

KILLING SPARKS FEUD BETWEEN 2 CARIB LANDS

Dominican Republic Accused by Cuba

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[Chicago Tribune Press Service]

HAVANA, May 6—Last August two men grabbed Jose de Jesus Hernandez on a darkened street in Havana while a third stabbed him fatally. Since then relations between Cuba and the Dominican republic have become close to the boiling point.

Charges and counter-charges have been hurled across the Caribbean. A complaint was filed before the Inter-American peace committee. Both governments were urged to settle their differences between themselves.

Hernandez was a Dominican national, the most active labor leader in the Dominican underground. He had lived here in exile for many years.

Slayer Tells All

The Cuban police investigated his murder. They arrested suspects but didn't break the case until Alejandro Robinson, a Cuban, confessed the murder.

Robinson was promised a good bit of cash for his job but got only \$150, he said. He was angry at Rafael Emilio Soler, who plotted the murder. He told the police all about it.

Questioned in Criminal court by Judge Waldo Bacallao, the suspects testified they had been paid by the Dominican embassy here to assassinate Hernandez. President Fulgencio Batista was furious when the news was published.

Sends a Protest

He directed that a strong note of protest be sent to the Dominican government which stated that Cuba was angered that this territory should be used to murder Dominica's enemies.

When reports were received by Cuban intelligence of conspiratorial plans aimed at Batista originating in Ciudad Trujillo, relations became more strained. A complaint was filed before the Inter-American peace committee and Batista dispatched his premier, Santi-

ago Rey, to Caracas, Venezuela, to obtain a promise from President Marcos Perez Jimenez that Venezuela would remain neutral in case of conflict between Cuba and the Dominican republic.

The Cuban senate established a special committee to investigate Trujillo activities here. An arch enemy of Trujillo, Sen. Rolando Masferrer, was named to preside over the committee.

Led Invasion Fleet

Masferrer was one of the active commanders of the operation in 1947 when an amphibious force sailed from this island to invade the Dominican republic. Cuban forces intercepted the expedition and forced it back to shore.

Masferrer is also majority floor leader in the senate. He has been questioning dozens of witnesses and has subpoenaed army and air force chiefs to

testify at secret hearings next week.

He is reported to have received a visit from the Dominican ambassador here and taped the conversation. The ambassador is reported to have attempted to win over Masferrer to the Dominican side and named Cubans who had agreed to accept money and arms to oust Batista.

Masferrer is reported to have delivered the compromising tape to Batista. Now he wants to document informa-

tion which Col. Francisco Tabernilla, air force chief, gave to Miguel Angel Quevedo, magazine editor, that the Dominican government had painted aircraft with Cuban colors with plans to bomb this island.

Dominican exiles here say they were informed by Eusebio Mujal, secretary general of the Cuban labor confederation, that the Trujillo plan was not to bomb cities or fortresses but to set fire to the sugar plantations, Cuba's principal source of revenue.