Returning to Canada tonight ... The Landon Evening face Press (London, Out)

# Ex-area man, 26 on desperate raid over Haiti palace

The Canadian crewman

aboard a plane that bombed the Haitian president's palace Wednesday with barrels of gasoline will fly into Toronto tonight to meet his London parents. tion landed there after the

Canadian authorities today to be flown back to Canada. Seven Americans and two Hai-tians were also reported aboard the plane when it land-

William Dempsey, who grew up in Stratford, was arrested seven years ago in Key West, Fla., and charged with conspiring to invade Cuba. His parents moved to London a

Officials at Freeport said the aircraft was heavily

"If I had been the pilot, I would have been very fright-ened," said a spokesman at the U.S. missile tracking base on Grand Bahama Island where the plane landed after the raid.

were two bullet holes very near his seat," the, spokesman said. "They could have missed him only by inch-

port aimost out of fuel after six gasoline drums with burning fuses were dropped in the area of Haitian President Francois Duvalier's palace in Port au Prince. The Haitian government said only que exploded.

Ten men, in flying suits, left the plane immediately after landing and took taxis to Freeport. When the condition of the aircraft was noted, police were notified and all were

Seven Americans, the Canadian and two Haitians were reported in the group. were flown to Miami Friday night and jailed. Six others were turned over to U.S. authorities in Miami on Satur-

(William Dempsey) 26, son of : raid, riddled with bullet holes. Mr. and Mrs. John H. Demp-He was to be turned over to

couple of years ago.

scarred by rifle and anti-air-craft fire after the raid.

"There

The plane arrived at Free-

arrested by Bahamian police.

It was reported Dempsey spent 11 days in a Miami jail earlier this year for guerrilla activities:

The Hamilton Spectator says he was first arrested in Florida in March after a fatal shooting of Haitian exile Ger-ard D. Baker while on guar-rilla training manoeuvres 50 miles into the Everglades swamp.

Found in the plane's cargo compartment were eight rifles, two sub-machine-guns, automatic revolvers and hand grenades.

The superstructure of the plane was riddled with holes and there were flak holes in the undercarriage. It was de-scribed as a "very, very old" Lockheed Constellation, stripped down and with all seats removed.

Held in Miami were Rene J Leon) former Haitian army colonel; Charles Smith 29, and Howard Kenneth Davis 38. They were jailed on orders from customs and immigration officials.

Officials said two of the six brought to Miami Saturday were James Carlin and Martin Casey) They provided only last names on the other four: Ounbach Simpson Edsens and Kolby Leon, 45, is under appeal bond from his conviction for a

bond from his conviction for a 1967 Haiti invasion effort from

the Florida Keys. Leon and Smith were picked up last March at a training camp hidden in the Florida Everglades but were

A source close to the raiders said the plane left from Mi-

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WILLIAM DEMPSEY with tropical "pet"

# Bomber comes home

FREE PRESS (LONDE J. CISTARIO) 10 JUNE 1969

Londoner back after raid on Haiti

By GENE FLORCYK of The Free Press

William Dempsey 26, the Canadian aboard a plane that bombed the Haitian presiden-tial palace last Wednesday with barrels of gasoline, arrived home in London Monday night 'with seven days' dirt

Dempsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Dempsey, 103
Biscay Rd., landed earlier
Monday night at Toronto International Airport and brushed aside reporters with two words — "Beat it."

However, after a two-hour-plus drive with his parents. from the airport to London, he appeared very relaxed, although tired. He carried no baggage.

"I'm not aware of any charges," he said when asked of his future as far as the law is concerned."

"I just got a plane and came home," he said.

He said he was not under arrest in Freeport, Bahamas, where he and nine other men landed aboard a converted Lockheed Constellation after the raid Wednesday.

"I was being detained," he said with a smile and added, "The British have a nice way

of detaining."
They (the British) did help me, though," he said, without elaborating.

Of the fate of his accom-plices, he said: "They just took them three at a time and flew them back to Miami. I don't know what happened to them.

Of his future, he said he has no plans at the present time. "I've got seven days' dirt.on me, and if you can't see it you must certainly be able to smell me."

Looking tanned and fit and wearing a sport shirt and other casual clothes, he was whisked through customs on

his arrival in Toronto.
On his arrival at his parents' home, he refusd to talk about the raid or any aspects of it.

The raiders' plane arrived at Freeport, almost out of fuel after six gasoline drums with burning fuses were dropped in the area of Haitian President Francois Duvalier's palace in Port au Prince. The Haitian

government said only one exploded.

Ten men in flying suits left the plane immediately after landing and took taxis into Freeport. When the condition of the aircraft was noted, police were notified and all were taken into custody by Baham-

Dempsey, who grew up in Stratford, was arrested seven years ago in key West, Fla., and charged with conspiring to invade Cuba.

His family moved to London a couple of years ago. Demp-sey said Monday night he has been away from London only since May.



- By Dick Wallace of The Free Press William Dempsey arrives home in London Monday night after being turned over to Canadian authorities for taking part in a bombing raid on the Haitian president's palace last Wednesday.

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In Miami, United States authorities charged eight of themen Monday with conspiring to launch a military expedition against a friendly coun-

Two, Rene J. Leon, 45, of Haiti and an American, Mar-tin Casey, were arrested while out on appeal and growing out of an earlier attempt to invade Haiti.

Bonds of \$50,000 each were ordered for Leon, Casey and Gerald Smith, 29, an Ameri-can charged by the U.S. Marine Corps as a deserter.

U.S. Commissioner Edward Swan set bonds of \$10,000 each for Lawrence Carlin, Howard K. Davis and Ralph G. Edens and released two others, William Eugene Dernbach and Edmund Kolby, on \$25,000 re- . cognizance bonds. Davis later posted his bond.

It was Carlin, said U.S. At-lorney Ted Bates, who piloted

red-striped, four-year-old Constellation on the bombing

\* Another man, George Simpson, has been released without charge.

Swan scheduled preliminary hearings for June 19 for the eight charged Monday.

Dempsey said he "scriously doubted" that similar charges would be laid against him, since he was now on Canadian soil.

"They were flown to Miami by the Bahamian authorities," he explained. "I didn't fly to Miami. I flew directly to Canada. I think I would have to be on American soil for them to put a legitimate hold on me."

He refused to reveal details on the events of the past week, commenting only that "it is a political matter, as much as they try to make it a criminal offence."

"I won't be able to say anything until I see where my friends stand, and at the moment I don't know where they stand," he said.

He said his future is uncertain. "I'll try to get myself a job, I guess." He would not say what his occupation was . while in the United States.

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