

# Bosch denounces U.S. reports on terrorist activities

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Jailed anti-Castro militant Orlando Bosch on Friday disputed recently released government documents that called him "Miami's number one terrorist" of the 1960s and '70s, and which blamed his followers in the 1963 bombing death of a family of four in Cuba.

In a Spanish-language statement, Bosch said the documents, released to his lawyers Tuesday, were part of a U.S. government campaign "to intentionally distort my true image and personality and to create in the American public the psychological conditions necessary to justify my deportation, and what would follow, my assassination."

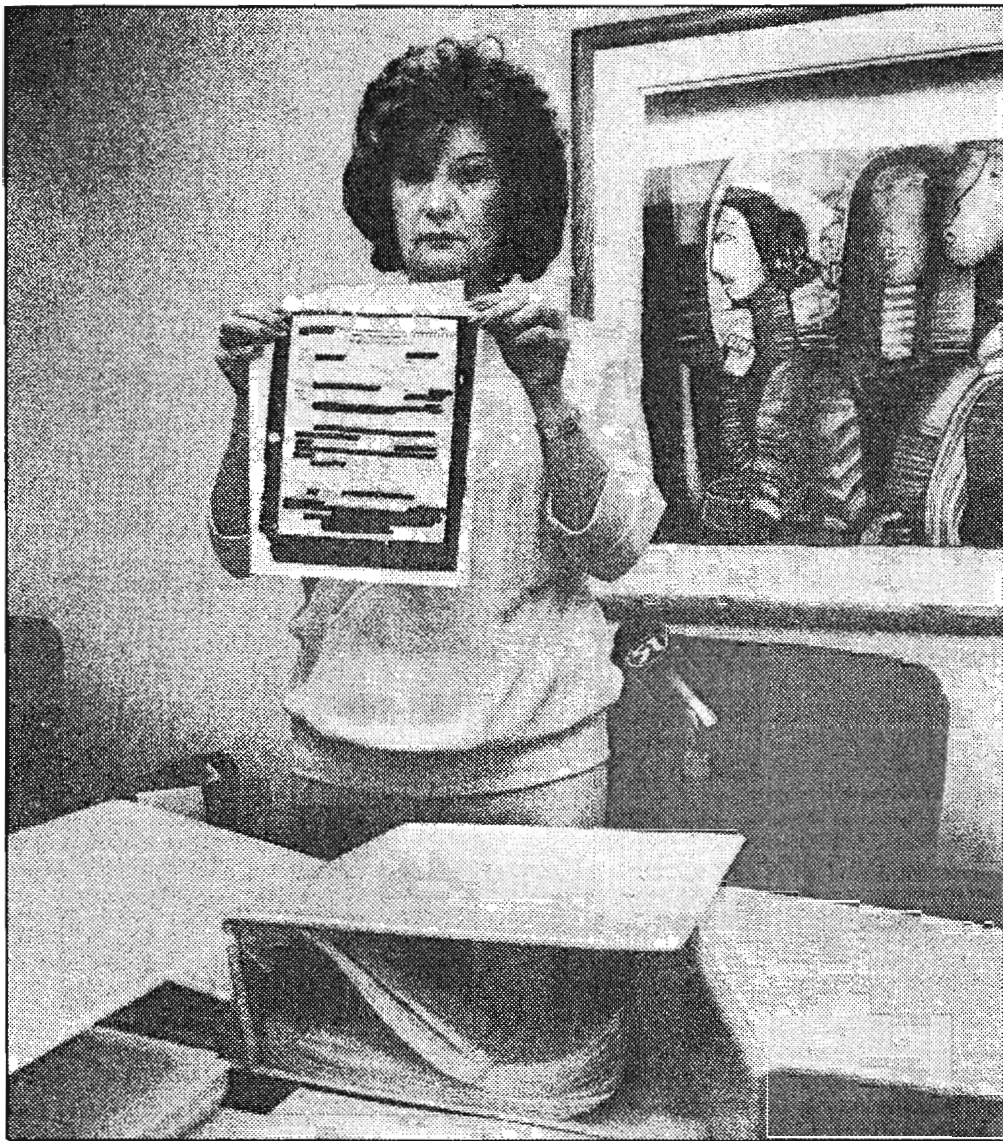
Bosch angrily denounced a CIA report that said an air strike by MIRR, a terrorist group Bosch led in the 1960s, accidentally dropped bombs on a house in the city of Santa Clara in central Cuba on Sept. 5, 1963, killing a man and his three children. The CIA document said the MIRR plane dumped the bombs because it was under attack from the Cuban military.

