

Refugee Cubans Arrive Penniless

KEY WEST, Oct. 15 (AP) — They come from all walks of life, the old and the young, the healthy and the ill, but refugees from Fidel Castro's Cuba all have one thing in common — they are virtually penniless.

They have left their money, homes and personal belongings, stores and farms behind, confiscated by the Cuban government as part of the price of leaving to go to the United States.

But the 87 men, 74 women and 55 children who have arrived at Key West so far under Castro's new migration plan appear cheerful despite their losses.

"Business is good for Castro," said Rosendo Fernandez, a former sundries store owner and one of 11 refugees arriving this morning. "He is reaping a

good harvest of our belongings, taking from those who leave."

After crossing the Florida straits in small boats, the refugees are taken to Miami where they receive aid from the Government's Cuban Refugee Center—\$60 a month for individuals, up to \$100 for families.

The United States has given more than \$200 million in aid to an estimated 300,000 refugees since Castro came to power seven years ago.

The new refugees have ranged from babes in arms to an 82-year-old woman, but missing have been males from 14 to 27, held back to do military service.

An exception was a 27-year-old farm worker from Las Villas Province who said, "I told

them I was 28 and got by with it."

(In Washington, the State Department said the United States sent Cuba a second note aimed at setting up orderly procedures for bringing refugees into the United States. A spokesman voiced the hope that detailed negotiations on the refugees could begin promptly after Havana's reply to the second note.)