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Exile Band in Oriente Adopting a Castro Tactic

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Cuban exiles have successfully begun imitating Fidel Castro's own tactics of establishing a guerrilla band in the Sierra Maestra mountains to overthrow the government in Havana, sources in Miami and Washington say.

And the guerrilla commander apparently is as elusive as Castro was from the day he landed with 82 men at Playa de las Coloradas, in Oriente Province, on Dec. 2, 1956, until the victory in 1959.

The leader of the anti-Castro guerrillas calls himself Comandante (Major) Yarey.

Yarey is the military commander for RECE (Cuban Exile Representation), one of the largest and most responsible of the Miami-based anti-Castro organizations. Little is known of him, but RECE spokesman Jorge Mas has given this description of Yarey:

30 Years Old

His real name is Amancio Mosqueda. He is 30 years old, slender, about 5 feet 3, a native of Oriente Province and a former lieutenant in the Castro Army. He is thoroughly familiar with the mountainous eastern region of Cuba because he was a farm worker there and later served in the Cuban armed forces in the hills where Castro once roved. He has a wife in Miami.

Mas said Yarey had successfully gone into and out of Cuba several times before reentering recently by small boat with a small group of men to set up a permanent guerrilla front.

A RECE-sponsored armed band which recently landed on the north coast of Oriente Province fought a battle with or was ambushed by Castro military forces. Mas says Yarey had just entered Cuba when the fight occurred, but he did not say whether the guerrilla chief was with the RECE force.

Some sources speculated that Yarey may have duplicated Cas-

tro's approach of landing on the southern coast and heading into the Sierra Maestra to organize and await reinforcements.

New Strategy

But the RECE organization has said he did take part in the battle on the north coast and has escaped into the hills.

U.S. officials say that the United States did not help RECE place a guerrilla force inside Cuba. But they say they believe he is safely in the mountains.

The creation of Yarey's force in Oriente signals a different strategy by the exiles. Evidently they have given up hit-and-run coastal raids and have decided the only way to overthrow the regime is by tactics similar to those used by Castro — winning the confidence of the Oriente peasants.