



United Press International

Richard P. Johnson, center, being embraced by his mother as father, left, protested against his arrest by a Federal agent, right, on his arrival in Miami from Cuba.

2 of 4 Freed by Cuba Seized in Miami

Special to The New York Times

MIAMI, Oct. 17—Four young Americans released from Cuban jails by Premier Fidel Castro arrived here today, and two of them were promptly arrested by Federal agents.

The release of the four was announced last week by Mr. Castro following a visit to Havana by Senators Jacob K. Javits, Republican of New York, and Claiborne Pell, Democrat of Rhode Island. The four left Havana yesterday for Barbados, where they then took a plane to Miami, this morning.

The two who were arrested—Richard P. Johnson and Philip F. Burris—were handcuffed by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who boarded the plane as soon as it landed at Miami International Airport. After processing, they were taken before a United States magistrate in the Federal Building in downtown Miami.

The two men, who are from the San Francisco area, were charged in 1970 by a Federal grand jury in Miami with transporting a stolen aircraft from Miami to Cardenas, Cuba.

One Man Released

Mr. Johnson, 25 years old, was released on a \$25,000 personal recognizance bond signed by his parents, who greeted him on arrival.

But Mr. Burris, 32, was unable to post \$5,000 bail. He was met at the airport by his brother, Tim.

"I don't know what we shall do," Tim Burris said. "I have only money to take him back home."

Magistrate Peter R. Palermo appointed lawyers for the two defendants after they declared themselves destitute.

The two other Americans, David B. Nirenberg of Upper Sagon, Pa., and Susan Lanen Brown of South Royalton, Vt., left the airport as soon as they passed through Customs.

Mr. Nirenberg and Miss Brown were arrested by the Cuban authorities in September, 1973, when their yacht sailed into Cuban waters. They were charged with possession of narcotics and sentenced to four years in prison.

The two Californians had been in Cuban jails since 1970 when the plane piloted by Mr.

Burris ran out of fuel and landed on the north coast of Cuba. They were also jailed on narcotics charges there.

The two Californians appeared bewildered when they were brought before Judge Palermo.

"They didn't know anything about the charges and didn't expect to be arrested, your honor," Mr. Johnson said. "But I can't put into words how good it is to be home."

At the airport, Mrs. Johnson broke into tears when she rushed to her son. Her husband, also in tears, shouted at the F.B.I. agents who arrested his son: "You can't take him away."

It's a vicious thing to do to our son after four years in Cuban jails."

Judge Palermo gave Mr. Johnson permission to travel to California, but wanted him to come back to Miami to appear in court. Mr. Burris is expected to be released from jail tomorrow.

Prayers Are 'Optional'

BERLIN (UPI)—Parents must be informed in advance if a school class is to have prayers, so that they had the opportunity to withdraw their children, the West German administrative court has ruled.