Special phone number in Negrin case

By JILL PAZNIK

Union City police have established a special telephone number to call for persons with information about the Nov. 25 murder of Eulalio Jose Negrin.

Sgt. Henry Noumann said anyone with such information may call 348-5000. All information will be kept confidential.

"We feel if anyone's seen anything and they're afraid to come in to the Police Department because someone will see them," the telephone number will allow them to talk more freely, Noumann said. He added that there is "no danger" in coming in to the police, but "a lot of people don't like to come forward and talk to police."

The controversial Negrin went to Cuba last year as

a member of the Committee of 75 to negotiate the release of political prisoners with Premier Fidel Castro. He was gunned down outside 711 10th St. after he'd left his girlfriend's home on llth Street, police said.

He was carrying \$7,400 at the time and police are looking into the possibility that the money was part of the huge sum Negrin reportedly demanded in return for the release of prisoners.

Noumann admitted that the police have no leads as to who may have committed the murder. With the number, "maybe someone might come forward," he said.

"People might have been passing that day," and might have seen something that would help police on the case, he said. The phone number will be published countywide.

Police Chief Herman Bolte has said the police department could not guarantee the safety of members of the Committee of 75 in Union City, where the population is 65 to 75 percent Cuban.

Bolte has also said the Cuban community "pretty much takes care of their own problems." The Rev. Andres Reyes, also a member of the Committee of 75, was transferred from his church in Union City to a Newark parish this year.

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