesterday in Room 319 at the Arrowhead Motel, 1050 Brickell Ave.

## En huelga de hambre en la cárcel

Mia Her (Sp) col 1 p. 5 22 Sept 76

# Cornillot no ha comido en 46 días

Por GLORIA MARINA  
Redactora de El Miami Herald

Hector Cornillot Llano lleva 46 días en huelga de hambre, y afirma que la seguirá hasta que el gobernador Reubin Askew tome una decisión en su caso.

Cornillot Llano fue sentenciado a 30 años de cárcel en 1972 cuando un jurado lo halló culpable de poner una bomba que destruyó las oficinas de Air Canada en Miami Beach.

La huelga que realiza Cornillot en su cama del hospital de la prisión estatal Union Correctional Institute (UCI), en Raiford, Florida, empezó en la cárcel del condado de Dade el 8 de agosto.

El preso, que sólo toma agua y rechaza toda atención médica, incluso las vitaminas que le quieren administrar los médicos, espera lograr la "libertad o el martirio" con su acción.

Cornillot Llano pesaba 199 libras cuando fue arrestado. A principios de esta semana, su peso había bajado a 152 ½ libras. Sólo en la última semana había perdido cinco libras. Un vocero de la cárcel dijo que su "estado de salud es bastante bueno y los médicos lo tienen bajo observación".

En una carta abierta al gobernador de la Florida, Reubin Askew, Cornillot Llano alega haber sido condenado injustamente por el dinamitero, del cual afirma ser inocente.

El preso, de 37 años de edad y miembro del ya inexistente grupo "Poder Cubano", fue capturado por agentes de la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI) en Miami el 18 de junio.

En abril, Cornillot se había escapado de la prisión de seguridad mínima de Belle Glades donde estaba cumpliendo su condena.

El juez de la corte estatal, Arthur Huttoe, lo condenó a 30 años de cárcel y, en 1974, el preso había sido trasladado a la prisión de Belle Glades.

Anteriormente un juez en California sentenció a Cornillot Llano de dos a cinco años en prisión por su participación en cinco atentados dinamiteros el 25 de junio 1967. Cumplió tres años de su condena en California.

En su carta, Cornillot Llano admite su culpabilidad en esos atentados. "Soy un patriota cubano. Participé en una racha de atentados dinamiteros en el año 1968 como miembro de "Poder Cubano" una organización que ya no existe. Hoy en día deploro mi participación en esas ac-

ciones, critico a los que aún las están haciendo y me he comprometido a más nunca participar en este tipo de acción", asegura.

Pero Cornillot Llano insiste en su carta, al igual que lo hizo durante su juicio, que él no puso la bomba en las oficinas de Air Canada. "Fui enjuiciado por un atentado dinamitero que no cometí. Fui juzgado ilegalmente e inconstitucionalmente, y condenado por un crimen del cual soy, en efecto, inocente".

Esta fue la razón, dice Cornillot Llano, por la "que decidí escapar".

Agrega que continuará la huelga de hambre hasta que el gobernador "tome una decisión".

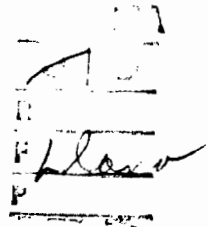
Guy Spearman, uno de los ayudantes del gobernador y encargado del caso, expresó que "en su carta no explicó lo que él quería que el gobernador hiciera.

"Nosotros hemos mandado a buscar todo su historial y a lo más podremos recomendarle que vuelva a pedir ayuda legal. Pero la decisión de si se reabre el caso o no, no es nuestra sino de las cortes", indicó Spearman.

"Mientras tanto, nosotros no podemos obligarlo a comer, la decisión de lo que él hace es suya", agregó.

Un vocero de la cárcel dijo que de ser neces-

sario, lo obligarían a recibir atención médica, "sobre todo si está en una situación donde él no puede tomar decisión alguna. No vamos a dejar que nadie se muera si lo podemos evitar".

  
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## Who brought Cornillot back?

# Bomber's court dates here a mystery

By LOUIS SALOME  
And HILDA INCLAN  
Miami News Reporters

Hector Cornillot slipped on his shirt and tie, tan suit and vest, flashy socks and shiny brown shoes. He then left his maximum security cell at the Dade County Jail for an appearance in Dade Circuit Court.

Very few prisoners appear in court looking like they are dressed for a dinner date or a high-level corporate meeting. The contrast is even more striking in Cornillot's case.

He is a twice-convicted bomber, now serving a 30-year sentence for a 1968 Miami Beach explosion. An avowed anti-Castro revolutionary, he was captured here last June after escaping two months earlier from a state prison.

Because he was a fugitive when radio station executive Emilio Milian lost both legs to a terrorist bomb, Cornillot was questioned intensively by police about the incident when he was picked up here in June.

Cornillot says he was not involved in the Milian bombing. Miami police say "no one has been ruled out."

Cornillot had been in the Palm Beach County jail, awaiting trial on the escape charge. Officials acknowledge the circumstances of his presence here are unusual.

In the past week, he appeared in circuit court here twice, before Judge Ellen Morphonios, on his own motion to overturn his 1972 bombing conviction.

Metro police say they did not bring Cornillot back. Miami police say they were planning to bring Cornillot back but the FBI beat them to it. An FBI official said the agency was not responsible for Cornillot's return.

Cornillot's court appearances

came the week after Attorney General Griffin Bell authorized the FBI to play a leading role in investigating the Milian case.

Three other times since Feb. 15, Cornillot's motion went before Morphonios but he was not in the courtroom. Such proceedings usually do not require the presence of the convicted person.

Cornillot is listed on the court calendar as Hector C. Llano (Llano is his mother's last name) which jail records say is an alias.

Court records also show he was brought here by the state attorney's office for "investigation" but do not elaborate further. Cornillot's own attorney was not informed about his transfer here.

