

# Exile Plane Shot Down, Cuba Says

The Cuban government claims to have shot down a plane from the United States after it bombed a sugar mill on Cuba's north coast.

"Pursued by an air force plane and attacked from the anti-aircraft batteries, the pirate plane was shot down on the north coast of Las Villas Province," the government said in an official statement broadcast by Havana Radio last night and monitored in Miami.

The head of an exile group in Miami, Orlando Bosch, said, "I fear it was our plane." However, he refused to say what kind of plane it was, how many men were aboard or where it took off from.

The Cuban radio did not mention survivors. It said the attack took place at 11:45, but didn't specify morning or evening or even the day.

The statement said that the plane dropped three bombs on the Marcelo Salado mill near Caibarien, a town almost exactly in the middle of Cuba's long coast.

One of the bombs exploded but no one at the mill was killed, the government said.

It charged that the plane flew from the United States. "We hope the U. S. government won't have the cynicism to deny these facts," the statement said.

Several weeks ago, Cuban exiles started talking about a new war of sabotage against Fidel Castro. But few forays against Cuba have been confirmed.

The Castro government admitted the anti-Castro forces attacked a sugar mill on the south coast the middle of May. It also said that a pirate boat attacked fishermen off Las Villas Province June 5 and was sunk.

An armed boat belonging to Bosch's Revolutionary Insurreccional Recovery Movement was stopped by U. S. officials as it headed for Cuba last year.

Exile groups have carried out air raids on Cuba previously. Once, a plane with an American pilot dropped a homemade bomb on a Havana refinery although no damage was done.

Last month, another exile group said one of its planes dropped a field hospital to guerrillas in Eastern Cuba and even showered the city of Santiago de Cuba with anti-Castro leaflets.