

SF Chronicle

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# A Bahamas Plot Alleged

London

A group of American millionaires and property developers has mounted a far-reaching plot to take over the small island of Abaco in the Bahamas, the Daily Mail said yesterday.

The paper said that the group, led by arms merchant Mitchell Werbell is exerting strong psychological pressure on the 7000 inhabitants of the island to break away from the Bahamas and become an independent

state.

A number of United States Central Intelligence Agency agents were said to be among the groups' executive committee which has its headquarters in Miami.

Agence France-Presse

HW:

Mitchell Werbell, the arms merchant mentioned in the second graph, appears almost certainly to be the Mitchell Livingston Wer Bell III (two words cq) who was among those arrested the night of Jan. 2, 1967, at Marathon near Key West, Fla., along with Orlando Masferrer et al as they were about to push off on an invasion of Haiti.

Our files are incomplete, but indicate that Wer Bell, then 48, of Powder Springs, Ga., was among those indicted by a Miami grand jury, but to a lesser extent than the other defendants, On Feb. 27

The trial ended Nov. 16 that year with conviction of Masferrer and five others, including an American seaman from Miami named Martin F.X. Casey, but Wer Bell is not listed. We have no record as to what happened to the indictment against him.

Masferrer and the others were sentenced Feb. 27, 1968.

These dates are noted to help you refer to your undoubtedly more complete files in case you need to.

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