

Plans to Indict Castro Pushed

Venezuela Calls Landing Proof of Aggression

By CLEM COHEN

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The Caribbean is crackling with a new crisis over what the Venezuelan government calls the landing of a guerrilla force led by Cuban army officers. Two of the officers are prisoners.

The government of President Raul Leoni is pushing ahead with plans to indict Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro on charges of aggression before the Organization of American States and possibly before the United Nations.

This is the first time a South American country has reported capturing Cuban troops on a subversive mission.

CONCRETE PROOF

The Venezuelan government contends it now has indisputable, concrete proof of Cuban intervention in its internal affairs.

An announcement Friday



PRESIDENT RAUL LEONI
To charge Castro aggression before OAS.

by Leoni said Cuban army officers led a group of Cuban-trained Venezuelans ashore at dawn last Monday on a lonely beach 90 miles east of Caracas and near a guerrilla mountain hideout.

Venezuelan army troops killed the Cuban commander of the group, a lieutenant, the announcement said. Another officer drowned but two were captured, Leoni reported.

The two were presented at a news conference in Caracas and admitted leading the guerrillas ashore. They said they were Cubans.

NO OFFICIAL WORD

A Havana dispatch said the Cuban Foreign Ministry reported it had no official word of the landing and capture of the Cubans. A spokesman said he could neither confirm nor deny the Caracas reports on the basis of present information. The Communist party newspaper Granma published a news account of the Venezuelan announcement but did not comment on it.

The reported landing also

caused consternation among some Venezuelan Communists.

A top Communist Saturday called the landing "one more blunder."

The Communist, who asked that his name not be used, said: "Why Castro decided to send them in, I don't know, unless he was trying to get us."

The Venezuelan Communist party came into conflict with Castro when it declared it was abandoning guerrilla tactics in favor of political action. The stand brought criticism from Castro.

The Venezuelan Communist accepted the government's report that the landing was led by Cubans. "We have to suppose it is true," he said. "It's the sort of thing Castro would do."

The same leader two weeks ago told newsmen Castro was suffering from "infantile leftism."

The captured pair gives Venezuela added leverage in its quest for collective sanctions against the Havana regime. It has been seeking support for a collective indictment of Castro by the Latin American nations. It has also lodged complaints with nations trading with Cuba.

The prisoners could even help take the case to the United Nations, where Venezuela would, however, probably not enjoy as wide support as in the Organization of American States.

An almost forgotten clause of an OAS resolution, calling for armed action against Castro's regime if it persists in acts of subversion, takes on new importance.

SECOND TIME

Now, for the second time in less than four years, Venezuela appears to have concrete proof of Castro's intervention.

In November 1963, three tons of weapons were found buried in a lonely Falcon State Beach. An OAS investigating team concluded these weapons were sent from Cuba to disrupt the December presidential elections which brought Leoni to power.

A hemispheric foreign ministers conference accused Cuba of aggression on July 26, 1964. It recommended all hemisphere nations break commercial and

diplomatic ties with Castro. All did except Mexico.

That same conference warned Castro that if the Cuban government persisted in subversive acts, victimized nations could use armed force collectively or individually in order to defend themselves.

"We are not discarding that possibility," a top Venezuelan government official said.

Venezuela is not likely to embark on any military action alone against Cuba. But it is likely that it will seek more than "moral condemnation" of Cuba in the OAS.

"We know one thing, this is not like the weapons accusation," a top Foreign Ministry official said. "It is going to be very hard proving the two Cubans don't exist."