

FARMER IS JAILED IN CACHE SEIZURE

Wife of Jersey Man Says He
Was at Bay of Pigs

By JOSEPH NOVITSKI
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BELVIDERE, N. J., Aug. 14—

The owner of a farm where raiders last night found a cache of weapons was held today in Warren County Jail here on \$80,000 bail on four charges of possession of arms and an automatic weapon.

The farm owner, Michael A. DeCarolis, a 32-year-old native-born American, was arraigned in the Warren County Courthouse here after the raid on his farmhouse in nearby Johnsonburg.

A tour of the 30-acre farm showed that it contained an obstacle course, and Mr. DeCarolis's wife, Ruth, said that the farm had been used as a training ground for anti-Castro Cuban exiles.

Mrs. DeCarolis added that her husband was a member of the 2506th Cuban Assault Brigade, which participated in the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961.

Third in the Area

Residents of the rolling north New Jersey farm country along Route 519 in Warren County, between Hope and Johnsonburg, said the obstacle course on the DeCarolis farm was the third in the area to have harbored Caribbean exiles, training in hopes of an invasion.

Mr. DeCarolis was arraigned before District Court Judge Martin Bry-Nildsen on charges of possession of an automatic weapon, possession or carrying of bomb, possession of bombs with intent to use unlawfully and possession or carrying of explosives with the intent to use them unlawfully.

State policemen at the Blirstown station, who led the Tuesday raid on a warrant issued by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said a .45-caliber machine gun and 12 cases of dynamite with four rolls of primer cord had been found on the rented farm.

The police had no comment on reports that the dynamite had been linked to a recent wave of bombings laid to anti-Castro Cubans in the metropolitan area.

"We don't rule out anything," a police officer said.

However, a friend of Mr. DeCarolis's and his wife said they doubted such a possibility.

Joseph Cree, a 21-year-old construction machinery operator, said he had been present during the raid and had overheard two Army explosives specialists from the nearby Picatinny Arsenal tell the police that the dynamite found was not the same type as that used in the New York bombings.

Mr. Cree said he had been working on the DeCarolis farm, building a pier into one of two lakes for the 2506th Brigade.

Mrs. DeCarolis, a silent, shy woman with long black hair, said her husband had been a member of the brigade for about two years.

"He did it out of conviction," she said of her husband. "He wanted to help the Cuban people."

According to accounts of neighbors, Mr. DeCarolis was not the first in the area to help Caribbean exiles training for an invasion. They said Cubans had begun arriving late in 1960 when James N. Cooke, a Johnsonburg resident with business interests in pre-Castro Cuba, was host to Juan José Mas-sarda, a rich Cuban exile who has since moved from the area.

Mr. Cooke declined to comment on his involvement, but neighbors who asked that they not be identified said Mr. Mas-sarda had set up a training camp on Mr. Cooke's property that drew busloads of about 75 Cubans to another obstacle course for martial drills each

weekend, until the abortive Bay of Pigs invasion.

Reappeared in 1963

In 1963 the Cubans reappeared, working out each weekend on the property of a farmer in nearby Hope, Jack Perini.

"They were weekend warriors," Mr. Perini's 20-year-old son, Paul, said in an interview today. "They were Sunday picnic soldiers."

Paul said the Cubans were joined by exiled Haitians at some training sessions observed by Rolondo Masferrer, a militant anti-Castro Cuban leader linked to the abortive 1966 invasion attempt on Haiti. He said the F.B.I. knew of the training activities, which lasted until 1965, but did not interfere.

Mr. Perini said his father had asked the Cubans and Haitians to leave the farm in 1965.

Mrs. DeCarolis said her husband's involvement with the 2506 Brigade, an organization built around veterans of the 1961 Bay of Pigs invasions, began just before the 1966 Haitian invasion attempt.

Missing in Nicaragua

OVER

North Jersey Farm Is Military Training Ground; Weapons Cache Found



The barn where a raiding party found 12 cases of dynamite hidden under mounds of hay



The New York Times

Also found were rifles (one of them sawed off), a revolver, a machine gun, gas masks, a 40-mm. mortar and assorted ammunition. Folded on floor at right is a jungle uniform.



Michael A. DeCarolis on his way to Belvidere County court. A detective follows.

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