

# 2 Charged In Plot on Castro's Life

HAVANA (AP)—The government accused two former Cuban army majors yesterday of plotting to assassinate Prime Minister Fidel Castro. It charged the plot was hatched in Spain with the help of exile leader Manuel Artime and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

An Interior Ministry communique said the plot went awry because of the Dominican crisis, a defect in the alleged assassination weapon and the failure to line up a boat for escape.

## Castro Helps Uncover 'Plot'

The two majors, who were arrested last Monday, are Rolando Cubelas Secades and Roman Guin Diaz. The communique claimed Cubelas was designated as the assassin and it alleged he was to be rewarded by sharing power with Artime after Castro's death.

Cubelas was a key figure in Castro's revolution against President Fulgencio Batista.

The communique indicated that Castro

himself and other officials helped in uncovering the alleged plot.

It said that after Cuba's security agency reported that Cubelas was making frequent trips to Spain, Castro called him to his office.

Castro spent several hours with Cubelas—although he did not know of the seriousness of the plot—"fraternally advising" Cubelas and exhorting him not to become "an instrument of the enemies of the country's revolution," the communique said.

Castro accused Cubelas of being disinterested in the revolution, but told him he could be helped by the regime if he changed his ways, the communique continued. It added that Cubelas' response was that he was not at odds with Castro's regime.

This meeting, according to the communique, led Castro to order an investigation.

The interior ministry statement said this was what the investigation uncovered:

Cubelas, a youthful doctor, went to Paris in November 1964 and was put in contact with CIA agents in Paris.

At the same time in Madrid, Odon Alvarez de la Campa, Cuban embassy counsellor, and Jose Luis Gonzalez Gallarreta, also a Cuban embassy official, established contact with CIA agents in the Spanish capital.

## \$100,000 Given to Pair

A meeting was arranged for Alvarez de la Campa and Gallarreta with "an important Yankee CIA official, James (Jimmy) Noel, who was an official of

the American embassy in Spain." Noel gave the pair \$100,000.

(U.S. State Department directories list a James A. Noel as being attached to the U.S. embassy in Madrid since Sept. 17, 1961. The State Department's biographic register lists Noel as serving in the U.S. embassy in Havana from 1958 to 1961.)

Alvarez de la Campa defected in March 1965 and contacted a group of Cuban exiles in Madrid, who eventually arranged meetings between Cubelas and Artime in February 1965.

It was during these meetings that the assassination and counterrevolutionary plots were drawn up.

Cubelas was to be principle head of the counterrevolution and Artime offered the technical means with support from the CIA, "various Central American governments and the Organization of American States in general," the communique said.