

7,250 Pounds Of Explosives Are Stolen

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More than 7,000 pounds of dynamite sticks have been stolen from an isolated storage spot near Hammond.

The New Orleans Police Department, was notified of the theft of 7,250 pounds of explosives along with other police departments throughout Louisiana and surrounding states.

A spokesman said a 500-pound bomb could blow up half a city block. "You can imagine what 7,250 pounds of explosives could do in the hands of the wrong person."

Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff Frank Edwards said at Amite today that the 145 cases of explosives were stolen Monday from the D. L. Nicholson Co. of Hammond, which had stored them in a trailer near Robert, La., a small community near Hammond.

Also stolen were nine cases of booster caps, which are needed to set off explosives.

A spokesman for the Nicholson Co. said the explosives and booster caps were used by seismograph crews looking for oil and gas in the Tangipahoa Parish area.

The material was kept in a trailer which was kept locked and parked in a fenced area. The fence gate and trailer locks were broken open and the explosives apparently were hauled away in another truck sometime between Saturday afternoon and Monday morning.

The company representative said the explosives were valued at \$2,538 and the booster caps at \$1,823.