



Miami Torch of Friendship burns again

Miami's Torch of Friendship, extinguished by a bomb explosion in July, was lighted today.

Public Work Department employees lighted the torch last Friday and then discovered damage was more extensive than originally believed, said Albert Howard, director of the city Parks and Recreation Department.

Howard said that the entire gas line leading into the torch had to be checked.

According to William E. Parkes, assistant director of the Department of Public Works, repairs to the torch cost the city \$5,000.

The July 27 explosion, which blew off the gas meter and ignited escaping gas, was the second incident involving the Torch of Friendship this year.

The first occurred last October when a Cuban refugee, Conrado Rodriguez, backed a rental truck over the curb and plowed into the torch to protest possible U.S. detente with Cuba. Repairs to the torch that time cost the city \$4,000.

No arrests have been made in the July 27 bombing.