

This could destroy Castro ???? Migawd !!

Cuban Cigar Men Turn a New

Tegucigalpa, Honduras, May 27 (Copley)—Cuban Communists may yet regret methodical terrorism that has sent thousands of skilled and talented men into exile.)

Cubans in various parts of the Americas are engaged in production that must be cutting into sales of products manufactured in Cuba.

(One such expatriate is Gaudencio Castro, Cuban lawyer-businessman who is making what he calls a 100% Cuban cigar in Honduras. The cigars, known as Danlys, are sold throughout Central America and the United States.

Danlys are made of Cuban tobacco grown from seed smuggled out of Cuba in 1961 and 1962 by diplomatic pouch.)

80% Goes to U. S.

Eighty percent of current production, estimated at 1.8 million cigars a year and valued at \$350,-

000, is scheduled for export by air to the United States. The remainder will go to Puerto Rico, Belice, Panama and the five Central American republics.

"We're still only partially developed," said Castro, who promoted the Honduran cigar venture in 1964 and 1965 with the help of local capital.

"Next year, we hope to increase production to 3 million cigars with an approximate value of \$450,000, and then go to about 5 million, where we'll probably level off."

Castro praised the skill of the 125 Honduran workers his modern plant on the outskirts of this mountain-ringed Central American capital. Danlys, he said, is by any consideration "an excellent cigar."

(He rolled a thick, coffee-colored cigar lightly between his fingers and said admiringly: "Look at that rounded tip. They

didn't make them any better in Cuba.

Now a U. S. citizen who calls Miami, Fla., his home, Castro also is treasurer of a recently inaugurated \$1.2 million tannery in San Pedro Sula, Honduras' No. 2 city and industrial hub.

Construction Executive

He also is vice president of the international division of the Augusto Menendez Construction Corp. of San Juan, Puerto Rico, which is contracted to improve and pave a section of the Tegucigalpa-San Pedro Sula highway.

(With the help of two Cuban

Leaf in Exile

technicians, both experienced tobacco men recruited in Miami, Castro trained raw Honduran workers in the intricacies of rolling, cutting and selecting tobacco for several months before the plant started production in July, 1966.

"We spent a lot of time and money in the training," he said, evidently pleased with the results.

Array of Cigars

The Danlys plant is currently producing 22 vitolas, or cigars of different shapes and sizes, of green and brown leaf. With the

exception of the two smaller sizes, all are long filler and hand-made.

Largest is the imposing 8-inch Presidente which sells for \$1 in the U. S., followed by the 7-inch Churchill which sells for 90 cents, and, successively, by Seleccion No. 1, Fancy Tale, both fine and extra, Palma Fina, Cazadores and others.

Only the small, inexpensive Puritos and Cetros are machine-made for sale in certain areas of Central America.

The cigars are packed and shipped in cedar wood boxes, produced in abundance in Honduras and — in Castro's words — "the only wood that is good for the cigar."