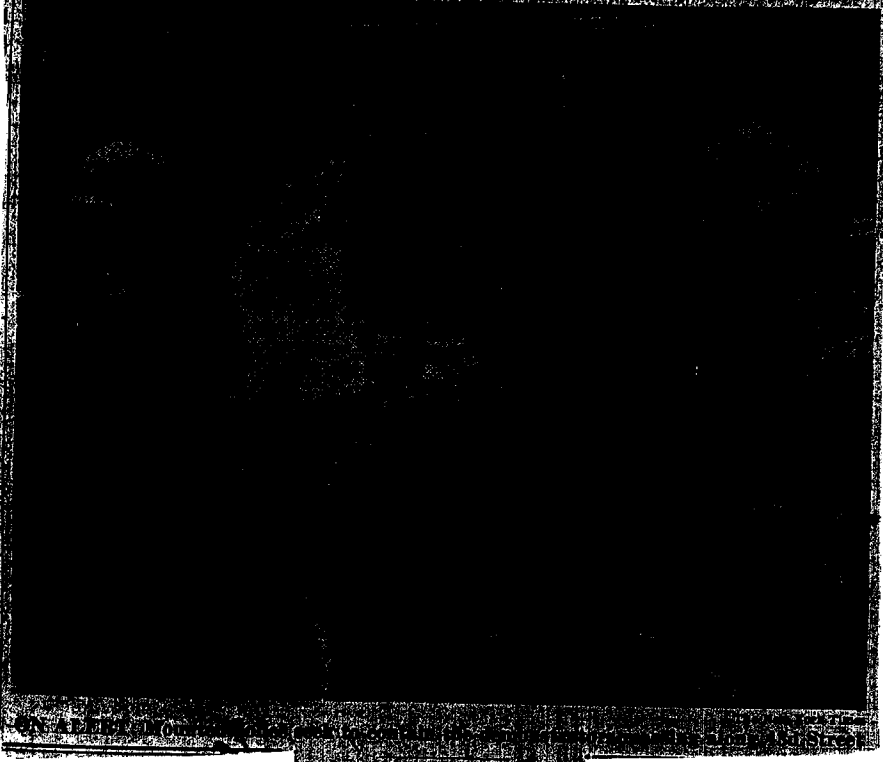


Anti-Castro Crowds Disrupt Times Sq.; Police Escort 1,400 to Safety



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Police Warn to Denounce Groups Protesting Ban on Travel to Cuba

By Frank Ruffalo
Thousands of anti-Castro demonstrators swarmed in and around the Times Square area yesterday protesting a Town Hall rally by American students who had traveled to Cuba.

The rally, from which two groups of anti-Castro demonstrators were forcibly ejected, wound up with the police escorting 1,400 participants in the meeting along 43d Street to the Times Square subway station.

One anti-Castro Cuban was cut above the eye; five persons were arrested in scuffles waged at various points in the area; a police inspector and a newspaper reporter were hit by an egg, and a police horse was gashed when thrust against a car.

Repression Charges
But the meeting, meant to be scheduled from 7:30 to 9:30 P.M. Phillips, a spokesman of the leaders, said the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba would sponsor a group of anti-Castro demonstrators Monday in time to uphold its claim for freedom of travel despite the State Department ban.

The demonstrators, he said, are protesting the ban on travel to Cuba and the ban on travel to Cuba.

The Times Square area has been filled with mass demonstrations. An order of Police Commissioner Michael Murphy since Oct. 21. The ban covers the area between 40th and 50th Streets and Fifth and Ninth Avenues.

But before yesterday's gathering at Town Hall, 135 West 43d Street, between the Avenue of the Americas and Seventh

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Alfred Estrada, assistant secretary general of the exiles Cuban Workers' Democratic Revolutionary Front, estimated that up to 3,000 anti-Castro adherents from many groups had turned out.

They ran into a reminder by Assistant Chief Inspector Anthony S. O'Connell of the anti-picketing ban. But the police official said he would allow 25 pickets on West 43d Street across from Town Hall. He suggested the others might disperse to demonstrate at such areas as the United Nations.

Chief O'Connell reported he had more than 100 policemen on hand by 1 P.M. They included mounted policemen wearing steel helmets. The police screened pedestrians to make sure they had tickets to the rally or business in the block.

Traffic Turned Away

By 1:30 P.M. motor traffic was being turned away by police barricades. Fifty pickets—double the authorized number—were marching across from Town Hall between the Hotel Diplomat and the Henry Miller Theater. Some of their signs said, "America Do Not Believe the Red Liars" and "Dismantle Castro."

The student group was also screening everyone entering Town Hall with its own security force, led by Jacob Rosen, 24 years old, of 836 West 174th Street, who said he has been assisting racial integration efforts in Monroe, N.C.

Mr. Rosen said he had 156 men and women committee members at the doors and in the audience. They inspected pocketbooks and ran their hands over the pockets of those entering to make sure no "Molotov cocktails, stink bombs or weapons of any kind" were being brought in.

