Anti-Castro Militant to Be Held During Appeal of Deportation

Associated Press

MIAMI, Nov. 8—A federal judge today denied a petition to free anti-Castro militant Orlando Bosch, whom the Justice Department seeks to deport as "Miami's No. 1 terrorist."

But U.S. District Judge William M. Hoeveler ordered that Bosch not be expelled while his attorneys exhaust their appeals of the extradition order, made by the Justice Department in June.

Bosch, considered by some exiles a hero of the anti-Castro struggle, has been held at the federal Metropolitan Correctional Center south of Miami since February 1988 when he returned to the United States from Venezuela. Bosch, who was convicted of a 1968 bazooka attack on a Polish ship in Miami, fled the United States while on probation. He was later jailed for 11 years in Venezuela for the bombing of a Cuban airliner which killed 73 people but was never convicted.

According to Central Intelligence Agency documents released by the Justice Department, the 62-year-old Cuban doctor ran successful bombing raids in Cuba in the early 1960s. U.S. intelligence reports have linked Bosch to terrorist bombings throughout the U.S. and Latin America into the 1970s.

But his attorneys say Bosch now repudiates violence, and his family believes he will be killed if deported.