In an interview in the Dade County jail last week, Cornillot claimed to have once been trained by the CIA in revolutionary tactics and the use of explosives.

Cornillot said he led police after his capture in June to a cache of plastics explosives that he stored in the bathroom skylight of a Brickell Avenue motel in 1968.

Local police said the three pounds of C-4 explosives could "sink a ship or devastate a building."

Before his June capture, Cornillot said, he planned to flee to Venezuela.

Cornillot said he came back from Palm Beach, because he has filed a motion asking the court to vacate his 1972 conviction and sentence for the 1968 bombing of an Air Canada ticket office at Miami Beach.

In a lengthy, handwritten motion, Cornillot claims he did not plant the bomb, did not receive a speedy trial and did not have adequate counsel at the trial.

He also claimed he has passed a lie detector test, showing his innocence in the Miami Beach bombing.

Cornillot said he was interviewed by local police in the past week about local Cuban terrorism but said he told them nothing because as a prisoner he learned nothing.

The morning of Feb. 14, Circuit Court Judge Leonard Rivkin signed an order to bring Cornillot back. The only reason given in the order is "investigation." The order was signed after a request for his return was filed by assistant state attorney Nancy Johnston.

Ms. Johnston would not comment on her request for the order.

With no knowledge of what happened the day before, assistant public defender Bob Link, Cornillot's attorney, asked Judge Morphonios on Feb. 15 to sign an order bringing the convict here to attend a hearing on his motion. Although the judge signed the order, Cornillot already was in the Dade jail as the result of Rivkin's action.



HECTOR CORNILLOT

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Liano

DUPLICATE

Mia News (FH) 7A  
31 Mar 77  
Jailed bomber  
gets 30-year  
term revoked

By LOUIS SALOME  
and HILDA INCLAN  
Miami News Reporters

"I am innocent. I want justice. I did not get fair representation at my trial," convicted bomber Hector Cornillot Liano said in an interview a month ago.

The 38-year-old Cornillot's claim that he was not properly represented was confirmed yesterday in Dade Circuit Court.

Judge Alan Schwartz granted Cornillot's own motion to overturn his 1972 conviction and 30-year prison sentence for the 1968 bombing of an Air Canada ticket office at Miami Beach.

Schwartz said he threw out the conviction because Cornillot received "ineffective assistance of counsel by the public defender's office and the failure of the court to grant a continuance."

The ruling was a setback to the anti-terrorist campaign of state prosecutors, now faced with a decision of whether to try Cornillot again or let him go. They also face the possible dilemma of whether he can be convicted of an earlier escape when he possibly should not have been imprisoned.

Cornillot, in the recent interview, admitted he was responsible for a series of a 1967 bombings in Los Angeles for which he has been convicted. But he maintained he had no direct involvement in the Miami bombing.

He claimed in his petition to the court that he did not get a speedy trial on the Miami charge and that his lawyers were unprepared.

Steve Mechanic, Cornillot's public defender at the time, confirmed Cornillot's claim.

Mechanic said he was handed the case 72 hours before the trial and asked then Circuit Court Judge Arthur Huttoe for a continuance but it was refused.

Because he had not met Mechanic and because Mechanic was unprepared, Cornillot handled his own defense. From the beginning, Cornillot claimed he did not plant the bomb but knew who did. He said it was a member of Cuban Power, headed by terrorist leader Orlando Bosch, which at the time was taking credit for area bombings.

"I knew it was going to happen," he said in his interview with The Miami News, "and I know the two men who did it."

Schwartz asked the state to report April 14 on whether it would try Cornillot once more or drop the charges. Since the trial, Cornillot has passed a lie detector test about his direct involvement in the bombing. As a result, the state may only choose to try him on an accomplice charge.

Cornillot was questioned extensively about the April 30 bombing of Miami radio newsman Emilio Milián because he escaped just 11 days before that bombing in which Milián lost both legs.

The state attorney's office said Cornillot has passed a lie detector test on the Milián bombing and is clear in that case.



# Grand jury zeroes in on Milian case

LOUIS SALOME And HILDA INCLAN  
Miami News Reporters

*Mia News (EA) 28 apr 77 col 2 SA*

A federal grand jury will begin hearing testimony tomorrow in an attempt to solve last year's terrorist bombing of radio executive Emilio Milián.

Seven witnesses, including two FBI agents, will be called before the opening session of the grand jury which comes two months after the FBI entered the case. Miami and Metro police, who have been investigating the case for a year, are working closely with federal officials.

The grand jury probe which officials hope will lead to indictments will begin almost a year to the day since Milián, outspoken foe of terrorism, lost both legs last April 30 after a bomb exploded in his car at radio station WQBA.

Among those subpoenaed to testify tomorrow are admitted anti-Castro revolutionary and convicted bomber Hector Cornillot; Rev. Manuel Angel Espinosa, a Hialeah minister, and Juan Luis Bonich and Miguel Castellon, two of Espinosa's closest associates.

A subpoena also has been prepared for Pablo Gustavo Castillo, who was acquitted of state bombing charges. Castillo is expected to appear before the grand jury in two weeks.

The 38-year-old Cornillot was questioned extensively about the Milián bombing last summer when he was picked up here behind the offices of the Cuban exile activist group, Alpha 66, after he escaped from Glades Correctional Institution in Palm Beach County.

State officials said recently, however, that Cornillot had been cleared of any involvement in the Milián case. The grand jury probably will want to find out



Milián

Espinosa

Cornillot

what Cornillot knows about others who may be involved in the Milián bombing.

In a recent interview in the Dade County Jail, Cornillot said he was cared for by anti-Castro revolutionaries while he was an escapee, but on the day of the Milián bombing he was with a friend in the northwest section. "I was nowhere near Milián's car. I have never seen the building of the radio station," Cornillot said.

