MAN FORCE LANDS IN CUBA

Navy Captures Five and Confiscates Yacht

By GEORGE KAUFMAN

HAVANA, May 24 (AP) — The army reported a small rebel force landed in eastern Cuba early today from a yacht out of Miami, Fla., under orders of exiled ex-President Carlos Prio Socarras.

Two of the 27-man landing party were captured early in the day and three were reported captured by the navy Friday night.

Cuban government forces were in pursuit of the others in the rugged mountain country where they disappeared after landing.

The Cuban Army and Navy were put on a nationwide alert when the landing was discovered, but the order was relaxed several hours later.

The rebels are in a part of Cuba that has proved hospitable to other rebels against the Havana government.

The army quoted the captives as saying they are not followers of Fidel Castro, rebel leader who landed from Mexico months ago and has been ranging the eastern Cuba mountains with a guerrilla force.

The captives were reported to have said they shunned Castro “because he is allied with the Communists.”

A recent invasion of the presidential palace in Havana in an effort to capture or kill President Fulgencio Batista was attributed to students allied with Castro. About 40 men were killed during the palace invasion.

Today’s landing was at Cabonico Bay near Mayari on the north coast of Oriente Province. Castro’s band has been eluding government forces in that province for months.

An army spokesman said the rebels’ yacht Corinthia left Miami last Sunday morning. Prio lives there in exile.

MIAMI, Fla., May 24 (AP) — Former Cuban President Carlos Prio Socarras said in Miami today he had nothing to do with the landing of a party of rebels on the Cuban coast.