

CARTIER LAWYER KNIFED IN FIGHT OVER FAKE WATCH

By DINI VON MUEFFLING

A raid on a group of street peddlers hawking fake designer watches near Battery Park turned violent yesterday when one vendor stabbed a lawyer for Cartier, police said.

The stabbing victim, Ray Glynn, was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital where he was released after treatment for a wound in the back.

Police said the suspect, Fal Modu, 38, also slashed the hand of another man, Steven Louisa, who was present during the raid and grabbed Modu as he tried to flee.

It was not immediately clear whether Louisa was a passer-by or part of the raiding party.

Modu, a native of Senegal, who

lives at 404 East 117 St., was charged with attempted murder, assault, resisting arrest, criminal possession of a dangerous weapon, and selling the fake watches, said a police spokeswoman, Sgt. Grace Ridley.

According to an eyewitness, Glynn and about 25 private security officers hired by the pricey jewelry store, as well as Rolex and Gucci, pulled into a parking lot on the west side of the park in what looked like a tour bus.

Glynn, the first off the bus, approached one of two dozen vendors with a federal order granting him the right to seize the merchandise.

"They started to protest. A

fight broke out and [Glynn] was stabbed," the witness said.

A melee erupted as about a dozen vendors clashed with the private security officers.

"Fistfights broke out. Rocks and bottles were being thrown by the peddlers. Someone called the cops, who arrived within five minutes," the witness said.

It took as many as 10 cops and private security officers to wrestle the knife from Modu.