



ANTONIO VECIANA
A belief in democracy

Cuban Exiles' 'Plan Omega'

A Cuban uprising within 90 days was confidently announced here yesterday by the visiting chief of Alpha 66, an ambitious organization of refugee raiders.

He called it Plan Omega, final stage of a campaign which began with commando-style coastal raids two years ago.

Unlike many other invasions and uprisings predicted since Fidel Castro took power in Cuba, Plan Omega isn't expected to result in victory for the exiles in a matter of days, or weeks,

or months.

"It may take years," explained Antonio Veciana, 35, a former Havana accountant who fled Cuba in 1961. "It will take a lot of money."

Veciana, who founded Alpha 66 after the Bay of Pigs invasion ended in utter defeat, expressed bitterness at lack of support from the United States government.

"We are guests in your country," he said. "We in Cuba have always been close. We didn't even know the word 'gringo' until we came here.

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"But why do you spend millions and millions of dollars in South Vietnam, thousands of miles away, and then do nothing about Cuba, which is 90 miles from your coast?"

Veciana, who has moved his headquarters from Puerto Rico to Miami, was scheduled to appear at a rally of Cuban exiles and their supporters at a Guerrero Street residence last night. A rally is scheduled today in Healdsburg, Gomez said.

"We don't ask for American people to die in Cuba," Veciana explained. "We want that honor ourselves. But we need help. Castro receives money from Russia. We get nothing from the United States."