

The Miami He

Saturday, July 26, 1958

Firemen on Alert for More

Bombs Cached for Cuba

By TOM LOWNES
Herald Staff Writer

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watch to guard against future fires.

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Less than an hour after the original fire-explosion in a second floor closet a second blaze sprang up on the apartment house stairs, more than 100 feet from the first fire.

Firefighters were also rushed to the Miami Police Station where blazes flared in four

barrels and tubs of phosphorus bombs and machine-gun bullets which officers had hauled away from the apartment house.

Miami Detective Charles Sapp said more than 100 four-inch fire bombs and 3,000 rounds of .30 caliber machine gun ammunition were found in the closet cache.

Modesto Echevarria, in whose apartment the ammunition was found, was arrested for investigation of possessing explosives without a license. His wife, Mrs. Rose Flores Echevarria, was picked up for questioning and then released.

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—Herald Staff Photo by Steve Weaver

Firemen Soa

Crusted Machinegun Bullets in Tub
arms seizure touched off trouble for police

The Miami Herald

Saturday, July 26, 1958

Complete Local News

Section B

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CLASSIFIED
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Bombs Cached for Cuba Go Off Here Instead

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Fire Inspector P. F. O'Connell said he was posting a

crew of firemen on a 24-hour watch at the building.

All phosphorus-soaked hall carpeting was ripped up and hauled out.

"The phosphorus has been tracked through the whole building," O'Connell said.

"As soon as the water dries out, that stuff can go up in flames—anywhere, anytime."

O'Connell pointed to a scorched spot on the building's stairs, about 100 feet from the first fire. The spot had flared up less than an hour after the original fire.

As firemen raked the soggy, fuming debris out of the Echevarria apartment, their officers shouted urgent warnings at them: "Don't touch



Mrs. Echevarria

... released

your faces — that stuff will burn your skin off!"

Firemen, police, and reporters emerging from the build-

ing had their shoes and boots doused with a spray of water to dilute the phosphorus picked up in the apartment.

"When you go home, soak your shoes in water, and leave them outside the house—they may catch fire during the night," said O'Connell.

As he talked, other firemen were hard-pressed to keep dozens of neighborhood children from running through puddles of diluted phosphorus barefooted.

Customs agents reported Thursday another seizure of guns and ammunition that were ready to be shipped out of the country from Miami. Agents found three machine guns, several rifles and 20,000 rounds of ammunition in a house at 2498 SW 21st St.



File



UNIQUE BROWARD COUNTY FLYING CLUB FEATURES P-51 MUSTANG FIGHTER PLANES
Political Exiles Get In Flying Time While Government Agents Check Their Activities

Miami News Photo by Charles Trainor

Is This Prio's Rebel AF?



U.S. Sleuths Maintain Watch Over Alien Air Fleet In Broward

By **BILL MOESER**
Reporter of The Miami News

There's a flying club operating in nearby Broward County which uses sleek, powerful P-51 fighter planes instead of the usual Cubs.

Members of the club are, for

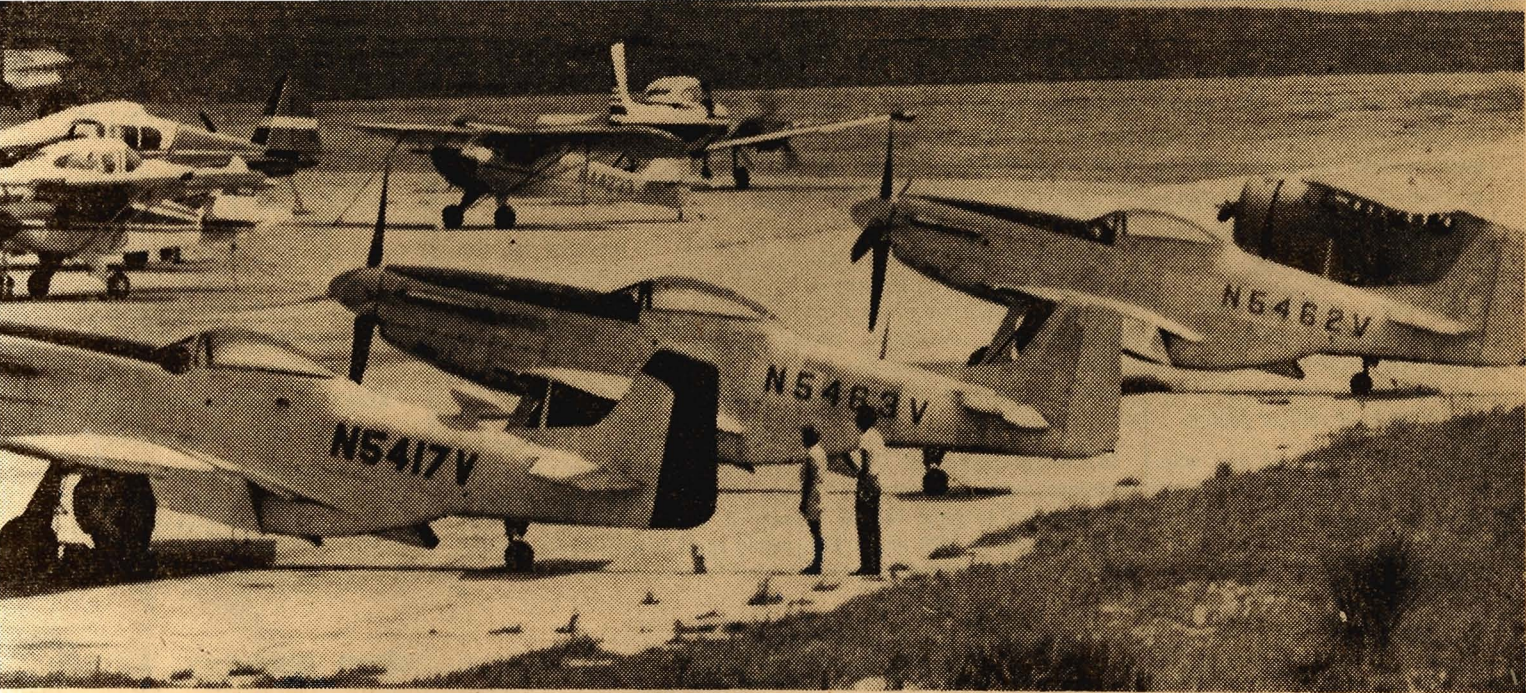
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Officers of the corporation include the president, Manuel J. Diaz, 25, of 2151 SW 21st Ter., and

Known Cuban exiles have been observed by government agents either taking part in training flights or working on the planes in recent weeks. Diaz, born in Cuba in 1934, but a naturalized American, was issued a private pilot's

One P-51 arrived at the North Perry Airport in Hollywood early in February this year and by April two more arrived. They then were moved to Broward International.



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 Miami News

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"If these folks so much as get aboard with a sidearm strapped to them we'll pick them up. But in the meantime they are getting their training flights in," said an agent.

State records reveal the Golden

Wing Corp. was chartered on Jan. 8, 1957, for \$25,000 with 250 shares of stock.

Officers of the corporation include the president, Manuel J. Diaz, 25, of 2151 SW 21st Ter., and two Miami attorneys, David McDonald, of 4160 Grove St., and David C. McDonald, of 1305 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables.

Well-informed sources name deposed Cuban President Carlos Prio as the banker for the miniature air force. But Diaz did the dealing and bought the planes from surplus government stock.

Known Cuban exiles have been observed by government agents either taking part in training flights or working on the planes in recent weeks. Diaz, born in Cuba in 1934, but a naturalized American, was issued a private pilot's license on June 19, 1957. He received a commercial license soon afterwards.

Federal agents wouldn't comment about the planes other than to say they were watching them. When asked if military aircraft operated by exiles constituted a neutrality violation a customs agent said, "We are keeping our eye on them. If those people try to export the fighters without a license or launch an expedition against a friendly nation or transport arms or munitions aboard those planes we'll nab them."

"We know they think they can just slip aboard some night, install a few guns and take off. But we'll be ready for them."

The aircraft have even made legal flights outside the limits of the U.S. on March 15, for example, a flight was made to Nassau for training purposes.