Friday, Bosch issued a challenge: "I am from that same town of Santa Clara, and here in exile are thousands of fellow Santa Clara natives who I'm calling upon to speak with the media to make a liar of me or the CIA."

Some former Santa Clara residents whom The Miami Herald contacted Friday said they were un-



**Bosch**



C.M. GUERRERO / Miami Herald Staff

**GOVERNMENT FILES:** Orlando Bosch's wife, Adriana, holds up a document partially blacked out to protect data the CIA says is classified. Full volumes sit in front of her.

# U.S. documents 'distort my true image,' Bosch says

**BOSCH, FROM 1B**

familiar with the 1963 bombing. However, one man said he remembered an incident around that time that bears a striking resemblance to the CIA account.

Santiago Abreu, 77, a delegate of the Exile Municipality of Santa Clara and member of the executive board of the Cuban Municipalities in Exile, recalled an air skirmish that ended in the deaths of three children and their father.

"A pirate plane passed over Santa Clara. An air base near Santa Clara fired a missile at the plane. There is confusion about whether the device that fell where the father and the children were sleeping was from the

base or from the plane. In the town, it was said that it could have been from the base and not from the plane," Abreu said.

Bosch and wife Adriana admit that MIRR did conduct at least two air strikes against Cuba in the early 1960s — under the guidance of the CIA, they say — but that no one was killed.

"Although innocent deaths are inevitable in wars and bombings, what they are accusing me of now, not even Castro has said," Bosch declared. "But their aim is the same as the tyrant's, to portray the figure of Orlando Bosch as a monster in order to justify their diabolical plan."

Bosch said his wife will hold a press conference Monday to show

photographs and other evidence that Bosch was working under the guidance of the Central Intelligence Agency during the early 1960s, when he was the leader of MIRR, the Spanish acronym for the Insurreccional Movement of Revolutionary Recovery.

Bosch also criticized former Miami FBI Special Agent George Davis, who called Bosch "Miami's number one terrorist" and urged the government, in a 1987 letter, to bar Bosch from entering the United States. Bosch said Davis was the government's liaison for five anti-Castro military camps based in Florida during the early 1960s.

The CIA documents that Bosch attacked Friday are part of a 1,763-

page file the government has placed into evidence in the ongoing effort to deport Bosch. Among the five volumes were hundreds of pages of FBI, CIA and other government reports that had not been made available to Bosch's lawyers since Bosch entered the United States in February 1988.

"What bothers me is that we didn't have access to this before," said Bosch attorney Raoul Cantero.

Cantero said that the documents, most of which deal with Bosch's activities up until his arrest in Venezuela in 1976, should not be a factor in the ongoing deportation case.

Bosch's lawyers have sought to use an immigration statute that allows former terrorists to enter this

country if they have renounced terrorism and have not been involved in terrorist actions in the past five years.

"He's not on trial for these things done in 1963," Cantero said. "The issue is whether he represents a threat now to national security."

"They don't have any evidence that he's done anything in the last 15 years."

Bosch entered the United States from Venezuela in February 1988, several months after his release from a Caracas prison. Bosch was jailed there for 11 years on charges that he bombed a Cuban jetliner in 1976, killing 73 people. He was acquitted in three trials.

Before his arrest in Venezuela in 1976, he served four years in U.S. prisons for a recoilless rifle attack on a Polish ship in the Port of Miami.

Bosch violated his parole when he fled the United States in 1974.

Bosch attorney Oscar Levin said it was difficult to test the validity of some of the CIA reports, some of which were filled with blacked-out lines.

The U.S. attorney general's office ordered Bosch deported on June 23, charging that he was an "unwavering" terrorist. The deportation order overruled decisions by the regional and national commissioners of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, who had said Bosch should be allowed an immigration hearing on his request for political asylum.

Appeals of the deportation order are scheduled to be heard in federal court in September.

*Herald writer Cynthia Corzo contributed to this report.*