

Lack of Work, Low Pay Scales Hampering Cuban Refugees in Florida

Thousands Trod Sidewalks in Search of Jobs

Editor's note: This is the last of three dispatches on the Cuban refugee problem in Miami.

By RICHARD W. HATCH

Miami — (UPI) — Blonde, well-dressed Georgina fumbled with dark glasses to hide her tear-rimmed eyes. She whispered as she told her husband "walks and walks all day to see if he can get a job."

The odds are against him. Her husband, Carlos, is a Cuban refugee who doesn't speak English. Like other thousands of the 45,000 refugees in Miami, he shuffles the sidewalks looking for work.

Georgina and Carlos, who fear to have their full names published lest first their automobile agency and then their restaurant in Camaguey to the government of Fidel Castro. They gave up an 11-room house with servants.

They are among the second wave of Cuban refugees washing into Florida since Castro seized power Jan. 1, 1959. The first to flee were officials and friends of the fallen government of Fulgencio Batista.

Many of them arrived here rich, most of them hated. As Castro's political revolution veered left into a social revolution, professional men, management personnel, businessmen, military defectors, white collar workers and finally some plain laborers fled.

Sister Sends Fare
Georgina and her three children, ages 11, 10 and 7, flew to Miami a month ago. A sister here sent them airplane tickets.

"I came with \$67 hidden in a toothpaste tube," she said. Carlos came Nov. 29 with the \$5 allowed legally by Castro.

Georgina said her sister gave her \$75 toward her first month's apartment rent of \$100. She still owes \$25 on the month.

She said several welfare agencies refused to advance the money unless she moved into a cheaper apartment.

"This is not what we were used to," she said. Georgina's sister and brother-in-law both work, and make \$80 a week together. The sister doesn't think she will be able to continue giving Georgina \$25 a week.

Like Georgina, most of the refugees are cared for by friends and family among Miami's permanent Latin colony. And like Georgina's sister, many are reaching the end of their ability to help.

"We have reached the saturation point," said Anthony de Varona, head of the anti-Castro Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front.

"I cannot say how many of the refugees have got jobs. A great number have jobs, but that's reaching the point of saturation, too."

Sister Miriam, administrator of the Spanish Center at Gesù Church, said the center has succeeded in finding only 500 jobs for 3,200 Cuban families registered there in a year.

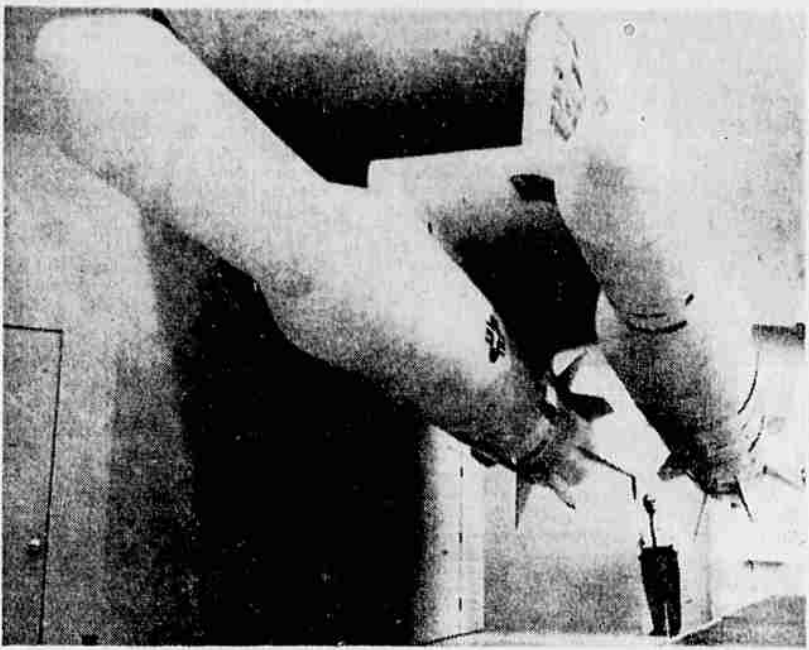
Cesar Lancis, second vice president of an exile Cuban labor federation here, sadly admitted his organization has found only "150 or 200 jobs" since it began late in 1960.

