

Cuban Exiles Pledge Further Anti-Castro Activity

MIAMI (AP) — A newly formed Cuban exile group says it took part in last week-ends unsuccessful attempt to infiltrate Cuba and plans to step up its activities against the regime of Premier Fidel Castro.

The Cuban Exile Representation (RECE) announced yesterday it has joined with two anti-Castro groups as a coordinated movement seemed to be gathering momentum among the divided exile front.

Intensive negotiations were reported for a wide-ranging alliance that would include at least four other militant anti-Castro groups.

"Instead of going it alone, exile groups now are going to

coordinate efforts," said RECE spokesman Ernesto Freyre. "Together we can accomplish our aim."

"Losing one battle does not mean you have lost the war," he added. He said of the six anti-Castro revolutionaries who attempted to infiltrate Cuba by launch last weekend, two were killed, two were wounded and captured and two are presumed drowned.

Freyre and other spokesmen for the new federation—composed of RECE Commandos 1 and a faction of the 30th of November Movement—refused to discuss launching sites or any specifics of the weekend raid.

The Cuban government has

charged that the six men intended to assassinate Castro and said the U.S. Government's Central Intelligence Agency was connected with the plot.

The Cubans also charged that the launch carrying the six embarked from Marathon Key, Fla., despite a U.S. moratorium on such attacks.

The Cuban government charges touched off an intensive inquiry in Washington. State Department officials said last night they had received no reports either from government agencies here or in Florida with direct information on the revolutionaries' take-off point.

Officials stressed that the

United States long has sought to discourage such raids and that a number of such expeditions have been halted in waters off Florida.

Despite the increasing activity by exile organizations, officials emphasized that there has been no change whatever in U.S. policy toward such raids.

"Hit-and-run raids have no value and on the contrary they are harmful," one State Department official said. "They cause the Cuban government to take precautions that would not be taken otherwise."

U.S. spokesmen also said they were not aware of any basis for Cuba's charge that

the CIA was connected with the alleged plot against Castro. Some officials described the accusation as absurd.

Officials speculated that the launch might have been on a mission to rescue Cubans who wish to flee.

But a spokesman for the new federation said the mission was commanded by Tony Cuesta, a seasoned warrior of Commandos 1 who was captured in the raid.

The allied organizations issued a statement affirming, "in the face of the adversity of this occurrence, their decision to intensify the fight for Cuba's freedom." They also denied any CIA link with their infiltration attempt and

said "The operation . . . was executed with Cuban resources and equipment, provided by exiledom."

Another exile leader, Dr. Orlando Bosch, head of the militant Insurreccional Movement for Revolutionary Recovery, said "Our movement is working very hard with the underground and very soon will have good results."

Exiles who have made repeated trips to Cuba claim the odds favor infiltration. They said the Cuesta party sought to enter the heavily guarded Havana area during an alert occasioned by flare-ups in the area of the U.S. Navy's Guantanamo Naval Base in eastern Cuba.