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Report from Latin America

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MIAMI, DEC. 29—After 20 months in the communist jails of Premier Fidel Castro, and despite the disillusionment over the failure of the Bay of Pigs invasion, the esprit de corps of the liberated prisoners who were brought here in time for Christmas by the air shuttle to freedom from Cuba early in the week is intact.

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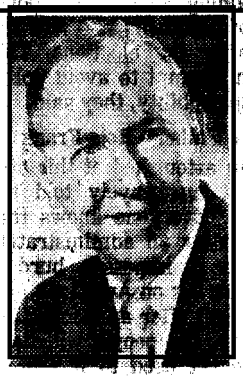

Duboris

They appear to feel that, now that they have been liberated, they must prepare to return to free their homeland from the control of communism.

Perhaps some emotional complaints might be voiced in the future, as they have in the past, but there was nothing but gratitude for the United States for having helped to liberate them.

Manuel Artime, 31, who was held in solitary confinement for eight months in the Isle of Pines penitentiary with a $500,000 price tag on his head and who was civilian chieftain of the invasion force, voiced the sentiments of the returned prisoners.

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"We owe it to the mothers of the 300 men who died in the liberation attempt on the beaches of the Bay of Pigs to maintain the unity of brigade 2506 and prepare to fight to rescue our fatherland from international communism!" he told a cheering throng of 4,000 Cuban exiles in the Dinner Key auditorium only hours after his return here.

War Against Red Cubans Not Over

ARTIME and the two top military commanders of the invasion, Colonels Jose Perez San Roman and Aneido Oliva, all of whom were half-million dollar solitary confinement prisoners, expressed the same sentiments. Their war against communism, and that of the freedom fighters who were liberated, is not over by any means. Hundreds of the returning prisoners preferred to talk about plans to invade Cuba again rather than their nightmarish experiences in prison.

The liberated prisoners will have the predominant voice in forging the much-needed unity among Cuban exile groups. They have returned with enthusiastic optimism buoyed by the demonstrations which they observed as they were being transported by bus to the military air base outside of Havana for the freedom shuttle.

"Come back soon, but to win!" citizens defiant of the communist tyranny shouted at them. "We want you back! We need you! Don't fail us!"

One busload of prisoners was hailed by a girl who was hanging on the arm of a uniformed militia man with his burp gun: "I want you to know that I am a worm," she shouted at them and waved them farewell. Castro [illegible] all enemies of his regime as "worms."

Issue Early Appeal for Unity

OLD REVOLUTIONARIES HAVE also issued an early appeal for unity. A leader among them is Dr. Sergio Carbo, who had backed Castro in his newspaper Prensa Libre of Havana, only to have its 4 million dollar plant confiscated because the paper was anti-communist.

"Never shatter the unbreakable and exemplary unity of brigade 2506," he urged in a welcoming telegram from New York, where he has been ill and was unable to be here to greet his returning prisoner son, Ulises. "In defense of a sovereign Cuba under the rule of our constitution, we will rescue with arms all the other prisoners in the name of our glorious past."

Carbo led an expeditionary force from the United States 30 years ago to try to overthrow Dictator Gerardo Machado. Now he is an officer of the Cuban revolutionary council.

The Cuban exiles and the liberated prisoners, in sum, have come here for one purpose: To return home.

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