

# Omega 7 strikes again, bombs Soviet Mission

A North Hudson-based anti-Castro terrorist group has struck again, this time setting off a powerful bomb that rocked the Soviet Mission to the United Nations in Manhattan. Several Russian personnel inside the building and policemen outside were injured.

About 40 minutes after the bomb went off, a caller told United Press International he was with Omega 7 and claimed responsibility for the bombing.

The anti-Castro organization has claimed responsibility for two other terrorist acts in recent weeks — the bomb-

ing of the Cuban Mission to the United Nations in New York and the machinegun slaying of controversial Cuban activist Eulalio Jose Negrin in Union City.

Negrin was slain Nov. 25 as he was about to enter his car. At least 10 .45-caliber bullets were fired at the 38-year-old Negrin who had been part of a committee of Cuban exiles known as the "Committee of 75" and negotiating for the release of political prisoners in Cuba.

Last Friday night a bomb exploded outside the Cuban Mission on Lexington Avenue and 38th Street, slightly injuring

two policemen.

Since February, 1975, Omega 7 has claimed responsibility for 12 bombings in New York and New Jersey, according to law enforcement officials.

Last night's blast ripped a hole in the Russian Mission's driveway and shattered glass in the building and in an apartment house across the street.

"We make evident this was our repudiation to Soviet colonialism which threatens our Hispanic America and the free world," last night's caller told UPI.

In another call at 3:15 a.m., a man

claiming he was with Omega 7 apologized for injuring the four officers, saying the bomb was not intended to hurt anyone.

"We are terribly sorry that they were injured," he said. "We are very sorry. We do not wish to injure anyone in this city."

The caller claimed that his group had weapons "that could hurt people. We have M-72 grenade launchers and machine guns."

Ellen Fleysher, deputy police commissioner for press relations, said Russian officials reported four people inside the building were injured. But Mayor Edward

Koch, who went inside the mission with Donald McHenry, the U.S. ambassador to the U.N., said the Russians told them only that two women were hurt and their injuries were minor. The Russians refused outside medical assistance.

Police said four officers outside the mission on Manhattan's upper East Side were taken to hospitals, but none was in serious condition.

The blast occurred at 9:38 p.m., blowing out windows in at least three floors of

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the white brick mission building — a 15-story structure — and shattering windows in a large apartment building across the street.

Ms. Fleysher said the bomb was planted in the driveway to the mission's garage, about 30 feet from where the policemen were standing.

"There was a hole the size of a manhole cover" in the driveway, she said.

The blast collapsed some brickwork in the garage of the mission and sent debris flying.

Douglas Kass, a resident of the apartment building across the street, said, "I was by the ninth floor window, looking down, and the explosion threw me as I imagine an earthquake would. I felt it was very powerful."

Rami Ezra, another occupant of the apartment building, said he was on the 18th floor with a friend "and we were having a cup of tea when we heard the explosion. It knocked the tea down and it knocked us down. I

walked by the entrance of that garage 5 minutes before. I was just lucky."

Ezra, a resident of Jerusalem visiting this country, said, "The same thing happened to me in front of the Jaffa Gate seven months ago when a bomb went off 90 seconds after I passed it."

"If it is, as has been claimed to be, Omega 7," Koch said, "those people have injured their own cause. They will turn people who are decent against them, even if those same people have been opposed to the Soviet Union, to Castro."

He said "you cannot see any great damage" to the interior of the mission.

In the call to UPI, a male with an Hispanic accent said, "We also denounce the presence of Soviet nuclear submarines in the naval base of Cienfuegos" in Cuba.

He said "Omega 7 makes itself solidarity with the heroic people of Cuba in their silent but heroic resistance against the Communist tyranny of Fidel Castro."