He also said Espinosa and Ramón Donestevez were feuding with Milián. Donestevez, who like Espinosa actively favored peaceful coexistence with Castro's Cuba, was shot to death April 13, 1976, just 17 days before the Milián bombing.

The feud between Milián and Espinosa began after Milián, in a broadcast, complained about Espinosa's activities and urged his listeners not to send donations to the clergyman.

Cornillot is in jail now awaiting his May 31 trial on charges that he bombed an Air Canada ticket office

in Miami Beach in 1968.

He was convicted and sentenced to 30 years in prison for that bombing, but that action was overturned and the new trial date set because he was not adequately represented at the first trial. He also was convicted of a series of bombings in California in the late 1960s.

Espinosa, 38, is the minister of the Christian Evangelical Reformed Church in Hialeah. He has espoused trade relations with Cuba.

A former captain in Castro's army, Espinosa came to Miami in the early 1960s and for a few years was an anti-Castro revolutionary. He became a Pentecostal preacher in 1974 and in 1975 he went to Cuba in an unsuccessful attempt to negotiate the release of 48,000 Cubans who have relatives in the United States. He claims he still maintains contacts with the Cuban government.

Espinosa yesterday said Bonich was his assistant in the church and that Bonich and Castellon were "the people closest to me." He said Miami police questioned him about the Milián bombing and he denied any connection with it.

Three times since January the 30-year-old Castillo has been a target of federal and state investigators but each time he has eluded them.

In January, Castillo was brought to Miami from Puerto Rico on a material-witness warrant for federal grand jury questioning about the July 23 attempted kidnaping of the Cuban consul in Merida, Mexico, and the murder of the consul's bodyguard. Castillo testified briefly before the grand jury which was investigating whether the Mexican incident was planned in Miami.

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*Espinosa*



## Convocan a numerosos testigos

# Jurado investiga atentado a Milián

Por GLORIA MARINA  
Redactora de El Miami Herald

*Mca. Her (E) Sp coll p1 29 apr 77*

Un año menos un día después del atentado dinamitero en que el popular comentarista radial Emillo Milián perdió ambas piernas, un gran jurado investigador federal comienza hoy sus indagaciones en el caso citando por lo menos a siete testigos.

Uno de los "numerosos" testigos que comparecerán ante el fiscal federal Jerome Sanford en las próximas semanas es Gustavo Castillo.

De acuerdo con una declaración jurada, la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI) tiene testimonio de un cubano con antecedentes penales que dijo haber oído decir a Castillo que Milián sería uno de los objetivos de un ataque terro-

rista, antes del atentado contra el periodista el 30 de abril de 1976.

Castillo, un exiliado de 30 años de edad, recibió una citación judicial para comparecer ante el jurado investigador el 13 de mayo. Castillo, quien recientemente fue declarado inocente por un jurado estatal de haber colocado una bomba en la Universidad de Miami, negó rotundamente las acusaciones.

Estas son las primeras indagaciones del jurado investigador federal sobre el atentado contra Milián, y vienen dos meses después que el Secretario de Justicia, Griffin Bell, facultó a las autoridades federales para investigar el caso. Milián se recuperó del atentado y camina ahora con piernas artificiales.

Entre los testigos citados para hoy se encuentran dos agentes de la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI). También han sido citados el reverendo Manuel Angel Espinosa, tres asociados suyos, y Héctor Cornillot Llano, un exiliado de 38 años.

Espinosa, un ministro pentecostal de 38 años de edad, fue capitán del ejército rebelde de Cuba y después formó parte de distintos grupos anti-castristas. Ahora, Espinosa aboga por relaciones entre Washington y La Habana.

Espinosa dijo que lo habían citado ante el jurado investigador "por el mismo motivo por el cual, cuando sonó la bomba, me llamaron tres veces a la estación de policía. Porque soy una persona controversial".

Sus tres asociados también citados ante el jurado investigador son: Juan Luis Bonich, Miguel Castellón y Armando Fojón.

Cornillot fue convicto en 1972 y condenado a 30 años de cárcel por colocar una bomba en las oficinas de Air Canada en Miami Beach en 1968. Cornillot se escapó de la cárcel el 19 de abril de 1976, fue capturado el 18 de junio e interrogado intensamente por la policía en relación con el atentado a Milián.

Cornillot ahora aguarda un nuevo juicio por el atentado de 1968, ya que su primera condena fue revocada por no tener representación adecuada durante el juicio.

Manuel Ortega alega en declaraciones hechas en noviembre del pasado año ante el FBI y Sanford, que Castillo, un cubano de 30 años, a quien él identifica como miembro del Frente de Liberación Nacional de Cuba (FLNC), le dijo, "antes de abril de 1976", que se llevarían a cabo tres atentados en la lucha contra el gobernante cubano Fidel Castro.

Uno de los objetivos que, según Ortega, Castillo mencionó, era Milián. Las declaraciones de Ortega no acusan a Castillo de participar en ninguno de los tres atentados.

Según los documentos del FBI, Ortega explicó que el atentado contra Milián se debía a su crítica de dos miembros del FLNC quienes ahora están cumpliendo condenas por posesión de explosivos.

"Milián era un objetivo porque había estado hablando mal de Luis Crespo y Humberto López, dos miembros del FLNC, y por hablar en contra del terrorismo", declaró Ortega según los documentos.

Castillo negó las acusaciones de Ortega, afirmando que "ni tengo conocimientos en el caso de Milián, ni sé quiénes son los culpables".

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Miami Herald

4-30/77 P.1

Jury Probe

# Two FBI Agents, 5 Others Testify on Milián Bombing

By GLORIA MARINA  
And JOE CRANKSHAW  
Herald Staff Writers

Two FBI agents and five other persons, including a controversial Cuban Pentecostal minister, testified Friday before a Miami federal grand jury investigating the April 1976 bombing of WQBA radio announcer Emilio Milián Friday.

