

Bomb Marks Cuban Revolt

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A bomb explosion in Miami's Little Havana Thursday marked the 26th anniversary of the start of the Cuban Revolution.

Police also found three black-and-red Cuban revolutionary flags Thursday morning.

The explosion occurred at 1:10 a.m. in front of Padron Hand Made Cigars and Piloto Cigars Inc., 1566 W. Flagler St. No one was injured.

ORLANDO PADRON, the firm's president, was instrumental in initiating the highly controversial negotiations that took place last year between the Cuban government and a group of exiles, paving the way for release of 3,600 political prisoners in Cuban jails.

Padron, who was in Honduras on business this week, sparked a boycott against his company's cigars in October 1978 after a picture of him handing one to Castro appeared in the press.

Orlando Padron was among the first group of five exiles to go to Cuba to speak with Castro about releasing prisoners.

"My brother's work has been purely humanitarian, even though there are people who have wanted to give it political overtones," said Rodolfo Padron, the cigar company's vice president. He said he called his brother Thursday morning to tell him of the bombing.

Police estimated damages to the front of the factory at \$1,000, but Rodolfo Padron said the figure could be as high as \$2,000 because of the costs of repairing the building's complex alarm system.

AN EXPLOSIVE device was found outside the same Little Havana firm in March. Federal authorities linked that bomb to three that had exploded a few days earlier in New York and New Jersey after Omega 7, a right-wing Cuban terrorist group, claimed responsibility for the attempt against the cigar factory.

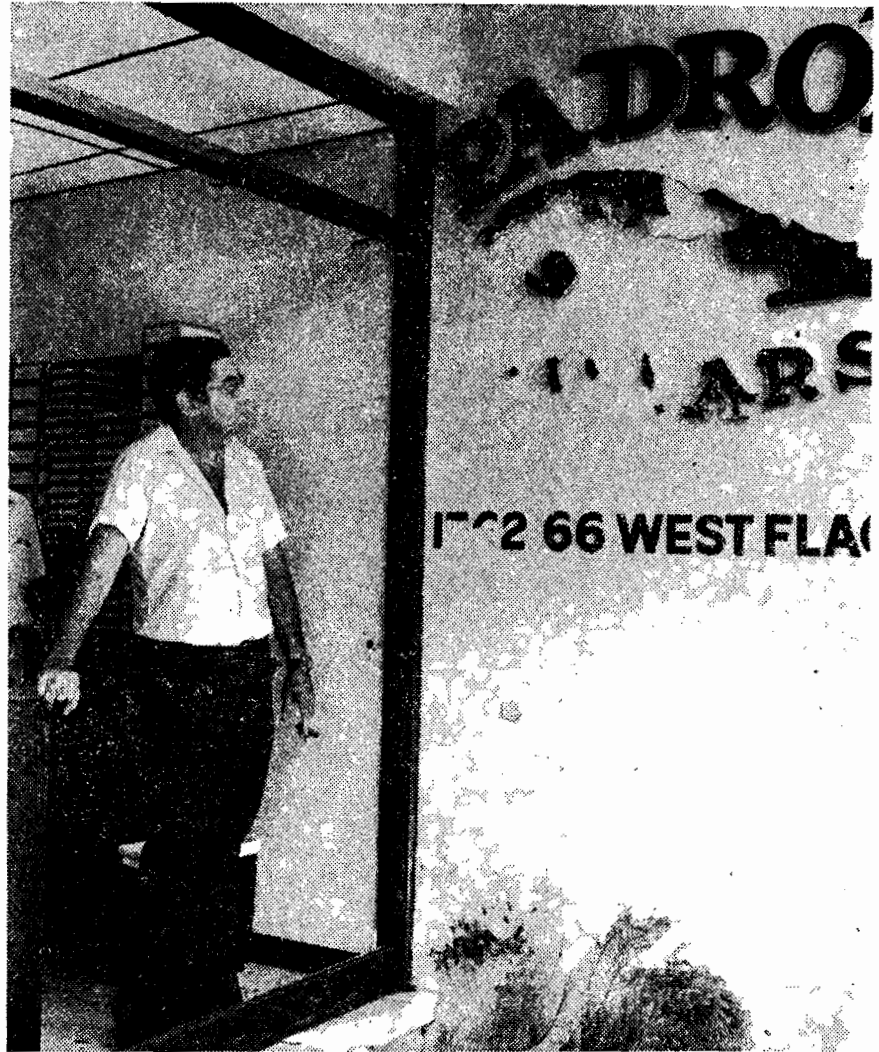
Fragments of the bomb exploded Thursday were sent to the FBI laboratory in Washington, D.C., for analysis.

The Cuban revolutionary flags were found by Miami police in front of the monument to those who died in the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion, in front of the Latin Chamber of Commerce Building and near the flagpole of the Royal Trust Bank Building in the heart of Little Havana.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, an unexploded bomb was found in front of Viajes Varadero, a travel agency that offers tours to Cuba. One of the firm's owners was gunned down in a San Juan street in April in what was believed to be a politically inspired assassination.

Neighbors of the travel agency run by Cuban exiles found a large shopping bag on the sidewalk in front of the firm at 8:05 a.m. An explosive device inside the bag later was disarmed by police.

THE BOMB consisted of an 8-by-4-inch glass



— ALBERT COYA/Miami Herald Staff

Rodolfo Padron Examines Damage to Cigar Firm

... the bomb went off in front of his business

container with a metallic powder inside connected to an alarm clock, a police spokesman said.

Ricardo Fraga, vice president of Viajes Varadero, who returned only three days ago from a trip to Cuba, said he was upset and frustrated that the firm was again the target of terrorists.

He took over the firm after Carlos Muñiz, a member of the Antonio Maceo Brigade, an organization of young Cuban exiles who support

peaceful coexistence with Cuba, was assassinated as he drove to his mother's house in a San Juan suburb. No suspects have been jailed in the case.

"We're concerned about the way the police are handling this case and the one involving Carlos Muniz. . . We have not seen an investigation being conducted by the police in a practical manner," Fraga said.