The planes were purchased from the government redistributing and marketing division of Norton Air Force Base in California.

On Dec. 10, 1957, one Mustang fighter was bought by Diaz for \$1,525.27 — paid in cash. It cost the U. S. \$240,000 for this plane in 1944. And on Jan. 11, three days after the Golden Wing Corp. was chartered, Diaz bought two more planes for a similar amount each.

The aircraft were taken to the Sky Harbor Airport in Phoenix, Ariz., where they were refurbished and readied for flight to Florida.

One P-51 arrived at the North Perry Airport in Hollywood early in February this year and by April two more arrived. They then were moved to Broward International.

The sprawling Broward airport has been the scene of other rebel flights. Almost impossible to contain are surreptitious takeoffs in the darkness. Two years ago Cubans took off from Broward to fire-bomb sugar cane fields with phosphorous.

And the same sources say rebel leaders often use the field for takeoffs for flights into the Sierra Maestra mountains and back.

Efforts have been made by the rebels to buy machine guns and bombs for the aircraft. It is not known how successful these efforts have been.

In recent weeks Castro has sent six rebel columns into adjoining provinces to present a thin line of march across the island for an assault. The troops need military air support badly.

Batista recently said, "Only an act of God will prevent an election in Cuba on Nov. 3." Castro has replied the elections will never be held.

The one thing Batista has been unsuccessful at is throttling the aerial supply line from south Florida to the rebel forces.

On Aug. 29, Charles Hormel, a Miamian, was released in \$2,500 bond charged by federal authorities with smuggling arms to rebel forces. Hormel admitted making 27 successful flights to Cuba. On his 28th trip he crashed into the Caribbean sea near the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo. He was aided in his flight from Cuba by the rebel underground.



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By **BILL MOESER**
Reporter of The Miami News

There's a flying club operating in nearby Broward County which uses sleek, powerful P-51 fighter planes instead of the usual Cubs.

Members of the club are, for the most part, Cuban aliens who are likely to have a grudge against the dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista.

P-51 fighter planes were the mainstay of the United States during World War II. They can be pushed at the rate of 350 miles an hour or more and never have been considered toys.

This odd set of circumstances surrounding the Golden Wing Corp. — which operates out of Broward International Airport — has excited the curiosity of federal agents, who have spent many hours waiting and watching for machine guns to be placed on the planes.

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Batista recently said "GO 1

Cuban Exiles Level Charge At Perdue

Continued from Page 1-A
 however, Perdue admitted writing the note to Hernandez and said:

"It was all in line of duty. I was assigned to protect Hernandez' home and that's what I was doing when I spotted these three Cubans on San Marino Island.

"I chased them and caught them on the Miami side after calling the Miami police for help. Afterward I wrote a note to Hernandez and left it at his door. I thought he ought to know who was hanging around his house.

"I don't want some crazy revolutionary throwing a bomb at me or my family. I was just doing my job. I don't take sides in the matter. I'm not for Batista or against him."

Hernandez Comments

Consul Hernandez said he saw nothing unusual about Perdue writing him a note. "Detective Perdue was assigned to guard my house after I asked protection from your State Department," said Hernandez.

"It is false to say that any political exile's family would be persecuted in Cuba for the revolutionary activity of one person."

A photostatic copy of the report from Perdue to Hernandez was produced by Jose Aleman, wealthy Cuban exile whose Trade Winds Hotel was raided twice this week by Beach police and Metro deputies.

'Sent To Us In The Mail'

"I don't vouch for the note," said Aleman. "It was sent to us in the mail, apparently by the person who stole Hernandez' briefcase.

"What I would like to know is why a city detective would be writing to Hernandez. If he had anything to report, he should have reported it to his superiors."

The three men named in Perdue's report all live at Aleman's hotel. One of the men, Angel Nobregas y Heria, is personal secretary to Aleman.

"My family has been subjected to abuse in Cuba," said Nobregas, "and the other men named

in the note are in fear for their families also."

Nobregas said he, Martinez Eugenio and Orlando Acosta were stopped by Perdue while en route to Tropical Hobbyland in Miami to buy a pet for Aleman. "He questioned us and then let us go," said Nobregas.

Beach Police Chief Michael Fox said Perdue was working presently as an investigator assigned to his office.

"I don't know what this is all about," said Fox, "but I'll look into it."

6-27-58 N.

3 Cubans Level Charge At Perdue

By JACK W. ROBERTS
 Reporter of The Miami News

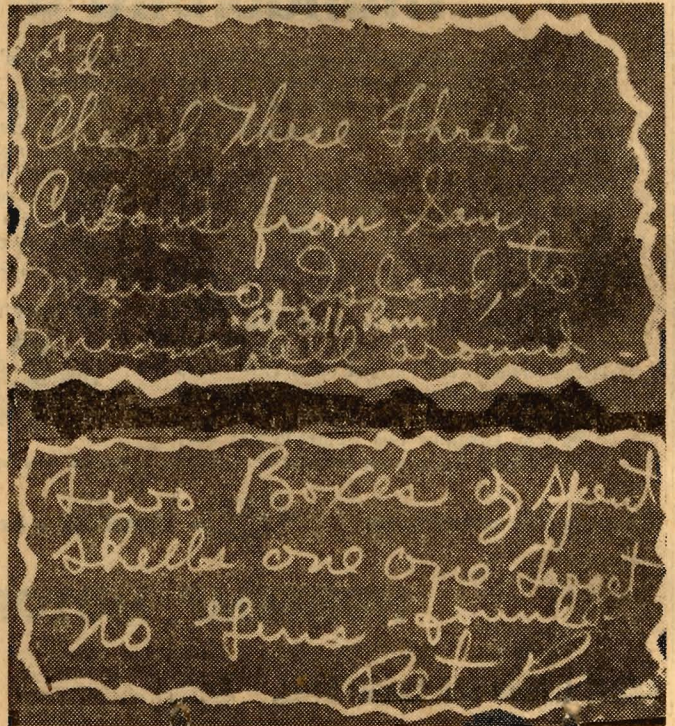
Three Cuban political exiles living in Miami Beach claimed today their families had been earmarked for persecution because of a report written by veteran Beach Detective H. L. (Pat) Perdue to Cuban Consul Eduardo Hernandez.

The report, in Perdue's own handwriting, allegedly was among Hernandez' personal papers when his briefcase was stolen at Miami International Airport March 5.

Perdue, a colorful figure known for many years as Miami Beach's "one-man bookie squad," at first denied writing the report.

When asked if he would submit to a handwriting comparison test,

Continued on Page 2-A, Col. 1



6-26-58 N.



Miami News Photo By Jay Spencer

METRO DEPUTIES FORCED WAY IN
Mrs. Olga Garcia And Daughter Olgita At Home

Terrorism Laid To Arms Raiders

'Metro Deputies Rough' - Aleman

By **JOSEPH HOFFMAN**
Reporter of The Miami News

Charges that Metro deputies seeking Cuban arms manhandled his tenants during two raids on his apartment house were made today by millionaire Jose Aleman.

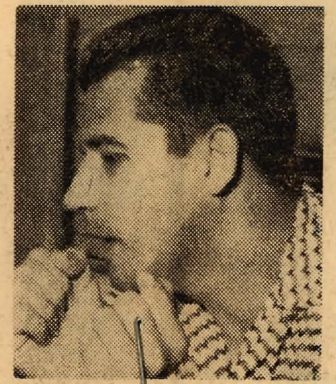
Aleman said the deputies pushed several of the tenants, broke down several doors in attempting to enter some of the apartments at the Trade Winds hotel, 2315 Pine Tree Dr., Miami Beach, and did a lot of unnecessary yelling.

