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# Cuba Raps Nixon Over Ship Attack

SF Examiner

MIAMI — (AP) — Havana radio today termed President Nixon's stated concern over the attack on the freighter Johnny Express "unheard of cynicism" and promised further reprisals against so-called pirate ships.

The broadcast was in reply to Nixon's statements yesterday after he met with Isabel Villa, wife of the wounded and captured captain of the Johnny Express.

At that time, press secretary Ronald Ziegler reported Nixon had expressed "grave concern" over the attack Wednesday and said the United States would demand the immediate return of Capt. Jose Villa, a naturalized U.S. citizen.

Nixon told Mrs. Villa he would do all he could to help her.

The naturalized American captain was shown on Havana television last night being treated in a hospital for wounds suffered when the ship was taken over.

A commentator for the station identified Villa and the crew as counter-revolutionaries.

Teofilo Babun, one of four Cuban exile brothers who own the Miami-based Bahama Lines, denied that any of his ships have been used in raids against Cuba.

Radio Havana said the shipping line was fostering harassment against Cuba, on behalf of the CIA.

Babun insisted that Fidel Castro has "a personal grudge" against the Babun brothers, members of a once-wealthy Cuban business family.

Broadcasting an editorial from Granma, the official newspaper of the Cuban Communist Party, Havana radio said:

"The Yankee imperialists have perpetrated dozens of criminal attacks against Cuba, from organized bases in Central America, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and from their own territory in the United States.

"And now they have the unheard of cynicism of speaking of violations of international law and the right of free navigation."

The broadcast did not specify what attacks it referred to.

Ziegler declined to reveal whether there were any indications that efforts to win the release of Villa would be successful.

The United States has been in touch with the Cuban government through the Swiss Embassy in Havana.