Some Are Exploited
Lancis said a few American employers are exploiting Cuban labor. He said he knew of Cubans hired as dressmakers for 75 cents an hour beside Americans doing the same work for \$1.15 and \$1.25.

There are 300 refugee Cuban doctors in Miami, none of them able to practice medicine.

Professional men and former government officials have taken jobs as waiters, dishwashers and handymen.

The federal government



SKYBOLT TESTED — Currently undergoing Air Research and Development Command, slung underneath mockup of a B52 wing segment. The Skybolt, when operational, will be the nation's most mobile nuclear missile. (UPI Telephoto)

wants to resettle the refugees in other cities to relieve the pressure on Miami. But some Cuban leaders think the men won't leave Miami.

Many Cuban women work as domestics. Mrs. Minerva Aguado supports her 16-year-old daughter, Juana, and a family friend, Josephina Balido, 20, as a maid. She works four eight-hour days a week at \$6 a day. The rent on her clean, cheerful three-room apartment in southwest Miami is \$55 a month.

Juana is in the 8th grade, one of 125 refugee children at Ada Merritt Jr. Elementary school.

Josephina, pretty with dark hair and a bright smile, also works as a domestic — two days a week cleaning house for 80 cents an hour. She sends \$30 a month to her father in Havana, an out-of-work coffee salesman.

"It doesn't leave much for me," she said.

Tighter Laws Asked On Debris Burning

Salem — (UPI) — The Oregon board of forestry is asking the 1961 legislature to tighten laws on burning of debris. The proposed restrictions would primarily affect garbage dumps which in the past several years have been charged with starting a number of bad forest fires.

The board also suggests that the state department of forestry's name be officially designated "state forestry department." The department actually has no official name and such designation would prevent confusion, the board said.

A third proposal would raise the fee for rehabilitation of private timber lands without proper reseedling provisions to \$25 per acre. The fee now is \$16 an acre.

Woolworth Workers Receive 'W' Cards

Three retiring F. W. Woolworth company employees were presented with "Diamond W" cards recently at a surprise farewell party held for them in the downtown Medford store.

Receiving the cards were Mrs. Letha Clark, Mrs. Carrie Hooker and Mrs. Madge Nowlin. The cards entitle them to shop in any Woolworth store and receive a 10 per cent discount on merchandise.

All three women had spent a number of years with the Medford store. They said that they have no immediate plans for the future except to "sit back and enjoy the retirement years."

Chief of Marines Frowns on Yellow Socks, Fat Marines

Washington — (UPI) — The Marine Corps commandant, who already has frowned on swagger sticks and close-order drill, now has come out against yellow socks, fat Marines, yes men, and unbelted coats.

In a 17-page annual message, which read more like a down-to-earth pep talk than the usual military document, Gen. David M. Shoup also said that Marines sometimes "fall below our usual high standards."

He mentioned, as an example, the sort of officer whose uniform "looks like it belonged to some one who retired in 1940."

"A few of these people are still around," Shoup said. "We must do something about them."

The commandant said sloppiness can "chip away at Marine Corps stature." He said if the day ever came when a Marine looked upon his role as only a job "we are headed for the Smithsonian Institute as another relic."

On the subject of unbelted coats, Shoup said a proposal for an unbelted uniform is before him but he has decided to reject it. He hasn't made up his mind as yet about a proposal for a "year-around green uniform," he added.

On yes men, the commandant said that a Marine who would give up his own ideas "to align with me, before my decision, is useless to me."

Shoup did not explain his remark about "yellow socks," but presumably his aversion would apply to any unduly loud attire.

His other aversions included:

Hatfield Requests Civil War Relics

Salem — (UPI) — Gov. Mark Hatfield has called on Oregon residents to help recall the meaning of the Civil War for Oregon — by digging out old diaries, maps, century-old firearms and other relics for the Oregon Civil War Centennial commission.

Hatfield said the commission now is meeting regularly "to draw a program with meaning and worth for our state."

