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Exile Stir

Hints Cuba Invasion

By **Barnard L. Collier**

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Invasion fever has again struck Fidel Castro & Co.—harder in the past few weeks than at any time since before the Oct. 1962 missile crisis.

The busy exile grapevine in Miami is afire with rumors. Cubans with military backgrounds are suddenly gone without trace in the city. In the past three weeks impressively large sums of money have suddenly begun circulating among exile leaders and groups.

From Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras come reports of stepped-up exile activity in training camps, although Costa Rica's Public Safety Minister Fernando Goicoachea Saturday denied that Cubans were carrying out any assault training in his country.

Havana Radio seldom lets a day go by without warning that U.S. planes and ships poised in Florida and the Caribbean are "ready for an aggressive attack" or that exile "worms" are prepared to invade.

In Washington, the experts express guarded surprise over Premier Castro's acute case of the jitters and say that they fail to see any apparent cause for all the fuss.

One of the things that is bothering Premier Castro, agree sources here, is the promise by anti-Castro leader Manuel Ray that he will be fighting inside Cuba by May 20. Ray, leader of the Revolutionary Junta (Jure) is an expert in guerrilla tactics—especially sabotage and ambush attacks. His landing, if successful, is expected to cause Castro grave internal problems in both military counteraction and public morale.

"Most of the guerrilla raids of the past have been merely pinpricks," said one expert here, "but if Ray lasts six weeks he'll become a major problem for Fidel. The internal difficulties facing the Castro regime are growing so rapidly that Ray could touch off an explosion."