

# Neighbors Angry After Explosion At Cuban Office

## Presence of U.N. Mission Disrupts Lives for Some

Residents of an East Side block where a bomb exploded outside the Cuban Mission to the United Nations on Saturday night spent yesterday cleaning glass from their apartments and sidewalks and voicing anger over the presence of the mission.

Many residents said the nuisance of having had their neighborhood turned into a virtual police camp earlier this month — when the Cuban President, Fidel Castro, stayed at the mission for four days — was mild compared with the fear they felt now.

"I had to have a police escort to get into my apartment then and have my bag searched, and now this," said Kim Fay, a 22-year-old woman who lives nearby. "Apparently the people who do these kind of things don't care about the innocent people who live here."

Detectives from the arson and explosion squad analyzed debris left by the explosion, which slightly injured four persons and shattered hundreds of windows in apartment buildings near the mission at 38th Street and Lexington Avenue.

### No Arrests After Explosion

The detectives said they had little to go on, other than that the explosive was "probably plastics" and packed a force equal to several sticks of dynamite. No arrests have been made.

The police said they believed the bomb was planted by members of Omega 7, a terrorist group opposed to Mr. Castro. United Press International and The Associated Press both reported receiving calls from persons who said the group was responsible for the blast, which occurred at about 9:50 P.M.

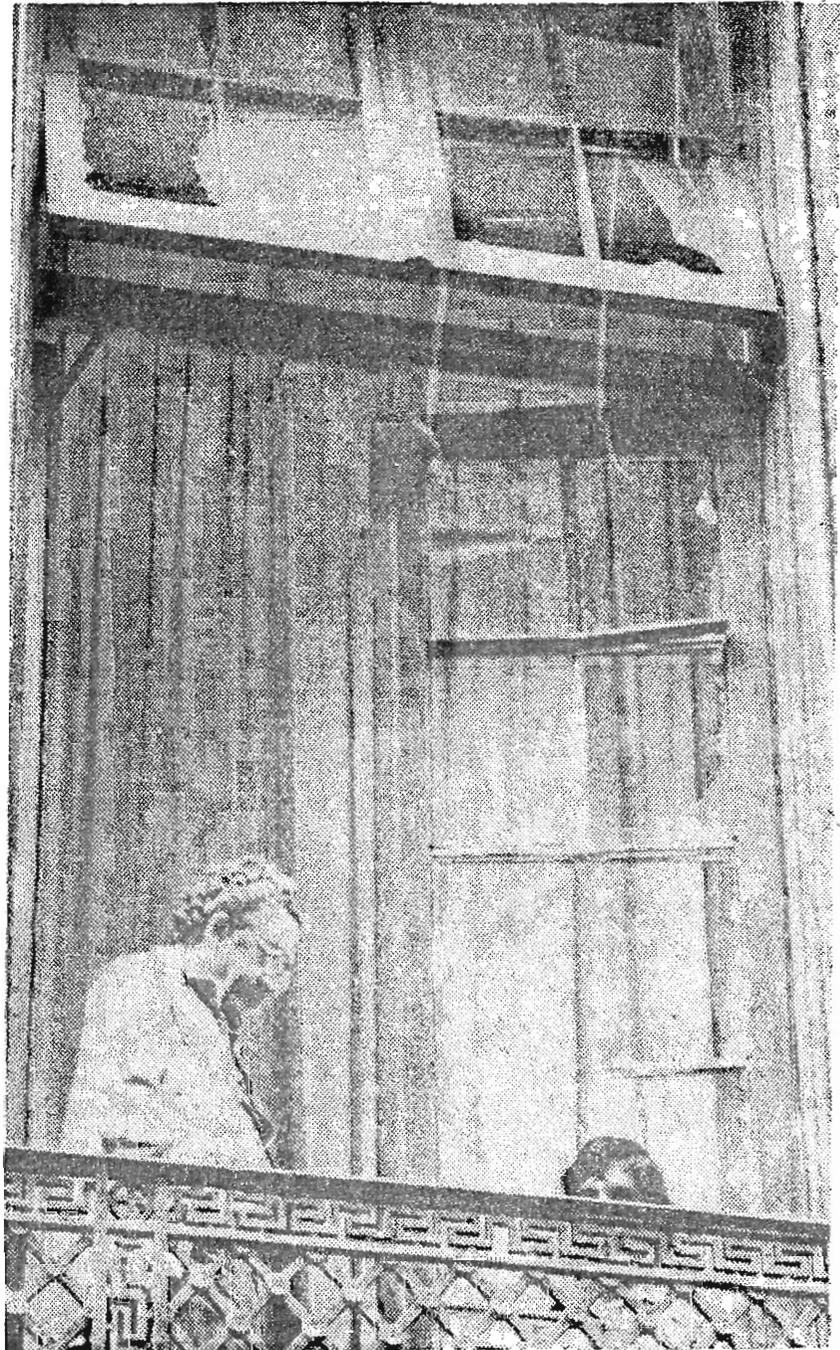
The injured were the two police officers who were on the normal guard detail outside the mission and two passers-by. All were treated at the scene.

The bomb was placed against a 38th Street side entrance of the 13-story brick building at 315 Lexington Avenue. It shattered a heavy metal door, twisted an iron grille and blew out doors and windows on the balcony level of the building. Witnesses saw two men running away.

### Hundreds of Windows Broken

Yesterday workmen were putting plasterboard, plastic and plywood over windows in some of the 30 buildings, some nearly two blocks away, that suffered damage in the explosion. Falling glass that shredded canvas canopies and broke the windshields of parked cars still covered the streets.

Many buildings on the block, which is between Lexington and Third Avenues,



The New York Times / Chester Higgins Jr.

### Officials at Cuban Mission to U.N. examine damaged second-story balcony

had all their northern windows broken, and two buildings on Lexington between 38th and 39th streets each had more than 100 windows broken.

Phyllis Lerman, who lives with her family in a duplex apartment on 38th Street, said: "I was standing in my apartment when the windows came flying in. It's a miracle we weren't hurt."

After surveying the damage on the block and noting that she would have to go elsewhere to sleep last night, Mrs. Lerman added: "When Castro was here, I had a cop on my roof with a machine gun, and now we have to worry about bombs. Why don't they leave. I don't think a non-democratic country should be allowed to jeopardize our lives and our democratic rights."