

History of Bombings Before 'Village' Explosion

Following is a list of some of the recent major explosion and bombing incidents in the city before the explosion last Friday that demolished a Greenwich Village townhouse:

1970

Jan. 12—The explosion of a crudely made bomb in the vacant office of the dean of boys at James Madison High School in Brooklyn. Minor damage, no injuries.

Feb. 3—Ignition of an incendiary device in the hardware department of the Alexander's store at 58th Street and Lexington Avenue. Device doused by guard.

Feb. 8—Explosion of bombs at General Electric service centers in Woodside, Queens, and in the Atlantic Terminal section of Brooklyn. Minor damage, no injuries.

Feb. 21—Three gasoline bombs exploded outside the Manhattan home of State Supreme Court Justice John M. Murphy, who was presiding at a pretrial hearing of Black Panthers accused of conspiracy to bomb public places. Minor damage, no injuries.

1969

June 9—Hand grenade explosion in the Loew's Orpheum-Loew's New Cine motion picture theater complex in Yorkville. Management estimated damage at \$800. Three women were injured by flying glass.

July 27—Explosion at the United Fruit Company pier in the Hudson River. No injuries.

Aug. 20—Bomb explosion at Marine Midland Building at 140 Broadway. Extensive damage; 19 injured.

Sept. 19—Bomb explosion at Federal Office Building at Federal Plaza. Extensive damage. No injuries.

Oct. 7—Explosion at Armed Forces Induction Center at 39 Whitehall Street. No injuries. Extensive damage.

Oct. 10-14—Six explosions of incendiary devices in four days at Macy's Herald Square. Minor damage from explosions, which activated sprinkler systems, causing damage estimated by the management at "thousands of dollars." Two police bomb squad members injured in last explosion.

Nov. 11—Explosions in the Chase Manhattan Bank headquarters, in the RCA Building in Rockefeller Center and in the General Motors Building. Extensive damage at RCA, extensive damage at Chase Manhattan and less severe damage at General Motors. One person injured.

Nov. 12-13—Four persons arrested by Federal agents on bombing charges. Two of the four—Samuel Melville and George Demmerle, who was later identified as a paid informant for the F.B.I.—were seized as they allegedly tossed a bomb into a National Guard truck parked outside the 69th Regiment Armory. Others arrested were John D. Hughey 3d and Jane L. Alpert.

Nov. 18—An indictment handed up by a Federal grand jury charged all four individuals with plotting to bomb the Federal Office Building, the Armed Forces Examining Center and the military truck. Later, on Jan. 14, 1970, a 23-count superseding indictment was returned by a Federal grand jury, charging Mr. Melville, Mr. Hughey, Miss Alpert and Patricia Swinten, who is still at large, with conspiracy.

Dec. 22—Three small bombs exploded in the doorways of the Banco de Credito at 1 Union Square, a Woolworth store at 14th Street and Fifth Avenue and the offices of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico at 322 West 45th Street. Minor damage. No injuries.