C. W. Thompson, chief of staff services for the Metro Department of Public Safety, denied all of Aleman's charges.

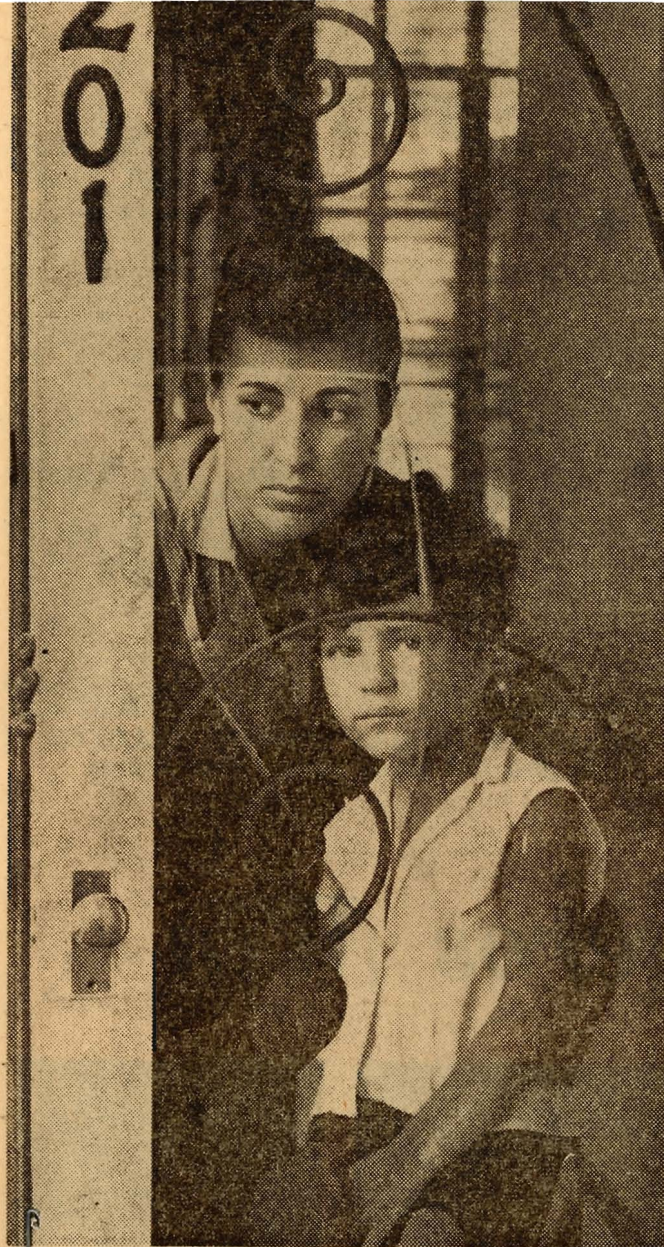
"Having checked with several of the officers who were at the scene yesterday, I am convinced the deputies handled themselves in a courteous manner at all times and at no time treated anyone roughly."

A spokesman for the hotel said one of the deputies told him that both Aleman and manager Albert Rubio would be arrested for aiding criminals if they refused to let all the apartments be searched.

The spokesman added that one of the sergeants said he realized they had no search warrants but said they were going to search the rooms anyway on the order of



JOSE ALEMAN



Miami News Photo By Jay Spencer

METRO DEPUTIES FORCED WAY IN
Mrs. Olga Garcia And Daughter Olga At Home

Terrified To 'Metro Deputies Rough' - Aleman

By **JOSEPH HOFFMAN**
Reporter of The Miami News

Charges that Metro deputies seeking Cuban arms from his tenants during two raids on his apartment house today by millionaire Jose Aleman.

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The spokesman added that one of the sergeants said he realized they had no search warrants but said they were going to search the rooms anyway on the order of the State Hotel Commission. No official of the commission was available for comment.

Tenant Terrified

The deputies had been tipped off that more dynamite and ammunition was stored in the hotel after they found a large supply in one of the rooms Tuesday. The hotel commission reportedly gave the okay to search all rooms without warrants.

An American tenant at the hotel commented of yesterday's raid:

"I was petrified. They were yelling and banging down doors with hammers. I never knew this kind of thing took place in this country."

Aleman, who denied having any knowledge about what was found in his hotel, said Miami Beach Police Chief Mike Fox was the only law enforcement officer who tried to pacify the situation.

Aleman said Fox got there just as deputies were trying to break down a door and he stopped them from further rough stuff.

Fox, however, said he saw no rough goings on and said as far as he was concerned the deputies handled themselves fittingly at all times.

Meanwhile, Federal Judge Seybourn H. Lynne ordered a warrant issued for the rearrest of Juan Alejandro Milen Delgado, 34, on a charge of violating terms of his federal probation.



Miami News Photo by Bob Bailey

HUGE CACHE OF DYNAMITE AND GUNS FOUND ON MIAMI BEACH
Metro Safety Director Thomas Kelly And Chief Mike Fox Examine It

4 Cubans Arrested In Dynamite Raid

By **HERB CARLSON**
Reporter of The Miami News

Metro deputies and Miami Beach police uncovered a cache of dynamite and some arms stored in a Miami Beach hotel and, as a result, four Cubans were in county jail today.

Metro Safety Director Thomas J. Kelly said the 900 sticks of dynamite — 450 pounds — constituted a "major hazard to life and property."

The deputies and police, armed with two warrants, raided the Trade Winds Hotel Apartments, 2315 Pine Tree Dr., late yesterday following what Kelly called "several months of surveillance."

Young Jose B. Aleman, millionaire Miamian, foe of Cuban President Fulgencio Batista and financial backer for Cuban rebel leader Fidel Castro, appeared at the scene to say he owned the hotel but wouldn't give police a key to two apartments they wanted to enter, Kelly reported.

Bonds Refused

Police said they'd give him five minutes to find a key, but when Aleman didn't return immediately the police kicked down a door and arrested three "sentries" on the spot.

Those arrested were identified as Diego Marquez, 29; Juan A. Milan, 34, and Alonzo F. Abdias, 25.

While the arrests were being made, another man, identified as Segundo J. Ferrero, 34, of 2815 NW 7th Ave., walked in, and police put him in jail, too.

police to believe the arms had been destined for Castro forces in Cuba.

Kelly said his men would attempt to trace the nine boxes of explosives containing the dynamite sticks to current losses of explosives from magazines maintained by road and home builders in South Dade County.

The deputies found what appeared to be a guard list and duty schedule for "sentries." They broke two padlocks to gain access to closets.

Police believe a one-way mirror in a door served as a guard lookout post.

Dynamite, 4 Cubans Are Seized

By **JAMES BUCHANAN**
Herald Staff Writer

Four Cubans were caught with their guard down Tuesday and lost 900 sticks of dynamite and a small arsenal of guns they had secreted in a Miami Beach hotel owned by a prominent foe of Cuban President Fulgencio Batista.

Sheriff's deputies, who had been watching the Tradewinds Hotel at 2315 Pinetree Dr. for weeks, had no trouble gaining admittance to the room although the Cubans had posted a 24-hour guard to prevent detection or theft of the explosives.

Believed intended for revolutionary forces in Cuba, the dynamite supply was described by explosive experts as "big enough to blow up the hotel and half the block around it."

The Tradewinds, a known refuge for Cuban rebels and political exiles who have fled their homeland, is owned by Jose Aleman, Miami Beach real estate man and admitted supporter of revolutionary forces.

Aleman could not be reached Tuesday night for questioning, but Public Safety Director Thomas J. Kelly said the hotel owner would be quizzed sometime Wednesday.

Aleman at one time was an officer of the local branch of Directorio Revolucionario, a Cuban political party fighting President Batista.

Along with the dynamite, officers confiscated two Thompson sub-machine guns, an M-1 carbine, an Italian-made rifle and an M-6 carbine.

Literature found in the room indicated the four men were members of the Directorio Revolucionario. Also uncovered was a "guard schedule" naming some 15 Cubans who were assigned "watches" to prevent rival revolutionary groups from hijacking the explosives.

The men arrested are Alonso Franco Abdias and Juan Alexandro Milián, who were registered as occupants of the room, and Diego Marquez and Segundo Jose Ferrero, who were present when deputies knocked on the door and presented their search warrants.

The four were held in jail Tuesday night on charges of suspicion of illegal possession and storage of explosives.



Miami News Photo by Bob Bailey

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Those arrested were identified as Diego Marquez, 29; Juan A. Milan, 34, and Alonzo F. Abdias, 25.

