

## Times Gets Letter Warning of Bombs In Vaults of Banks

The New York Times has belatedly received a copy of a letter made public 10 days ago telling of the placement of long-fuse time bombs in safe deposit boxes in nine banks in New York, Chicago and San Francisco.

The Times's letter, like the eight others received by newspapers and television stations in Chicago and San Francisco on Jan. 6 and 7, had attached to it a key to one of the nine safe deposit boxes—Box 215 at the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company, 40 Wall Street.

Since all copies of the handwritten, four-page letter had a list of all nine locations, the explosive device in the Manufacturers Hanover Trust box was removed by the police at the same time the others were removed.

The letter received by The

Times is identical except for minute details to the others. It explains that the placement of the devices was a symbolic act, showing how the threat of putting such bombs in public places could be used to bargain with authorities for the release of "political" prisoners. Only one of the nine devices exploded, apparently through malfunction. It caused little damage.

Like the others, the Times's letter was mailed from Chicago on Jan. 5. It was addressed to Tom Wicker, an associate editor and columnist, at the newspaper's offices here. Since Mr. Wicker's office is in Washington, the letter was forwarded unopened to him there, accounting for the delay in its discovery.

On Jan. 13, in a warrant issued in California, the Federal Bureau of Investigation named Ronald Kaufman, a 33-year-old fugitive Army private who holds a Ph.D. in psychology, as the man who had placed the time bombs. He is still being sought.