

## Cuban Link in Jersey City

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# Two Held for Explosives in Shoe Store

Two young Cuban brothers, involved in the 1964 bazooka shelling of the United Nations, faced arraignment today in Jersey City on charges of possession of explosives.

Guillermo Novo, 29, of 1414 91st St., North Bergen, and his brother, Ignacio, 28, were arrested last night in a shoe store they own at 773 Bergen Ave., Jersey City, on charges of possessing explosives.

**THE CHARGES** were made after police said they found the workings of a time bomb, blasting caps, primer cord, and what they believed to be explosive bars in a box on the store counter.

The Novos were arrested in 1964, charged with firing a bazooka at the U.N. building from the Queens side of the East River while Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro attended a session inside. At the time, the brothers were said to be members of the Cuban Nationalist Association.

**NEW YORK** police attained confessions from the brothers in the bazooka case, but the Novos were subsequently acquitted.

The Supreme Court voiced the confessions, ruling they were obtained through a violation of the defendants' constitutional rights.

The Jersey City shoe store had been under surveillance for the past three weeks, since the Novo brothers took over ownership of the establishment. Ignacio previously ran a shoe store in Brooklyn.

**A TIP THAT** the Novos might be involved in some improper activities led Inspector Patrick McGee, chief of detectives, to order the Jersey City store kept under watch. The stakeout resulted in a search warrant for the premises being issued yesterday.

McGee, Capt. Frederick Hahner, Seventh Precinct commander; Lt. William Carter, head of Seventh Precinct detectives, and four other officers walked



GUILLERMO NOVO



IGNACIO NOVO

into the shoe store about 7:30 last night, as Guillermo and a clerk awaited customers.

The cops quickly let it be known they weren't interested in shoes, but what might be secreted among the shoe boxes. Guillermo let the detectives go about their work. Minutes later he was placed under arrest by Detectives Raymond Kohl and Thomas Redfern.

The clerk, Frank Cioffi, 39, of the Bronx, N.Y., also was booked, on a material witness charge.

After Guillermo and Cioffi were taken to the Montgomery Street station for booking, Detectives Al Bienkowski and Theodore Lowicki remained in the store. Some three hours later, Ignacio and a friend arrived. Ignacio was placed under arrest but his companion, who police said apparently had only offered Ignacio a ride, was released.

**FOUND INSIDE** the shoe store, police said, were two 18-inch lengths of primer cord, two electric blasting caps, one non-electric blasting cap, three four-inch bars of what they believed to be a high explosive compound, and a "device" consisting of an alarm clock and flashlight batteries wired into two tubes.