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Herald Tribune photo by MORRIS WARMAN

United Nations headquarters stands under guard, forming a background of lighted offices behind two mounted policemen.

## UN Bazooka Echoes 'Round Cuban World

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"If we ever get back to Cuba," said an agitated young Cuban exile last night, "then that bazooka will suddenly be owned by 25 anti-Castro groups and at least 250 heroes and it is going to be put in a museum. But right now it is a disaster for the Cuban cause."

A far less historic view is being taken by the New York police, the FBI, and the CIA and the intelligence branches of the Army, Navy and Air Force. All of them are in on the hunt for whoever fired an eight-pound shell almost across the East River from a rocky jut in Long Island City. The shell landed less than 300 yards from the United Nations, plopping into the river and sending up a 50-foot geyser.

The blast from the 3.5-inch shell came just past noon on Friday as Cuba's Minister of Industry Ernesto ("Che") Guevara was delivering a bitter tirade in the General Assembly against U. S. policy toward Cuba, Africa, the Vietnamese and this country's Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

Clues as to who launched the shell remained scarce yesterday. The police bomb squad found no serial numbers on the black-painted U. S. Army rocket launcher and turned it over for "minute analysis" to the Army Ordnance experts at Picatinny Arsenal in Dover, N. J.

If that fails, police said, the department's technical laboratory will take it back and dismantle it piece by piece to try and trace its history from its original seller to the final purchaser.

### AN EXPERT'S APPRAISAL

The trouble is, say Cuban exile weapons experts, that the New York area is bursting with bazookas, most of them refurbished, the serial numbers filed off, and sold clandestinely many times.

"I assume whoever did it was pretty careful to cover up his tracks," said a local Cuban exile who has often purchased weapons in the New York area. "After you work one of those bazookas over it is nearly impossible to tell where it came from. I have done it myself."

No doubt some day a Cuban exile group is going to come out with an emblem of crossed bazookas against a field of East River gray and the 11th of December will become an historic date for symbol-loving Cubans. Already an apparently new Miami group called the "Black Front" is claiming credit for the bazooka affair.

Most Cuban exiles here—even the most militant ones—express great rage that "in the name of the exiles some one did that idiotic and dangerous thing." They have good reason to be annoyed and angry.

The mainly political groups are bound—fear the exiles—to suffer a harmful spate of anti-anti-Castro publicity that even the responsible exile groups will be tarnished by the bazooka blast. They are also afraid that the exiles will be made "the goats" for possible Communist attempts to stymie the U. N. session by shouting about the lack of safety in New York.

The so-called "activist" groups are scared because their source of weapons is certain to dry up—or at least get very tight for a while. Members of these groups, protected by keep-out-of-trouble-and-we'll-look-the-other-way enforcement officers, manage to get a good many of the weapons they buy to Cuba or close by.

Still, there is an overwhelming feeling among militant exiles that the "Cuban situation was getting too quiet" and that the bazooka business put the issue back in the headlines where they feel it belongs. "I wouldn't have done it," said one weapons-wise exile yesterday, "but I can see why somebody did. The tension and the frustration is terrible."

### TENSION AND FRUSTRATION

The visit of "Che" Guevara served, of course, to touch off a charge of high feeling. Police said yesterday that a 27-year-old exile woman, who was arrested on Friday while trying to enter the UN building with a knife to "assassinate" Mr. Guevara, attempted suicide in jail.

Police said Gladys Perez, of Jersey City, N. J., tried to open her wrists with a hairpin as she waited in a police detention cell for arraignment. She told Judge T. Vincent Quinn in Manhattan Criminal Court yesterday that her husband had been murdered in Cuba and she had been raped and tortured in a Cuban prison. She said she feared mistreatment in jail here.

Asked in court yesterday if she had any remorse about her abortive attempt to kill Mr. Guevara, she replied through an interpreter: "No. If he were here now I would kill him."

New rounds of exile outbursts are expected today. Cuban refugee groups plan to organize massive picketing outside the studios of WCBS where Mr. Guevara will appear on "Face the Nation" at 12:30 p. m. The offices are on W. 57th St. between Broadway and 8th Ave.

In the exile hangouts—the coffee bars and cafeterias near Broadway and 70th St., in homes and apartments in Queens and in New Jersey—the bazooka affair was topic numero uno of every energetic discussion. One went this way:

"They should never have done it. Not here in New York. They should have waited until Che was near Cuba. Maybe put a time bomb on his plane. Is the plane still here?"

"No. It went back."

"When is it coming back?"

"I don't know."

"Well, the thing to do is to shoot down his plane inside the three-mile limit. We are fighting inside Cuba and not at the United Nations."

"How would it be done?"

"I don't know, but there is a way. But the security here is really too tight. The cops have horses and barricades near the U.N., you can't even get close. I would have tried to get close enough to slap him in the face and say, 'That's for Cuba.'"