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Refugee Held

**In Bombing
Of Business**

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By **CARLOS MARTINEZ**
Of Our Latin America Staff

Ricardo (Monkey) Morales Navarrete, a husky Cuban exile who was trained in demolition by the U.S. government and once fought pro-Communist rebels in the Congo, was charged Wednesday with one of seven bombings blamed on a "Cuban Power" group.

Members of the Miami police intelligence unit arrested Morales shortly after 7 a.m. in bed at the apartment he shared with his wife and three children at 921 SW Fifth St., a Cuban neighborhood.



Morales Navarrete
... fought in Congo

Police described Morales, 29, as a "key member of the Cuban Power group," and charged him specifically with "planting a bomb in a place of business with an intent to damage" it.

Authorities said the bombing for which Morales is being charged took place early on Jan. 25, the day three local small businesses — two of them freight-forwarding firms sending food and medicine packages to Cuba — were hit by terrorists.

They said Morales planted the bomb that ripped apart the store front at Servicios Especializados, of 3526 W. Flagler, a freight forwarding firm owned by exile Jose Valdes.

Experts of the Miami police fingerprints division said Morales' prints on record at the Immigration Service here matched those found on the remains of the business-size envelope which contained the explosives.

A bond hearing was set for 9:30 a.m. today before Criminal Court Judge Jack Turner.

Morales, who arrived at police headquarters wearing dark trousers and a blue sweater, denied any association with Cuban Power.

"I'm not connected with any bombing or with any kind of organization. If my mother were in Cuba I would send her things. That is something humanitarian. I couldn't be against that," he commented.

Cuban Power had warned a few weeks ago that it would do everything within its reach to stop shipments of merchandise to Cuba, on grounds that they were helping Castro maintain his grip over the island.

At Morales' apartment intelligence unit officers found a small, round home-made bomb, a detonator and several Spanish language pamphlets that mentioned

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First Arrest Made In 'Cuban Power' Bombings Here

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Cuban Power. The bomb was taken away in a Metro bomb disposal truck.

The latest in the series of terrorist bombings took place Friday at the Coral Gables home of British Consul Francis J. Pelly. Eight days earlier, a bomb had exploded at the home of Mexican Consul Rafael Reyes Spindola.

Morales once was in a 40-member exile commando unit trained by U.S. agencies in guerrilla and anti-guerrilla tactics inside and outside of Florida.

The exile anti-guerrilla experts were hurriedly flown from Florida to the Congo in 1964 to help the Congolese army stop a Communist drive by pro-Red rebels. Morales was a captain in a Congolese infantry brigade for six months and then returned to Miami.

It was Morales' group which was credited with seizing the city of Stanleyville from the Reds. One of its most daring moves there was the capture of the Stanleyville airport for the Belgian parachutists.

Before and after the Congo operation, Morales' commando detail was kept busy with U.S. clock-and-dagger assignments. Among other things, the men were taking military

supplies to the Cuban underground and infiltrating and exfiltrating Cubans. Federal authorities never interfered with their boats.

"Morales himself went to Cuba at least a dozen times," a relative said. "Three or four times he stayed there on specific missions and was picked up several days later."

When suddenly, all secret U.S.-sponsored anti-Castro activity ceased, men like Morales were left not knowing what to do.

"You just can't train all these men, crank them up, and then just abandon them, claimin' there are other more important things to do," a prominent exile who knows Morales noted. "This amounts to telling them to forget about their country. Some proceed quietly to do what they can but others, frustrated and in despair, turn to this kind of activity."

Before fleeing Cuba in 1960 "for political reasons," Morales had been a member of Castro's intelligence machinery, the G-2. He was assigned to Havana's Jose Marti Airport to check the backgrounds of Cubans going into exile.

Upon arriving in Miami, he told of his experiences as a Castro intelligence man in an article appearing in an exile publication, entitled "I Was a G-2 Agent."



—United Press International Photo

Miami Police, FBI Agents Check Fuse
... 'may have been used to set off bombs'

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