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Anti-Castro Exiles



—Associated Press Wirephoto

BAZOOKA-FIRING SUSPECTS AT POLICE STATION

From left are Ignacio Novo, Detective William Riley, Perez and Guillermo Novo

3 Are Charged In U.N. Blast

Fired Bazooka At Secretariat

NEW YORK, Dec. 23 (AP)—Three Cubans, identified as officials of an anti-Castro exile group, have been charged with taking part in the Dec. 11 bazooka shot at the United Nations building.

They were quoted as saying they purposely missed the 38-story East River skyscraper; that their motive was to take newspaper headlines from Ernesto (Che) Guevara, Cuban minister of industry, who was speaking to the U.N. General Assembly at the time.

Guevara is the No. 2 man in the Communist regime of Premier Fidel Castro.

The three Cubans were booked last night in Queens, from where the rocket was fired.

The missile from the World War II German-made rocket launcher soared over a tugboat and exploded in the river 100 yards from the U.N. secretariat building on the Manhattan shore. No one was hurt.

Purchased Bazooka

Stanley Ross, editor of a Spanish-language weekly newspaper here, said the three men told him before their arrests that they had purchased a deactivated bazooka for \$25 from a war surplus store in Manhattan and fashioned a firing device out of an automobile ignition.

Mr. Ross said the men told him they could have hit the U.N. headquarters "but purposely didn't."

Mr. Ross said his reporters found out who the perpetrators were and he urged the three to surrender. He identified them as members of the Cuban Nationalist Movement, an anti-Castro group with headquarters in Miami.

Police said the arrests resulted from work on their part, including checkups on the sale of bazookas.

The Cubans were booked as Julio Carlos Perez, 31, a Teletype repairman from the Bronx, and brothers, Ignacio Nova, 26, a shoe salesman of Manhattan, and Guillermo Novo, 25, a doorman from North Bergen, N.J.

Charges Against 3

Chief of Detectives Philip J. Walsh, who gave the brothers' names as "Nova," said the three were charged with endangering life maliciously by placing an explosive near a building, and with attempting to damage a building or a vessel, both felonies punishable by up to 25 years in prison on each count. They also were charged with conspiracy, a misdemeanor, which could mean a three-year prison term.

In Miami, Felipe Rivero, national director of the Cuban Nationalist Association (or movement), said Ignacio Nova was his organization's national secretary general, that Guillermo Novo was its delegate for New Jersey and that Julio Perez was chief of its "naval department."