

The Bazooka Shelling of the Cuban Embassy Has a James Bond 'Touch'

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MIAMI, Fla. — The Cuban exile mastermind behind the recent bazooka shelling of the Cuban embassy in Ottawa has a flair for anti-Castro capers with a James Bond touch.

Felipe Rivero Jr., 43, and the members of the Miami-based Cuban Nationalist Association which

he heads, have, long concentrated on the dramatic and the unexpected, everywhere from the quiet of a London cemetery to the busy streets of New York and the midst of an exile March on Washington, D.C.

Rivero's latest incident was carried out by "activists" of his right-wing organization. Twin bazooka mounted in the trunk of a

car were fired at the Castro embassy Sept. 22. Windows on the embassy and nearby residences were shattered and lawns and sidewalks ripped up but no one was reported injured.

RIVERO, a veteran of the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961, said, "this is the beginning of the Cuban Nationalists' war around

the world against communism and its interests.

"We picked Canada because of its insolent and provocative attitude towards the tragedy of Cuba," he continued. He pointed out that Canada still maintained diplomatic and trade relations with the Castro regime.

Rivero, who describes himself as having been a

playboy before the Castro takeover in 1959, is a member of a wealthy family which formerly controlled the Diario De la Marina, Cuba's oldest newspaper confiscated by Castro in 1960.

He rose to international prominence while he was a prisoner following the capture of Brigade 2506 members at the bay of Pigs in-

vasion in April 1961.

After feigning capitulation to the Castro regime, he was included in a group of prisoners paraded before television cameras on an island-wide hookup.

Then, in a heated two-hour debate with old-guard Cuban communist, Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Rivero proceeded to lambaste the Soviet takeover of Cuba be-

fore several million television viewers.

IMPRISONED ON the Isle of Pines with other brigade leaders, Rivero had a \$50,000 price put on his head in the \$77 million ransoming of prisoners in December 1962.

After his return to Miami, he spearheaded a drive to hold a referendum that

would choose leaders to represent Cuban exiles and carry the fight against Castro to the communist island.

Rivero worked closely with international rum tycoon, Jose Bosch, head of the Baccardi Rum Company, who financed the subsequent exile voting. But Rivero retired his support when he failed to gain military leadership of the projected movement.

The Cuban Referendum (C.R.), still financed by Bosch here, called off large-scale military plans when it failed to get the "green light" from U.S. authorities and has since stepped up hit-and-run forays.

THE BAZOOKA became Rivero's trademark in December 1964 when members of his black-shirted group fired at the United Nations building in New York. At the time, Ernesto (Che) Guevara, the No. 3 man of Cuba who has mysteriously disappeared, was addressing the UN General Assembly.

Two months before the UN incident, Rivero's men placed a bomb next to the Cuban freighter, "Maria Teresa", docked in Montrael Harbor. Little damage was done to the ship, and no one was injured in the ensuing blast.

In July 1964, Rivero said some 600 members of his movement were the ones who turned a Cuban exile March on Washington, D.C., into a rock-throwing riot which injured over 40 policemen.

"March leaders tried to turn the exile demonstra-

tion into a servile act," said Rivero at the time, hemisphere leaders were debating sanctions against Cuba at the Organization of American States (OAS).

"IN VIEW of this," continued Rivero, "members of our New York and Washington delegations began the trouble as an energetic protest against the ineffectiveness of the OAS."

In August of last year, Rivero's European-based activists attempted to blow up the London Tomb of Carl Marx, father of international communism. In a well-timed caper, a Cuban nationalist commando, identified only as "Johnny," hopped a plane for France before the bomb he had placed was discovered unexploded at the base of the Marx monument.

"The Ottawa bazooka blast marks a new beginning for our movement," said Rivero. "We intend to step up our operations around the world and let communists everywhere learn that they can expect increasing, armed opposition from the members of the Cuban nationalists."