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Exile Ray's Plan For Free Cuba

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Exile Leader Manolo Ray

Cubans Here Feared Him

MANOLO RAY, a leader in the Cuban exiles' battle to dump Castro, is a controversial figure who wasn't always the hero he is today. In this article, written Oct. 26, 1962, the author tells of exiles groups that feared Ray and warned President Kennedy about him.

By VIRGINIA PREWETT
North American Newspaper Alliance

WASHINGTON — On Oct. 25, eight Cuban underground organizations claiming 10,000 exiles in the United States sent President Kennedy a telegram from Miami "warning" him they will not accept just any government imposed by the United States if Castro is overthrown.

Fear that Manolo Ray is Washington's choice to lead a U.S.-backed uprising and head a provisional government prompted the telegram, exile leaders told NANA.

Ray is feared because he is the protege of Gov. Luis Munoz Marin, of Puerto Rico and the favorite of the most leftist advisers around President Kennedy. After Kennedy became president in 1961, the U.S. government forced the U.S.-backed Cuban Revolutionary Council to accept Ray as a member. He has since left it.

Formerly the U.S. leader of an organization called the Revolutionary Movement of the People (MRP), Ray is said by Cuban exiles to represent what they call "Fidelismo Without Fidel."

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By **VIRGINIA PREWETT**
North American Newspaper Alliance

NEW YORK — Manolo Ray will put Fidel Castro on trial for his life if he catches him alive.

The charge will be "Crimes Against Cuba." Ray is the 39-year-old exile leader who aims to overthrow the Communist regime.

A spokesman for Ray, in outlining his program for the future of Cuba, said that only top figures in the Castro government, and in the former Batista government, will be placed on trial. He said lower-rank officials and army officers under Batista would be welcomed in the fight on Castro and the building of a new Cuba.

He said Ray's organization, the Junta Revolucionario de Cuba (JURE), aims to set up a caretaker government for 18 months after Castro is toppled. Preparations would be made for a national election. Ray might leave the caretaker regime to campaign for office in the election, the spokesman said.

The JURE official said that, once free, Cuba will break relations with the Soviet bloc and outlaw the Communist Party and any other totalitarian group.

He said Ray would summon representatives of Cuba's capital and labor and ask them to collaborate in a "national democratic reconstruction plan," similar to what Jean Monet did in France after its liberation from the Nazis.

Ray would restore to both Cuban and foreign owners property taken from them by Castro, he said. Where property has vanished — a herd of cattle slaughtered and eaten, for example — the regime would have to "consider compensation in the light of its resources."

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Private property and free enterprise, "that serve society" will be the cornerstone of the new society, according to JURE.

Agrarian reform will be pushed. The approach will be to make the peasant landworker into a small landowner. Many of the state-owned cooperatives created by Castro will become producer cooperatives owned by the men working them.

The state will intervene in the economy only "when the efforts of private enterprise are inadequate or when an industry is so important that it must be a monopoly."

"For example," said the JURE informant, "small power companies would go broke in Cuba. Electric power must be a monopoly."

Foreign capital will be invited to return to Cuba, "with ample guarantees against expropriation. If the investors from several countries want to come to Cuba, we'll give priority to the nationality that has the least stake already invested."

The Ray organization believes that when constitutionality is restored to Cuba, Cuban cabinets should include representatives of the most important minority parties, as well as of the majority.

Ray was a member of the U. S.-sponsored Cuban Revolutionary Council at the time of the Bay of Pigs attack, but charged that the CIA did not permit him to alert his underground. This group later broke away from his leadership. He formed JURE in September 1962 by uniting six groups of militant Cuban exiles.

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