

Terrorism Probe Ends; No Indictments

By JOE CRANKSHAW And GLORIA MARINA Heraid Staff Writers

The Miami federal grand jury Monday concluded its investigation of all terrorist activities in South Florida and the bombing of a Cuban radio newsman without handing down any indictments, The Herald learned.

Members of the jury, which took up the probe of the bombing of exile newsman Emilio Milián last May and broadened the investigation to include terrorism in general, were reportedly unsuccessful in getting U.S. Attorney Jacob V. Eskenazi to seek an extension of the life of the panel.

"The grand jury's term expired," Eskenazi said Monday, "and it was discharged according to law."

Eskenazi emphasized that the dissolution of the Milián grand jury would not prejudice on-going investigations into the Milián bombing and other terrorism cases.

ESKENAZI'S decision does not affect the work of another federal grand jury presently investigating the activities of the Bay of Pigs Brigade 2506 and its "Secret Army." That investigation has already led to the indictment of four Cuban exiles on charges of conspiring to violate U.S. neutrality laws and the jailing of another exile who refused to cooperate with the investigation.

The dissolution of the Milián grand jury, nevertheless, disappointed several community leaders who expressed surprise and disappointment at Eskenazi's announcement.

"I think that when the investigation of a crime remains inconclusive, it only helps to encourage those who committed the crime and may want to repeat their dastardly deeds," said Jorge Mas Canosa, a Cuban exile businessman and leader, who had been a grand jury witness.

Mas Canosa said that questions asked him indicated that the panel "knew where they were heading."

"I think this (the discharge of the grand jury) is of very little benefit to the community and the Cuban exiles," Mas Canosa said. "It is a crime that has not been solved. "I believe we Cubans went into exile precisely because of a lack of justice in Cuba. And when the judicial system in this country, whose responsibility it is to apply justice fails or does not produce results, then we condemn it and it fills us with shame."

MIAMI CITY Commissioner J. L. Plummer also expressed dismay that the federal grand jury had retired without producing results.

"If the work is unfinished, in my estimation it is wrong (to discharge the jury)," he said, "My hope and desire is that whatever is needed be done to bring about the successful

Turn to Page 5A Col. 1



Jury Probe of Terrorism Ends 11-1-77-5 ,

> FROM PAGE I A

conviction of the person responsible."

persons to reach Milián after a bomb in a car severed the newsman's legs below the knees. Mas activities outside the United States Canosa is a friend of Milián.

Milián also was surprised to learn from Miami Herald reporters that the grand jury handling his case had been allowed to expire without any action being taken.

After calling the U.S. Attorney's office. Milián said:

"Mr. (Jerome) Sanford told me. however, that it did not mean that the FBI would not continue its investigations or that in the future another grand jury could not be empaneled to deal with my case, perhaps in a more selective manner."

* "THE MATTER can be represented to a new grand jury if new matters are developed," Eskanazi said. He would not comment on specific matters before any federal grand jury and did not speculate on the probability that a new grand jury

would take up the terrorism investigation.

After taking up the April 1976 bombing of Milián, the grand jury Plummer was one of the first expanded its probe to cover bombings by suspected Cuban exiles in South Florida and any anti-Castro which were allegedly plotted in Miami.

> Federal grand juries collect evidence from investigative agencies and ordinary citizens to determine if federal law has been violated. If the panel finds a violation, it presents an indictment, or charge, which is brought to trial in federal court.

> SOME FORMER prosecutors said that dividing an investigation between two grand juries could be done successfully but that many problems would have been avoided by extending the panel as was done for a panel looking into organized crime.

But investigators said that the change in grand juries would not

slow down or hamper their work. They said they could call back any witnesses they want at any time.

The Milian grand jury heard more than 35 witnesses directly connected with the bombing of the newsman and more than 25 others who might have provided information on terrorism in South Florida.

ESKENAZI took office as interim U.S. attorney in September and was named permanent U.S. attorney last month. The panel had already been called into action by Eskenazi's predecessor, Robert Rust, after state and national political figures called for an all-out terrorism investigation.

Monday, two of those figures, Senator Richard Stone and Rep. Dante Fascell expressed confidence that the terrorist investigation would proceed without hinderance.

Stone said through an aide, that he continues to be interested in the investigation.

Fascell said that he is sure the investigation is going forward.