

December 13, 1979.

2 sought in bombing of mission

NEW YORK (UPI) — Police speculate that two stocky middle-aged men seen running from the site of a blast at the Soviet Mission to the United Nations also bombed the Cuban Mission last week.

The anti-Castro terrorist group Omega 7 has taken responsibility for both explosions.

The Soviet news agency Tass said the Soviet explosion was "committed with the connivance of the U.S. authorities."

The two men, seen leaving the Soviet Mission garage shortly before 12 sticks of dynamite exploded Tuesday at 9:38 p.m., were described as 45 to 50 years old, each about 5-foot-10 inches, and wearing trenchcoats.

Deputy Inspector Joseph DeMartino said Wednesday the descriptions were "in the same ballpark" as descriptions of men seen near the Cuban Mission when a bomb went off there last Friday night.

Four police officers and four Soviets suffered minor injuries in the Soviet blast, which buckled a brick wall,

tore a hole the size of a manhole cover in the pavement and shattered windows in the block.

Tass accused the United States of failing "to adopt effective measures to safeguard the security of Soviet missions in the United States and of their officials and to create normal conditions for the discharge of their duties."

In an earlier report, Tass linked the bombing to the Iranian crisis.

U.S. State Department officials called the Tass report "scurrilous and malicious."

Police Officer Ralph Moriarity, who was guarding the mission at the time of the blast, saw the two men leaving the mission garage. As Moriarity approached them, police said, the explosion went off.

Moriarity, injured in the right eye by flying glass, was reported in satisfactory condition at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital. Three other officers who were passing the mission at the time of the explosion were treated for cuts and released.

Deputy Police Commissioner Ellen Fleysher said Soviet officials "voiced no complaints" about police security.