While the arrests were being made, another man, identified as Segundo J. Ferrero, 34, of 2815 NW 7th Ave., walked in, and police put him in jail, too.

None were allowed to post bond. They were held for suspicion of illegally possessing and storing explosives. Metro deputies also considered holding them for illegally possessing automatic weapons. The police said Treasury Department agents were interested in two Thompson submachine guns which were confiscated.

Police Break Padlocks

Police also found several rifles, carbines, hand guns and ammunition.

Sea navigational charts for use between Miami and Cuba led the

police to believe the arms had been destined for Castro forces in Cuba.

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Rebels Beef Up Cuba 3rd Front

By HAL HENDRIX

Latin America Editor of The Miami News

The Cuban rebels' third front in Las Villas province has been beefed up considerably in the last few days, according to broadcasts from Fidel Castro's clandestine radio in the Sierra Maestra range of Oriente province.

The rebels claim that a major strategy move has been completed with the shift of six columns of guerrillas from the Sierra Maestra area across Camaguey province and into Las Villas. Rebel leaders here estimate there are about 1,500 fighters in the Las Villas task force.

The rebel radio noted that Ernesto (Che) Guevara, the Argentine doctor who has been with Castro since the Oriente combat began in December, 1956, is commanding one of the new Las Villas columns. Other rebel commanders named are Camilo Cifuegos, Juan Almeida, Huber Matos and Jaime Vega.

Rebel sources report that attacks on transportation facilities have been stepped up in both Las Villas and Oriente. Several railway bridges reportedly have been dynamited in recent days. Encounters between the guerrillas and government troops have been frequent, with casualties high on both sides.

The rebel radio also has noted that Second Front forces headed by Raul Castro, brother of Fidel, have intensified their combat activities in Oriente. An attack this week on the town of Siboney resulted in the deaths of about 25 soldiers, the radio broadcast stated.

Coincidental with the step-up in rebel forays, President Fulgencio Batista has announced changes of military commands in Las Villas and Oriente.

Top Tactician Gets Command

Maj. Gen. Eulogio A. Cantillo Porras, considered the top tactician in Batista's army, has become commander of the 1st military district with headquarters in Santiago, capital of Oriente. Gen. Cantillo formerly was chief of the zone of operations in Bayamo and headed the ineffective 'all-out offensive' against Fidel Castro last spring.

Brig. Gen. Alberto del Rio Chaviano has been transferred from Santiago to Las Villas as chief of the 3rd military district. He is a son-in-law of Gen. Francisco Tabernilla, chief of staff of the Cuban armed forces.

* * *
Solution of Argentina's air force crisis marked another defeat for President Arturo Frondizi, according to observers in Buenos Aires.


Frondizi was forced to give in to rebellious air force officers, who defiantly rejected his proposal for an upper echelon air force reshuffle in favor of Peronistas. After forcing the resignation of Frondizi's Secretary of Air Roberto Huerta, the rebels virtually named the new one, Brigadier Ramon Amado Abraham.

Abraham was the first Air Minister of the revolutionary government that ousted Dictator Juan Domingo Peron in September, 1955.

* * *
In Washington, Chairman Herbert Bonner of the House Merchant Marine Committee predicts that the Panama Canal will reach its saturation point within the next 12 or 15 years. He reports that a special technical staff currently is studying proposed alternatives for a new means of traffic between the Atlantic and Pacific. A new canal across Nicaragua has been proposed for many years.

* * *
Colombian President Alberto Lleras Camargo has asked the House of Representatives to shelve proposed legislation that would double the salary of presidents to about \$670 a month. Lleras believes he should set an example of the policy of fiscal austerity he has launched.



6/30/58 N. 

2 More Yanks Seized, Cubans Now Hold 42

C.R.

U.S. Consul Contacts Rebels

The Associated Press

HAVANA, June 30—Rebels struck again today in their bold campaign of kidnaping Americans and other foreigners, seizing two plant officials in Eastern Cuba.

The new stroke was announced by the U. S. Embassy as U. S. Consul Park Wollam negotiated with the rebels in the mountains for the release of 40 other kidnaped Americans and 2 Canadians.

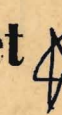
Sherman Avery White, general manager of the big U. S.-built Nicaro Nickel Plant, and his assistant, J. Andrew Poll, were carried off by a band of eight rebels at 8:30 a.m.

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In Contact With Rebels

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No-Ticket Rule Faces Short Life



By BELLA KELLY

Miami News Metro Bureau

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C.P.

U.S. Consul Contacts Rebels

The Associated Press

HAVANA, June 30—Rebels struck again today in their bold campaign of kidnaping Americans and other foreigners, seizing two plant officials in Eastern Cuba.

The new stroke was announced by the U. S. Embassy as U. S. Consul Park Wollam negotiated with the rebels in the mountains for the release of 40 other kidnaped Americans and 2 Canadians.

Sherman Avery White, general manager of the big U. S.-built Nicaro Nickel Plant, and his assistant, J. Andrew Poll, were carried off by a band of eight rebels at 8:30 a.m.

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In Contact With Rebels

U. S. Embassy sources said Wollam still was in contact with the rebels in the mountains of Oriente Province but there was no indication when the men would be released. They included 10 U. S. and 2 Canadian engineers, the first to be seized in the new campaign.

Of those held, 29 are U. S. servicemen who disappeared over the weekend, 28 of them on an overnight picnic excursion from the U. S. Navy Base at Guantanamo. The other man was grabbed as he walked just outside the base.

A spokesman at the base said the Navy knew nothing of reports published abroad that the men might be freed today. He said, however, the Navy does not expect the men to be held long.

The rebel radio made its first mention of the kidnapings today.

Predicts Release Soon

An unidentified announcer said that "although we have no direct contact with Commander (Raoul) Castro's column, we can say that we believe the Yankees will be released soon."

The rebel radio expressed "surprise" at the Cuban Army announcement that ground and air pursuit would be halted until such time as the American captives are released.

"It's too bad these army officers were not concerned about killing so many Cuban farmers while shooting at our forces," the announcer said.

Raoul Castro is a brother of Fidel Castro and is reported to have been in direct command of the kidnapings.

The rebel announcer said that the 12-man engineer group first victims of the mass kidnap, "certainly will not be harmed."

No-Ticket Rule Faces Short Life

By BELLA KELLY
Miami News Metro Bureau

The policy of no enforcement of traffic laws in Miami Shores appeared headed for a quick end today.

County Attorney Darrey Davis said Shores City Attorney Tom Anderson would take legal steps this afternoon to keep traffic enforcement the same as it has always been until the issue is finally settled by the courts.

Shores police officers were on patrol over the weekend but were not issuing traffic tickets.

A Circuit Court order, signed by Judge Pat Cannon, held that Metro traffic laws supersede those of municipalities, that the Shores traffic ordinance was nullified by the Metro traffic code and that traffic violations in the Shores should be tried in Metro court.

Davis, who said the attitude of no enforcement was "rather shocking," said he had been informed by Anderson that he would appear before Judge Cannon later today to seek a stay of the Circuit Court order until the appeal is decided.

Sheriff Tom Kelly said he had no plans to patrol the Miami Shores area for traffic violations if the negative policy continued.

The sheriff said if there was any urgency in the area regarding enforcement it would be his responsibility to go in but that his men would not be sent in to check parking meters and minor traffic violations.

Gun Smugglers Get 2-Year Prison Terms

HOUSTON —(AP)— Two-year prison sentences were pronounced for five persons arrested near here in April when federal agents seized firearms believed destined for Cuban rebels.

Each also was fined \$500. One of the defendants, Mario Villamia, collapsed after Federal Judge Allen B. Hannay pronounced sentence. Hannay called Villamia the ringleader.

Others sentenced were Manuel Arques, Miss Evelyn Eleanor Archer, and two Cubans, Francisco Obregon and Abelardo Barrera.

The five had pleaded no contest to charges of conspiracy and unlawful possession of firearms. A sixth person, Robert E. McKeown, has not yet entered a plea.

"My family is in Cuba," Villamia told Hannay while pleading for mercy. "Many friends of mine have died there fighting for freedom."

