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Disunity Afflicts Anti-Castro Groups

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MIAMI, Fla. — Cuban counter-revolution has fallen on bad times.

Twenty or more militant organizations once plotted the overthrow of Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro in smoky meeting halls in Miami's "Little Havana" district. Now, 13 years later, there are only about half a dozen active groups, and some of these are "revolutionary" in name only.

One exists only as a nameplate on a battered, unpainted door at the top of a steep flight of rickety stairs over a restaurant; another only on a calling card in the wallet of its portly "director-general," the organization's only member.

Besides Castro's endurance, the exile cause has been further demoralized by conflicts, jealousies and rivalries among the leaders of its few active groups. Disunity has never been more pronounced than it is now, with growing divisions among its frustrated leaders as they jockey for favor among Miami's 300,000 refugees.

Sporadic hit-and-run attacks are still being carried out against the island, but on a diminishing scale and on one which appears to yield even less results than in the past. Political observers note that Castro gains substantial propaganda value from commando

raids by depicting them as coming from the powerful United States against his small, defenseless country.

One newly-formed organization is being widely accused of perpetrating a gigantic hoax by claiming a fictitious "Cuban incursion," faking injuries to its participants and falsifying "on-the-scene" photos.

The leader of the expedition, former Cuban Supreme Court Justice Francisco Alabau Trelles, has threatened to sue his critics.

The latest documented attack against the Communist island was carried out by members of a movement headed by a Cuban-born American citizen, Jose Elias de la Torre.

Torre, a 68-year-old semi-retired businessman, claimed that his Cuban Forces of Liberation had made a landing at the Port of Sama, on the north coast of Oriente Province, and destroyed a power station and other "strategic installations," while killing and wounding a number of Castro's soldiers.

Cuban radio acknowledged the Oct. 12 attack but said no landing had taken place and that the American-backed "mercenaries" had killed only two soldiers and wounded four villagers in what it described as a strafing raid from two boats.