Bomb damage in office across from women's room (at left in photo of corridor on p. 3) where explosion occurred about 1:20 am Friday. Photos were taken Friday afternoon. Photo by Joe Ranft, Boston Globe

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Tribe claims bombing role

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the affair; administrators made no official call to explain the situation to worried alumni. Byers awoke The Tech editor Lee Tigue as around 3 a.m. to try to get a story out by morning. Tigue and managing editor Tim Kloepes wrote and typeset the story and got it to the printer in Lowell before the press ran out for the Friday edition. Later, administrators praised the paper for getting a non-obstructive version disseminated to the campus.

To ensure that information reached everyone, student leaders, including the press, house presidents, and student government officers were asked to come to a 4:15 p.m. meeting in 9-150, where President Jerome Winokur, Vice-President John Wyane and other top officials gave a rundown on the day's events and took questions.

Two telephone warnings preceded Friday's bombing. A woman caller reached MIT switchboard operator Edith Welch about 1:16 am and hurriedly said that a bomb in the Hermann Building would explode in ten minutes; the woman identified herself as a member of the "sisters of silence," but the last word was garbled. (The caller pronounced the building's name "Harmmore," leading police and press to believe the woman was unfamiliar with MIT.) At about the same time, an operator at the Record-American took a similar call from a woman. The operator notified Cambridge police and fire units, then called MIT, reaching Ms. Welch about 1:19.

Ms. Welch had meanwhile alerted campus patrol. Nearly twenty minutes passed before authorities began to search the building, and by then, the bomb had exploded.

A smoke sensor in the Hermann Building signaled an alarm in E-19 about 1:29; on the basis of this MIT officials concluded that the blast occurred about 1:21. Several residents of Eastgate, which adjoins the area, were awakened. A small crowd of them gathered outside as police went in. Custodians from the adjoining Sloan Building were first on the scene; they described the bomb as going off with a thump. "No outside windows were broken in the explosion."

Shortly after the discovery of the bomb, Institute officials notified by phone Byers and Chancellor Paul Gray arrived on the scene as did State Fire Marshal Ralph Garrett, who ordered the damage blocked off until it could be sifted for clues and evidence. Physical plant workers removed plywood barriers in the area, and police and photographers walked up to the scene. Press and photographers were admitted to shoot pictures post factum.

Gray issued a statement at 7:30 am, saying, "We are at a loss to explain this wanton and senseless act of destruction. It appears to have no special target."

The building had been normally closed and locked at night. A night watchman had checked the building at 12:25 and found nothing unusual, nor were there any signs the building had been broken into, MIT officials said.

The bomb was described by Fire Marshal Garrett as a pug bomb filled with gunpowder. Apparently, it was conceivably above the tiles of a drop ceiling in the rest room. The FBI, which took over the investigation Friday afternoon, removed pieces of debris to analyze over the weekend. MIT officials expressed concern over the warning period. Apparently, they said, the bomb exploded before the ten-minute period had ended. If anyone were present, it is unlikely they could have been evacuated in time.

At about 3:15 am, Ms. Welch took a call from an MIT executive. A man with a foreign accent delivered a bomb threat that sounded like "Building 19 [or 99] and 20 are next to go." Officials considered it a crank call from someone who knew of the earlier explosion, but took no chances. Buildings 20, 39 and E-19 were evacuated and searched. They were opened about 7 am.

The Institute, which was plagued by numerous bomb threats last year, had received none this fall. This was the reason security measures instituted last year had been phased out.

Workers at the Hermann Building, which houses the Dewey Library in addition to the CIS and Political Science Department's, were remarkably unshaken by the bombing. Except in the damaged areas, business went on almost as usual Friday, and MIT officials seemed to believe the absence of air conditioning which made parts of the building uncomfortably warm. Few people said they feared repetition of the attack. Security officials considered it "pointless," "ridiculous," and "a shame." Political Science head Eugene Shoelkoff said that "assault free outside is a common cause for the community.

The Center for International Studies has a history of attacks from radicals. The research institute, established in 1951 with partial funding from the CIA, has conducted extensive studies for the government on communism, revolution and international communication. Several CS associates, such as Bundy, Walt Rostow, Ithiel de Sola Pool, and Daniel Ellsberg were architects and advisors to Lyndon Johnson's Vietnam policies. Because of this, the CIA and a "sister" institution at Harvard, the CFI, were accused by some of being involvement of the U.S. "war machine.

The CS was targeted for non-violent demonstrations 1969-70, two of which involved non-obstructive occupation