

# Ex-CIA Man May Be Quizzed in Bomb Slaying

Washington

A former Central Intelligence Agency explosives expert may be sought by federal authorities for questioning in the investigation of last year's Embassy Row bomb murder of former Chilean Ambassador Orlando Letelier, according to informed sources.

Edward P. Wilson, the former CIA operative, and three Miami-based Cuban exiles came to the attention of federal officials when they learned that Wilson was under FBI investigation in an unrelated assassination plot abroad.

Wilson allegedly sought to recruit the three Cubans to kill political opponents of Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy last year, according to the sources.

Wilson heads small firm here called Consultants International. It is involved in the arms export business. Wilson was out of the country yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

Investigators have established that Wilson had a secret contract with the Libyan government to provide detonation devices called "timing pencils" — tube filled with chemicals that can be remotely controlled to cause explosions. Such a "timing pencil" is believed to have been used to detonate the bomb that exploded beneath Letelier's car.

The Libyan case is now in the Justice Department criminal division for review.

## \$5000 to Boy In 'Stitch' Case

Marion, Ala.

A white doctor accused of removing fresh stitches from the injured arm of a black youth when the boy couldn't pay his \$25 fee was ordered yesterday to pay \$5000 in damages.

A jury of seven whites and five blacks heard about five hours of testimony in the \$50,000 damage suit and then deliberated for an hour and 45 minutes. They ordered Dr. Bobby Merkle to pay 14-year-old Melvin Armstrong \$5000.

In the first trial last year, an all-white jury awarded a judgment of \$20 against Merkle. The youth, whose arm had been severely cut, was treated later by another doctor whose fee was \$20.

*Associated Press*

That investigation began last year when CIA officials learned that a former employee was allegedly trying to recruit Cubans for terrorist activity and possible assassination abroad.

Upon learning of this, the CIA requested that the FBI open an investigation of Wilson.

This case was so sensitive that President Ford was informed of it.

Wilson's contract with Libya included a promise to supply thousands of timing pencils. "It is one of the most alarming things I've ever seen," one source said. "There were enough (timing pencils) contracted for to support terrorist activity for the rest of the century."

The sources said Wilson also tried to recruit other former CIA employees to be explosives instructors in Libya.

One former CIA employee was offered \$100,000 a year but turned it down. Wilson himself had contracts valued at hundreds of thousands of dollars with Libya, according to the sources.

Wilson has declined to answer questions from FBI agents in the Libyan investigation, the sources said.

Consultants International is located at 1425 K street NW. An official there said yesterday that the firm was not involved in any questionable activity.

According to the firm's own promotional literature, Consultants International could supply an army with equipment including patrol boats, parachutes, airborne accessories and armor vehicles.

"Armaments can be arranged to meet the requirements of the purchaser," the literature says.

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