All five of the Cuban Americans said they were questioned about Mario Solano, a 25-year-old Cuban exile with a lengthy record of convictions for grand larceny and breaking and entering.

Factor Cornillot Llano, now awaiting a new trial on his conviction in the 1968 bombing of the Air Canada offices on Miami Beach, did not testify.

CORNILLOT, who was to have been the first witness, was sentenced to 30 years for the Air Canada bombing. He escaped from the Belle Glade Correctional Institute April 19, 1976, 11 days before Milián was maimed.

Cornillot Llano; his lawyer, Max Lurie; and Assistant U.S. Attorney Jerome Sanford spent about 40 minutes in a witness room.

Another witness, Armando Fojón, 53-year-old factory worker, said the panel quizzed him about his son, Armando Fojón Jr., and his escape from Cuba, and about Solano.

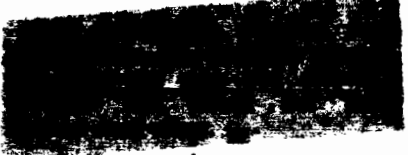
his legs would be an "extensive and exhaustive investigation into the Milián case and political terrorism in South Florida."

THE REV. Manuel Angel Espinosa said that Solano had asked him about Belle Glade and if he could go there with the minister to "see a prisoner," but then did not go when he learned that he would have to be fingerprinted.

Cornillot later escaped from prison and met a waiting car, which sped him away.

The Rev. Espinosa said he knew nothing of Solano's alleged criminal record until shown Solano's picture by police after the slaying of Juan José Peruyero.

The controversial minister, who favors renewed relations with Cuba, was quizzed for an hour-and-a-half about his views that differed with those of Milián.



Another witness, Armando Fojón, 53-year-old factory worker, said the panel quizzed him about

his son, Armando Fojón Jr., and his escape from Cuba, and about Solano.

The Rev. Espinosa also said the jury questioned him about his trips to Jamaica, his contacts with

Cuban officials and if he was receiving instructions from the U.S. State Department.

Solano's landlord, Isidoro Rodriguez-Capel, also was quizzed about his former tenant.

The Miami Herald

April 30, 1977. p. 1.

Existen teorías pero no pruebas

Miater (SP) p. 4 col 30 apr 77 DUPLICATE

FLNC  
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# Investigación del caso Milián sigue sin pistas firmes

Por GLORIA MARINA  
Redactora de El Miami Herald

En contraste con el éxito del comentarista radial Emilio Milián en volver a llevar una vida activa un año después que perdió las dos piernas en un atentado dinamitero, ninguna de las agencias policiales que investigan el caso sabe con certeza quién es el culpable.

Existen teorías, pero no pruebas.

Y a pesar de que la estación radial WQBA y otros medios de información ofrecieron \$50,000 por detalles que les permitiera a los organismos policiales encontrar al autor del atentado, nadie ha podido reclamar la recompensa.

El 30 de abril de 1976, Milián había regresado más tarde que de costumbre a la emisora radial WQBA. Recuerda que eran "pasadas las cuatro de la tarde porque había ido al barbero". Salió al terminar su programa La Voz del Pueblo, poco después de las 7 P.M.

A Milián lo habían amenazado tres días antes. Pero, según él, esa noche "no estaba muy preocupado porque se lo había avisado a la policía".

De acuerdo con la versión policial del incidente, los culpables tuvieron aproximadamente tres horas para colocar la dinamita. Uno de los agentes en el caso aseguró que fue puesta por alguien con conocimientos de mecánica, ya que "no la conectó al motor de arranque sino a los cables eléctricos".

Durante esas tres horas, un vendedor de revistas de segunda mano, Oscar Madruga, permaneció en su puesto acostumbrado, desde el cual podía observar toda la zona de estacionamiento de la WQBA.

Pero Madruga siempre insistió en que nada

había visto.

Madruga nunca podrá decirle exactamente lo que vio y lo que no vio ese día al jurado investigador federal que el viernes comenzó a indagar los acontecimientos del caso de Milián, ya que murió repentinamente de una enfermedad del hígado el 24 de octubre.

Durante meses Milián se quejó de que las autoridades locales no podrían averiguar quién o quiénes cometieron el crimen. Por meses trató de que la Oficina Federal de Investigaciones (FBI) participara en la pesquisa.

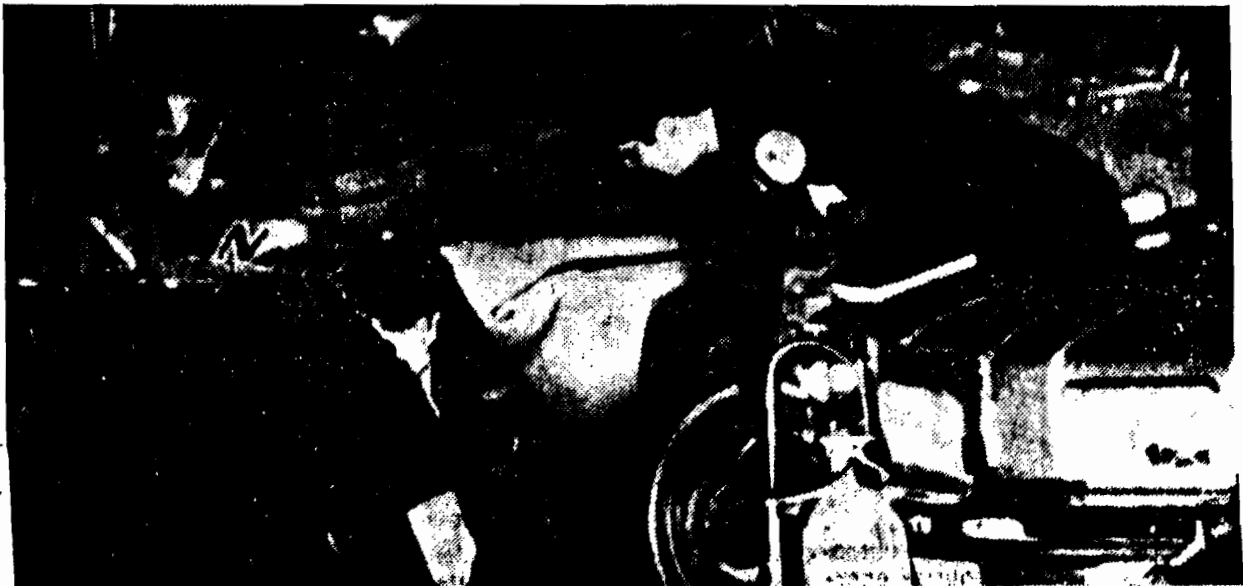
En febrero, el secretario de Justicia Griffin Bell autorizó al FBI para que entrara en la investigación. Ahora Milián se siente optimista en cuanto a que pronto se hallará la solución.