Gino Negretti of Miami, attorney who represented the five, admitted the defendants violated laws "but not the spirit of our nation."

"There was no monetary gain in what they did," he said. "They merely held liberty in sacred trust."

Miss Archer told Hannay she and Arques have planned to be married. They were arrested aboard a ship, the Buddy Dee, seized by federal agents at a dock at Kemah on Galveston Bay. The agents earlier had seized a quantity of arms and other equipment at a house at nearby Seabrook.

7/17/58

Tip Leads To Log In Lot Gun Cache Seized, Agents Grill 2 Men

Four Thompson submachine guns were found by U.S. customs agents at a parking lot of the West Flagler Kennel Club, the customs service disclosed today.

The weapons, reactivated models, were found last night behind a log on the lot after an anonymous tip was telephoned to Charles E. Wyatt, supervising customs agent.

The informer said two carloads of Cubans were "acting mysterious around the Flagler dog track."

Agents W. B. Lankford and Wallace Shanley investigated. They found two autos at the track. When they sought to question the occupants, one car raced away.

In the other car were two men, one of whom said he was Cuban and the other claiming Panamanian nationality.

The men were released when a search failed to show any reason for holding them. However, the agents know their identities.

The agents then searched the parking lot and found a package hidden behind a log. In it were four sub-machine guns which had been deactivated so the firing mechanism would not work.

However, Wyatt said, the weapons had been reactivated. Wyatt said it had not been learned where the guns came from.

bring league's summer tourname

Cuba

Batista Foes Pick Urrutia

By JAMES BUCHANAN
Herald Staff Writer

Dr. Manuel Urrutia was reported Saturday night to have been chosen by 11 rebel organizations to become the provisional chief executive of Cuba if President Fulgencio Batista is ousted.

The Herald learned from a reliable source that the long-awaited meeting of the rebel chieftains was held here Saturday afternoon, and that all but one of the 11 voted for Urrutia.

Urrutia is a 57-year-old former Cuban judge who early in 1958 was named as the man whom rebel leader Fidel Castro wanted to run the country between his predicted ouster of Batista and the first nationwide elections.

Failure of other rebel groups to accept Urrutia led Castro to pull his 26th of July movement out of the National Liberation Front which the anti-Batista groups had formed.

However, a new rebel coalition was formed in late July during a meeting at Caracas, Venezuela.

Called the "Civic Revolutionary Front," or Frente Civico Revolucionario, the group again swore to coordinate its efforts to oust the Cuban president, whom they term a dictator.

Urrutia, who divides his time between Miami and New York City, was forced to flee Cuba last December with his wife and three daughters. He is now in New York.

A judge at Santiago de Cuba, in the heart of strife-torn Oriente province, Urrutia said he had been "warned to get out of the country by police" after he had freed 40 young men arrested for alleged rebel activity.

According to reports reaching The Herald, only the Directorio Revolucionario, headed by Enrique Rodriguez Loeche, failed to vote for Urrutia. The Directorio offered no other candidate, but prevented the judge's "nomination" from being unanimous.

Other organizations said to have been represented at the meeting included the 26th of July Movement; Ortodoxo Party, Organacion Autentico; Civic Resistance Movement; the Federation of University Students; the Democratic Party; Exiled Army Officers, the Directorio Obrero Revolucionario; the Havana Bar Association and the Montaristi.

Rebels' Almeida Dead, Cuba Says

HAVANA, Cuba — (UPI) — The government said Saturday rebel group leader "Gallego Almeida," believed to be second in command at the insurgents' "second front" headquarters in northern Oriente Province, was killed with 17 of his men in a clash with Cuban army troops.

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An army communique said the clash took place at Purial de Jibacoa, in Oriente, with government losses confined to one soldier wounded.

A "Juan Almeida" has long been identified as having commanded a rebel raiding force in northern Oriente before Raul Castro, brother of insurgent chief Fidel Castro, opened a so-called "second front" in that area.

Reports from Oriente indicated Saturday that the rebels were on the offensive over a wide sector, and with considerable local success. Army forces were reported to be pulling back from advanced outposts.

Latin Rebels Step Up Gun-Running, Plotting In Handy Miami Area

* * *

U.S. Figures It Seizes Half of
Contraband; Coin Cans Aid
Cuba's Castro, Not Charity

By PAUL LANCASTER

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

MIAMI—Next to the cash register in a small grocery store in the heart of this city stands a red and black striped can bearing the number "26." It looks like one of those containers often set out to collect a few coins for charity.

But there is a difference—a big one. Drop a coin in this can and you're contributing not to a charity, but to a revolution. Money collected here, the plump, Spanish-speaking grocer freely admits, goes to support Fidel Castro, the rebel leader battling Cuban President Batista. The "26" on the can commemorates July 26, 1953, when Castro made his first overt move against the dictator of the island nation just an hour away from here by air.

Containers for Castro are visible at many spots in Miami frequented by Cubans. They're one of the more obvious signs of Latin American plotting and intrigue that currently go on beneath the glittering surface of this tourist haven. And Government customs men say one of the manifestations of this plotting—gun-running—now is on the rise.

"Maze of Conspiracy"

"Everybody's impression of this area is that it's strictly a playground. But here among the sunlight and palm trees and tourists is a maze of conspiracy which endangers everybody," claims W. D. McKee, head of the criminal intelligence squad of Dade County, which embraces the greater Miami area.

This "maze of conspiracy" is carried on by exiles from such politically explosive Caribbean countries as the Dominican Republic and Haiti, as well as Cuba. The Miami area currently is host to no less than 20,000 Latin American aliens. Undoubtedly, only a small percentage of these are involved directly in political intrigue in their home countries, but those who are find this a handy base of operations.

"Gun-running to Cuba and other Latin American countries is just about keeping us going night and day," says Joseph A. Fortier, assistant supervising U.S. customs agent. Customs sleuths here have made half a dozen seizures of arms and ammunition shipments in the past year, netting an estimated \$250,000 worth of war tools.

Attempts to sneak munitions out of the country through south Florida "have picked up 100% in the past year and a half," Mr. Fortier reports.

Despite efforts by customs and other agencies, a lot of arms slip through. "We figure we probably get about 50% of it," Mr. Fortier says. "Castro says he gets about 90% of the stuff shipped to him, but we think that's a little too generous."

Seizing the Harpoon

North of here last week, customs agents and border patrolmen swooped down on a 62-foot yacht, the Harpoon, as Cuban rebels readied the munitions-laden craft for a trip to Cuba. Seized were 31 men and \$10,000 worth of military gear and medical supplies. Another recent yacht foray at secluded Big Pine Key netted 31 revolutionaries, an anti-tank gun, 23 rifles, 13 submachine guns and 11,000 rounds of ammunition.

Arms smuggling by air also keeps U.S. agents busy. Recently customs men sat patiently at the Miami airport for two days watching an innocent-looking parked C-46. When a truck drove up and begun unloading, the agents closed in, seizing "rifles, machine guns, field equipment, food and medical supplies for 180 men," recalls Mr. Fortier. Value of the goods intended for Dominican Republic insurgents: \$25,000.

For the most part, rebels buy up guns in small quantities from widely scattered dealers, according to one customs investigator. "The guns come from arms dealers all over the United States," he explains.

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To the dismay of Latin arms' procurers, Yankee confidence men also have moved into the business of selling war supplies. For example, inspect a hand grenade from a captured stockpile of Cuban rebel munitions. At first glance it appears to be an ordinary grenade, but closer inspection shows it's the innocuous kind used by troops in training. The hole from which a cork stopper normally pops out harmlessly in practice throws has been plugged and painted over.

There's always the possibility—a worrisome one for local police officials—that innocent bystanders may blunder into danger in the midst of all this plotting. "A tourist checks into a motel here, and for all he knows there might be several cases of dynamite next door," says Dade County's Sgt. McKee.

Man Accused of Possessing 'Arsenal'

Anthony Sturgis, 33, of 2498 SW 21st St., was nabbed by federal customs agents Wednesday and charged with concealing 200 rifles, six machine guns, dynamite, 50,000 rounds of ammunition and hand grenades in two southwest Miami homes.

