

Sterling Bombing in Brief

WHEN: At 3:42 a.m., Monday, Aug. 24, 1970.

WHAT: A deadly mixture of fuel oil and nitrogen fertilizer, carried in a stolen van parked next to Sterling Hall, exploded. The blast was aimed at the Army Mathematics Research Center, located in Sterling Hall along with the University of Wisconsin Physics Dept.

WHO: Killed by the explosion was physics researcher Robert Fassnacht, 33, who was working in the building. Three others, a security guard and two researchers, were injured.

Those are the basic details of what now is simply called "the bombing."

The blast itself was fierce, destroying a life and causing at least \$2.5 million in damage. Adjacent buildings were jarred, windows shattered blocks away, and the explosion was heard miles from Madison.

The search still continues for four suspects charged eight days later with the bombing: two brothers Karleton and Dwight Armstrong, ages 25 and 20, of Madison; David Fine, 19, of Wilmington, Del.; and Leo Burt, 23, of Havertown, Pa.