Un agente del FBI, sin embargo, deploró la demora en entrar a investigar el atentado, ya que "el caso está frío".

Parte de la investigación que ahora sigue el FBI se basa en declaraciones hechas en noviembre del pasado año por Manuel Ortega, un cubano con antecedentes penales que admitió haber pertenecido a grupos militantes anticomunistas.

Ortega alega en sus declaraciones que Gustavo Castillo, un cubano de 30 años de edad a quien él identifica como miembro del Frente de Liberación Nacional de Cuba (FLNC), le dijo "antes de abril de 1976" que se llevarían a cabo tres atentados en la lucha contra el gobernante cubano Fidel Castro.

Uno de los objetivos contra los cuales se atentaría, según la declaración de Ortega, era Milián. Otro de los objetivos sería la comparecencia en la Universidad de Miami de la militante negra Angela Davis. El tres de abril estalló una bomba en la universidad, poco antes de que



Así quedó el automóvil de Milián después del atentado

Mia Her (sp) p. 4 col  
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Davis iniciara su presentación.

Según los documentos del FBI, Ortega explicó que el atentado contra Millán se debía a su crítica de dos miembros del FLNC quienes ahora están cumpliendo condenas por posesión de explosivos.

"Millán era un objetivo porque había estado hablando mal de Luis Crespo y Humberto López, dos miembros del FLNC, y por hablar en contra del terrorismo", alega Ortega en su declaración jurada ante el FBI.

En su testimonio Ortega nunca acusa Castillo de haber puesto la bomba contra Millán.

Ortega fue testigo de cargos en el caso contra Castillo por el atentado dinamitero contra Davis, pero un jurado estatal no creyó su testimonio, y absolvió a Castillo del atentado en la Universidad de Miami.

Con anterioridad Ortega se había declarado culpable de conspiración en el mismo caso, y fue condenado a dos años de prisión.

Sin embargo, las autoridades federales han citado a Castillo a que comparezca ante el jurado investigador el 13 de mayo.

Castillo impugnó la credibilidad de Ortega: "Trató de involucrarme en la bomba de la universidad y ahora también está mintiendo".

Por eso, afirmó Castillo, pidió que se le sometiera a la prueba del detector de mentiras, y la semana pasada pasó la primera parte de la misma.

"Quiero demostrarles mi inocencia a las autoridades, no tengo conocimientos en el caso de Millán ni sé quiénes son los culpables", aseveró Castillo.

Ortega no es el único que ha hecho declaraciones en el caso de Millán. En septiembre del pasado año, Manuel de Armas, el autodenominado ex agente de la Agencia Central de Inteligencia (CIA) y del FBI que viajó a Cuba, donde atacó públicamente a organizaciones y personas exiliadas, afirmó saber quién le había puesto la bomba a Millán.

De Armas aseguró a la policía de Miami, que lo interrogó en febrero de este año, que nada había aportado en el caso.

La policía también ha interrogado minuciosamente a Héctor Cornillot Llano, Cornillot, quien compareció el viernes ante el jurado investigador, cumplía condena de 30 años de cárcel por colocar una bomba en 1968.

Poco antes del atentado a Millán escapó de la cárcel en Belle Glades. Fue capturado en Miami el 18 de junio.

"Nadie ha sido excluido en el caso, pero tampoco nos estamos concentrando en alguien en particular", declaró el sargento Charles Reynolds del departamento de homicidio de la policía de Miami.



## Millán se ha recuperado

Millán estima que las autoridades tienen que resolver su caso porque "si no lo hacen, tenemos que aceptar que estamos en manos de un puñado de personas de ideas totalitarias".

La ola del terror, según Millán, empezó con la muerte de José Elías de la Torriente en abril de 1974, cuyo caso está aún por resolver.

"La impunidad con la cual pueden seguir matando alienta la comisión del delito", arguyó Millán.

La policía de Miami discrepa.

"Las autoridades locales estamos mejor preparadas para enfrentarnos con el problema del terrorismo y tenemos mejores fuentes de información ahora", aseguró el sargento Reynolds.

Pero tanto Millán como las autoridades están de acuerdo en que es necesario reunir una evidencia muy sólida antes de llevar el caso del comentarista radial a la corte.

"Se trata de falta de credibilidad en la comunidad hacia la policía, y en este caso en particular estamos bajo una presión más intensa", comentó Reynolds.

# Milián contento con su comparecencia

5-14-77 P.2

Por GLORIA MARINA  
y JOE CRANKSHAW  
Redactores de El Miami Herald

Cinco testigos, incluyendo el Vicepresidente de WQBA, Emilio Milián, comparecieron el viernes en medio de estricta seguridad ante un gran jurado federal investigador, que estudia el atentado dinamitero contra Milián y actividades de grupos militantes en el sur de la Florida.

