



— Associated Press

A New York Policeman Inspects Damage at Aeroflot's Offices

... two groups claimed responsibility for the bombing

Three Injured in Blast At N.Y. Aeroflot Offices

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From Herald Wire Services

NEW YORK — Three persons were injured Sunday in a bomb explosion at the mid-Manhattan offices of the Soviet airline Aeroflot, police said.

A man chased from the scene and caught by police was being questioned.

The injured, two men and a woman who were passing by, were taken to St. Clare's Hospital after the blast at about 6:15 p.m. at Fifth Avenue and 45th Street. Police said the injuries were not serious.

More than a half-hour later, an anonymous caller, who identified himself as a member of the militant Jewish Defense League, told The Associated Press the group had "planted the bomb at Aeroflot" to protest the imprisonment of Soviet dissidents.

Fifteen minutes after that, a man identifying himself as a member of Omega 7 told The Associated Press that the anti-Castro terrorist group was responsible for the Aeroflot ex-

plosion as a show of "solidarity with the people of Cuba and Afghanistan in their struggle against Soviet imperialism."

Police said the explosive device apparently was thrown from the street toward the building's glass windows. "We don't know what kind of a bomb there was," a police officer at the scene said.

Windows at Aeroflot, as well as at the offices of British Airlines and Qantas Airlines, located across the street, were blown out by the blast.

Sgt. Stanley Wojcik said a police officer on guard in front of the office was talking to someone on the corner when "somebody walked by and left the package."

The officer, Jack Troy, "saw the guy come down the street," Sgt. Barry Williams said. "The guy threw a package and it landed in front of Aeroflot and he turned the corner and ran down the street," Williams said.

The man, wearing tan clothing and a mask, was chased by Troy or

46th Street toward Madison Avenue, and the man then ran up Madison Avenue to 51st Street, where he was seized by officers from a patrol car, police said.

Police were questioning the man, who was not immediately identified, at the Midtown South precinct.

The names of the injured also were not immediately released. Originally, four persons were taken to the hospital. One of them, who had asked to be examined, was found not to have been injured, police said.

A caller claiming to represent Omega 7 also claimed responsibility for the bombing Sunday of a cigar factory in Miami. (See story, Page 1B.)

The United States recently enforced economic sanctions against the Soviet Union — including a limit on Aeroflot flights into and out of the country — because of Russia's invasion of Afghanistan.