

Rebels Expected To Release Last Of Captive Americans In Near Future

GUANTANAMO, Cuba (AP) — Cuban rebels were expected to begin releasing their 29 captive American servicemen this afternoon after holding them more than two weeks.

The evacuation from the rebels' isolated mountain camps may take four days or more.

Word of the anticipated release came from U.S. Consul Park Wollam, who has been dickering with Fidel Castro and his lieutenants in the mountains of Oriente province for the captives' return.

"We are hopeful all will be released," Wollam messaged Rear Adm. Robert B. Ellis, commander

of the big American naval base on Guantanamo Bay where the prisoners are stationed.

Twenty-eight of the sailors and Marines were kidnaped June 26 on a bus ride through the Cuban countryside and two more were grabbed near the base. One of the latter has been returned.

Ellis said he was not sure how many men would be freed today. The Navy helicopters which have brought back 20 U.S. and Canadian civilians seized by the rebels usually can carry only four passengers on each trip.

The copters have been the only foreign aircraft allowed to fly over rebellious Oriente province by President Fulgencio Batista's government. Yesterday a U.S. Marine Flying Boxcar apparently strayed off its prescribed course on a flight from Guantanamo to Opa-Locha, Fla., and was forced down by Cuban army fighter planes.

The lumbering transport landed at Santiago, the capital of Oriente. A U.S. consul there quickly intervened and the plane was on its way again a few hours later.

The U.S. Embassy at Havana minimized the incident as "unimportant." The official Cuban explanation was that a misunderstanding had arisen because the

jump fighter pilots had been "unable to determine the aircraft's intentions."

Later the Navy ordered all planes using the Guantanamo airstrip to fly 10 miles off the Oriente coastline.

The rebels' reported decision to start freeing the servicemen appeared to indicate they have given up hope the kidnappings would help them wheedle concessions from the United States.

They had been seeking recognition as genuine belligerents—instead of unorganized revolutionaries—and hoped this might lead to a promise that American aid to President Fulgencio Batista's government would be shut off.

One benefit the rebels have gained was a letup in air attacks by government forces to keep from harming the captives. The rebels have gained valuable time to regroup their forces.

But at the same time American opinion toward Castro appears to have grown less friendly. Officers here have been indignant and resentful over the prolonged captivity of their men.

Daughter Of Socialite Turns To Buddhism, Says She Will Enter Nunnery

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI) — The socialite mother of a young woman who became a Buddhist nun said today she "just can't believe it."

The girl, Clarissa Van Strum, 22, became a Buddhist nun last Friday, according to Singapore dispatches. She left home 10 days ago on a flying visit to the Far East.

"At home," Clarissa said, "I had everything I wanted. It took me two years to make this decision."

She said she had decided to forego marriage because she became convinced that "only through Buddhism can I find happiness."

Her mother, Mrs. Kenneth Van Strum, wife of a prominent San Francisco investment counselor, could hardly believe the news.

"The last we heard from Clarissa was a postcard from Hawaii," Mrs. Van Strum said. "This is so shocking I prefer not to discuss it until my husband and I have a chance to talk with her."

Mrs. Van Strum said her daughter had an interest in Buddhism. She said, "I don't think she made it a study at the university."

Mrs. Van Strum said she will fly to New York to join her husband, who is away on a business trip. She said she would have no more to say until she discusses the matter with him.

Van Strum is chairman of the board of the Channing Corporation and head of the Van Strum and Towne investment counseling firm.

Their oldest daughter, Cecilia, 23, made her debut five years ago in the Cotillion, San Francisco's annual coming-out party for debutantes.

KILLED
MAQUOKETA, Iowa (AP) — Mary Joe McCambridge, 13, formerly of Hillsboro, Ore., and now of LaGrange Park, Ill., was killed and three members of her family were injured seriously in a weekend two-car collision near here.

Her mother, Mrs. Margaret McCambridge, 46; and a sister, 19, were taken to a hospital with critical hurts. A brother, John, 14, was less seriously injured.

MONUMENT FOR U.S. FLIERS
PAN SINEIVE, Italy (UPI) — Italian Alpinists dedicated a mountain monument Sunday to two U. S. Navy planes which crashed a year ago killing 20 persons. The monument is shaped like an airplane and bears the names of the dead American fliers.

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