The arsenal was seized several days ago.



U.S. Coast Guard

Pakistanis Hire 7 Cuban Fugitives

By DOM BONAFEDE
Herald Staff Writer

Seven Cuban pilots who fled Cuba for asylum in the U. S. will move on to the other side of the world.

Part of a group of 29 Cuban fliers living in Miami since defecting three months ago, the seven said they have landed jobs with the Pakistan International Airlines.

"I feel happy and a little sad," commented pilot Francisco Alvarez, "happy to be able to continue my career but sad to leave my country and my friends."

Refusing to fly arms for the Batista regime, the airmen fled to Miami but once here they found they couldn't fly commercially because they weren't U. S. citizens.

They appealed to the Miami branch of the International Rescue Committee, which put

them in touch with Capt. S. K. Khan, operations director of the Pakistan Airlines.

Khan himself traveled from Karachi to Miami, checked out the pilots and signed them to two-year contracts.

They will receive \$300 monthly (no taxes), living allowances and bonuses. They will fly DC-3's on domestic

routes from bases at Karachi, Rawalpindi and Dacca.

Mary Barrer, field director of the IRC, noted the story had even more of a global flavor since the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Association in London first notified her office of the openings in Pakistan.

"We also are trying to get jobs for the other pilots with

the Philippines Airlines because they speak Spanish," she remarked.

In addition to Alvarez, the group includes Jorgo Foyo, Rafael Trujillo, Miguel Enciso, Luis Tabio, Fausto Gomez and Humberto Armanda.

They are scheduled to leave Miami Monday. Their families will join them in about a month.

Cubans Go on Hunger Strike

By DUANE JONES
Herald Staff Writer

FORT LAUDERDALE — Thirty-one Cuban rebels held in the county jail started a "hunger strike" Tuesday night in protest against what they called "exorbitant bail bonds."

Sheriff J. A. Lloyd said he was told the strike would continue until federal authorities reduced the prisoners' bonds from \$5,000 to \$3,000.

"It's out of our hands," Lloyd added. "We couldn't help them if we wanted to."

An unidentified spokesman for the rebels told of the strike plan in a letter forwarded to Lloyd earlier in the day.

It read:

"Dear Mr. Sheriff,

"We have taken the determination of appealing to a hunger strike as a means to getting a substantial reduction of the bond imposed by the federal authorities.

"We want to make it clear that this hunger strike is not intended and is not against any particular procedures of the Broward jail authorities, which we consider are very satisfactory.

"The Cuban Prisoners."

Lloyd said he received the letter after the prisoners consulted with their attorney Tuesday morning. The sheriff thought the attorney suggested the strike.

Jailers said the prisoners, accused of violating the Neutrality Act, refused the evening meal "without making a scene."

"We served it and they turned their backs," one added. The meal included mashed potatoes, liver, green beans, bread and dessert.

The U. S. Commissioner set the bond high last week at the request of the U. S. attorney who said some Cuban rebels in other cases had failed to show up for trial.

Cuba

Castro Sees Sweeping Win In Full-Scale Cuban War

HAVANA, Cuba —(AP)— Fidel Castro declared Wednesday his rebels will open up a "total war" throughout Cuba within six months to overthrow President Fulgencio Batista.

"Within six months we will open fronts in all parts of the island," he said in a radio statement. "Our troops will advance on all points of Cuban territory from east to west and will crush the dictator's army."

He claimed the rebels had inflicted crushing defeats on Batista forces during their recent offensive in eastern Cuba.

Since the government announced a drive against the rebel strong points in July both sides have made frequent claims of victories.

Castro urged young officers and soldiers of Batista's army

to join the rebels and asked the Cuban people to support the rebellion.

Castro said that if a military coup unseats Batista, it must be led "by clean elements with democratic ideals, not by the unscrupulous military opportunists" he claimed are leading Batista's army now.

The rebel leader said he would recognize a coup against Batista only if it met these conditions:

Arrest of Batista and political leaders collaborating with him; arrest of "all military officers guilty of crimes, torture

and robbery delivery of executive power to a provisional president to be named by the revolutionary movement, and reorganization of the army.

News 7/10/58

Rebels Pick Next Cuba 'President'

The Cuban Civic Revolutionary Front, a union of political parties and organizations seeking to overthrow President Fulgencio Batista yesterday agreed on the nomination of Judge Manuel Urrutia as head of a de facto government if and when Batista is ousted.

Agreement on the 57-year-old jurist, now living in self-imposed exile in New York, was reached here at an informal meeting of all representatives of the Front.

Proposed By Castro

Judge Urrutia first was proposed as a provisional president by rebel chieftain Fidel Castro last December, shortly after the judge left Santiago, Cuba, for the United States. Judge Urrutia said he and his family fled because their lives had been threatened.

The only revolutionary group to vote against Urrutia was the Directorio Revolucionario. The three representatives from that group attending the meeting — Dr. Enrique Rodriguez Loeche, Dr. Primitivo Lima and Jose Naranjo — explained that their organization had nothing against Urrutia but that they preferred a man who had a revolutionary background.

Judge Urrutia first gained popularity among the rebels when he refused to pass sentence on revolutionists brought before him. He said they were acting on patriotic principles.

The manner in which Castro first advanced Judge Urrutia's candidacy irritated various elements of the former Cuban Liberation Council, the ill-fated predecessor of the Civic Revolutionary Front.

Still Ponder Type

But reports from representatives of the new unity group indicate that the judge now is considered by all members as the best choice for a neutral provisional leader.

It has been learned that the Front still is considering what type of provisional government should be installed in the event of a successful revolution.

There has been discussion in the meetings here and in Caracas, Venezuela, where the united Front was born, of establishing a civilian council, or junta, to govern Cuba until constitutional elections could be held. Judge Urrutia would head such a junta or council.

It is expected that Judge Urrutia will come to Miami soon for conferences with Front representatives.

To Register With U.S.

Informal gatherings of the Front will continue in Miami this

week. A spokesman for the organization is expected to travel to Washington during the week to register the Front with the Justice Department so it will have legal status.

Two committee chairmen were named at yesterday's meeting. Dr. Manuel Bisbee, head of the Orthodox Party, was named to head public information for the rebels, and Dr. Manuel Antonio de Varona was named chief of public relations.

Ex-Dictator Duped for \$700

Ousted Venezuelan Dictator Marcos Perez Jimenez, who now lives at Miami Beach, gave \$700 to a confidence man believing he was a State Department official who was going to "clear" his name, the FBI said Wednesday.

Only the pessimism of the man, identified as James E. Powell, 42, kept him from getting \$20,000 from the hopeful ex-strongman, the FBI said in Washington.

Powell was jailed under \$11,000 bond. Agents said he posed as Under Secretary of State Robert Murphy to defraud Jimenez.

The FBI said Powell told Jimenez he could clarify his muddled immigration status and combat the unfavorable publicity surrounding him since his fall from power in January.

After obtaining \$700 from the ex-dictator for "messenger service," the FBI said Powell was planning a \$20,000 function aimed at putting Jimenez back in a favorable light.

But then Powell, described as having a 2½-page criminal record, tipped the Venezuelan Embassy that Jimenez was planning a coup to regain power. Powell apparently thought the \$20,000 would never be forthcoming.

Actually, the FBI said, an aide was en route from Miami with the money and Jimenez himself was set to fly to Washington.

Jimenez was due in Washington July 4, but mysteriously called off his announced visit.

The FBI also said that Powell recently seized an arms shipment in a Florida warehouse while posing as a customs officer. The FBI said he was trapped by real customs officers while negotiating with Cuban rebel representatives for the resale to them of their own weapons.

Herald 7/17/58

30 Jailed For Arms Smuggling

Thirty Cuban rebel sympathizers who tried to take a boatload of arms from Dania to Rebel Chieftain Fidel Castro were sentenced to 60 days in jail and fined \$200 each Wednesday.

Federal Judge Emmett C. Choate handed down the sentence after the men pleaded guilty to a charge of illegal exportation of arms. He allowed them credit for five weeks time already spent in jail since their arrest last month.