Just before the meeting started, Mr. Rosen said he spotted about 30 anti-Castro sympathizers sitting in the back rows of the orchestra section. He said he asked them to leave and offered to refund their money. (Tickets had sold for \$1 and \$2.50 apiece.)

When the anti-Castro group protested, Mr. Rosen's committee members began hauling them out. In a melee, Rafael Alvarez, 28, of 164 State Street, Brooklyn, a member of the anti-Castro Revolutionary Recovery Movement, was struck above the right eye. Blood streamed over his face, and four stitches were taken later at St. Clare's Hospital to close the wound.

Balcony Group Ousted

A few minutes later, Mr. Rosen's forces sought to eject from the balcony a group of members of the anti-Castro Cuban Student Directorate. Jose Antonio Lanuza, Miami chief of information for the group, asserted that 80 members had bought tickets at \$1 apiece but intended no disturbance.

"I'll give you three minutes to get out," Mr. Rosen said later he had told them, when the group became boisterous. The anti-Castro students started singing the Cuban National Anthem and then poured down the stairs and out into the street, with their secretary general, Luis Fernandez Rocha, instructing his members to refrain from any disorder.

Corliss Lamont, writer and lecturer, served as chairman of the meeting after Carleton Beals, another writer, had asserted that announcements that he would take part were unauthorized. Mr. Lynn, a lawyer,

acted as panel moderator after I. F. Stone, another writer, had withdrawn from the program.

Student speakers in a panel session included Mr. Luce, assistant editor of a monthly put out by the "Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, Levi Laub and Steve Martinot, organizers of a Progressive Labor Movement club at Columbia University last year; Albert L. Maher, bearded former Harvard student and cowboy whose father John F. Maher is a wealthy Houston industrialist; John Wayne Thomas, of Oakland, Calif., and Martin A. Nicolaus of Fontana, Wis.

Other speakers included James Higgins, assistant editor of The York (Pa.) Gazette and Daily who helped take up a collection for the students' legal defense fund; and the family of one traveler who died in Cuba. Others were Maxwell Geismar and Truman Nelson, authors.

See No Laws Broken

Mr. Luce declared that they have broken no law, because there is no law against travel to Cuba—only public regulations and notices.

Mr. Thomas said Premier Castro had ruled that "anyone who discriminates against any man is a counter-revolutionary and can be shot."

Mr. Laub said Cuba had "wonderfully honest leadership" but a "serious problem of bureaucracy." Mr. Martinot described Cuba's single-party system as "eliminating egotism which arises from the competitive system." Mr. Nicolaus asserted "the vast majority of the Cuban people backed Fidel Castro and the Socialist revolution."

While Mr. Maher was talking about folk culture in Cuba, a man dashed up on the stage to demand, "What about freedom to go out of the country?" Two guards hustled him away. Mr. Maher replied that "on the plane to Madrid a number of Cubans were leaving" and that when transportation became available, he was sure anybody who wished to leave would be able to.

A heckler shouted from the balcony in Spanish and was also hastily ejected.

The rally was to end at 4 P.M., with the last part of the program consisting of written questions from the audience. But Mr. Rosen and other group leaders became worried about the signatures of the group and after vainly trying to charter a fleet of buses or taxis arranged with the police for a guarded exodus to the subway.

At 4:28 P.M. Mr. Lamont interrupted to announce this move to the crowd. Ten minutes later, Mr. Rosen went to the stage to appeal to everyone to file out together, promising police and security guard protection.

Outside, mounted policemen and more than 100 dismounted but blue-helmeted policemen formed in rows to guard the crowd. Chief O'Connell said later he had sent for 75 extra motorcycle men at 2:45 P.M.

By the hundreds, anti-Castro demonstrators were being

walled off by the police at 44th Street across the traffic island at Broadway and 42d Street, and another at 27th Street with two blocks of traffic barred to the west.

Amid demonstrations from the anti-Castro protesters, the cops, blue helmets, made their way down Broadway to the New York City information center to the IRT and BMT subway lines.

George Calvo, a 33-year-old Sunnyside, Queens, member of the Cuban Student Directorate, perched on the shoulders of other anti-Castro demonstrators and through a microphone shouted to the police:

"American people, especially New York police, we think you have a right to tell your government what you think. . . . We would like to see the day



POLICE ESCORT: Audience leaving Town Hall after the rally moves through the subway station

you Americans and we Cubans are fighting shoulder against the Communist enemy. We don't want to fight you, your horses, American people."

On 4th Street, individuals have implored policemen to just get one or two. An Extremist William T. 25 of the Tactical Patrol reported two anti-Castro conspirators swung at him injured his finger at Broa and 4th Street.

The two were arrested booked as Andre Mondro a painter, of 600 West Street, and Roberto Villat a bus boy, of 322 West Street. They were charged felonious assault, disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Earlier, the police had

