lbylee Cuban Bjt, 2 take: By FENTON WHEELER 2 takes, 720

Thy lee

Tuban Bjt, 2 takes, 720

By FENTON WHEELER

Associated Press Writer

HAVANA AP - Five partisens of Fidel Castro hijacked a Colombian
airliner with more than 70 persons aboard to take them to Havana
Sunday, Meanwhile, the Cuban government displayed six captured
invaders from Florida whom it accused of planning to kill Castro.
The Cuban government said the plane, whose passengers included
four U.S. citizens, was free to resume its flight today. All
the passengers were reported safe.
The six captive Cuban exiles, paraded at a four-hour news
conference, all said they were recruited and trained by the U.S.
entral Intelligence Agency in Florida.
Two said they carried poisoned bullets inSended for Prime Minister
Castro. Two others said they were CIA agents. Cuban
authorities declined to say whether the captives would be shot.
Guests at the news conference included delegates to the meeting
of the latin American Organization of Solidarity—
OIAS—a gathering of revolutionaries from 27 nations. Cuba.
apparently aimed to use the captives to offset Venezuelan
charges that Cuba landed guerrillas near Caracas in May.
Uruguayan Sen. Rodney Arismendi said he felt sure OIAS would
vote to condemn the United States for the exiles'
action, and about 600 OIAS delegates, special guests and leftist
observers at the news conference roared their approval.
The Colombian government said the DC4 plane, flying from
Bogota to the Colombian islands of San Andres and Providencia
in the Caribbean, carried 71 massengers and four crewmen. It said
the pilot, Rafael Madere, telephoned from Havana to report that
a group of pro-Castroites had forced him to fly there.

Havana Radio said the plane had 78 passengers and four crewmen
and that the armed men who took it over were four Colombians and
an Ecuadorean. It said the hijackers asked to remain in Cuba
and the government was considering the request. There was speculation
the hijackers wanted to pay a dramatic visit to the OIAS meeting.
One passenger, U.S. Army Capt. Harris Wheeler, 25,
honey

The Wheelers were married Saturday. His parents live in Barranquilla, Colombia, where the plane made a stop. Along with the rest of the passengers, they were taken to a downtown Havana hotel by bus. The other U.S. citizens on the flight were Mr. and Mrs. Victor Estrada of Chicago.

The passengers said they never saw the armed men, but Enrique Mendez and his wife said they were sitting near the crew's quarters and knew something unusual was going on. The flight from Barranquilla to Havana took about 4 2 hours.

MORE PL359aed Aug 7