Milián contestó preguntas de los miembros del gran jurado durante unas dos horas y declaró al salir que estaba satisfecho.

Según ese funcionario de la Cubanísima, las preguntas estaban relacionadas al atentado dinamitero que le costó ambas piernas el pasado año y a declaraciones y editoriales radiales hechos por él.

Los periodistas sólo se dieron cuenta de que Milián había llegado al edificio de la Corte Federal, cuando uno de ellos descubrió el bastón que utiliza, en la parte de atrás de un vehículo policial sin insignia.



Castillo, sin comentario

Gustavo Castillo fue el primer testigo en comparecer ante el gran jurado federal. La comparecencia de Castillo, la segunda este año ante el mismo gran jurado, fue corta, y al salir no quiso comentar al respecto.

Fuentes de El Herald indicaron que Castillo había sido interrogado acerca del intento de secuestro de un cónsul cubano en México el año pasado y el atentado contra Milián.

Manuel Ortega, un cubano con antecedentes penales, declaró en unos informes que le dio al FBI en noviembre del pasado año que Castillo le había dicho antes de abril de 1976 que Milián sería víctima de un atentado.

Milián, quien entonces trabajaba como comentarista radial y desempeñaba el cargo de director de noticias y programación de la radioemisora, perdió ambas piernas el 30 de abril de 1976 al estallar una bomba colocada en el automóvil que él usaba.

Castillo ha negado repetidas veces tener conocimiento alguno acerca del caso y hasta pidió la prueba del detector de mentiras para demostrar su inocencia.

Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo, apresado en México en año pasado cuando las autoridades lo acusaron del intento de secuestro del cónsul cubano y de la muerte de un oficial de inteligencia cubano en el mismo incidente, también compareció ante el gran jurado.

Jiménez, contra quien no hay cargos pendientes en los Estados Unidos, salió a la hora, pero tampoco quiso hacer comentarios. Fuentes de El Herald informaron que lo habían interrogado acerca del atentado en México y la bomba de Milián.

Fuentes allegadas a la investigación señalaron que ese día Jiménez no se hallaba en Miami, sino que estaba en Santo Domingo.

Andrés Nazario Sargén, Presidente de Alpha 66, contestó durante media hora las preguntas que le hicieron.

Según el Presidente de Alpha 66, los miembros del gran jurado querían saber "qué es la organización, cuándo fue fundada, quiénes son

los dirigentes, cuáles son sus actividades y cuántos miembros tiene".

Nazario Sargén dijo que definió a la agrupación como "una organización revolucionaria que lucha por la libertad de Cuba y dispuesta a derrocar el régimen de Fidel Castro por medios militares y políticos".

El dirigente, quien recientemente volvió de un viaje a Formosa donde participó en el Noveno Congreso Anticomunista Mundial, agregó que le habían preguntado si conocía a Milián y que contestó que lo conocía desde 1962.

"También me preguntaron sobre Héctor Cornillot Llano", agregó Nazario Sargén.

Cornillot Llano escapó de la cárcel estatal en Belle Glades 11 días antes del atentado contra Milián y fue capturado en junio. Durante varios días permaneció en las oficinas de Alpha 66.

"Yo les dije lo que dije a la policía", dijo Nazario Sargén "que Héctor pidió permiso para estar ahí, diciendo que estaba en libertad bajo palabra".

Nazario Sargén explicó que no tenía por qué saber que Cornillot Llano era un fugitivo, ya que se había paseado en público y que no se había comportado como un hombre que estaba huyendo. Los padres de Blas Jesús Corbo fueron a la Corte Federal con la esperanza de poder ver a su hijo. Tanto Corbo como Antonio de la Cova han sido condenados por un atentado dinamitero el pasado año en una tienda de libros para adultos en La Pequeña Habana y ambos fueron citados para comparecer el viernes.

Eduardo Corbo dijo que los dos habían sido citados porque Miguel Angel Peraza había acusado a De la Cova de caminar de rodillas pocos días después del atentado, burlándose de Milián.

Agregó, por otro lado que estaban apelando las condenas federales y estatales de su hijo. Comparó "la condena que recibió Patty Hearst, que ametralló y asaltó y a quien le dieron sólo cinco años de libertad bajo palabra, con la de Antonio a quien le dieron 65 años por un petardo que no explotó y tras ser incitado", alegadamente por Peraza.

May 28, 1977.

# Grand Jury Hears Mystery Witnesses

By GLORIA MARINA  
Herald Staff Writer

*Miguel A. Peraza*

A man disguised with a red wig and two other mysterious witnesses testified Friday before a federal grand jury investigating the bombing which cost WQBA radio commentator Emilio Milián his legs in April 1975.

Federal prosecutor Jerry Sanford said the jury "made significant progress" Friday. He would not elaborate.

FEDERAL marshals maintained tight security, closing off access to halls near the grand jury chambers and whisking witnesses away from reporters in a silver Oldsmobile bearing Palm Beach County rental plates.

Herald sources described the secret witnesses as residents who lived near the offices of radio station WQBA, the site of the bomb blast.

In addition to the three unidentified witnesses, four other men answered questions:

- Pablo Sarduy, the first witness who spent 30 minutes under questioning;

- Diego Medina, secretary of Alpha 66, an Anti-Communist group;

- Luis Tornés, Bay of Pigs veteran and ex-news director of a Latin newspaper, Libertad (Liberty), which was once published by Rolando Masferrer, a murder victim;

- John Lasseville, owner of Lasso Laboratories, 434 SW 12th Ave., and Agencia Cubana, a firm which processes residency and citizenship immigration forms for Cuban exiles.

Sarduy would only say that he was asked about Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo, who himself appeared two weeks ago before the jury. Jiménez recently escaped from a Mexican jail where he was held. Mexican officials say that he was a suspect in the attempted kidnaping of a Cuban consul in Mérida.