In a message noting that President Eisenhower Sunday will ask the country to rededicate itself to the ideals behind the Civil War, Hatfield commented:

"Oregon made a great contribution to the union in wealth and leadership. Our Oregon senator, Edward Baker, was killed at Ball's Bluff. Many soldiers and families journeyed to Oregon after the war. Their families and descendants have enriched our state and region for three generations."

OF SMITH & MEN

By Jack Smith
(c) 1960 — Times-Mirror Syndicate

Sometimes the human eye prys into secrets it was never meant to see.

Ever since Christmas, when the microscope entered our house, I've had the feeling of having gone too far. We seem to have sunk into the twilight zone.

The place is a laboratory. The mechanical eye has illuminated the subliminal world we live in. Our placid sanctuary is in reality a jungle in which the most primitive blobs of organic matter are waging a cannibalistic struggle for survival.

Even our supposedly anti-septic kitchen has been exposed as a primeval swamp. I have seen things I wish I hadn't.

The other evening, for example, Doug called me over to his work table to have a look at something he had in focus. He has given up major league baseball for pure science. I squinted into the eyepiece. What I saw squirming in the light looked like a transparent fountain pen with a plastic gizzard and two tails. It was thrashing about like a belly dancer.

"Good Lord!" I whispered. "What's that?"

"I'm not sure," said young Pasteur. "It's either a rotifer or a rhizopod, unless it's an amoeba."

"Where did you find him?" I demanded.

"In the flower bowl on the cocktail table," he said. "There are millions in there. They divide like crazy."

I summoned my wife. "Do you know," I asked her, "that your flower bowl is a dividing place for millions of foul microbes?"

She threw out the chrysanthemums and the infested water and washed the bowl.

"It won't do any good," Pa," said Doug. "They'll be back. They drop down in the dust. Like paratroopers."

Later on I came across a damp heel of bread in a saucer on the sink.

20 Students from Area at Utah College

Twelve students from Medford and eight from Ashland are among the 303 students from the state of Oregon attending Brigham Young university in Provo, Utah, this semester.

Brigham Young, which is operated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, has an enrollment of 10,305 students and is one of the largest universities in the inter-mountain area.

Attending from Medford are Dorothy Irene Bean, Rita Mildred Benson, Betty Louise M. Bross, Ralph Gerald Bross, Cheryl Dunn, Connie Sue Orr, Clayton Reed Peterson, Edison Denney Pugmire, Sheree Lue Skipworth, Raymond L. Smith, Wade Cody Starks and Douglas F. Wasden.

Attending from Ashland are Michael Myles Cluff, Annette L. Drager, Robert Clay Eldor, Emma L. Hakes, Gary E. Hassell, Beverly Ann Hakes, Carolyn Smith and Barbara C. Stoddard.

JAZZ UP ATTENDANCE
Hollywood, Calif. — (UPI) — The Hollywood Church of Religious Science, in announcing today a jazz accompaniment to church services Jan. 15, noted that attendance will be 15 per cent when accompanied by Peter Gunn and Gene Krupa.

"This bread," I told my wife, "appears to be moldy." I detest a moldy kitchen.

"I know," she said. "The mad scientist is growing something."

"Growing something?" I said. "What are we running around here — a hothouse for microbes?"

"It's an experiment, Pa," Doug said. "I'm on the trail of a wonder drug."

Now he keeps a bowl of tap water in a pitcher on the bookcase. He says it's aging.

It seems tap water is no good because it's full of chlorine. Everything alive in it is dead. He has to age it until the chlorine wears out. Then he can grow microbes in it.

Now I'm afraid he has a compulsion to venture into more challenging fields, such as the mysteries of human tissue. A kit of instruments came with the microscope. They appear to be autopsy tools.

Last night he came up to me with a scalpel in his hand. "Pa," he said, "could I have some of your blood?"

"Are you out of your mind?" I cried. "Not on your life."

"It won't hurt," he said. "I only have to nick your thumb."

"Why don't you nick a grasshopper?" I suggested. I let him nick my thumb. This is a scientific age. He found something interesting in my blood, too.

He says I am the parent of an unclassified microbe.



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