



Photo by J.C. van Meek

The MacArthur Causeway lights up for the filming of Sean Connery's "Just Cause."

## Miami building owners turn up their lights

By CLIFF BOWDEN

The Warner Brothers people rolled out their cameras and the folks in Miami threw on their lamps.

So it went last week on the first night of shooting for "Just Cause," a Sean Connery vehicle that should put Miami in its best light.

As things turned out, everyone who took part felt the glare had plenty of flare.

"The Warner Brothers crew reported that the filming went well," said Carlos Batista, president of Light Up Miami and the man responsible for the Magic City's end of the cinematic bargain. "They were very happy with it.

"The buildings," he said, "cooperated wonderfully."

Mr. Batista estimated 34 buildings cooperated in the venture. The owners and managers of the edifices proved to be a real turn-on for Warner Brothers.

"Only one building we hoped to join us did not participate," Mr. Batista said.

That was One Biscayne Tower. Building managers there told Light Up Miami they were unable to take part because the tower is in the midst of an energy retro-fitting project.

"The value of a few nights of illumination for the city," in Mr. Batista's opinion, "should have superceded the value of that retro-fitting."

But the folks at One Biscayne

say they just couldn't plug in to the action.

No real harm done. Overall, Miami proved it's ready to cooperate when the film barons come to town looking for a place to make a movie.

Since Mr. Batista started the nonprofit Light Up Miami organization in 1987, he said the city has become "the third best-illuminated" city in the world, surpassed only by giant metropolitan areas like Paris and Tokyo.

Warner Brothers wanted the city buildings glowing to put lots of electronic sizzle in the background of a hot car chase.

But those who were trying to get a feel for the scene at street level

were unlikely to have caught the full effect.

Why?

Well, Mr. Batista said, the reflections of the production lights off the water, as well as the lights themselves, likely washed out the impact of the glowing electric outburst emanating from the buildings.

But the crew members who shot the chase from a helicopter and the camera operators shooting from below were quite satisfied, he said.

The filming continued again this week, through Wednesday.

The bottom line: When the big "Just Cause" chase scene hits that giant silver screen, it will give viewers a most illuminating picture of the Miami skyline.



Diep in de Everglades in Florida ligt een geheim begraven dat een onschuldige man kan redden of een moordenaar weer vrijlukt kan laten moorden.

SEAN CONNERY  
LAURENCE FISHBURNE

# JUST CAUSE



DVD

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