MEDINA said he spent 20 minutes answering questions about Alpha 66's activities and about Héctor Cornillot Llano, an escaped prisoner from Belle Glades prison. Cornillot was serving a 30-year term for a series of bombings when he escaped 11 days before Milián's car was bombed.

When captured in June, Cornillot was questioned by police about the bombing. He was also one of the first persons called before the grand jury but did not testify at the time.

Tornés said he believed he was subpoenaed to testify because of an open letter he wrote to the 1975 U.S. Congress asking congressmen to clarify their position vis-a-vis anti-Castro forces between the years 1959-75.

Those who tried to help the government then are now being persecuted, Tornés said.

TORNES, a Bay of Pigs veteran, was sentenced in 1971 to two years with probation for conspiring to run guns.

Tornés declined to comment about his testimony except to say that he was questioned about Milián. Tornés was near the scene of the bombing with other friends, he said, but he did not rush to the scene after the blast.

"It seems that not running to the scene of a disaster is now a crime," he said.

Lasseville said he was also with Tornés when the bomb went off. Lasseville, treasurer of the Dade Hispanic Democrats, said that he, Tornés, Jorge Luis Fernández, then a WQBA reporter and Rafael Villaverde, Little Havana Activities Center Director, were discussing residency problems in Lasseville's offices.

"WE (THE GROUP) left the office to go to a bakery and then to a coffee shop to buy a Spanish-language paper. We came running when we heard the explosion," he said.

*Posiblemente  
Martin Cruz  
y Lugo o Santana*

*Herald-Mayo  
28/77*

## Continúa investigación del caso Milián

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# Gran Jurado indaga sobre Jiménez y Cornillot

Por CHERYL BROWNSTEIN  
y JOE CRANKSHAW

Redactores de El Miami Herald

Gaspar Jiménez Escobedo viajó a Puerto Rico y regresó a Miami el mismo día en que se produjo el atentado dinamitero contra el comentarista radial Emilio Milián, según testimonio prestado el viernes ante el gran jurado investigador federal que indaga sobre actos terroristas en Miami.

Pero el mismo testigo que dijo lo había llevado al aeropuerto en Puerto Rico para que regresara a Miami, aseguró que Jiménez no había colocado la bomba que le cercenó las piernas a Milián.

El gran jurado también oyó testimonio de un hombre que dijo que Héctor Cornillot Llano había estado en casa del testigo todo ese día.

Tanto Jiménez Escobedo como Cornillot Llano han sido nombrados por investigadores federales como posibles sospechosos en el atentado a Milián. No se han formulado cargos en relación con ese atentado, ocurrido el 30 de abril del año pasado.

Cinco testigos comparecieron el viernes ante el gran jurado que investiga el atentado contra Milián desde abril de este año.

Tres de los testigos — exiliados cubanos residentes de Puerto Rico — testificaron, según lo que dijeron al salir de la sala de audiencias, que Jiménez Escobedo había viajado a Puerto Rico el 30 de abril de 1976 y esa misma tarde regresó a Miami.

Los testigos que viajaron el jueves de Puerto Rico fueron: Jaime Carvajal, un contador público de 43 años; su cuñada, la Dra. Blanca Carvajal, quien es prima de la esposa de Jiménez; y el ingeniero José A. Carvajal, de 50 años, esposo de la Dra. Carvajal y tesorero de la Junta Revolucionaria en Puerto Rico desde 1961 a 1964.

Luego de prestar testimonio, los esposos Carvajal señalaron que Jiménez los había visitado ese día en Río Piedras, Puerto Rico.

Por su parte, Jaime Carvajal indicó que esa tarde él llevó a Jiménez Escobedo al Aeropuerto Internacional de Isla Verde para que volara de regreso a Miami.

"El estuvo conmigo allá. Yo lo llevé al aero-

puerto ... Lo dejé allí de seguro a las 4:15 P.M.", señaló Carvajal, agregando que él pensaba que Jiménez Escobedo cogería un avión de la Eastern Airlines alrededor de las 4:30 P.M.

Voceros de la Eastern indicaron el viernes que, de acuerdo con el catálogo de vuelos Official Airlines Guide (OAG) vigente para esa fecha, habían programados dos vuelos cerca de las 4:30 P.M. El primero, el vuelo número 328, estaba señalado para salir de San Juan a las 4:25 P.M. y llegar a Miami a las 5:46 P.M. El segundo, el vuelo número 966, estaba señalado para salir de San Juan a las 4:45 P.M. y arribar al Aeropuerto Internacional de Miami a las 6:10 P.M.

La bomba colocada bajo el capó del auto de la WQBA usado por Milián estalló a las 7:17 P.M. cuando él trató de arrancar el vehículo en la zona de estacionamiento de la radioemisora.

Testigos en el lugar declararon entonces a la policía que habían visto esa tarde a dos hombres vestidos con uniformes similares a los utilizados por los mecánicos haciendo algo al vehículo de la WQBA.

"Para mí, (Jiménez) no tiene nada que ver con eso" del atentado, señaló Jaime Carvajal.

Jiménez Escobedo, de 40 años de edad y empleado de la Florida East Coast Railroad, fue arrestado en México en julio del año pasado por el homicidio de Artañán Díaz Díaz, funcionario del gobierno cubano que murió baleado durante un fallido intento de secuestro del cónsul cubano en Mérida, Daniel Ferrer Ferrer. No hay cargos pendientes en Estados Unidos contra Jiménez Escobedo, quien escapó de México y volvió a Estado Unidos en marzo pasado.

Investigadores federales también han indagado en torno a la posibilidad de que Jiménez Escobedo, miembro de Acción Cubana, grupo dirigido por Orlando Bosch, haya participado en agosto de 1975 junto a Aldo Vera Serafín en el ataque con ametralladoras contra el embajador cubano en Argentina, Emilio Aragonés Navarro.

