

# Army Is Only Producer of Plastic Explosive Used in Bombs

By DAVID BURNHAM  
The Defense Department said today that the Army was the sole United States manufacturer of the explosive that, according to the police here, was placed in front of the tourist office in Rockefeller Center and the Mexican consulate in Newark.

Fort Bragg, N. C., have said C4 is kept at these bases for training. Large amounts of C4 also are stored and used in Vietnam. C4 is also manufactured by the governments of other countries, including Britain and West Germany. According to officials at E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.—a major manufacturer of explosives and other chemicals—it is not available through commercial channels anywhere in the world.

Despite the lack of commercial outlets, however, significant quantities of C4 or its earlier version have found their way into the hands of unauthorized persons during the years since its development. Explosives experts of the 149th Ordnance Detachment at Edgewood Arsenal, in Maryland, said that the effects of C4 could be more devastating than those of commercial dynamite because of its faster ignition and greater penetrating power. Dynamite exploded under a

tree stump, they said, would life the stump out of the air; an equal amount of C4 would not only remove the stump, it would also blow it to pieces. Another demolition expert said the effect of dynamite could be compared with shoving a man with both hands while the effect of C4 was like punching him on the jaw. C4 is extremely stable and, unlike dynamite, does not deteriorate in hot, muggy weather; it is therefore considered

very useful for military and guerrilla operations. Also, the plastic C4 can be shaped by hand and made to fit into any nook. C4 is considered difficult to manufacture in a small laboratory. Twelve bombs have been planted in the New York area since April 22. Ten have gone off, leaving few clues for Police Department laboratory technicians. An exception was the ex-

plastic explosive material in the private-company and is available through regular commercial channels. Explosive material of a similar type, which became known as "plastic" because it was used by terrorists in Algeria during the Algerian

series of explosions began in the New York area three months ago. The police said both of the recovered bombs were made of an off-white putty-like material, C4, which stands for composition 4, is an improvement of an explosive material developed by the United States during World War II.

Defense Department spokesman said the only producer of C4 in the United States was the Holston Army Ammunition Plant in Kingsport, Tenn.

C4 is produced in-house by the Army and is not available commercially in this country," the spokesman said.

The explosive material was guarded during manufacture and shipment and in "locked bunkers with armed and guarded ammunition storage areas."

According to the spokesman, the amount of C4 produced by the Army and the names of the persons to which it is stored are classified secrets. Persons who have been assigned to such duties as Fort Dix, N. J., and

## ZED AFTER BAR HIT BY FIREBOMB

Two men were arrested yesterday after the fire-bombing of a Village tavern in which a man was hurt. Later two more were held in connection with the riot fighting that followed the bombing.

Dorsey, 31 years old, of 10 Kirk Street, Jersey City, was injured on both legs when a cocktail was tossed through the window of Joe & Sam's Grill, 144 Avenue C, 11th Street. He was in a satisfactory condition at the Hospital.

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## Found Outside 2 Foreign Offices Here

Explosion Sunday night at the Jefferson Bookshop, on East 16th Street, where fragments of a clock, tape and wire were found. According to the police, these fragments are now being compared with the two bombs that did not explode.

The dates and locations of the incidents are as follows: April 22, Spanish National Tourist Office and Mexican Consulate; May 30, outside the studios of WNDI-TV Channel 13; June 21, Spanish National Tourist Office; July 4, Canadian

National Tourist Office and two Cuban bars; July 7, Japanese National Tourist Office.

Also, July 10, an alley between the Cuban and Yugoslav missions to the United Nations; July 15, French Government Tourist Office; July 16, Mexican Consulate in Newark; and July 21, Jefferson Book Shop.

Because the offices of six countries trading with Cuba and two Cuban bars have been bombed, the police have theorized that the bombing might

be the work of an anti-Castro exile group.

Yesterday in El Tiempo, a Spanish-language newspaper here, a man described as a leader in an exile group called "Cuban Power" denied that his organization was responsible for the bombings. He said the group was a "terrorist but not a criminal movement."

The leader, who used the pseudonym Ernesto on his father's name, had been responsible for a series of bombings.