

## Judge puts out arrest warrant for Cuban exile leader Santana

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By CAMILLE KENNY

A bench warrant for the arrest of a North Hudson Cuban exile leader for contempt of court was issued yesterday by a West New York Municipal Court judge.

Judge Morton Isaacs issued the warrant when Armando Santana, leader of the Union City-based anti-Castro Cuban Nationalist Movement (CNM), did not appear on an assault and battery charge.

FBI and Secret Service agents began searching for Santana for questioning because of rumors that Cuban Premier Fidel Castro will visit the United Nations either today or next week.

"We've been assisting the Secret Service because they are looking to talk to him," said an FBI agent in the New York office yesterday. "They want to know what's what with all these rumors about Fidel coming."

Another agent in Newark said the FBI "had been making an effort" to find Santana for the past two or three days, but has been unsuccessful.

He added that the Secret Service was interested in questioning Santana because the FBI had provided it with a list of those who might be a threat to the Cuban premier. Santana was convicted in 1976 of the attempted pipe bombing of the Academy of Music in New York City, where a pro-Castro rally was scheduled to occur.

In the West New York case, Santana is charged with assaulting

Eulalio Jose Negrin outside Miller Stadium August 26. Negrin and Santana have been at odds since Negrin traveled with 74 other Cuban-Americans to participate in "dialogues" with Castro last year.

Negrin charged Santana and several others, whose names he does not know, with punching him when he went to the stadium to attend a Cuban all-star baseball game.

According to West New York Court Clerk Joseph DeFiore, the case has been postponed three times.

At the first hearing on August 31, Santana was present but Negrin was not. The case was postponed to September 19 at 7 p.m., but Negrin requested an adjournment to have the case heard at a morning court session, said DeFiore, and the case was postponed until yesterday morning.

When Santana failed to appear, Judge Isaacs asked Negrin if he had heard from Santana recently. When Negrin replied that he had not, the judge issued the warrant for his arrest.

Negrin said later in the day he intends to sue Santana because of the alleged assault. He said he has not seen Santana in about two weeks.

Santana was employed in the West New York detective bureau for three years in the early 1970s. According to Police Chief Thomas Fitzpatrick, Santana's duties included fingerprinting, interpreting and acting as a receptionist.