

Cuban Exile Leader Among 8 Seized



Associated Press Wirephoto

Manuel Ray, partly hidden by policemen, a leader of anti-Castro exiles, is led into court at Nassau, in the Bahamas. He was fined and released to immigration officers.

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NASSAU, Bahamas, June 4 —The capture of Manuel Ray, a Cuban exile leader, by a British naval party was confirmed today. Mr. Ray, who had vowed to be in Cuba by May 20, the 62d anniversary of Cuban independence, was among eight persons picked up at Anguilla Key Monday by the British destroyer Decoy as they loaded ammunition. Anguilla Key, 30 miles north of Cuba, has served as a staging area for anti-Castro raids.

Mr. Ray, head of the anti-Castro Cuban Revolutionary Junta, was using an assumed name, Manuel Martinez. All eight persons, including two American free-lance photographers, Andrew St. George and Thomas Dunkin, and a Latin-American woman, Mirtha Barris, were brought to Magistrate's Court. They were charged with illegal entry and with having brought firearms

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RAY, EXILE CHIEF, AMONG 8 SEIZED

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into the British colony without permission. All pleaded guilty to the charges and each was fined £5 (\$14) by Magistrate John Bally on the firearms charge. They received only a warning on the illegal entry charge. Arms and ammunition found by British Marines when the party was seized were confiscated.

Strict security measures were adopted by the police this morning as Mr. Ray and his companions were brought from the Decoy to the court. Mr. Ray was guarded by four policemen, and no one was allowed within 30 yards of the central police station.

5 Caught on Launch

The Decoy, which serves on a British-United States patrol against exile attacks on Cuba, captured five of the defendants aboard a 25-foot launch. The destroyer overtook the launch in the seas off Anguilla after a 12-mile chase.

The five on the launch were the Americans, Miss Barris and two Cubans, Armando Lastra and Juan Diaz. A landing party from the Decoy captured Mr. Ray, Gonzales and Israel Morrell on the key.

Mr. St. George, who is from Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., has frequently participated in raids on Cuba. The other American, Mr. Duncan, is a Miami resident.

Mr. Ray was a leader of the Cuban resistance against the dictatorship of Gen. Fulgencio Batista. He served in Premier Fidel Castro's first cabinet as Minister of Public Works.

After fining the defendants, the magistrate turned them over to immigration authorities. Exile raiders seized in the Bahamas usually are sent to the United States.



Associated Press Wirephoto

BRITISH RELEASE CUBAN EXILES: Andrew St. George, center, photographer from Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., and members of the anti-Castro exile band after their seizure Monday by the British destroyer Decoy off Anguilla Key in the Bahamas. They were fined for illegal possession of firearms in Nassau yesterday and released to immigration officers.