

Raul Castro Says Cuban Boat Sunk

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HAVANA (UPI) — Raul Castro, armed forces minister and vice premier, said Sunday a government fishing boat was attacked by grenades and sunk by "pirate raiders," presumably Cuban exiles, on June 6.

Addressing a Communist youth rally in a post-midnight speech, he said the "pirate" launch attacked the fishing boat about seven miles north of Blanquizar Key off the north coast of Las Villas province.

He said the attackers shot up the fishing boat with rifles and machineguns, wounding two of the three fishermen, then tossed hand grenades into the boat, sinking it.

The three fishermen saved themselves by climbing astride a cork icebox and fashioning crude oars from the wreckage. They stayed afloat 48 hours before another fishing boat rescued them, he said.

In his speech, Raul Castro praised 75 visiting Americans for "defying the reactionary current of their government to come here."

Ed Lemansky, 23, New York, a self-styled Communist and the leader of the American group, complained Sunday of the "stupid ques-

tions" put to him by an American radio-television network in a taped telephone interview.

Lemansky told the government newspaper El Mundo the interviewer asked him why the group left the United States "surreptitiously" and came to Cuba via Prague.

"Can it be possible those people think they are informing the American people well?" he asked.

Lemansky said he told the interviewer 10 Communists are in the group. Sixty-four were affiliated with various American political parties.