

Cuban exile's bail petition denied

U.S. Magistrate Justo Arenas Tuesday denied Cuban exile Antonio de la Cova's petition to be set free on bail. De la Cova was arrested March 27 for parole violations.

De la Cova was remanded to the Río Piedras State Penitentiary where he will remain until the Parole Board evaluates his case. His lawyers said they will oppose any motion to transfer him to a mainland prison since they said the law states his case must be heard by the Parole Board in the jurisdiction where he was arrested.

De la Cova is married to Gloria Gil, editor of the right-wing Cuban exile newspaper *Cronica*. According to federal authorities, the violations to his parole conditions stem from his work for that newspaper.

He had been convicted in 1976 on charges of conspiracy and possession and transportation of explosives. During his

stay in prison he was a regular contributor to *Cronica* and after being paroled and moving to Puerto Rico he served as editor of the publication.

In January 1983 the U.S. Parole Commission added two conditions to his parole. He was prohibited from working or associating "with any political group that could conceivably endanger (his) adjustment to supervision."

He was also barred from writing "any article in any local newspaper which may heighten awareness of political issues or situations for or against any given political government."

One of de la Cova's lawyers, Virgilio Ramos, called the parole conditions a violation of his client's right to free expression. He said due process of law was violated by federal authorities when no preliminary hearing was held prior to his jailing.