Assistant U. S. Attorney O. B. Cline said he was "disappointed" because the sentence was not stiffer.

The government had successfully fought for \$5,000 bonds on each man — highest set so far in a wave of Cuban revolutionary activity in South Florida.

When Border Patrol inspectors and customs agents came on the band of rebels aboard the 60-foot yacht, Harpoon, in the Intracoastal Waterway, they refused at first to surrender, tried to ground the boat as it moved down the waterway, attempted to open fire on the agents, and threatened to blow up the vessel.

The smuggling attempt was termed by agents as the most explosive situation they had encountered since gunrunning activities broke out in Florida.

One rebel took aim at Border Patrol Inspector Ray Bond with a machinegun, but the gun jammed. The magazine had been inserted backward.

The yacht was loaded with thousands of rounds of ammunition, rifles, antitank guns, machineguns, ~~hand~~ grenades, food and medical supplies.

Herald
10/16/58

Miami Adventurer Seized With Arms

Oct. '58

By **GEORGE SOUTHWORTH**
Herald Latin America Editor

Charles Hormel, Miami soldier of fortune, does not belong to the meat-packing family and he doesn't fare too well at packing off guns for the Cuban rebels.

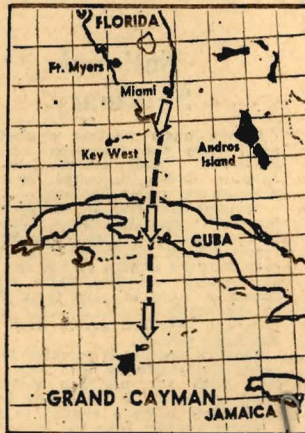
They have caught him again. This time on a Jamaican island 100 miles south of Cuba. There were a couple of guys with him in a plane loaded with arms and ammunition.

Charles E. Wyatt, supervising customs agent in Miami, said Thursday he has received information that Hormel and the planeload of arms landed on Grand Cayman Island, about 100 miles west of Jamaica.

"I have sent one of our Miami agents, Wallace Shanley, down there to investigate the **HORMEL** case," Wyatt said. "We believe that this plane took off from the Greater Miami area in violation of U. S. neutrality laws."

Hormel, who lives at 7850 SW 23rd St., has been convicted and sent to prison in five different states for robbery, auto theft, narcotics and other violations.

He is married to a Cuban

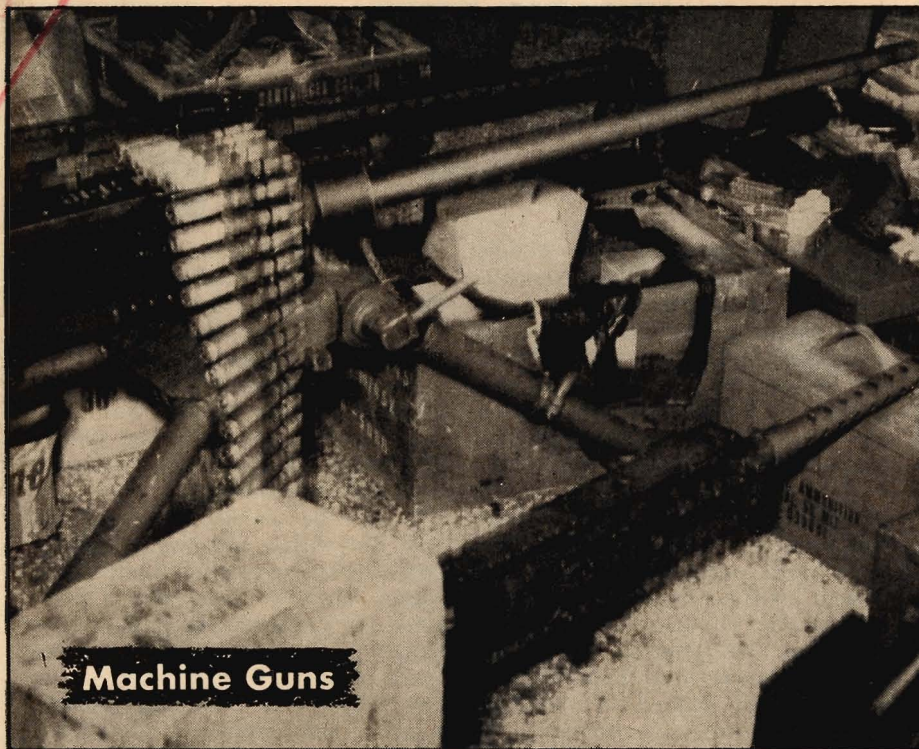


Smuggler's Route

whose brother, Jorge Triana, is a former Cuban air force flier now in trouble with U. S. authorities for illegal entry into this country after an alleged gunrunning trip to his homeland.

Hormel rented a plane here that crashed in Cuba on Aug. 16 with a load of guns and ammunition that were confiscated by the Cuban government. The U. S. government charged him with illegally exporting munitions. He is free on \$2,500 bond on that charge.

Deliciously prepared dinner of Pig's Knuckles & Sauerkraut \$1.25—San Regis Rest. & Bar—6815 Bisc. Blvd. —Adv.



Machine Guns



Hand Grenades

UPI

... for smuggling to the Caribbean's rebels are seized by U.S. Customs authorities at Miami Airport

... The Shady Business on a Sunny Strip of Florida

ment of Americans in Haiti's swiftly-crushed revolt:

► Customs officials swarmed aboard a plane at the Miami International Airport, found it loaded with \$25,000 worth of machine guns, rifles, explosives, and ammunition—evidently intended for the Dominican Republic in a plot to overthrow dictator Rafael Trujillo.

► Exiles from Cuba—leaders and members of the seven or eight different parties opposed to President Fulgencio Batista—prepared to hold a unity meeting in Miami. Out of this, they hoped to launch a new drive to overthrow the Cuban dictator.

► In a Miami Beach home said to be worth a walloping \$400,000, Venezuela's exiled dictator, Marcos Pérez Jiménez, dwelt in guarded seclusion. Miami authorities had pinned nothing on him. But the new regime in Caracas was accusing him of using his asylum in the U.S. to plot his return to power.

Just how many political refugees are operating in Dade County can only be guessed at. The Immigration Service says there are no more than a few hundred. Popular estimates run into the thousands. Whatever their numbers, a core of hot-eyed revolutionaries in the area is busy smuggling guns, plotting revenge, and planning expeditionary forces.

Although most Americans in Dade County have little or no contact with the revolutionaries, there are dangerous

possibilities. Caches of munitions and arms are turned up periodically in quiet residential neighborhoods or among the pleasure domes of the beach. Last spring, the police found rebels loading hand grenades in a fancy waterfront motel. A recent fire in a downtown Miami apartment house was ignited by homemade phosphorus bombs bound for Cuba. Enough arms to start a small civil war have been found in trucks rumbling through the city streets.

Rebels Go Away: "The average citizen in Dade County," says Sgt. W.D. McKee of the Public Safety Department's Intelligence Squad, "doesn't have the slightest concept of the danger... due to revolutionary activity here. It's just possible for a tourist to move right into a revolutionary group."

And Sheriff Thomas J. Kelly, Dade County Public Safety director, sighs: "I wish they'd take their stockpiles of machine guns, dynamite, and bombs out of Florida. We are very upset. It takes up so much of our time—ten, twelve, or fifteen men, night and day for the last six or eight months."

Sheriff Kelly had other reasons for worry. At least six of his 400 deputies had been involved in last week's tragicomic expeditionary foray into Haiti. But of the five Americans killed when the uprising was crushed, four were listed by Haitian authorities as former Dade County deputies. The whole epi-

sode was a severe blow to Kelly's Public Safety Department.

But such active American involvement has been rare. The role in which Americans mainly figure is that of purveyor of arms to the various revolutionary groups. For machine guns and cannon, the plotters must turn to weapons brokers, who deal in Army surplus.

At the end of World War II, the Army disposed of huge quantities of machine guns, artillery, vehicles, and even tanks, as scrap. The weapons were stripped and supposedly made useless for warfare. But it was a relatively simple matter for armaments experts to put them back into fighting trim. This was the matériel the brokers had to offer—and some of them even distributed circulars among revolutionary groups listing the available wares.

