

Letter-Writers Go to Work

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Echoes of Embassy Bombing

News of bombing of the Soviet Embassy a week ago yesterday—as do most such acts of violence—activated the letter writers.

In times past, they took pen in hand. These days they simply crank up the old mimeograph machine and grind out a lot of work for the FBI.

An FBI spokesman said the Embassy bombing drew a predictable response from letter writers in most major cities. Newspapers, the White House and the FBI are the preferred addresses, and each of the communications must be investigated.

The *Washington Post* for example, received one of the letters the FBI described as

typical. Mailed from Washington and dated Feb. 24, the letter stated the writer's purpose at the outset—"to claim and accept full responsibility for the bombing of the Soviet Embassy . . . by members of our anti-Communist organization "the Black Front . . ."

It warned, "More bombings are expected pretty soon . . ." and while the writer was about it, he also credited "the Black Front" with the recent bombing of the Yugoslav ambassador's home in Paris. The letter was signed by a person who described himself as the Black Front's "national chief." The letter also said the Black Front's main fight

is for the "liberation of our fatherland, Cuba."

Every such letter, the FBI said, is subjected to something more than a cursory analysis of its style and typescript or handwriting. Very often it can be concluded that the same person signed different names to a number of letters on the same theme—some of them taking attitudes diametrically opposed.

Mass murders that are not solved immediately, even devastating earthquakes or storms, twang the letter writer's nerve. Letters are still coming in on the assassination in Dallas—and the FBI is still investigating them.