

CIA Blamed For Attack

OCT 9/17/64

HAVANA (UPI) — Premier Fidel Castro charged Thursday that the United States attacked the Spanish freighter Sierra de Aranzazu as an "act of revenge" because Spain trades with Cuba.

The Aranzazu was machine-gunned in the Caribbean Sunday night by two unidentified motor launches. Three of the ship's officers were killed and 8 others among its crew of 20 were wounded.

Threats Made

A Cuban refugee organization announced in Miami Tuesday that its men shot up the Spanish freighter as the first of a series of "attacks without warning on any ship, regardless of nationality, which trades with Cuba."

Castro told newsmen at a Mexican Embassy reception that survivors of the attack said the launches were of a type usually carried by a mother ship like those of which he said "the (U. S.) Central Intelligence Agency has many around Cuba."

CIA Help Claimed

The bearded premier said the attack must have been launched from a Caribbean base operated by the CIA.

"Exile groups by themselves couldn't organize such a raid," he said.