

Flotilla Will Carry Exiles to Visit Cuba Kin

MIAMI (AP) — A Cuban exile today said a flotilla of nearly 200 vessels will sail Sept. 8 from Marathon in the Florida Keys to carry relatives of persons held in Cuba to the island and back.

Ramon Donestevez, 31-year-old boat builder, said the 4 a.m. CDT departure will coincide with the Cuban celebration of Our Lady of Charity Day in honor of Cuba's patroness.

Donestevez, president of the "Cuban Bloc for the Liberation of Political Prisoners," said the group intends to deliver to the Cuban government a document seeking amnesty for the prisoners.

THREE ANTI-CASTRO exile organizations today joined ranks to denounce Donestevez' organization, calling the group "traitors and swindlers."

The exile organizations, "Anticommunist National Alliance," "Young Christian Front" and "Young Revolutionary Front" issued a joint statement accusing the committee of making false promises to the families of political prisoners in Cuba. Exiles estimated there were 70,000 political prisoners on the island.

Jose Garcia Cubillas, secretary general of the "Anti-Communist National Alliance," urged Cuban exiles "not to let themselves be led on by false promises of a near

freedom of the Cuban prisoners, based on promises of Donestevez."

Donestevez said he had made four illegal trips to Cuba in the last two years and persuaded Cuban authorities to free three political prisoners.

The Cuban leader said he had cabled Prime Minister Fidel Castro to inform him of the group's intention and asked Mexican President Gustavo Diaz Ordaz to intercede with the Cuban government but neither has replied.

A U.S. State Department spokesman said the U.S. in no way condones the Donestevez venture and travel to Cuba without permission is illegal. Anyone participating in the flotilla is subject to prosecution, he added.