Jaime Carvajal, uno de los tres testigos que declararon el viernes por la tarde, era amigo de Vera Serafín, quien fue asesinado en Puerto Rico en octubre del año pasado. Vera Serafín, de 43 años de edad, era amigo del Dr. Bosch y

Llano  
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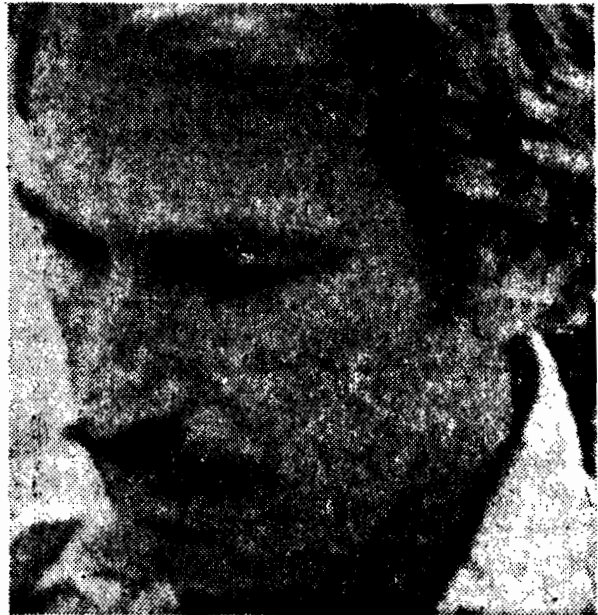
**Jiménez Escobedo**

junto a él participo en el grupo anticastrista La Cuarta República.

En la sesión matutina del gran jurado, Adán Betancourt, exiliado retirado de 63 años de edad, manifestó que Cornillot Llano había estado en su casa todo el día el 30 de abril del 1976.

Cornillot Llano, de 38 años de edad, actualmente cumple una condena de 10 años de prisión por un atentado dinamitero contra las oficinas en Miami Beach de Air Canada, perpetrado en 1968.

Una vez miembro del ahora inexistente grupo anticastrista Poder Cubano que fuera encabezado por Bosch, Cornillot Llano estuvo prófugo de la cárcel estatal de Belle Glade desde el 19 de abril hasta el 18 de junio, cuando fue recapturado. Bosch, militante anticastrista, está encarcelado en Venezuela esperando ser enjuiciado por su presunta participación en el estallido que hizo caer un avión de la Cubana de Aviación frente a las costas de Barbados el año pasado.



**Cornillot Llano**

“Héctor estuvo una semana viviendo en mi casa. El día de lo de Milián, estuvo todo el día en mi casa ... Me consta que eso (el atentado) no lo hizo porque todo el día estuve allí. Almorzó y comió conmigo, hasta me hizo la comida”, declaró Adán Betancourt luego de salir de la sala donde el jurado escuchó las declaraciones de los cinco testigos.

Debido a su cooperación con el gran jurado, Betancourt recibiría automáticamente inmunidad contra la formulación de cargos en su contra, mientras no haya renunciado a sus derechos constitucionales.

El testigo señaló que Cornillot Llano había pasado todo ese día en una habitación leyendo revistas y viendo la televisión.

Betancourt, cuyo brazo izquierdo fue amputado como resultado de un accidente de tránsito en 1971, fue el segundo testigo en hacer declaraciones al gran jurado en su sesión matutina. El primer testigo no hizo declaraciones a la prensa ni fue identificado.



# Cuban Exile Leader Denies Bombing Link

Miami (F) Call

3D

9 Apr 78

Cuban exile publisher Max Lesnik said Saturday that it is "healthy" for a federal grand jury in Miami to be investigating acts of terrorism, but that it would be "absurd" to seek a connection between himself and the bombing two years ago of radio commentator Emilio Milian.

The grand jury has focused its attention on a quarrel between Lesnik and Milian, who worked at the time for the Spanish-language station WQBA.

"It would be absurd," said Lesnik, publisher of a magazine and a newspaper, both called Replica, for the jury to connect him with the attempt to kill Milian, who lost his legs in the car bombing. Lesnik said the quarrel was settled before the bombing.

"IT IS HEALTHY for the grand jury to investigate every aspect of terrorism ... to draw out the truth," Lesnik said. "The grand jury should not be concerned only with the solution of one crime, but with the solution of all the crimes which have occurred."

Lesnik said a series of terrorist actions began with attacks against Replica and included the Milian bombing. He presumed that is why the grand jury is interested in the old quarrel, which began in 1974.

The jury also is interested in the activities of convicted bomber Hector Cornillot Llano, who escaped from a state prison 11 days before Milian was injured, and in Alpha 66 — an exile organization in whose

headquarters the convict hid.

Cornillot Llano, who was questioned exhaustively by police about the Milian bombing, has not been accused of committing it.

ON FRIDAY, the grand jury called four witnesses to testify in the Milian case. Three of the witnesses had some connection either to Replica or to Alpha 66:

- Roger Redondo, a Replica employe, said Lesnik complained about Milian's reporting on the air of bomb threats and police searches at businesses selling Replica. "Max complained to Herb Levin (WQBA's general manager) and wanted the reports stopped," Redondo said. "Once the bosses reached an agreement, the quarrel stopped."

- Miguel Alvarez, a magazine and newspaper distributor who once worked for Replica and was a member of Alpha 66, said the jury wanted to know if he had seen Cornillot while the escaped convict was hiding. "I think everybody except the police saw Cornillot," he replied.

- Jose (Chamaco) Garcia, an actor and singer, refused to tell reporters what had happened in the jury room. He explained that he simply had the bad luck to be in the WQBA building at the time of the Milian bombing.

- Nazario Sargen, a former major in Cuban President Fidel Castro's army, said he testified, when asked if he had seen Cornillot, that he thought that Cornillot was on parole, not that he had escaped.