

Cuban terrorism laid to U.S. disregard

HUDSON DISPATCH DEC. 27, 1979, 1

Anti-Castro group leader charges Havana agents roam at will here

By CAMILLE KENNY

The local leader of the right-wing Cuban Nationalist Movement (CNM) yesterday charged that the United States government is responsible for recent anti-Castro violence in the metropolitan area because it has failed to root out alleged Castro agents in this country.

In a press conference at the organization's Union City office, CNM district leader Armando Santana said that "in order for the violence to cease altogether," a federal investigation of "Castro agents,"—who he said are "roaming at large" in this country—is needed.

"Since 1962, the Cuban people have been abandoned by the American government in their fight against Castro," Santana said. "The Cuban people can put up with only so much of the indifference of the American government, so you can expect only revengeful actions."

He said Cubans here have "had enough of indifference and betrayals," and feel "resentment toward anything that represents Castro" in this country.

"That is why they are taking matters into their own hands," he said, referring to recent bombings of the Cuban and Russian missions to the United Nations, and the murder of Eulalio Jose Negrin, a member of a prisoner-release committee that met with Castro last year, on a Union City street last month.

"We feel we are the terrorists now, but it's just a change of policy by the State Department," Santana said. "Why are we wrong now when they used to support us?"

Santana said his lawyers advised him not to comment on whether he or any CNM members were involved in terrorist acts, and added later that the news media know more about Omega 7—the anti-Castro group that has claimed responsibility for the terrorism—than he does.

A prepared statement issued at the press conference stressed that the CNM is an "IDEOLOGICAL revolutionary organization." The FBI has said the CNM is affiliated with Omega 7.

The statement, signed by Santana and CNM press coordinator Jose Tenreiro, said some U.S. officials have encouraged the activities of "Castro-communist agents in the United States" despite the growing resentment of Cuban exiles.

"These same officials then pressure investigative

(Continued on page 6)



Dispatch Photo by Maggie Grieve

Cuban Nationalist Movement leader Armando Santana, left, addresses reporters at a press conference in Union City yesterday. Jose Tenreiro, press coordinator for the CNM, is seated beside Santana.



Armando Santana

'Had enough of indifference and betrayals'

Terror laid to disregard

12-27-79-6

(Continued from page 1)

agencies to harshly persecute the Cubans who still struggle to free Cuba," the statement continued.

It also charged that visits by U.S. elected officials and representatives of large American corporations to Cuba in the early 1970s "involved the concealment of a main purpose—the establishment of commercial accords in the event relations with Cuba were established. It added that "supposed 'cultural and scientific' exchanges between the two countries (are) another facet of the activities initiated by the Castro regime to cover its infiltration."

It also said many of the members of the Committee of 75, to which Negrin belonged, are actually Castro agents, and their activities should be investigated.

"These are the principal reasons why we accuse the Federal authorities for allowing cited communist penetration, accompanied by the constant and increasing resentment of the Cuban exiled community towards all these representatives and advocates of the Castro regime," the statement went on.

"Too many saw their loved ones tortured, maimed, imprisoned, and killed in Cuba to expect toleration."

Santana inferred that Negrin might have been a Castro spy, saying the slain man frequently took photographs of anti-Castro Cuban exiles and sent them to the Cuban government.

Santana said the "growing resentment" of the Cuban exiles could "bring more violence," and added later that the Cuban community here was "happy about the bombs and Negrin," though they "wished it had happened in Cuba."