Contraband: One broker, who wrote from a Wall Street address, advised an agent in Miami some months ago that he could arrange for the sale of 90 Sherman M-4 tanks "immediately deliverable anywhere in Latin America" at \$47,500 each. Each tank, he wrote, had three 30-caliber machine guns and one of 50-caliber, and could also be equipped with 75-mm. cannon. This particular deal fell through, but the broker's letter fell into the hands of NEWSWEEK's Miami correspondent, Bert Collier, who quoted it in The Miami Herald. Attached to the letter, Collier

CUBAN
REVOLT

8/11/58



Rifles

Associated Press

Arms from secret arsenals . . .

Gunrunning . . .

Revolt swiftly flared—and was swiftly smothered—in Haiti last week. It was born, the Haitian Government charged, in Florida's Dade County.

No one disputed the Haitian claim. The fact was that conspiracies aimed at other Latin American regimes also had started in Dade.

In the following special report, NEWSWEEK's Chief Southern correspondent, William A. Emerson, examines the upsurge of revolutionary activity in and around Miami, and the area's booming business—gunrunning.

It's busy, sunny, carefree—it's Dade County. Along the sea rises the glistening façade of alabaster and neon that is Miami Beach. Across the causeways, Miami's skyline sparkles in the sun. But beneath the gay and the grand, dark threads of intrigue run through the city, the beach, and many municipalities that lie within Dade's borders. Dade has become the underground capital-in-exile for the plotters of revolution in the Caribbean and throughout Latin America.

Gunrunning is big business—nothing like the tourist trade, of course, but big. In the past few years, a quarter of a million dollars' worth of arms and munitions, bound for trouble spots, has been confiscated by the U.S. Customs alone. Presumably that is only a fraction of the weapons that go through.

Last week, in addition to the involve-

The Miami Herald

Tuesday, November 11, 1958

No. 344

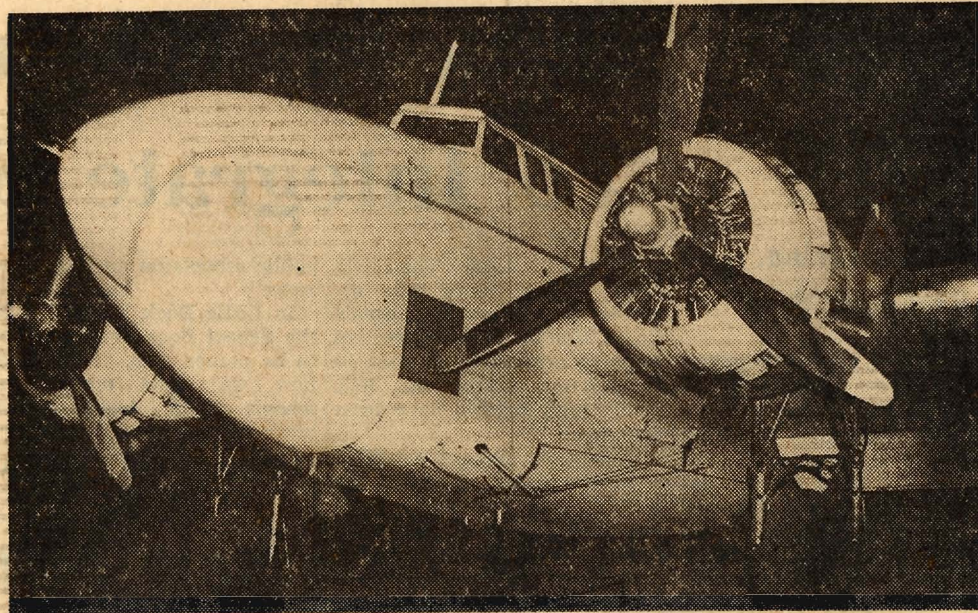
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—Herald Photo by Mel Kenyon

This Obsolete Bomber, a B-18, Was Loaded With Arms For 'Fidel'
... plane was spotted by resident near airport when it landed



—Herald Photo by Gene Hyde

Cuban Women Prisoners Ushered Through Door at Broward Jail
... white-helmeted officer, gun in holster, looks on at left

Arms-Laden 22 Cuban In Broward

Bullets Rip Tires, Foil Escape

**One Man Dashes
Away on Foot**

By **DUANE JONES**
Herald Staff Writer

FORT LAUDERDALE —

An ancient arms-laden bomber and 22 Cuban rebel sympathizers were seized amid gunfire here Monday night at an abandoned airfield.

One man escaped on foot as federal and local officers machinegunned the tires of an automobile in which five of the men tried to flee. The others surrendered, unhurt.

The capture followed a tip from a householder near the airport—Prospect Field—who saw the plane land about 7 p.m.

U. S. Border Patrol Officer Robert W. Gilbert said the 22 captives—two of them women—were booked on charges of violating the Neutrality Act.

Many of the Cubans gave Miami addresses.

The two women, identified as Gloria Casanas, 26, and Elsa Casanas, 23, gave their address as 427 SW Eighth Ave., Miami.

Several of the men listed a motel-apartment at 2335 Pine Tree Dr., Miami Beach, and another said he was from Coral Gables.

Other names and addresses:

Rodger E. Steadman, 41, 1309 Brickell Ave., Miami; Nelson Figueroa, 31; Perez Juan, 24; Jose Asses, 23; Mario Puente Ferro, 48; Arnaldo R. Garcia, 24; George Garcia, 24; and Mariano Enrique Torres, 17, all of Miami. Pedro Rodriguez, 31; Osuelo Carmona, 35; Juan Gener, 37; Jorge D. Drellezo, 17; Duenas Enzo, 28; and Pedro Avelino, 31, all of Miami Beach.

Arms-Laden Bomber, 22 Cubans Captured In Broward Gunfire

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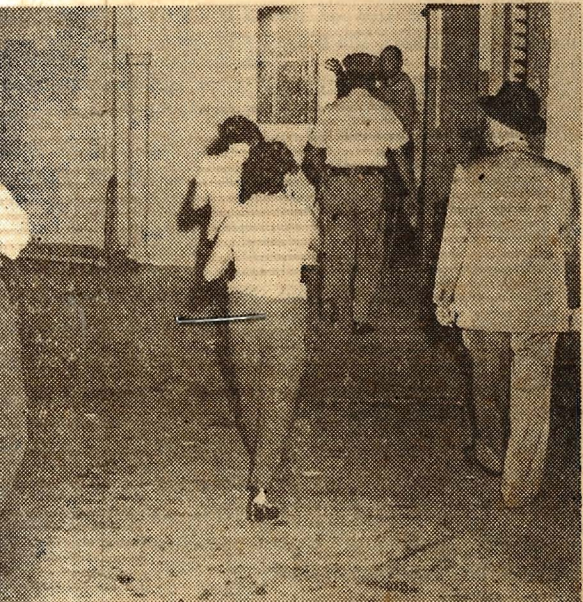
Mike Bisbe, 22, Coral Gables.

by Mel Kenyon
for 'Fidel'
when it landed

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ward Jail
as on at left

—Herald Photo by Mel Kenyon

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Mike Bisbe, 22, Coral Gables.

Rodrigue Ernesto, 27; Juan Figueras, 20; Camilio Martinez, Marcoa Hirigoyen, 34, and B. H. Rinaldo, 25, all of Cuba.

Gilbert said that rifles, sub-machine guns, ammunition and field equipment in packages marked "Fidel" were loaded from 10 automobiles onto the old B18 bomber, which predates World War II.

Cuba's armed rebellion is headed by Fidel Castro, whose headquarters are in the island republic's easternmost Oriente province.

Officers said the plane was almost fully loaded when they swarmed onto the field and made the arrests.

Gilbert said the plane, U. S. registered, was believed to have flown here from Tampa.

It bore the number "N62477." Ownership was not at once determined. Federal officials had been watching the field—now a prospective industrial site—because of previous Cuban rebel activity on this area.

Officers said it would take some time to question and learn the names of the men arrested, since apparently none of them spoke English and no interpreter was at hand.

Gilbert said about 30 of-

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